# ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



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# PRESIDENT'S FAREWELL

As I reflect on the past nine years serving as a Director with the past 2 years as the President of the Prince George Community Foundation, it is with a mix of nostalgia, pride, and gratitude that I share this farewell report. These years have been a remarkable journey, filled with challenges, triumphs, and, most importantly, the enduring spirit of community.

When I joined the Board in 2015, the Foundation stood as a beacon of hope and potential. Together, we embarked on a mission to enhance the well-being of our community through strategic philanthropy and sustainable initiatives. Today, as I bid farewell, I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together.

Over the years, the Foundation has grown both in terms of the number of funds managed and the impact we've been able to make in the lives of those in our community.

We have gone from granting out \$300-400 thousand a year to a record \$2.7 million this last fiscal.

However, beyond any financial achievements and grants awarded, it's the stories of impact that resonate most with me. From supporting local education and social initiatives to funding community development projects, we have been catalysts for positive change. The partnerships forged, the lives touched, and the community bonds strengthened are the true markers of our success.

As I step down from the role of President, I do so with immense gratitude for the support and collaboration of each Board member, community partner, and the Foundation's staff. The Prince George Community Foundation is not just an organization; it is a collective force for good. I have full confidence that under the new leadership, the Foundation will continue to thrive, evolve, and serve as a cornerstone for community betterment.

I look forward to witnessing the continued growth and impact of the Prince George Community Foundation in the years to come.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Catherine Pennington

President



## ALL FOR OUR COMMUNITY

#### Mission Statement

We provide an opportunity to make a lasting philanthropic donation to enhance your communities ~ forever

The Prince George Community Foundation is deeply committed to our local community and embraces the profound responsibility entrusted to us for its future. Our overarching objective is to foster a robust and thriving community, and we are dedicated to realizing this vision through the pursuit of our strategic goals. In our continuous efforts, we strive to make a lasting and positive impact on the well-being and resilience of our community.

The development of a sustainably managed endowment

Strategic grant giving to projects that make an impact to our community

Demonstrating community leadership

The Prince George Community Foundation plays a pivotal role in stewarding the charitable contributions of generous donors, enabling us to establish enduring income-earning funds. Our commitment extends beyond mere financial management — we empower our donors to earmark their funds for pressing needs in our community, fostering a direct and impactful connection. The resulting proceeds from these funds are thoughtfully distributed as grants to various charitable organizations across our community. As of now, our collective efforts have culminated in the distribution of over \$9.52 million to registered charities, significantly contributing to the betterment of our local community and its surrounding region.

#### **Our Key Areas of Support**













We are fortunate to be part of a community located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Lheidli T'enneh; we are thankful every day for the privilege.

# EVENTS OF 2022 / 2023



The Prince George Golf and Curling Club hosted the 22nd Annual FARR/WIC Golf Tournament on September 3rd and 4th, attracting 156 enthusiastic golfers. The event proved to be a resounding success, and we express our continued gratitude to the PGGCC, FARR Fabricating, and Western Industrial Contractors for their partnership in making this tournament possible. We are so appreciative of all of the sponsors who join in this tournament.

On November 13, 2022, the Foundation was pleased to partner with the Prince George Cougars and Wood Wheaton Supercentre for the Mega 50/50 Jackpot.

The jackpot raised a staggering \$145,300. We were so pleased to support RCMP Victim Services, PG Firefighters Charitable Society and Spirit of the North Healthcare Foundation with the proceeds.





On March 8, 2023, the Foundation celebrated 4 outstanding community volunteers at the **2023 Citizens of the Year** celebration. Congratulations to Mary Teegee, Steve Hamilton, Dave King and Patti Perrault for being this year's recipients!

Miracle Theatres production of Dancing Lessons raised \$190,141.10!

The proceeds from the production was used to establishment the Refugee and Hope Endowment Fund. To date Miracle Theatre has donated \$675,619 to local charities through their past 7 productions.





Prince George Live for Ukraine was held on Saturday, May 12, 2023 and was another successful event. This event raised funds for the Ukraine Humanitarian Support Fund that directly helps individuals and families coming to Prince George. To date, the Foundation has been able to donate \$256,000 to support Share Hope Prince George thanks to the communities generosity.

