

COMMUNITY NEWS + INFORMATION FROM

THE VICTORIA FOUNDATION

pulse



SUMMER 2016



SPECIAL
FEATURE

GRANT SPOTLIGHT

FOOD SECURITY

Nourishment in Your
Neighbourhood

Investing in Future Potential

FASD SUPPORT

Online Resource for Fetal
Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

*Danielle
Stevenson,
Food Access
Coordinator for
the Coalition of
Neighbourhood
Houses*



Gifts that
Keep Giving

Vital Youth Project
Empowers Students

Random Act of
Kindness Day

Odlum Brown clients benefit from independent, unbiased advice.

Odlum Brown Model Portfolio vs. S&P TSX Total Return Index (June 2008 – April 2016)¹



¹ Returns are from June 15, 2008 to April 15, 2016. The Odlum Brown Model Portfolio was established by the Research Department in December 1994, with a hypothetical investment of \$250,000. Trades are made using the closing price on the day a change is announced. These are gross figures before fees. Past performance is not indicative of future performance.

If you invested \$1 million in the stocks held in the hypothetical Odlum Brown Model Portfolio¹ immediately prior to the credit crisis beginning June 2008, as of April 15, 2016 your holdings would be \$2.17 million. Your \$1 million investment in a portfolio that replicated the performance of the S&P/TSX Total Return Index would be worth only \$1.17 million.

For over 90 years, Odlum Brown Limited has been one of BC's most respected investment firms, thanks to the vision of our founders, the passion and dedication of our employees, and the trust and loyalty of our valued clients.

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ODLUM BROWN
Investing for Generations®





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VICTORIA FOUNDATION
CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER®

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At the Victoria Foundation, we
believe in *connecting people
who care with causes that matter.*®

The feature article of this issue
of *Pulse* takes a look at these
connections through the eyes
of some of the region's oldest
charities, reflecting on 80 years of
the Foundation's vision to build a
vibrant, caring community for all.

Since 1936, these relationships
have resulted in grants totalling
more than \$163 million to
charitable organizations and
scholarship recipients in our region
and beyond. And with current
assets under management at an all-
time high of over \$270 million, the
Foundation is poised to continue
granting well beyond the next 80 years.

As the region's largest non-government funding organization, we're proud to be able
to support an amazing breadth of issues and causes. Within the pages of this issue, you
can read about the remarkable work of a number of recent grant recipients, including the
Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness, the Victoria Community Food Hub Society,
the Raincoast Conservation Foundation and more.

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find stories on everything from scholarships and Vital
Loans, to inspirational donors and the professional advisors who help bring their
philanthropic dreams into reality.

I hope the stories and articles on the following pages will be both informative and
inspirational, perhaps motivating you to begin or strengthen your own involvement in
this community, connecting with causes that matter most to you.

Sandra Richardson

Sandra Richardson, Chief Executive Officer



GREGG ELICH

Where it all began:
the Sunshine Inn
soup kitchen on
Pandora Avenue



THE VICTORIA FOUNDATION

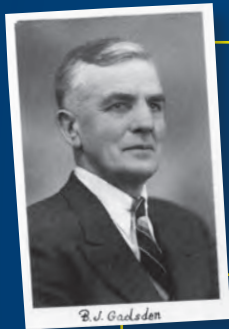
80 YEARS OF COMMUNITY BUILDING



A SOUP KITCHEN, A VISION AND \$20 — THAT'S HOW THE VICTORIA FOUNDATION STARTED 80 YEARS AGO, AND LOOK HOW FAR IT HAS COME!

A HISTORICAL TIME + GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

For over 80 years, the Victoria Foundation's donors and partner organizations have touched the lives of thousands of British Columbians, strengthening individuals, families and the community at large. Recognized as a leader and a centre for philanthropy, the Foundation's granting history has grown incrementally over the past eight decades. The Foundation's grant making is one of its core functions, and there have been many highlights as we connect our caring donors with causes that matter.®



1936

Mr. Burges Gadsden succeeds in seeing his vision of the first community foundation in British Columbia established by an Act of the B.C. Legislature.

1957

"Forgotten charity fund still exists" announced the *Times*. The endowment sits at \$900. Mayor Percy Scurrell was advised that the Victoria Foundation, which now holds barely \$900, is still in existence and he is a trustee. "The fund has apparently been entirely forgotten," he stated. "It contains an idea which could be very important." Indeed — a permanent source which would do good in perpetuity for the community.

'Forgotten' Charity Fund Still Exists

An almost forgotten trust fund established in 1936 as a method of financing city charities was brought to light at city hall today.

Mayor Percy Scurrell was advised The Victoria Foundation, which now holds barely \$900, is still in existence and he is a trustee.

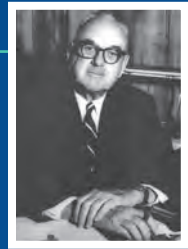
"This fund has apparently been entirely forgotten," he stated. "It contains an idea which could be very important."

He said if the fund were built up by bequests it would provide a permanent source which would do good for the community in perpetuity.

"The income could be used for agencies like the Community Chest. People could specify what charitable purpose the funds could be used for."

The mayor said at 4 per cent a \$25,000 bequest would earn \$1,000 a year.

The fund is administered by a board consisting of the mayor, F. E. Winslow, Burgess Gadsden and Ralph Matthews. The trustees are named by a nominating committee including the lieutenant governor, the chief justice, the Premier and the mayor.



1974

The first designated fund at the Victoria Foundation was the **Colonel Bull Fund**, established in 1974. The Fund started granting two years later in 1976, and in 2015, distributed over \$35,500 to charitable organizations.

1930s

1940s

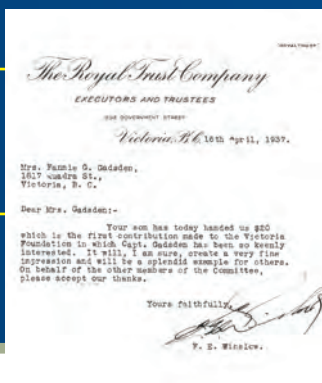
1950s

1960s

1970s

1937

The Foundation receives its first gift of \$20 from Mrs. Fannie Gadsden, mother of Burges.



1969

After a long period of dormancy, the Foundation announces three substantial grants totalling \$7,000 and begins active granting.



1974

The Victoria Foundation gave grants to five organizations, including **The Salvation Army, Greater Victoria Association for the Retarded, Victoria Theatre Guild, Victoria Symphony Society and Tsartslip Indian Band Council.**

It was 1936. At a little cottage on Pandora Avenue called the Sunshine Inn, Burges Gadsden was serving soup to unemployed men who had been hard hit by the Depression. The first \$20 was donated by Gadsden's mother, Fannie.

Longtime Victoria Foundation supporter and past board member Bill Cross remembers accompanying his grandmother to the Sunshine Inn one afternoon in the late 1930s.

"We went down on the streetcar with this big basket of cherries," Cross recalls. "I remember people talking about the Sunshine, but it didn't mean a lot to me then."

All these years later, that name means so much more. Cross is amazed at the changes he has witnessed, both in the community and in the Victoria Foundation since that time. "The sky is the limit," he says when asked what he sees in the Foundation's future.

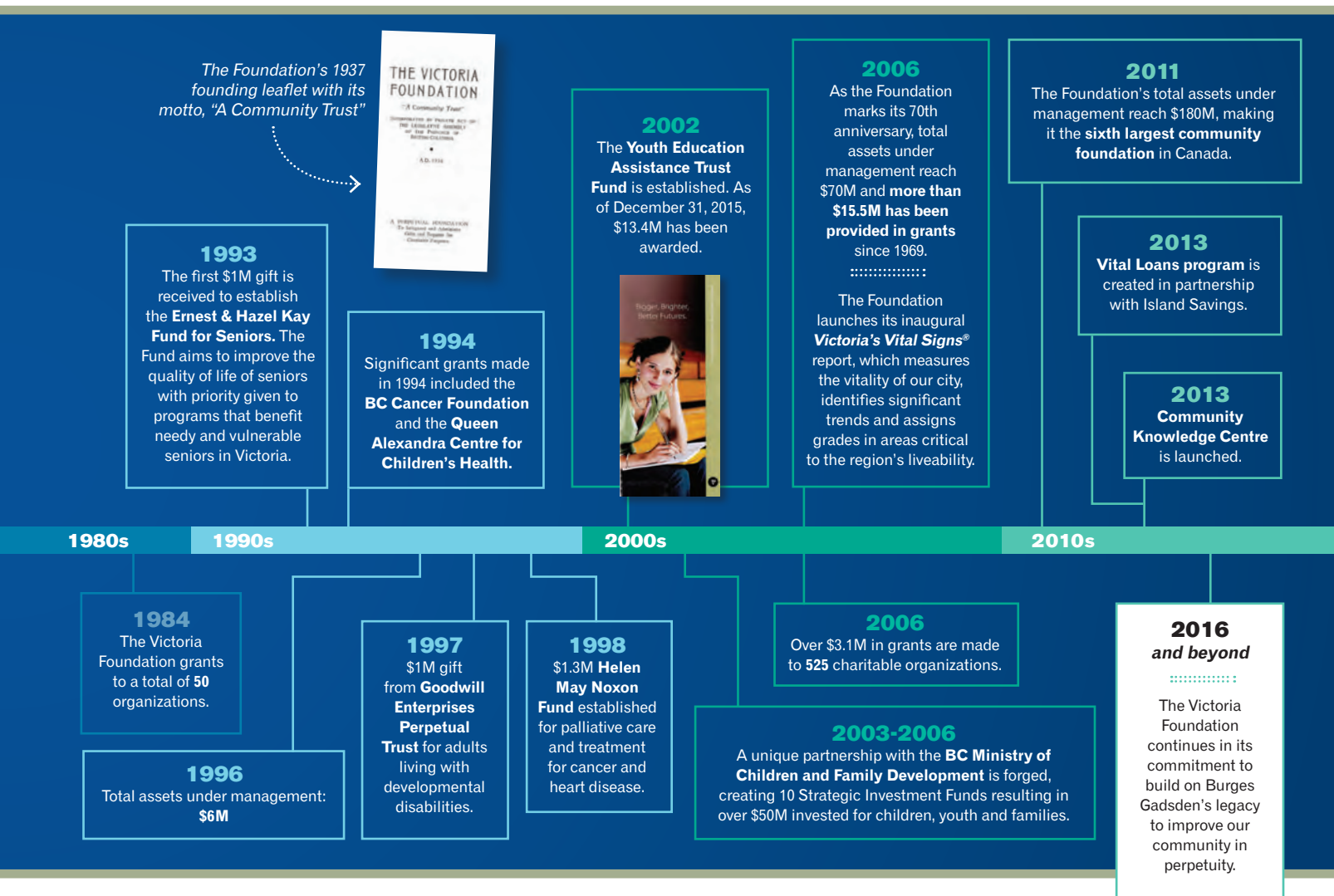
Over the decades, the Foundation has evolved into an organization that grants more than a million dollars a month to agencies and initiatives that support and enrich the fabric

of our community. Among the many worthy organizations the Foundation has assisted are some of the city's most enduring, such as the Greater Victoria Public Library (established 1889), The Salvation Army (in Victoria since 1897) and the YM-YWCA (in Victoria for 135 years).