# **CELEBRATING NEW FUNDHOLDERS**

The Foundation is pleased to announce 8 new funds that have been created over the past year..

#### Andrew and Joan Peasgood Memorial Bursary Fund

This fund is established in memory of Andrew and Joan Peasgood who were long-time teachers at McBride Secondary and McBride Elementary. Although gone, their love and commitment to education, family and community will never be forgotten. This award is available annually to a Grade 12 student at McBride Secondary who intends to pursue post-secondary training in the vocational, technical, or trades related areas.

#### Vanderhoof Hospice Society Endowment Fund

The primary purpose of this fund is to provide an ongoing legacy for the work the Vanderhoof Hospice Society provides in their community. The Hospice Society is dedicated to providing excellent care for their clients and their families.

#### Refugee and Hope Fund of Prince George

The primary purpose of this fund is to provide an ongoing legacy for the philanthropic activities of Miracle Theatre. While the need remains, the fund will support Share Hope in its work with Ukrainians seeking refuge in Prince George. In the future the Endowment's ongoing allocations will support organizations assisting those who find themselves in our city seeking refuge from violence or disaster – whether they come from across the globe or down the street.

#### Norm Parry's Visionary Fund

This Fund will provide an ongoing legacy in the name of Norm Parry with the earned income being distributed to support a broad range of programs and activities that enhance the life of people living in Terrace and area. Norm was endlessly active in the community, volunteering with countless organizations. In his retirement, Norm played a large role in building up the Terrace Community Foundation.

#### MNP Grow the North Endowment Fund

This fund is to provide an ongoing Legacy from MNP to support the communities they operate in around the North. MNP proudly supports initiatives that reflect their commitment to enhancing the communities were they live and work.

#### MNP Grow the North Flow Through Fund

This fund was establish to provide immediate support to communities and qualified organizations located within the North.

#### Spruce Credit Union Legacy Fund

The Spruce Credit Union Legacy Fund was established as part of the successful merger between Interior Savings and Spruce Credit Union last year. With the creation of the Spruce Credit Union Legacy Fund, grants will be awarded back to the community year after year, forever.

# Spruce Credit Union Community Impact Grant Flow Through Fund

A generous gift of \$250,000 was provided to establish a flow-through fund where the funds were disbursed for immediate support to local charities.

# THANK YOU NOTES FROM SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARY RECIPENTS

I was chosen as the graduate to receive the Pre 1950 School Endowment Fund Scholar-Pre 1950 School Endowment Fund Scholar-Pre 1950 School Endowment Fund Scholar-Pre 1950 School Endowment Fund Scholar-I would like to sincerely thank you for ship. I would like to sincerely thank you for making this generous award possible, and making this generous award possible, and i'm extremely grateful for the financial assistance.

My post-secondary plans include taking a year or two to study at either Columbia Bible year or two to study at either Bible, and College or Millar College of the Bible, and then I'm planning on studying Mechatron-then I'm planning in university.

Again, thank you so much for providing this award for me.

Thank you so much for the generous donation of the Kum Duk Lim Award. It means the world to me to be able to have the honour of receiving it, and I feel so blessed to have been provided this amazing opportunity. It encourages me to continue chasing and growing my passion for music. I am so excited to see where my journey takes me next and want to thank you for playing a great part of that journey.

Thank you so much for the grateful and honoured to help me pursue majoring in biology at UNBC.

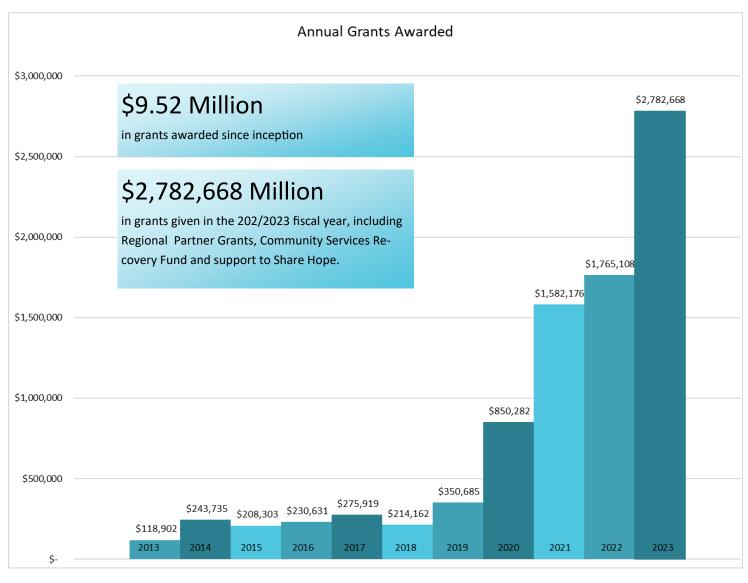
Your support and Recognition of my achievement have not only Dear Prince George Community Foundating boosted my confidence but also motivated me to strive for I'm writing to express my excellence in my future musica Sincere appreciation for the scholarship awarded to me in recognition of my achievement Once again, thank you for endeavors. at the music festival. Receiving this incredible opportunity and this scholarship is truly an recognition. honor, and I am grateful for Sincerely, your recognition of my hard work and dedication to music.



# **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

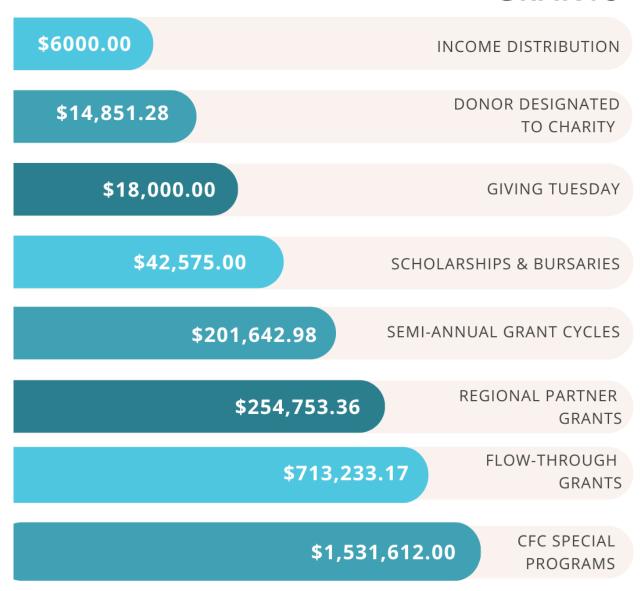
Charities and non-profits are essential contributors to our community's well-being, influencing our quality of life in diverse areas such as arts & culture, education and health. These organizations often serve as crucial pillars for our most vulnerable citizens, shedding light on inequalities and advocating for innovative programs.

It is a privilege for us to contribute to community-driven projects each year through our grant programs, aligning with our commitment to support and enhance the initiatives that make our community vibrant and resilient.



# TOTAL ANNUAL GRANTS PER CATEGORY

### **GRANTS**



Through consistent charitable donations and effective financial management strategies, the Prince George Foundation has expanded its endowment to surpass \$17 million. The continual growth of the endowment provides the foundation with the chance to inject increased funds annually into projects that hold significance for our community.

## GRANTS AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Prince George Community Foundation is pleased to provide grants to the Community and Region through various granting streams, including our semi-annual granting cycle, the Healthy Communities Initiative and the Spruce Credit Union Legacy Grant to name a few.





#### **HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE**

In 2022, the Foundation worked with Community Foundations of Canada to provide \$906,573.00 to projects in the Central, North, & Vancouver Island Region of BC as part of the Healthy Communities Initiative - Round 3. This funding provided by Infrastructure Canada helped create safe and vibrant public spaces, improve mobility options and provide digital solutions that improve people's health.

Prince George Cycling Club were one of the recipients. PGCC is a non-profit society that promotes the sport of bicycling in all forms and provides cyclists with a supportive and social network. They received \$45,500 for trail revitalization for the Pidherny Recreational site.

The Foundation was excited to meet with Bret Hutchinson, Pidherny Director and to see firsthand how the funding helped improved accessibility. With the improvements, Shane Bunce and Chantelle Grafton are able to continue their love for the outdoors on the trails.

#### SPRUCE CREDIT UNION LEGACY FUND

This grant program, stewarded by the Foundation, was established through the successful merger of Interior Savings and Spruce Credit Union as a way to recognize and extend the impact Spruce Credit Union and its founding members have in enriching the community of Prince George.