Recent growth has been particularly remarkable. In 2002, the Foundation had 26 funds that held just over \$20 million. Today, there are more than 400 funds and total assets under management of \$270 million. Over the 13-year span between 2002 and 2015, grant distribution expanded from \$1 million to \$15.5 million per year.

And yet, the Foundation has never lost sight of Burges Gadsden's original vision: to strengthen community well-being by investing in people, opportunities and solutions. It has stayed true to the belief that insightful, effective financial support can help people and communities grow in beautiful ways.

"The people at the Victoria Foundation are so proactive," says Cross, "leading various ideas and being trusted with funds to administer on others' behalf."



“Rather than imagining where the Victoria Foundation can go from here, I don’t know where it could be stopped.”

— **BILL CROSS**, retired University of Victoria professor and longtime Victoria Foundation supporter and past board member

That proactive element has become ever more central to the Foundation’s way of operating.

“Certainly they are a foundation and a funder,” says Colin Tessier, communications and fund development consultant for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of Vancouver Island, whose longstanding relationship with the Victoria Foundation includes funding for employment programs for people with disabilities. “But their influence goes beyond that. They are forward thinking and trying to shift the system of how they can have an impact on the community.”

A cornerstone of this shift is the Foundation’s annual *Vital Signs* report, published since 2006 as a checkup on the community’s key issue areas, including the economy, arts and culture, housing, environmental sustainability and learning.

“[*Vital Signs*] provides direct data from the community to indicate where we’re healthy and where we’re challenged,” explains Tessier. “Adapting to the community reality on a year-to-year basis is one of the great things the Victoria Foundation does.”

Victoria Foundation CEO Sandra Richardson agrees, noting that *Vital Signs* has been a game-changer.

“Because we produce this report, the

public holds us more accountable to the data,” she says. “It has changed us for the better, taking us from trying to determine who should get funding to instead being proactive in targeting impacts.”

Vital Signs engages the community and produces information that the Foundation can use to shine a light on opportunities and needs within the community. It’s a useful feedback loop, where the board priorities and granting process are informed by community feedback.

“The impact the Victoria Foundation and its donors have had on a variety of important community causes is substantial,” says Dean Freeman, board chair of the Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island (formerly the Queen Alexandra Foundation for Children), which

has received close to \$2 million for initiatives and programs for children and youth with disabilities and health challenges.

Health and recreation is just one of the five areas the Victoria Foundation focuses on with its community grants, searching out those agencies that want to partner with it in a way that encourages sustainability over the long term.

“There is more competition for funds since 2008,” says Richardson, “and in the granting world, what you don’t want is

only the same organizations applying every year. You want it to be fair so others get an opportunity, so we encourage partnerships.”

By bringing groups with similar aims to the table and initiating conversations, the Victoria Foundation has been a powerful catalyst for collaborative action in the community.

In recent years, many organizations and agencies have been shepherded toward greater self-sustainability because of this collaborative partnership approach. They include the Victoria Symphony, which recently produced an Emily Carr concert, A Chinatown Celebration and 2015’s Lest We Forget concert in honour of the onset of World War I with support from the Victoria Foundation.

“Those have been huge projects in terms of their development of the symphony and its relationship to the community,” says Victoria Symphony Executive Director Mitchell Krieger.

“There isn’t anybody in the Victoria Symphony family who doesn’t know what a great job the Victoria Foundation does for the community, providing richness not just in the arts but in so much of what goes on here in the city.”

It’s a richness that just keeps growing.

“If Fannie Gadsden could see into the future to know what her \$20 investment has done,” muses Richardson. “It is a testament not only to the belief that you can make a difference, but also to the importance of permanence. We do other kinds of funds, too, but the permanent component is what gives the legacy and has made the Foundation into what it has become over the last 80 years.”



Published since 2006, *Vital Signs* is a checkup on the community’s key issue areas.



SAVE THE DATE:
TUESDAY
November 29

GIVE FROM THE HEART
GIVE FOOD
GIVE TIME
GIVE CARE
GIVE CREATIVITY
GIVE INSPIRATION
GIVE KNOWLEDGE
GIVE IMAGINATION
GIVE HOPE

IT IS BETTER TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE.

This simple notion epitomizes the spirit of the holiday season. Yet it's easy to forget with the barrage of advertising and calls to consumerism at that time of year. Luckily, GivingTuesday is a worldwide movement dedicated to giving back.

While Black Friday and Cyber Monday provide opportunities to save money as we shop for gifts for the ones we love, GivingTuesday gives us a break from the buying frenzy and invites us to pay those savings forward to the causes that matter most to us.

For the fourth year running, the Victoria Foundation is encouraging Greater Victoria residents to take part in this celebration of generosity. To get the ball rolling, the Victoria Foundation will be doing some giving of its own with the return of its popular #UNselfie Facebook contest. The contest encourages Victorians to take and share photos of themselves giving back to their community in whatever way they choose: time, talent or treasure.

In 2015, nearly 100 #UNselfie entries showed participants helping out in ways as big as volunteering their time with a local organization, to as simple as donating a modest amount of money to a favourite cause. Of the entries, two winners were randomly chosen to receive \$500 each to donate to a charity of their choice.

Everyone at the Victoria Foundation thanks all of 2015's contest participants for sharing with us the many rich and varied ways they give back to their community, and we look forward to seeing this year's batch of creative and fun #UNselfies on Tuesday, November 29.

We also ask all of you to please consider making a donation to a favourite cause or volunteering your time with a local organization on GivingTuesday. 📷



2015
#UNselfie
Winners



Vivienne Temple's "Athletes in Training" photo (left) at the Special Olympics Victoria Active Start program for children was a 2015 UNselfie winner. Vivienne's snap of Mike and young athlete Ben under a parachute earned her \$500 to donate to Special Olympics Victoria.

Amanda Evans' shot of her joyfully removing English Ivy, an invasive species, from a local park won her \$500 to donate to Green Teams of Canada.

VITAL YOUTH PROJECT

Empowering youth through first-hand experience in philanthropy and community development — that's the goal of the Victoria Foundation's Vital Youth program. And it's working.



“I have discovered the generosity that exists in Victoria, as well as areas of further need, where the charities we have chosen to support are reaching out to next.”

Each year, the Foundation allocates \$2,500 to multiple groups of high school students across the city. Those students then research and identify needs within the community and the funds are granted to the charitable causes of their choice.

Through the program, which has grown from three high schools to eight since 2003, youth gain hands-on philanthropic experience and valuable leadership skills, while they become active participants in community development.

Here are three stories about how the Vital Youth program influences the lives of its student volunteers:

JESSICA IZARD

Why she got involved: “I got involved with Vital Youth because a group of girls I look up to were part of the team at Oak Bay before graduating last year,” says Jessica Izard, a grade 12 student at Oak Bay High. This is her first year with the Vital Youth program.

What she loved: “I thoroughly enjoyed many aspects of the Vital Youth program. I liked learning about the philanthropic process and the concerns fellow students have regarding our community and speaking with the charities to find out more about what they do and how their passions help people around Victoria. I especially enjoyed setting up our meetings with charities and hearing their excitement over the fact that we were considering them for a grant. Being able to help them in their mission towards improving the lives of Victorians made me feel connected to my community.”

Most memorable achievement: “Our group's theme for the year has been mental health. I have learned a great deal about the difficulties people with mental health issues face and the many resources that exist for them around the city. I have discovered the generosity that exists in Victoria, as well as areas of further need, where the charities we have chosen to support are reaching out to next (for example, ending the stigma around mental health, providing peer groups with tools to learn how to live with mental illness, reaching out to youth so they know the signs and understand what themselves or others are going through and how to seek help). Above all, I have learned about my peers' connections to mental health and how we are all touched by the cause.”

MARKUS MEYER

Why he got involved: “I got involved with the Vital Youth program because, as someone who would like to be involved with or start a non-profit organization in the future, I felt the opportunity to get to know and work directly with local non-profits would be an excellent way to see if it’s something I would like to pursue further,” says Markus Meyer, a grade 10 student at Belmont Secondary. “To me, it serves as a gateway into the world of non-profits and philanthropic endeavours in general.” This is Markus’s second year in the Vital Youth program.

What he loved: “What I like about the Vital Youth program is that it gives youth the opportunity to work one-on-one with non-profit management. It’s an outlet for us to make a significant difference and connect with causes we care about, and it forces us to take the initiative to contact these businesses. In addition to developing youth leadership, the program promotes philanthropy and community service in our youth through the donation of the grants as well as through communication with charities.”

Most memorable achievement: “I have learned about all sorts of different organizations and causes. For example, this year, I discovered the impact of the Inter-Cultural Association on our immigrant population here in Victoria. Through both of my two years in the program, I learned about the Help Fill A Dream Foundation and the impact they have had on many children all across the Island. I’ve also learned more about Victoria’s population, and the issues that face it as a whole.”

“To me, it serves as a gateway into the world of non-profits and philanthropic endeavours in general.”



UPDATE ON LAURYN KERR

THEN

From 2004 to 2007, Lauryn Kerr was one of 10 students participating in the Vital Youth program at St. Michaels University School.

“This program was very influential for me. I learned a lot about the kinds of different charitable organizations there are in Greater Victoria and the work that they do. I learned how important philanthropy and community development is — there are so many organizations in our community doing amazing work, who all need more funding to be able to have the maximum impact that they can.”



NOW

“After high school, I studied at Camosun College for two years and played on the Chargers Women’s Basketball Team. After Camosun, I attended Royal Roads University where I obtained a Bachelor of Commerce in Entrepreneurial Management in 2011. Last spring, I graduated with a Juris Doctor [law degree] from UVIC. I recently finished my articling year at a local law firm and was called to the bar in May 2016.

I have continued to be involved in the community to a large extent, including by volunteering with many organizations.”

FUTURE

“I intend to remain in Victoria and practice law here. I hope to be able to be a successful lawyer and to use my legal skills in a philanthropic manner and to continue being involved in the community. I am sure I will be involved in the community for the rest of my life.”

VITAL LOANS FILL THE GAP

Helping local charities through the “pinch”

Here's a scenario undoubtedly familiar to anyone who has ever been involved in managing the arts. A few months into his tenure at Kaleidoscope Theatre Productions, Executive Director Marcus Handman found himself staring at some hard numbers.

“I realized we were headed for a cash crunch,” recalls the seasoned arts administrator. “We were going to run out of money.”



The timing wasn't ideal: the company's production of *Robinson Crusoe* still lay ahead, as well as its SpeakEasy and Family Theatre Festival.

Handman, who spent the last decade in the Vancouver film industry and came out of retirement to head up Kaleidoscope last October, wasn't willing to withhold staff salaries to make up the shortfall. Instead, he began investigating funding options.

As an experienced arts professional who had previously worked with both

the Victoria Symphony and Pacific Opera Victoria, Handman knew the challenge he faced: conventional banks don't like lending money to unsecured creditors. Despite 41 years of mounting mainstage productions, changing children's lives through theatre camps and workshops, and entertaining millions of audience members on the South Island, Kaleidoscope still looked risky to traditional lenders.

"We own a couple of giant foam igloos," says Handman, "but we don't have the kind of assets banks are interested in."

Handman took the problem back to the drawing board. While perusing a newsletter from the Victoria Foundation over coffee one day, he read that Pacific Opera Victoria had been helped by the Victoria Foundation's Vital Loans program. He checked the qualifying guidelines and put together an application.

Administered in partnership with Island Savings, the Vital Loans program provides registered charities with access to critical funding that conventional lenders might not extend at very favourable rates. It's a powerful program that allows Foundation donors to support groups that enrich the fabric of our community but may experience periodic financial struggles. Offering loans of up to \$500,000, the Vital Loans program provides much-needed bridge financing for arts groups, explains Vital Loans Committee Chair Ian Wong.

"For eight months of the year, an organization like Kaleidoscope is trying to get a production together," he says. "They have to pay for their lights and pay their actors, but that all happens before they see any revenue from ticket sales."

Handman liked that Island Savings administered the loan, as the credit union was already a Kaleidoscope supporter through a its Growing Island Families Together (GIFT) program. With the loan application submitted, Handman switched Kaleidoscope's business to Island Savings and went on with the business of steering his theatre company toward another fantastic series of productions.

Handman was delighted when, in February, the Vital Loans program awarded Kaleidoscope \$30,000 to assist with its cash-flow shortage. Operating like a line of credit that can be drawn down as much or as little as needed, the loan allows the organization to meet accounts payable and has helped meet the costs of mounting its 2015-2016 productions.

"It's critical not just so we can pay our staff, but also because we don't want to have debt in the community if we can help it," says Handman. "We want to be able to go back to the same supplier to get more lumber, for example, and know that we're current."

Kaleidoscope was one of several groups to benefit from the Vital Loans program this year.

The Vital Loans program began in 2013, when the Victoria Foundation approached Island Savings with the idea of creating a program to deepen its social impact in the community.

"It was exactly something we wanted to partner with them on," says Colin Nicol, Vice-President of Advisory Services for Island Savings Credit Union. "We both operate in the community, and we see the need. Smaller charities have great visions and great plans, but they can't access capital or overdraft facilities or even loans, which limits what they can do."

The program also provides a way for Foundation donors to direct their funds so their philanthropy can be utilized over and over again, as the loans are repaid and new loans are put back into the community.

"The Vital Loans program provides a multiplier effect," says Wong.

It's an effect that weaves the community fabric ever more vibrantly.

"I've been at this game a long time, and I can't tell you how much I wish this program had existed 30 years ago," says Handman, who once had to put his own house up as collateral against a bank loan so he could pay his staff. "That this program provides emergency funds that are unobtainable any other way is truly amazing." 🍷



With the help of the Vital Loans program, Markus Handman, Executive Director of Kaleidoscope Theatre Productions, can get on with the business of entertaining millions of audience members. Pictured left to right: Artistic Associate and Studio Principal Pat Rundell, student Jazmin Saunders-Scales, Marcus Handman, Artistic Director Roderick Glanville, student Daniel Zelisko.

SIMON DESROCHERS

1

STANDING TOGETHER TO END HOMELESSNESS

THE ABORIGINAL COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS BRINGS
AN ABORIGINAL LENS TO VICTORIA'S HOUSING ISSUES



Addressing the issue of homelessness among the Aboriginal population requires a program of culturally relevant initiatives to remove the barriers preventing Aboriginal people from living healthy lives. With a grant from the Victoria Foundation, the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness aims to do exactly that.

The year was 2010, and entrepreneur, scholar and Aboriginal leader Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi (pictured at left) was serving her term as the Director of the Office of Indigenous Affairs at the University of Victoria.

“UVic and the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness had brought a group together to talk about an Aboriginal housing strategy,” remembers Hunt-Jinnouchi. “That, for me, is where it all started.”

Hunt-Jinnouchi is talking about the newly formed Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness

(ACEH), an initiative supported by a \$100,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation with the aim of providing culturally relevant solutions to homelessness among the region’s Aboriginal population.

While the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness (GVCEH) was created in 2008 with a mandate to end homelessness in Greater Victoria, the fact that more than 30 per cent of the region’s population of homeless individuals is Aboriginal in origin made it clear that an Aboriginal voice was needed. But creating a culturally relevant initiative to resolve the problem required deep expertise and knowledge that the GVCEH just didn’t have.

That’s when the Coalition approached Hunt-Jinnouchi, who specializes in Aboriginal education and community capacity building. A cornerstone of the

work, she says, is to seek guidance and support from the nations upon whose traditional territories this work is being done.

“I travelled up and down the Island, meeting with chiefs and band councils, talking about homelessness in general and within their communities,” she says. “I invited them to be part of a steering committee to discuss where we were at.”

Persuasive, engaging and utterly committed to removing the barriers preventing Aboriginal people from living a healthy life, Hunt-Jinnouchi has

met with success along the way. The Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness cemented its existence in April 2015 with a ceremony at Esquimalt Longhouse that brought together Aboriginal groups to sign a drum. The Victoria Foundation was a natural partner

with its commitment to providing a broad range of community and leadership support, says Hunt-Jinnouchi.

The grant will support start-up operations, including strategic planning and community outreach, and enable close measurement of the issues to give a clear sense of the needs that must be addressed. Hunt-Jinnouchi recently facilitated a talking circle with members of the Aboriginal street community to get a better understanding of these issues.

“I asked, ‘Where do you want to be in three years and what barriers are

preventing you from completing your journey?’” she says. “It was very powerful, with lots of tears and laughter. Much points to creating a cultural and spiritual connection — to getting out of the downtown core, away from the concrete and the perpetual exhaust, getting out on the land and helping them to be whole as Indigenous people. It’s much deeper than food and shelter.”

The Victoria Foundation grant brings the right people to the table not only to frame the issues but also to generate solutions that are culturally rooted, says Hunt-Jinnouchi.

“For Aboriginal street communities, that can literally mean the difference between life and death,” she says, explaining her sadness at the recent death of an Aboriginal member who was living on the street. “Just six months ago, he was saying, ‘I’m getting too old to be sleeping on the ground.’”

The new organization has support from the Nuuchah-nulth and Kwakwaka’wakw nations, who have each appointed two representatives to the ACEH. There is also a seat for each of the 14 First Nations communities of the Coast Salish tribal group; the goal is to have all 14 sign the protocol agreement at October’s AGM. At that time, Hunt-Jinnouchi also plans to hold a proper mourning for the homeless Aboriginal individuals who have died since the group first began its work.

“Back in 2010, we produced a report called ‘Finding Our Path,’” says Hunt-Jinnouchi. “One recommendation was the development of an Aboriginal coalition to end homelessness. Today sees us drawing all these strings together. We are moving forward.”

The Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) is an initiative supported by a \$100,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation with the aim of providing culturally relevant solutions to homelessness among the region’s Aboriginal population.

2

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE LITERACY

VICTORIA FOUNDATION GRANTS HELP TO ALIGN AND IMPROVE LITERACY SERVICES FOR PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY



Literacy is essential to our community's well-being: the more literate people become, the more empowered, productive and self-sufficient they are, creating a stronger and more resilient community. The Victoria Foundation is supporting two literacy initiatives working to strengthen literacy services in the region.

Literacy Challenge Dialogue and Roadmap

Our city is bursting at the seams with agencies seeking to improve literacy — and rightly so. According to joint research conducted by Statistics Canada and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2003 and updated in 2006, 31 per cent of people living in Greater Victoria have a low level of literacy.

“These people don’t read or write well enough to read a medicine bottle or fill in a job application,” says Carol Carman, co-chair of the Victoria READ Society.

The need for literacy support is clear. Yet the archipelago-like dispersal of literacy services presents a significant challenge: which group, exactly, serves which need, and for whom? And are they working together as effectively as possible?

Recognizing this need to coordinate services and improve delivery, the Victoria Foundation initially convened the literacy groups to talk about a solution. Last fall, a number of literacy groups came together to work out a plan for streamlining services and increasing the literacy of our community. Groups like the READ Society, Literacy Victoria and the Greater

Victoria Public Library have been joined by representatives from government, private industry, Corrections Canada, the University of Victoria, Camosun College and others to outline the factors necessary to improve literacy for learners and describe the challenges in coordinating literacy services. With the assistance of community-development consultant Keith Jones, the groups compiled this information into a discussion paper.

Participants came together in a collaborative workshop called Challenge Dialogue System™ to determine how best to align services.

“When you work with others, you realize your problem extends beyond your organization,” says Jones. “We help people create communities around a challenge and build relationships, which leads to trust and innovation and learning.”

The Challenge Dialogue examines current barriers to literacy and determines how best to deploy services in times of fiscal leanness.

“Governments, business and granting organizations in the last decade have had to find efficiencies,” says Carman, “and non-profits are obligated to do the same thing.”

In an era of belt-tightening, many groups

have had to let go of office space and administrative costs and look at maximizing effectiveness and outreach by collaborating.

Following the Challenge Dialogue, the Victoria Foundation provided a grant of \$26,350 to support the next step in the process: hammering out a strategy roadmap, which was presented in spring 2016.

The roadmap includes a rationale for the dialogue process and provides direction for resolving issues. The dialogue process, as supported by the Victoria Foundation, is incredibly valuable, says Carman.

“In what other context can you get people who have historically been competing for grants to sit around the same table?” she says. “It’s very important to build understanding, confidence and trust. The Victoria Foundation were the perfect people to identify the challenge and set it up.”

It is all part of the Victoria Foundation’s drive to strengthen the community through collaboration and cooperative effort.

“I would like to make Greater Victoria the most literate place in Canada,” says Carman. “And thanks largely to this initiative with the Victoria Foundation putting us all together in one room, I think we can do this.”

The Greater Victoria Public Library is on the Move!