The Spirit of the North Health Care Foundation was one of three recipients who received funding through the Spruce Credit Union Legacy Fund. They were awarded \$150,000 to purchase a Portable Cardiac Ultrasound for their Cardiac Care Unit. The Portable Cardiac Ultrasound will get Northern patients quicker diagnoses leading to better treatments in the North.



#### GRANTS AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUED

#### **FALL GRANT CYCLE 2022**



The Child Development Centre of Prince George and District received \$6,522.81 to purchase a free-standing lift/swing mount for their treatment room. The lift is used to help lift children from their wheelchairs to other pieces of equipment or to the floor for treatment sessions. Lifting children can be very dangerous without a proper lift. It also allows children to walk while using the walking sling on the lift, providing support for some of their weight.

A feasibility study completed in 2021 confirmed there is a need in Prince George for a non-civic venue that is financially and physically accessible for both emerging and performing artists. In 2022, with help from the Foundation that venue is now a reality. The **Knox Performance Centre** received a grant of \$25,000 to help create a financially affordable, accessible space at professional level. The Foundation had the pleasure of attending the Centre's opening night with internationally acclaimed Canadian concert pianist Angela Hewitt.



#### GRANTS AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUED

#### **SPRING GRANT CYCLE 2023**



Theatre NorthWest received \$5,350 through our 2023 Spring Grant Cycle to purchase a new hearing loop system. The new system is intended to improve the accessibility of their venue and the enjoyment of their programming for people hard-of-hearing. The hearing loop is the first of its kind in a public venue in Prince George.

The BCNE Express Wagor

Powered by The Prince George

Community Foundation

The Express wagon is one of the highlights of the BCNE fair, not only because of the horses and the knowledgeable drive, but because it allows attendees to relax for a few minutes and just enjoy the atmosphere of the BCNE. The Express wagon was in dire need of repairs. The Prince George Agricultural and Historical Association received \$5000 through the Foundation's 2023 Spring Grant Cycle to carry out the repairs and give the wagon a much-needed facelift.



In June of 2023, the Omineca Arts Centre partnered with Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, 2 Rivers Remix and the Northern Indigenous Arts Council to host the Dune Lhuhuwezdel- Northern Indigenous Peoples' Gathering. The main venue for the multi-day event was at Lheidli T'enneh Memorial Park. The gathering featured drumming, singing, dancing, Elders stories, displays, kids' activities, artisan and food vendors. The third day, the festival moved indoors at the Omineca Arts Centre as part of their Open Mic Series in conjunction with an Indigenous group art exhibition month of June. The Foundation was proud to support this initiative. The Omineca Arts Centre received \$10,000 through our 2023 Spring Grant Cycle.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Catherine Pennington President



Lorne Dunn Vice-President



Philip Foucher Treasurer



Jordan Thorne Secretary



Meredith Burmaster Grants Chair



Dave Scouten
Fund Development Chair



Zahid Islam



Stephanie Deol



Corey Naphtali



Tino Mbara



Rahim Somani



Kevin Brown



Mayor Simon Yu (City of Prince George)



Dolleen Logan Chief Lehidli T'enneh



Mindy Stroet
Director of Development



Rae-Ann Noonan Director of Operations & Finance



Reza Poudeh Finance Assistant



Sandra Blackwell Fund Development Coordinator

# **OUR PEOPLE**

#### LIFE MEMBERS

Esteemed and admired individuals, acknowledged in perpetuity for their invaluable contributions, whether through inkind services or financial support.

Henry Novak

Les Waldie

Jim Imrich

Bill Stewart

Dr. Jack McKenzie

Murry Krause - Founder

Jan Christiansen - Founder

Dr. Lance Morgan

Dr. Larice Piergan

Noreen Rustad

Leonard Zirnhelt

George Paul- Founder

Tom Steadman - Founder Ron East - Founder

Dr. Charles Jago

Brian Brownridge

Elizabeth MacRitchie

#### **HONORARY MEMBERS**

thous

Prominent and respected individuals who have made significant long-term contributions and advocacy for the benefit of the Foundation.