For people who can't get to the library, the library is now coming to the people. With support from a Victoria Foundation grant of \$40,000, the Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) has purchased an Outreach Library Vehicle. Affectionately referred to as OLiVe, the 2016 Ford Transit Connect allows library workers to pack it full of books and drive deep into the heart of the community, where people might not otherwise be able to access library services.

“The more outreach we did, the more apparent it became we needed to have an in-house van.”

“We'd been talking about a vehicle for a while,” says GVPL Outreach Librarian Carl Cavanaugh. “The more outreach we did, the more apparent it became we needed to have an in-house van.”

The GVPL began considering applying for a grant when Literacy Victoria was going through a financial transition and, in turn, asked the library to extend its outreach services.

“The library picked up the regular delivery service, and Carl was using his own vehicle,” says Maureen Sawa, GVPL CEO. “The Victoria Foundation got wind of this and were very encouraging for us to apply for funding. They loved the fact that GVPL was taking this on and that we were committed to extending that outreach service.”

Custom manufactured in Spain, OLiVe houses a laptop on a

swivel cart and acts like a WIFI hotspot, allowing library staff to provide on-the-spot reference and card services anywhere in the city. It's an improvement over the library's previous outreach vehicle, a bikemobile.

“The last couple summers, we took books out in the trailer, but it was hard to take much and we couldn't go far from the downtown core,” says Jennifer Rowan, GVPL's Adult Services Coordinator.

OLiVe, however, makes it a snap to tow 200 books to Our Place for the weekly book exchange. The van has expanded the library's reach, allowing it to add independent care facilities for seniors.

“Now we can make those a part of our regular outreach plan, not only taking books but also connecting those residents to our resources,” says Rowan.

Other places OLiVe visits include hospitals, schools, special events, and communities such as Metchosin and View Royal which don't have GVPL branches.

OLiVe sports an eye-catching, colourful wrap funded by the Friends of the Library and an anonymous donor, and the interior space makes it easy for the library to take along its tent for events.

“People notice the library now out on the road,” says Cavanaugh. “It gets us out more, into the parades and at all the markets.”

“We love that people don't expect their library to do this,” Rowan laughs. “It's like, ‘Whoa, you guys are here?’” 📖



Carl Cavanaugh and Jadzia Christensen, a library technology student, bring books to people who otherwise would not have access to library services.

3

NOURISHMENT IN YOUR
NEIGHBOURHOOD

VICTORIA FOUNDATION GRANTS BRING FOOD ACCESS
AND FOOD LITERACY A LITTLE CLOSER TO HOME

The Victoria Foundation helps neighbourhood houses continue to meet long-term food-security requirements. One of these is the Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group, which brings the community together for family dinners every Monday.



SIMON DESROCHERS

Food security isn't just about having enough food — it's also about access to healthy food. And access to healthy food means little without knowledge and skills related to nutrition and food preparation. Food security is one of the Foundation's strategic granting priorities, with several recent grants to support food access and food literacy at the neighbourhood level.

► Building Food Program Capacity at Neighbourhood Houses

Serving Victoria residents from Fernwood to Sooke and beyond, the Coalition of Neighbourhood Houses is a network of community-based agencies working together to increase food access. Since 2004, this group of centres has worked together to recover food that would otherwise go to waste and integrate that into programs like community kitchens, free hot meals, seniors' lunches and family dinners. This year, one of the houses — Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group — received a one-year grant from the Victoria Foundation of \$37,375 to enhance food security and food-access programs at all eight neighbourhood houses in the coalition.

Each of the neighbourhood houses receives support for food-literacy programming for high-need residents in those communities. Sooke, for example, is offering whole foods workshops; Esquimalt teaches crockpot cooking. Some of the grant funds support the Good Food Box program, which distributes organic produce to 15 to 20 high-need families in each area. The grant will also support innovative approaches to food distribution and programming to help the neighbourhood houses continue to meet long-term food-security requirements.

"The whole reason we applied for funding to build sustainability into these programs was because there are more people showing up for the food programs at our community centres," says Danielle Stevenson, Food

Access Coordinator for the Coalition of Neighbourhood Houses. "More and more people are coming to the meals and the community kitchens saying they don't have enough food at home. We're trying to increase capacity."

► Exploring Neighbourhood Food Hub Models

As neighbourhood houses work to increase their capacity to provide food to people, the Capital Region Food and Agricultural Initiatives Roundtable (CR-FAIR) is taking a broader view of access to food at the neighbourhood level. A grant of \$29,500 to the Victoria Community Food Hub Society (the charitable arm of CR-FAIR) supports its work to uncover what neighbourhood food hubs could and

should look like across the region, working with community organizations and other partners. The grant allows CR-FAIR to source knowledge and research from community leaders in an effort to better understand food-security challenges as well as assets and opportunities at the neighbourhood level. This collaboration, which includes the neighbourhood houses, will help determine the best approach for each unique neighbourhood.

Capacity building “amps up the discussion about what is working and spreads the ideas and support around for these initiatives,” says CR-FAIR Coordinator Linda Geggie.



SIMON DESROCHERS

CR-FAIR is working on a policy level, too, examining public infrastructure to see how it can be more aligned to serving the food-security needs of neighbourhoods.

“I’ve heard from the health and recreation sectors that they know they need to change the way they do their programming,” says Geggie. “But adding another spin class, for example, won’t increase health outcomes for their neighbourhood. Doing food-related stuff has more health impact, and so they’re looking at how they can reorient their structures.”

Strengthening Food Knowledge and Skills

Providing easy access to healthy food is one goal of neighbourhood food hubs. But for neighbourhood hubs to be effective in improving food security, people receiving food must also have the knowledge and skills to prepare it and follow a healthy diet. The Food Skills Empowerment Project of LifeCycles aims to address exactly this issue of food literacy. Funded in part by a \$25,000 grant from Victoria Foundation, the project will provide educational food-literacy workshops and help coordinate food-literacy services in the region. The grant helps groups collaborate in order to establish their roles in food literacy, thus reducing duplication and fostering long-term sustainability — a key goal of the Victoria Foundation.

“We’ve been working with CR-FAIR and the Coalition of Neighbourhood Houses to figure out our respective roles,” says LifeCycles Executive Director Maurita Prato. “We see LifeCycles’ role as more of an anchor organization, as we’re more centralized than the hubs and we provide programs and services across Victoria.”

LifeCycles is no stranger to innovative approaches to food security that involve social enterprise as a way to sustainability. For example, LifeCycles’ fruit-tree

project sends volunteers out to pick fruit homeowners either don’t want or can’t pick for themselves, and they distribute it to neighbourhood hubs. To help make the program sustainable, LifeCycles also brews Backyard Blend cider, which it sells through Spinnakers.

This year, the focus is on figuring out which food-skills workshops to offer, for example, urban gardening, canning or learning about traditional food systems.

“The first piece of the funding goes to getting the picture of what people want and how much they’re willing to pay,” says Prato.

Current research supports a pilot project offering higher-end workshops on topics like cheesemaking and food fermenting; these upscale workshops will target people who can pay for these experiences, allowing a trickle-down of funds to support other workshops for those experiencing food insecurity. It’s all part of the drive to do charitable work in a more impactful and entrepreneurial way in a time of lean budgets and fewer funding dollars available.

“The Victoria Foundation has been really supporting our move and our intention toward less Foundation dependency,” says Prato. And less dependency means a stronger, more resilient organization working to benefit the community. ▼

FOOD RESCUE

Getting fresh food into all corners of the city

According to the 2014 *Victoria’s Vital Signs*® report, about 14 per cent of households in Greater Victoria experience some degree of food insecurity. At the same time, edible food is thrown out every day at grocery stores and other retailers. The **Food Rescue Project**, a partnership between the Victoria Foundation, the Rotary Clubs of Greater Victoria, Thrifty

Foods and the Food Share Network, aims to address these



issues by rescuing fresh, nutritious food that is edible but no longer saleable.

The goal is to get food to people who need it by bolstering food-bank supplies and other agencies and reaching those who don’t access food banks or meal programs. Only 20 to 30 per cent of food-insecure people access resources such as food banks, says Brenda Bolton, Food Share Network coordinator.

Thanks to over \$100,000 from a car raffle by the Rotary Clubs of Greater Victoria and a matching \$100,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation, the Food Share Network is working with partner agencies to get food into more corners of the city and supporting initiatives to build community around food and its preparation.

In its first year, the project will secure warehouse space, vehicles and equipment for food collection, delivery and distribution. In 2016, grants have been awarded to the Mustard Seed Street Church, Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group Society and Salt Spring Island Community Services. It’s a far-reaching project with broad-range community backing.



EDUCATING CHILDREN ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

Connecting kids to nature is crucial — both to support the well-being of young people and to educate the next generation about the importance of protecting our natural environment. A grant of \$10,000 to the **Raincoast Conservation Foundation** provides funding for the Raincoast Kids program, which teaches youth about conservation and the marine environment. Working with scientists and educators, students explore the Salish Sea and the challenges the region faces while travelling aboard Raincoast's research vessel, the *Achiever*.

Supporting Diverse Cultural Activities

In 2015, the Jewish Community Centre launched the inaugural **Jewish Film Festival**, a celebration of independent Jewish-themed films. The 2016 festival, scheduled for November, is supported by a \$5,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation. The festival provides a cultural experience for both Victoria's Jewish community and non-Jewish community with the aim of broadening awareness of Jewish culture, reflecting the diversity of Jewish life and identity, and enhancing greater mutual understanding by challenging stereotypes.

Offering Accessible Sports and Recreation Opportunities for Kids

Screen-time is on the rise and activity rates are on the decline for children: only about nine per cent of five- to 17-year-olds in Canada get the amount of physical activity they need. Because of this, encouraging fitness and physical literacy is an important part of supporting kids' healthy development. The **Society for Kids at Tennis** (KATS) aims to get young people moving by providing free tennis lessons and equipment to financially disadvantaged children. Supported by a \$12,500 grant from the Victoria Foundation, the KATS team of tennis professionals and volunteers connects with local at-risk and vulnerable children and youth and gets them out on the court to improve their physical and mental health.



Only about nine per cent of five- to 17-year-olds in Canada get the amount of physical activity they need.



There are only seven fluent speakers of the SENĆOTEN language alive today.

Connecting Indigenous Youth to School, Community and Language

SENĆOTEN is the traditional language of the WSÁNEĆ people of the Saanich Peninsula. While interest in the language has seen a resurgence over the past decade, there are only seven fluent speakers alive today. With the assistance of a \$20,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation, the **Indigenous Education Department of School District 63** runs an extracurricular program for Indigenous youth in the district who are transitioning from middle to high school. Students interview elders and SENĆOTEN language speakers and, by the end of the year, make a video about SENĆOTEN language and culture to be shared widely in schools. The connections these youth develop to their schools, community and traditional language will increase their sense of identity and belonging and support their successful transitions to high school and the world beyond graduation.

ENCOURAGING ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

“Reducing reliance on cars” has been a theme identified in recent *Victoria’s Vital Signs®* reports as something to improve in our community. A grant from the Victoria Foundation for \$100,000 provides funding towards 14 separate projects in the Capital

Regional District to encourage people to get out of their cars and get around by walking, biking and rolling. Among the funded projects are Diversity Bikes, a project led by the **Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria** to promote active transportation to immigrants and refugees in our community, and Safe Routes to Schools, a project of the **Capital Regional District’s Regional Planning** division to work with local schools to identify and promote safe routes to schools by walking or cycling.



PROVIDING SKILLS TRAINING FOR BRAIN-INJURY SURVIVORS

Survivors of brain injuries have accessed support from the **Cridge Centre for the Family** for over 20 years through their Brain Injury Services programs. Without this support, survivors are at risk of homelessness, as they often have to relearn job and basic living skills. A grant from the Victoria Foundation for \$26,620 will fund a pilot that offers survivors trained in kitchen and food skills an opportunity to work as cooks at the Cridge Centre’s own daycare and for a local school’s hot-breakfast program, thereby increasing food security for children and employing brain-injury survivors in a supportive environment.



THE LORAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Investing in
Future Potential



Honesty, integrity, a curious nature, a passion for community — these are the kinds of qualities we need to nurture in young people so they can reach their full potential as adults.

These are also the key characteristics sought by the Loran Scholarship Foundation, which awards 110 prestigious scholarships each year across Canada to graduating high school students who demonstrate leadership and service to their local communities. These values are also near and dear to the heart of the Victoria Foundation, which fosters local youth through the many programs, scholarships and bursaries funded by the Foundation each year.

“With our 80th anniversary this year, we wanted a new award of our own to support youth close to home,” says Victoria Foundation CEO Sandra Richardson. She says the new partnership with the Loran Scholarship Foundation is the perfect way to accomplish that goal and celebrates the shared values of both organizations — values they hope to foster in young leaders through financial support of their post-secondary education. The Loran Scholarship provides funding up to \$100,000 towards post-secondary education for the top 30 applicants, as well as provincial awards for 80 students.

“There is a big youth component to the Victoria Foundation, and our financial support of the Loran Scholarship is our way of recognizing talented, local young adults,” says Richardson.

Richardson first became intrigued by the prestigious award many years ago as a volunteer assessor in the initial application-screening process. “I had an opportunity to meet a group of Loran Scholars years ago, and the experience was inspiring and invigorating,” says Richardson. “Right from the start, I was so impressed by the Loran Foundation’s selection process and by the accomplishments of these young people who apply.”

Unlike many scholarships, which focus on academic achievement, the Loran Scholarship emphasizes character.

“The scholarship looks at youth who are well-rounded; students who show personal leadership,” says Richardson, who adds



“Being a recipient means a lot to me because it shows me that I am recognized as a leader who already has the power to give back to my community.”

— MATTHEW BLACK

that applicants come from diverse financial backgrounds, and some have overcome obstacles in order to reach their goals. “Applicants must exhibit how they’ve taken meaningful risks; how they’ve worked to create positive change within their communities.”

These qualities are evident in this year’s Victoria Foundation provincial award winners, Matthew Black (above) and Kayla Cooper (left), who were among the 110 award recipients selected from 4,273 applicants from across the country.

“It is an absolute honour to receive this type of award,” says Black, a graduate of Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School in Courtenay. His diverse talents range from athletics and music (he plays soccer and accompanies two choirs on piano), to technology and business leadership. “Being a recipient means a lot to me because it shows me that I am recognized as a leader who already has the power to give back to my community.”

Black is well on his way towards reaching his goal of becoming a successful technology startup entrepreneur. At school, he launched an app to notify students of extracurricular activities and served as a technical lead for school events. He also works as a junior web developer for an analytics company.

“I plan to use the award money to obtain a double degree in computer science and

business,” Black says. “This will allow me to be a business person as well as give me a larger opportunity to contribute to an even wider community.”

Kayla Cooper is a graduate of Claremont Secondary School in Victoria, where she volunteered as a peer tutor and helped found a mentorship program between students in grades nine and 12. Cooper’s volunteer efforts at school and at a local hospital, as well as her accomplishments as a competitive swimmer and swim club coach, also earned her the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

“Having the privilege to participate in the Loran regional interviews was an experience I will never forget,” Cooper says. “Getting to spend the day with so many other motivated and accomplished youth was an amazing experience and definitely furthered my desire to make change in my community.”

Though she hasn’t yet decided which university she will attend in the fall, Cooper plans to pursue a career in medical sciences, inspired, in part, by her experience in a three-week medical-research internship through the University of Toronto.

“Having scholarship money to help finance my education will allow me the freedom to explore what I am interested in, which will make the challenges of university more manageable and my goals more achievable,” she says.

Richardson says working with motivated and talented local youth like Black and Cooper provides fresh perspective on key local issues.

“As these students get involved in their community, they give themselves more opportunities, which, in turn, benefits us all.” Through scholarship support, Richardson says the Victoria Foundation helps nurture the type of leadership skills that make our communities stronger — and that is exactly what the Victoria Foundation is all about.

“These talented youth are the building blocks of our future,” says Richardson.

Through financial support of this prestigious award, the Victoria Foundation is investing in the community, ensuring the most talented young adults from Vancouver Island reach their full potential. ●



VICTORIA FOUNDATION

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Vital Signs measures the health of our region and reports citizens' grades in a number of areas critical to Victoria's vitality

+ Quality of Life in Greater Victoria

Participants in this year's Vital Signs survey were generally very positive about their quality of life and feelings of connectedness to their community.



71%
Rarely or very rarely **felt lonely** over the past week. Eight percent have felt lonely often or very often.

89%
Would describe themselves as **happy**

74%
Are **happy** in their job and satisfied with work

20%
Feel uncomfortable at least sometimes as a result of **discrimination**

68%
Are satisfied with **work and home life balance**

48%
Volunteered their time to an organization at least once a month

81%
Feel it is likely or very likely they will be **living and working** in Greater Victoria ten years from now

66%
Feel they have the opportunity to **make a difference** in their community or city

63%
Agree or strongly agree that It is every **citizen's duty** to engage in activities that strengthen democracy

76%
Rate their general sense of **mental wellbeing** as high

71%
Rate their general sense of **physical wellbeing** as high.



26%
Feel high or **overwhelming stress** associated with personal finances

+ Feature Story



measuring what matters

Dr. Trevor Hancock
Professor and Senior Scholar,
School of Public Health and Social Policy, University of Victoria



+ Inside
10 Milestones
2006 - 2015

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IslandSavings

MILESTONES

A year of important changes, events and activities at the Victoria Foundation

2015

FEBRUARY

11th ANNUAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS
Pacifica Housing received the 2015 Victoria Foundation Community Leadership Award. The award recognizes an organization that is building community capacity and achieving positive change.

MAY

ROTARIANS FOR FOOD RESCUE
The Rotary Clubs of Greater Victoria joined the Victoria Foundation and the 11 local Thrifty Foods stores to provide funding for a major food-recovery system that will see perishable food items move from grocery stores and other sources to the vulnerable populations in the CRD.

SEPTEMBER

NEIGHBOURHOOD GRANTS ANNOUNCED
A pilot program for Neighbourhood Small Grants was introduced for the Hillside-Quadra area. Sixteen grants up to \$500 were successfully funded for a total of \$7,082.

OCTOBER

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORIA'S VITAL SIGNS®
This special issue looked at measuring what matters most in the community and took a look back at a decade of impacts related to this important publication.

NOVEMBER

FIRST RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS DAY
The nationwide movement for generosity and kindness was brought to Victoria by the Victoria Foundation.

NEW & DEPARTING STAFF
Brin Morgan, Office Administrator joined the Foundation.

DECEMBER

GRANTS ANNOUNCED
We announced a record \$1.7 million in community grants to 89 non-profit organizations on Vancouver Island, bringing the total amount awarded in 2015 to more than \$14.3 million and more than \$158 million since the Foundation began in 1936.

2016

JANUARY

NEW HOME
The Victoria Foundation moved to 703 Broughton Street.

BOARD & COMMITTEE CHANGES
Carey Newman joined the Board, replacing Andrew Jackson who completed his

six-year term. Patrick Kelly replaced Rasool Rayani as the new Board Chair.

NEW & DEPARTING STAFF
Natasha Benn took on the new position of Manager of Philanthropic Services.

FEBRUARY

NEW & DEPARTING STAFF
Rudi Wallace joined the Foundation as Grants Coordinator.

12th ANNUAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS
Artemis Place received the 2016 Victoria Foundation Community Leadership Award.

MARCH

NEW & DEPARTING STAFF
After six years, David Hernon resigned as Director of Technology and Kyle Wells joined the Foundation as the new Communications Specialist, replacing Leah Baade who moved on to a job in government in October 2015.

APRIL

NEW & DEPARTING STAFF
Jayna Brulotte joined the Foundation as Community Initiatives Specialist.



New home of the Victoria Foundation

Victoria, TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

ADD YOUR VOICE

Take the **2016 Vital Signs®** survey and rate the issues important to you!

MAY 9
to
JULY 1

Take the survey online at **victoriafoundation.ca** or scan the code to take the survey on your mobile.



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SUPPORT ACROSS THE SPECTRUM

An online **FASD** resource deepens knowledge among teachers, parents, families and workers in the fields of justice, health and social work.

Even though Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) affects about one in 100 babies born each year in Canada, and even though 300,000 Canadians are living with the disorder, we still struggle with its diagnosis, treatment and management.* First identified in the 1970s, making it a relative newcomer in the disability arena, FASD is a group of conditions that can include learning disabilities, physical anomalies, mental-health disorders, addictions, disruptive behaviour, chronic unemployment and difficulty coping with day-to-day responsibilities.

In 2006, the B.C. government established a \$10 million action fund to support activities throughout the province in the areas of FASD awareness, prevention, education and research. The Victoria Foundation was selected to administer the fund. Dozens of initiatives were supported over the years, leaving a \$1 million endowment after all the grants had flowed through. At that point, the Victoria Foundation looked closely at how best to direct the returns on that endowment.

"Because the action fund originated as a provincial fund, we wanted to proactively seek out an organization that would do good work in the area of FASD, but that also would deliver a program with potential for impact throughout the province," says Rory Grewar, Director of Special Funds for the Victoria Foundation.

After extensive research and consultation

with professionals in the field, the Victoria Foundation identified Douglas College, where pioneer educator Marsha Wilson has made a career out of developing and delivering programming in the area of FASD. Wilson, whose work has been deeply informed by her own son's journey as a person living with FASD, was driven, in part, to create the supports that she had so badly needed while raising a child affected by the disorder.

"I encountered a system that did not understand my child nor our needs as a family," Wilson recalls.