Don Bassermann

Colin Kinsley

Bev Christensen

Judy Jackson

Dick Voneugen

Ray Noonan

Horst Sanders

Kathy Nadalin

Teresa Saunders

Dr. Geoff Payne

Dr. Dennis Johnson

Dr. Todd Whitcombe

#### THANK-YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Investment Committee	Fund Development Committee	Grants Committee
Phil Foucher—Chair	Dave Scouten—Chair	Meredith Burmaster—Chair
Zahid Islam—Vice Chair	Zahid Islam—Vice Chair	Stephanie Deol—Vice Chair
Alain LeFebvre	Noreen Rustad	Bill Stewart
Bill Stewart	Tanner Moulton	Ed Dylke
Jim Martin	Yamini Komath	Norm Lee
Ray Noonan	Jameel Sayani	Dr. Todd Whitcombe
Lou Jewitt		
Michele Santos		
Tara Szerencsi		
John Iles		

# REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

The Prince George Community Foundation collaborates closely with partner foundations throughout Northern B.C. These alliances enable foundations across the region to pool resources, enhance operational efficiencies, leverage financial returns, exchange knowledge and insights, and pursue collective opportunities.

#### **Burns Lake Community Foundation**

Dick & Marilyn Nourse Legacy Fund

**Chinook Community Society Endowment Fund** 

City of Williams lake Endowment Fund

#### Fort St. James Community Foundation

- Helweg Family Fund
- The Randy Sulyma Memorial Endowment Fund

Fraser Lake Community Foundation

**Kitimat Community Foundation** 

**Mackenzie Community Foundation** 

**McBride Community Foundation** 

#### Regional District Fraser Fort George

- Salmon River & Lakes Community Endowment Fund
- Chilako River-Nechako Community Endowment Fund
- Hixon-Woodpecker Community Endowment Fund
- Willow River-Upper Fraser Community Endowment

# South Cariboo Community Enhancement Foundation (100 Mile)

#### **Terrace Community Foundation**

- Dare to Dream Fund
- Bill and Helen McRae Fund
- Dr. Colleen Froese Fund
- The Dreger Fund
- Lemiski and Schmidt Families Fund
- Schmidt Guys Outdoor Fund
- Norm Parry's Visionary Fund

#### **Valemount Community Foundation**

#### **Vanderhoof Community Foundation**

- Andros Family Fund
- LaForge Family Fund
- Nechako Valley Search and Rescue Fund
- Vanderhoof Hospice Society
   Endowment Fund

#### Wells Community Foundation

# THANK YOU

On behalf of the Prince George Community Foundation, we extend our deepest gratitude to all of our Partners, Donors and Supporters.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**



"KPMG is proud to be a part of an organization that helps bring people together who care about the community. Many of the services and events we enjoy in our community would not be so readily available if we didn't work together." Partners of KPMG

"Canadian Tire is proud to be a partner with the Prince George Community Foundation. They bring together donors from all walks of life to support local priority needs and help our community thrive. "Selen Alpay, Owner/Operator



## Scotiabank.



"Scotiabank is proud to be a long time supporter and sponsor of the Prince George Community Foundation. The work that the Foundation has done in our community over the last 25+ years has made a difference in the lives of so many. They have the ability to support so many charities and non-profit organizations regardless of their area of focus whether that be health, youth, sports, or arts to name just a few. The legacy that the PGCF creates by allowing donors to create or contribute to permanent endowment funds, thereby generating ongoing income for the cause or charity of their choice is so meaningful to those who want to make a lasting impact in the community." Ray Noonan, District Vice President North BC & Yukon

#### **COMMUNITY FRIENDS**

Allnorth Engineering
Assman Funeral Homes
Brownridge & Company Insurance
Canadian Western Bank
CNC
DWB Consulting Services Ltd

Ecofor Consulting BC

Enbridge

FARR Installations Ltd.

Four Rivers Co-op
HBH Land Surveying

**Hub International Insurance** 

Ken Goss-Relator (In Memory)

**Kopar Administration** 

Linda Rempel - Chambers Plan

MNP LLP

Moxie's Restaurant

Muirhead Financial Services

Northern Lights Estate Winery

**Power House Realty** 

Prince George Cougars Hockey

**RBC** Dominion Securities

Rustad Enterprises Ltd.

Sinclar Group Forest Products Ltd

**TDB Consultants** 

**UNBC** 

Western Industrial Contractors

W.R. Ventures

Windsor Plywood

Wood Wheaton Supercentre

Zenco