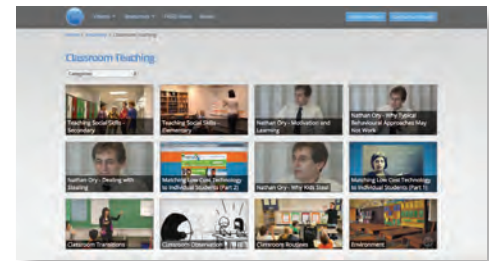
As she learned more from mentors and other experts, Wilson became determined to create something from which other families could benefit.

"There was a gap," says Wilson, a dynamic, highly regarded educator. "There wasn't any feet-on-the-ground practical training from people who have a well-rounded understanding of FASD."

In partnership with the Victoria Foundation, Wilson created the FASD Training Program: a practical, user-friendly series of online, self-paced learning modules accessible to people in every corner of the province. The program launched in 2014 with a

grant of \$140,481 and received an additional \$132,375 in 2016.

The online training modules synthesize current information on best practices,



The online training modules synthesize current information on best practices, treatment and support of those who have FASD in one convenient place.

treatment and support of those who have FASD in one convenient place. Aimed at teachers, social workers, health and justice workers, employers and parents of those living with FASD, the modules are in their second year of a three-year development cycle and include FASD fundamentals, associated disabilities, family issues, strategies and positive supports. There's also a new module geared specifically to people living with the disorder, co-developed with FASD consultant Myles Himmelreich, who has the disorder himself.

"Living with FASD and having that day-to-day insight of what it's like is quite valuable," says Himmelreich. "For example, I may be able to explain what's really going on for an individual with FASD, where others see what may look like bad behaviour or a lack of trying or being lazy."

The modules have met with an overwhelmingly positive response.

"I love the program," says Charles McKaig, a distance educator with Vancouver-based Traditional Learning Academy. "I've worked with special needs people for a long time. It has provided me with deeper insight into fetal alcohol syndrome."

Going forward, Wilson hopes to establish more face-to-face program-delivery options and also to use her research to encourage other agencies and government ministries to join in with long-term, sustainable funding. 🌱



"I encountered a system that did not understand my child nor our needs as a family."

— Marsha Wilson

DID YOU KNOW? A large number of pregnancies in Canada are unplanned, meaning that a large number of women in the early stages of their pregnancies — not knowing they are pregnant — may use alcohol and unknowingly cause damage. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is an umbrella term used to describe the range of disabilities that result from drinking alcohol during pregnancy.*

*Source: Health Canada. <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/diseases-maladies/fasd-etcaf-eng.php>

FEATURED DONOR

THOMAS MAYNE A LIFETIME OF GIVING

With almost a century under his belt, Tommy Mayne has a story that could mirror the plays he directed during his 33 years as a teacher at Victoria High. Be it *Our Town* or *Meet Me In St. Louis*, Mayne, who guided some of Victoria's youngest thespians from 1945 to 1978, has lived a life scripted with human interaction, the performing arts and a huge desire to share.

"I'm a people person, a ham actor. Everywhere there was drama, I was in it," says Mayne, who turns 98 in December. A purist, who admires playwright Sir Noel Coward and theatre masters such as Sir Laurence Olivier, Victoria-born Mayne knew he wanted to be a teacher when he was in Grade 10. Placed in a gifted learners' program at Vic High, he finished high school in three years instead of four. Soon after, he got his teaching certificate from UBC and began a career that evolved into a lifetime of giving, both his knowledge and his financial assets.

"Tommy has been very philanthropic during this lifetime, supporting many organizations," says Natasha Benn, the Victoria Foundation's Manager of Philanthropic Services. "He's helped so many students. You can't go anywhere without people knowing him."

Some of the organizations he's supported include the Victoria Symphony, Pacific Opera Victoria (led by former student "Timmy" Vernon), Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival, Victoria Hospice, Royal BC Museum and animal welfare causes. He also established a scholarship at the University of Victoria for fine arts students.



SIMON DESROCHERS

"I don't mind being known as a philanthropist," Mayne says with a smile. "I've given a lot."

In 2007, three years after his wife Betty died, Mayne created the Thomas Mayne Trust with the Victoria Foundation. Upon his death, the Foundation will provide annual grants to several local organizations as per Mayne's wishes.

Mayne's contributions live on in another form. A lifetime member of Victoria Theatre Guild and the Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria, Mayne was also the official town crier for the Victoria AM Association, a group that promoted tourism. For 15 years, Mayne dressed in traditional

town-crier garb and put his trained voice and theatrics to work, greeting passengers from cruise ships at Ogden Point. In 2009, Victoria artist Armando Barbon unveiled a life-size bronze statue of Mayne at Pier B.

In May, Mayne and several other Vic High alumni, including Emily Carr, were honoured at a gala dinner recognizing influential graduates from the storied school.

As one who delights in gracious manners and civilized discourse, the Berwick Royal Oak resident will keep art alive through his generosity.

"I remain interested in the performing arts," Mayne says.

Supporting Philanthropic Goals

When professional advisors partner with the Victoria Foundation, they become the vital links between clients leaving a legacy and charitable organizations maintaining a strong, healthy community.

Wills and estates lawyer Mary Murrell first learned of the Victoria Foundation a decade ago, when a client retained her to set up a private foundation. Murrell turned to Foundation CEO Sandra Richardson, who worked with Murrell and her client to establish a designated fund.

“He was so very pleased with the personal service he received and that they were able to meet his specific requests,” says Murrell. “Later, after he died, I became the successor trustee of his trust, and I continue to make the decision annually as to who the recipient of his trust distribution will be. I continue to be impressed with the efficiency and professionalism with which the Victoria Foundation runs.”

Accountant Andrew Jackson, a partner at Trenholme and Company and a former Victoria Foundation board member, says the Foundation offers several options for clients who wish to donate locally but don’t know where to start.

“By directing them to the Victoria Foundation and their website — in particular, the Community Knowledge Centre website [see page 30] — clients can become familiar with options to exercise their philanthropy,” says Jackson. “The Foundation staff are there to guide people in making their own individual gifts and choices.”

For advisors like Murrell, a partnership with the Victoria Foundation provides the opportunity for both enhanced client service and career satisfaction.

“Each client I have referred to the Victoria Foundation has given me extremely positive feedback regarding their experience and has been happy with the end result,” says Murrell. “This, in turn, makes their estate planning much easier for them and allows them to control their charitable giving during their lifetime and is a vehicle in which to direct their charitable donation and philanthropic goals upon their death.”

Jackson agrees and says when his clients accomplish their philanthropic goals, the entire community wins.

“As a professional, you always want to get the best result for your client, and the Victoria Foundation can help accomplish that.”



When it came time for Victoria investment advisor Jake Brumby to donate more than \$40,000 raised during CIBC Wood Gundy’s annual Miracle Day campaign, he had two criteria: the charities must be child-focused and they must be local. To help him identify organizations, Brumby turned to the Victoria Foundation.

Through the Foundation’s community grants program and charitable opportunities summarized in their *Make It Happen!* publication, Brumby chose five projects. Among them were the O.R.C.C.A. Dental Clinic, the BC Childhood Cancer Parents’ Association and the Victoria Foundation’s Smart & Caring Community Fund for the ABCs of physical literacy program. In addition to funds donated through the Foundation, the CIBC Wood Gundy Victoria branch raised \$300,000 last year. Brumby credits colleagues Neil Chappell and Valerie Charron for their

tireless efforts during the Miracle Day campaign and branch event.

“On Miracle Day, which takes place on the first Wednesday of each December investment advisors donate a portion of their revenue to charities of their choice in support of kids and families in need,” explains Brumby, who also encourages clients to get involved.

Since the first Miracle Day in 1984, CIBC has raised almost \$79 million dollars for children in need across Canada and \$4.7 million in 2015 alone.

Since the first Miracle Day in 1984, CIBC has raised almost \$79 million dollars for children in need across Canada and \$4.7 million in 2015 alone.

“Each individual who raises funds can choose which charities to support or have the Miracle Day fundraising committee allocate the funds on their behalf,” says Brumby.

That flexibility enables donors to develop a personal connection to the kids and families who benefit.

“I’ve seen the benefits of charitable giving first hand,” says Brumby, who says that when people give back to their communities, the impact is enormous. It’s what motivates him to take a leading role each December, as well as at the branch level throughout the year.

“Our partnership with the Victoria Foundation ensured the funds had the greatest impact on kids and families within the community,” says Brumby.

It’s a partnership he looks forward to continuing in years to come.

THE RED FUND

Remembering Elliott Dagg

In 2015, Elliott Dagg, a 19-year-old who was much loved by his coaches, the children he supervised at summer camps and his family, lost his year-long fight with leukemia.

"I learned all these great things about Elliott after he passed," says his mother, Kathy Hogan. "One of his coaches told me, 'If I could pick the people on my team, they'd all be Elliott.'"

When Elliott, a graduate of Reynolds Secondary School, was in charge of children at Braefoot Park Community Association, he'd literally have kids hanging off him because they so much wanted to be around the rugby, lacrosse, soccer and baseball player.

But it was football where Elliott touched down big. As a defensive end with the Victoria Spartans, in his 4th year of football he was awarded "Rookie of the Year" and chosen to attend the Senior Bowl, which was a BC Lions training camp. While he was being treated for cancer at Vancouver General Hospital, Elliott had visits from the BC Lions, as well as the Vancouver

Canucks, though hockey was a sport he didn't play.

Over his many weeks of therapy, Elliott never complained.

"He did get angry. In hospital, occasionally he'd tell me he was scared. But he was a quiet kid, almost too much the strong and silent type. I called him my gentle giant," says Hogan. "When he was six, he could piggyback me around my house."

It was Elliott's strength that delayed his cancer diagnosis.



"I knew I had to do something to keep Elliott with me, to keep his legacy alive."

Elliott's mother, Kathy Hogan

"He was probably one of the most fit people I knew. He didn't get sick when he was a kid," Hogan recalls. "The doctors believed that because he was so healthy, his body naturally suppressed the cancer."

The day Elliott died, his room was packed with about 30 family members. Only two weeks earlier, he had been home for Christmas.

"He was on his way to getting

better," Hogan says. In a rare biological match, his sister Emily, 23, was going to be a bone-marrow donor. "We thought we were on the road to recovery."

Elliott returned to Vancouver General on December 29 but on January 2, doctors said that the cancer had spread. By January 4, the family was told there was nothing more doctors could do. At 1:06 a.m. on January 6, the modest, charismatic young man took his last breath. Through the anguish, Hogan felt another pain.

"My biggest fear, as a mom, was that we'd forget about him. I knew I had to do something to keep Elliott with me, to keep his legacy alive. I knew it had to be something in sports," she says.

Thus, the Remembering Elliott Dagg (RED) Fund was born with the goal to provide bursaries and scholarships for youth in sport and education.

In May 2015, Hogan was given \$25,000 from the Urban Development Institute, where she is Executive Director. The UDI holds an annual golf tournament and chose to give the 2015 proceeds to Hogan.

"They've been incredibly supportive," Hogan says.

Hogan was aware that she needed to form a charitable foundation and also realized how time-consuming it would be to oversee. A friend made her aware of the Victoria Foundation.

"It was exactly what I was looking for," she says. "It allows me to fulfill my dream to set up a legacy for Elliott."

The \$25,000 was placed in a donor-advised fund, which gives the family flexibility in directing the funds. Another \$6,000 was raised in September 2015 at their annual used sports-equipment sale at the Braefoot Park Community Association. This year's sale of gently used sports gear will be held on Saturday, September 10.

"It's been a very rewarding and heartwarming experience to work with Kathy in memory of someone who died at such a young age," says Sara Neely, the Foundation's Director of Philanthropic Services.

Neely, who attended the inaugural sale of sports equipment, was impressed with the tremendous support.

"It was the coming together of the community to honour Elliott's memory. And it was amazing to see the strength of the family to pull through this. They focused their grief on something positive," she says.

"Elliott was a very strong, charming individual," adds Foundation CEO Sandra Richardson. "The idea for the fund is to honour his true spirit, what he would have liked to have funded, money for sport and education for young people."

IN MEMORIAM

The Victoria Foundation lost a number of supporters over the past year. Our condolences to their family and friends. They will be missed.

ELINOR ELIZABETH NAYLOR (May 28, 2015) left a cash-legacy gift in her will which will be used to support the Vital Victoria Fund.

NORMAN FOWLOW (June 9, 2015) had a deep commitment to nature. By way of a life-insurance gift, Norman and his wife Aline created a designated fund that supports their interests in the arts, health and the environment.

JOAN CHALMERS McCARTER (December 22, 2015) established a donor-advised fund in 1998. The Joan C. McCarter Fund continues to support local charities through the Victoria Foundation's community granting program.

VICTORIA CIRCLE



SIMON DESROCHERS

Tommy Mayne is a member of the Victoria Circle, which includes individuals who have indicated to the Victoria Foundation their intention to make a future gift through a bequest, life insurance policy, RRSP or RRIF, Tax Free Savings Account, Charitable Remainder Trust (as in Tommy's case) or other estate plan.

Donors join the Victoria Circle for various reasons: to bring about awareness of the lasting impact charitable giving can create, inspire greater giving, fuel the dreams of future generations, engage families and friends in charitable giving or thank a community that has enriched their lives.

To learn more about the Victoria Circle, contact Sara Neely, Director of Philanthropic Services, or Natasha Benn, Manager of Philanthropic Services, at 250.381.5532.

HOSTED ORGANIZATIONS

As part of its activities, the Victoria Foundation holds endowment funds for registered charities under its Hosted Organizations program. The program helps charitable organizations build endowment funds that generate a reliable flow of annual operating funds. Here are two of many charities the Foundation assists.

► Federation of Canadian Music Festivals

Music teacher and past-president of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals (FCMF), Marilyn Wiwcharuk wished to ensure the 66-year-old organization had an enduring financial footing.

"She told me she wanted to leave a legacy," says Leslie Walters, the FCMF's treasurer. "The organization was near and dear to her heart."

In August 2015, at the FCMF's annual general meeting, Wiwcharuk presented her idea to join forces with the Victoria Foundation. By September, it was a done deal. In February, three days after giving her last piano lesson at her Kamloops home, Wiwcharuk died, but her wish for the FCMF had been realized.

The FCMF, an umbrella organization for more than 230 local and provincial music festivals, has established two funds with the Foundation, one permanent and one with access to the capital. The National Music Festival Fund currently holds \$100,000 as a "nest egg" with the funds used to help the organization grow, says Walters.

When the FCMF joined the Victoria Foundation, an anonymous Victoria donor offered to establish the permanent fund. Together with a match from the Foundation of \$7,500, the fund was launched with a balance of \$30,000. The Federation's main objective is the development and encouragement of Canadian talent in the performance and knowledge of classical music. Now, as the FCMF harmonizes with the Foundation, giving and growing have been streamlined.

► CFAX Santas Anonymous

Almost 40 years ago, Victoria realtor Marilyn Cann and then-owner of CFAX Radio Mel Cooper moved their CFAX Santas Anonymous project

from Cann's basement to the bigger world. Today, more than 400 volunteers, guided by sole employee Christine Hewitt, work year-round to raise money and assemble over 1,500 Christmas hampers for people in need.

And since 2002, the CFAX Santas Anonymous Society has distributed over \$2 million for a range of programs, including subsidized summer camps and specialized therapies for children, mental-health education and aid for families in crisis.

"Our program is growing every year — and we need a plan to protect our funds for the future," says Hewitt, the Society's Executive Director since 2010. So in 2015, the Society joined the Victoria Foundation under the Hosted Organizations program.

The Society knew reliable financial management was necessary to foster continuous growth. The Foundation's solid structure and ability to reach goals were apparent.

"Their credibility and stability are very important to our board and donors — and the Victoria Foundation aligns very well with our own philosophy," Hewitt says.

The Foundation's CEO says the work done by Santas Anonymous is tireless.

"They have a phenomenal number of volunteers and they have the children in mind," Sandra Richardson says. "Their dream is to have a permanent home."

Two funds exist with the Victoria Foundation: the permanent Cooper Cann Legacy Fund and the CFAX Santas Anonymous Building Fund. When target funding is reached for the building fund, the hope is either to secure a long-term lease or purchase a building — and give the Santas a workshop.

"... the Victoria Foundation aligns very well with our own philosophy."

— Christine Hewitt

FRIEDA HART (January 1, 2016) established a fund through a gift in her will. Her support of the many organizations that touched her during her lifetime will be realized through the Frieda Anita Hart Fund.

WILLIAM HENRY COOK (January 10, 2016) had established the William, Laura and Christopher Cook Fund in 2002, which supports organizations concerned with the health and welfare of underprivileged and disabled children and the health of seniors.

AXEL FOGHT (February 17, 2016) was a long-time supporter of the Victoria Foundation. Axel and his late wife Wendy (2010) established the Axel and Wendy Foght Fund in 2002. The fund supports areas of interest that were important to both Axel and Wendy, including health, social issues, foreign aid and Christian and missionary work.

COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE CENTRE



CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER®



Discover charities working on local issues that matter most to you.

The Community Knowledge Centre (CKC) is an online resource for our community and our community leaders, business people, donors, non-profit organizations, and education institutions on the different organizations working in various areas of need in our community.

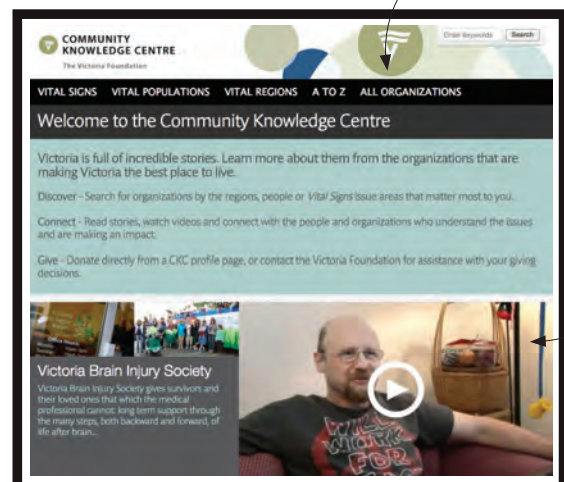
Visit the Community Knowledge Centre site ckc.victoriafoundation.bc.ca and...

DISCOVER a comprehensive list of organizations that matter most to you. Search by region, people or *Vital Signs* issue areas.

CONNECT through reading amazing stories, watching videos and linking with the people and organizations who understand the issues and are making an impact.

GIVE to a cause that matters and donate directly from a CKC profile page, or contact the Victoria Foundation for assistance with your giving decisions.

*comprehensive
list of organizations*



*engaging
videos*

Start your search with this user-friendly site
ckc.victoriafoundation.bc.ca

SISTERS OF SAINT ANN **Esther's Dream Fund**



In 1850, Esther Blondin founded the Sisters of Saint Anne in Vaudreuil, Quebec with the goal of improving rural education. Soon after, the congregation branched out. By 1858, the Sisters of Saint Ann (the "e" was dropped in B.C. only due to Victoria's British influence) began opening schools and hospitals

on Vancouver Island for First Nations, Métis and settlers' children. In 1999, Esther's Dream Foundation was established at the Congregation's headquarters in Lachine, Quebec.

"The fund was started out of concern for those who are disadvantaged in our society — physically, educationally, socially, spiritually," says Sister Marie Zarowny, Sisters of Saint Ann's Provincial Leader.

After exploring numerous options for how the fund for B.C. could be managed far into the future, in September 2015, the Sisters signed an agreement to transfer an endowment of \$3.218 million to the Victoria Foundation.

"We found that the Victoria Foundation was dedicated to projects that represented our views," Sister Zarowny says. "As we talked with them, we felt we were a good fit for one another."

Not only were there shared values, but the Sisters also appreciated that the Foundation is one of Canada's oldest community foundations and a skilled steward of funds.

"The Victoria Foundation has a sound fiscal track record; that's what we wanted," Sister Zarowny says.

The Victoria Foundation gave the Sisters of Saint Ann choices in how they could be involved, and the Sisters chose a donor-advised fund. Under the agreement, the Foundation receives applications for funding and notifies the Sisters how much revenue from the original fund is available for the coming year, says Sister Patricia Donovan, Provincial Leader Assistant. The Sisters review the applications.

"We make recommendations of how we'd like to spend the funds," Sister Donovan says.

For 2016, with \$127,564 available to grant, the Sisters considered nine applications, including three projects outside of Greater Victoria: Providence Farm in Duncan and the Listening Post and Talitha Koum Society in Vancouver. The flexibility to continue their past granting process was another reason the Sisters opted for the Foundation, Sister Zarowny says.

And with assistance from the Foundation, the Sisters can continue to make Esther's Dream come true far into the future.

Duncan's Providence Farm is one of three projects funded by a grant from the Sisters of Saint Ann.



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The Eric and Marilyn Spurling Family Fund

The spirit of giving may transcend ownership, but it is a valuable asset to be passed from generation to generation. With that in mind, Eric and Marilyn Spurling will host a unique get-together — the first of its kind for their family — this summer. In attendance will be their son and daughter and their grandchildren. The agenda? Deciding how to allocate the grant money in the Eric and Marilyn Spurling Family Fund.

"A large motivation behind setting up the fund last year with the Victoria Foundation was leaving a legacy while teaching our future generations how

important it is to give back to the community," Marilyn says.

Giving back is an integral part of life for the couple. They are big supporters of the BC Cancer Foundation and Eric is on the board of CFAF Santas Anonymous. Through the family business, Proline Management, they provide student bursaries at Camosun College in both the business and nursing programs, the connection to the latter coming from Marilyn's 35-year career as a nurse.

The appeal of carrying on this philanthropic giving after they are gone led them to set up a donor-advised fund through the Victoria Foundation.

"The community has been so good to our family and business, and this gives us a permanent way to give back," Eric says. "Equally important, it allows us to focus on causes that are of particular importance to us. The Victoria Foundation's advisors manage and grow this fund, and then we have the opportunity to guide where that money is invested back into the community."

The Spurlings see the fund as an adjunct to their current philanthropic work. The grant funds will be used to support many of the same causes they currently work with — subject to family approval, of course.

At the inaugural family meeting, they will go through the list of grant requests from the Victoria Foundation and then, as a family, choose the recipients.

"When you set up a fund, you can call it whatever you want, but for us, it's really about our family, hence the Eric and Marilyn Spurling Family Fund," Eric says. "When we're gone, our children and grandchildren will become the donor advisors. For us, the highlight is being able to involve the next generations, to really get them to understand how important it is to give back. It's the way community works."

VITAL VICTORIA FUND

The Vital Victoria Fund responds to funding applications for projects by local charities across a broad range of interests: arts, culture and heritage; community service; education; environment; and health and recreation.

You can help us do what we do best by responding to the needs and opportunities identified through our *Victoria's Vital Signs*® report. Contribute now to the community granting program through a monthly or annual contribution or establish a named fund through your bequest gift.

To find out more, ask us about our latest *Make it Happen!* booklet, which summarizes the annual applications.

TREASURING HISTORY

The Wentworth Villa Fund

In the last four years, a family who treasures the past has been meticulously restoring one of Victoria's oldest buildings: the 1863-built Wentworth Villa.

"We did this because we have an interest in history," says Stefan Opalski.

Opalski, his wife Magdalena and his son Michal are the founding trustees of the Pacific North-West Heritage Homes Foundation (PNWHHF), which aims to preserve, document and popularize the residential architectural heritage of Greater Victoria and the surrounding region.

"Victoria is a particularly beautiful city, but there are certain aspects in how Victoria is developing that may undermine that beauty," says Opalski. "Gradually, the city changes character."

Wright and Sanders, Victoria's first architects, are believed to be the designers of Wentworth Villa, which was built in gothic revival style and had survived without major alterations. When Opalski learned a Victoria developer was going to add two wings to Wentworth Villa and convert it to apartments, he stepped in and convinced the

developer to sell him the neglected property. The Opalskis also paid for the lengthy, careful restoration, which garnered the 2016 Heritage BC's Outstanding Achievement Award for Heritage Conservation.

"It's great when folks like the Opalskis come and have a passion for history," says Jon Tupper, Director of the Art Gallery of Victoria and Trustee/Secretary for the PNWHHF. "They really stepped up to the plate. Nothing was spared. They made every attempt to bring the home back."

The PNWHHF has opened the Architectural Heritage Museum at the Wentworth Villa, which will feature permanent and temporary exhibits, guest speakers and even musical performances.

"We want to showcase the important buildings in the Victoria area," says Opalski.

The Victoria Foundation gave the PNWHHF \$15,000 through the community granting program to help organize a multi-purpose lecture space and facilitated the

Wentworth Villa, c.1862



creation of the Wentworth Villa Fund.

"Our next phase is fundraising and the Victoria Foundation has been extremely helpful in setting up a fund to accept donations," Opalski says.

With Craigdarroch Castle, Government House, the Belfry Theatre and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria all nearby, Opalski hopes the cultural cluster will draw visitors to the gentrified neighbourhood.

"Heritage can really link folk with the community," adds Tupper.

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2015

VICTORIA FOUNDATION
BY THE NUMBERS

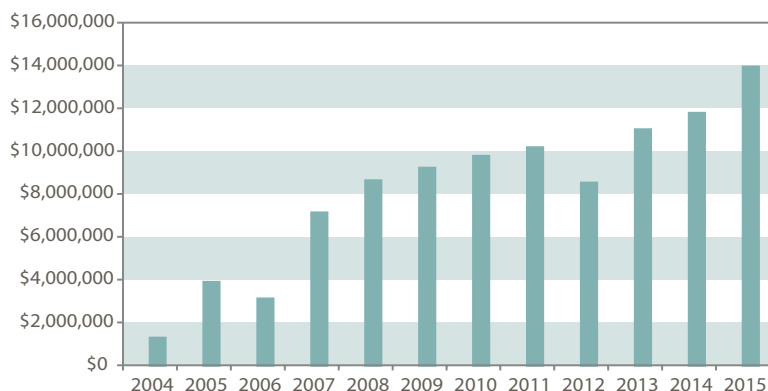
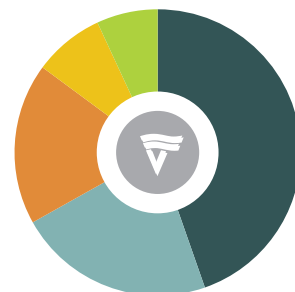
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Total assets of over \$270 million
- ▶ Total endowed assets increased to \$197 million
- ▶ Donations and bequests received of over \$24.5 million
- ▶ Investment returns averaged 5.31% and ten year returns averaged 7.17%
- ▶ Over \$6.7 million in grants from endowment funds
- ▶ Over \$8.7 million in grants from pass through and trust funds

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

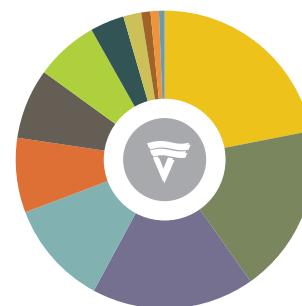
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31	2015	2014
REVENUE:		
GIFTS RECEIVED FOR IMMEDIATE GRANTING	\$7,186,120	\$7,157,352
GIFTS TO OPERATIONS	137,006	183,502
TOTAL RETURNS ALLOCATED TO OPERATIONS & GRANTING	8,455,423	6,200,443
FEE REVENUE - TRUSTS & MANAGED FUNDS	336,221	406,175
LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS	77,725	935,544
	16,192,495	14,883,016
EXPENSES:		
GRANTS	13,933,226	11,769,047
COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP	327,264	480,020
OPERATIONS EXPENSES	1,634,311	1,542,449
LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS	77,725	935,544
	15,972,526	14,727,060
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	219,969	155,956
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	180,539,503	162,703,384
NEW GIFTS & CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENDOWMENT FUNDS	17,240,208	9,053,801
TOTAL RETURNS ALLOCATED TO (FROM) NET ASSETS	(31,902)	8,626,362
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	219,969	155,956
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$197,967,778	\$180,539,503

GRANTING GROWTH

2015
GRANTS BY
FIELD OF
INTEREST*

- 45% **COMMUNITY SERVICE** \$5,689,748
- 22% **ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE** \$2,833,231
- 18% **HEALTH & RECREATION** \$2,199,531
- 8% **ENVIRONMENT** \$1,015,201
- 7% **EDUCATION** \$880,752

* Excludes grants between funds

2015 GRANTS BY
VITAL SIGNS
INDICATOR
AREA*

- 21% **ARTS & CULTURE** \$2,728,731
- 18% **HEALTH & WELLNESS** \$2,317,684
- 18% **ECONOMY** \$2,237,294
- 11% **STANDARD OF LIVING** \$1,440,366
- 8% **BELONGING & ENGAGEMENT** \$1,025,736
- 8% **ENVIRONMENT** \$966,491
- 7% **LEARNING** \$867,652
- 4% **HOUSING** \$468,140
- 2% **SAFETY** \$246,397
- 1% **GETTING STARTED** \$127,100
- 1% **TRANSPORTATION** \$115,000
- 1% **SPORTS & RECREATION** \$77,872

* Excludes grants between funds

- ▶ The Victoria Foundation maintained the distribution rate at the target rate of 4.00% for 2016. The amount of grants disbursed from endowment funds increased by 46.3%, due to a combination of new endowment funds and growth in market value of funds.

NOVEMBER 4

Random Act of Kindness Day



ACTS OF KINDNESS

Smiley Face Cards will again be available for elementary school students to decorate, fill with positive messages and distribute to elderly residents in the community.

We've all had those moments. Nothing seems to be going right. You're lost in your worries, barely noticing the world around you. And then one simple act of kindness — from a stranger, a friend, a co-worker — brightens your day.

In 2016, the Victoria Foundation will be again encouraging these moments with Random Act of Kindness Day on Friday, November 4.

Started in 2008 by the Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation, this special day brings Canadian communities together by engaging people to commit small acts of kindness and generosity. Acts as small as buying a stranger a coffee, sending a loved one a letter or helping out a neighbour with a chore go a long

way towards making connections and fostering community.

In 2015, the Victoria Foundation, with huge support from Island Savings, Home Hardware and the *Times Colonist*, participated in Random Act of Kindness Day for the first time and to great success. Partnering with local organizations, schools and individuals and through promotion on social media, the day brought out the best in Victorians, inspiring smiles and appreciation.

Community foundations in Parksville/Qualicum, Nanaimo and Saturna Island also took part in the fun, challenging residents to commit acts of kindness.

In Victoria, among many kind acts, UVic's Co-operative Education Program and Career Services handed out free coffee on campus, Saanich Police Department

members gave blood and the *Times Colonist* provided free newspapers for Victoria Foundation staff to hand out on the street.

This November, the kindness will continue with even more random acts and fruitful partnerships in the works. Once again, Kindness Cards will be distributed throughout the community, prompting holders to do something nice for somebody and then pass along the card to keep the kindness going. Smiley Face Cards will again be available to elementary schools for students to decorate, colour and fill with positive messages to be distributed to elderly residents throughout the community.

Keep an eye out for further details in our eNewsletter, on social media and at victoriafoundation.ca.



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CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Every year Heart Pharmacy extends support to causes that matter including the Victoria Foundation, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Victoria Hospice, The Cool-Aid Society, The ALS Society, The Vancouver Island Children's Foundation and many others. We believe that caring for our community is as important as caring for our patients.

For more information about Heart Pharmacy, please visit our website at: HeartPharmacy.com

Naz Rayani, his family, and Heart Pharmacy are honoured to support the Victoria Foundation's mission of Connecting People Who Care With Causes that Matter.

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HEART PHARMACY AT SHELBOURNE PLAZA, 3643 Shelbourne St. Ph: 250-477-1881

UVIC CAMPUS PHARMACY, UVIC SUB, 3800 Finnerty Rd. Ph: 250-721-3400

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