



Perth and District
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

(Fiscal Year: August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023)

The PDCF is one of over 200 community foundations across Canada. We are dedicated to strengthening the quality of community life in Perth, Drummond/North Elmsley, Lanark Highlands and Tay Valley Townships.

OVERVIEW

The PDCF 2022-2023 fiscal year, which runs from August 1 to July 31, was tremendously busy and just as successful.

We celebrated our 20th Anniversary, launched the PDCF *Vital Signs Report*, held Vital Conversations in response to pressing community needs, and granted out more in funding than we ever have. Including the \$297,000 from the Federal Government Community Services Recovery Fund, which PDCF promoted and administered, we granted over \$617,000 to local organizations.

This past fiscal year, PDCF received a total of \$525,161 in donations from 14 local businesses, 2 community organizations and 270 individuals, 199 of whom were first-time donors to the Foundation. Through the Community Services Recovery Fund, we received a donation of \$337,000 in flowthrough funds. Seven new funds were established with PDCF this year, creating a total of 63 active funds.

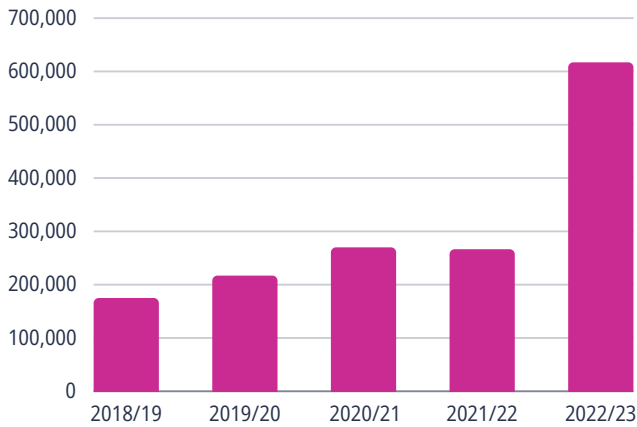
PDCF's balance of total funds increased by \$784,400 from \$5,751,341 to \$6,535,741.

In June 2023, the Board of Directors approved a 3-year Strategic Plan. One of the PDCF's main goals is to increase the money available for Community Grants through growth in Unrestricted Funds.

We acknowledge that Lanark County is situated on the ancestral and unceded traditional land of the Omà̀m̀wininì, also known as the Algonquin Anishinaabe Nation. With this acknowledgment comes respect for the land and the people who have been living here since time immemorial. As part of this land acknowledgment, we recognize the injustices of the past and those that continue today. We recognize our responsibility to contribute to reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples of the land we call Canada.

To this end, we are learning about the impact of colonization on the Indigenous peoples of Canada, we have established an annual Indigenous Youth Award, through our partnership with Indspire, a national Indigenous charity, and we will communicate the results of our actions to the community.

DONATIONS & GRANTING



GRANTING 2018-2023

TOTAL GRANTS 2022-2023

\$617,090

Community Grants to Local Organizations	\$122,291
Scholarships, Bursaries & Awards	\$16,883
Grants Designated by Donors	\$31,391
Directors Grant (75 Harvey St Fire)	\$5,000
Grants from Spend Down Funds	\$158,550
Community Services Recovery Fund	\$282,975 *

* remaining \$14,025 granted out in next fiscal year, after receipt of interim reports

TOTAL DONATIONS BY INDIVIDUALS AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS IN 2022-2023

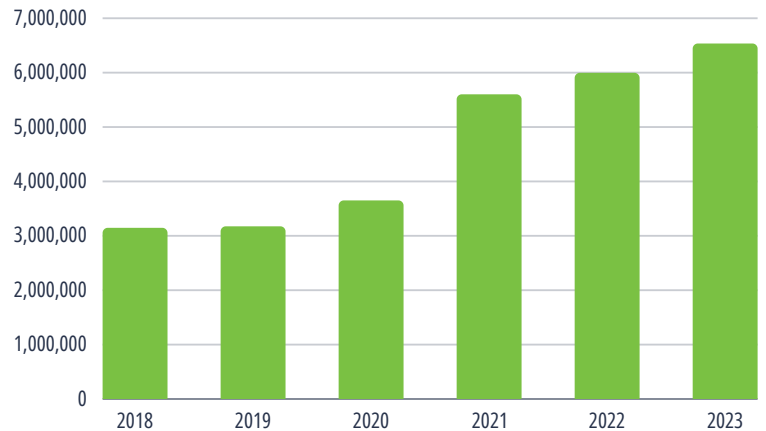
\$525,161

TOTAL GRANTED SINCE 2003

OVER \$2.3 MILLION

IN 2022-23, TOTAL FUND BALANCES GREW BY \$784,400 TO

\$6,535,741



ASSET GROWTH 2018-2023

450

Individual Donations

286

Total Donors

63

Total Funds

AUGUST 2022



In late August, volunteers gathered to harvest 70 pounds of hops grown and donated to the Perth Brewery by Lynn McIntyre, Lynne Underhill and Bill St. Arnaud.

The Perth Brewery turned those hops into Many Hands Harvest wet hop pale ale and all proceeds from sales go directly to the PDCF.

SEPTEMBER 2022

On Sunday September 11, over 200 people gathered at the Crystal Palace in Perth to celebrate PDCF's 20th Anniversary.

Special guests included Andrea Dicks, President of Community Foundations of Canada, Francine Desjardins and the Lanark Drum Circle, bagpiper Casey Cerson and Perth's Town Crier, Brent McLaren.

Following a refreshment break where community members had a chance to chat and connect, the audience was treated to wonderful music by talented, local musicians: acclaimed fiddler Jess Wedden (accompanied by Chris Murphy) and Juno-award winner, James Keelaghan.





OCTOBER 2022

As part of our commitment to Reconciliation, we created the PDCF Indigenous Youth Award. Thanks to the generosity of donors, we reached our goal of raising over \$24,000 for the award fund.

This annual award grants \$4,000 to an Indigenous youth who is pursuing studies after high school. Preference is given to youth who live in Lanark County.

The PDCF contributes \$2000 to the award each year and the other half is provided by the federal government through our partnership with Indspire's Building Brighter Futures program. Indspire, an Indigenous-led organization, chooses the award recipients. Application forms can be found on their website at www.indspire.ca

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2022

November and December were busy administrative months for PDCF. The important work of the annual audit took place as did Board recruitment. The Grants Committee met to review the Community Grant applications which were submitted by the annual deadline of October 31.

JANUARY 2023

The PDCF held its Annual General Meeting and the new Board of Directors was appointed. The following members served on the 2023 Board:

- David Poole (president)
- Kay Rogers (vice-president)
- Christine Kilburn (treasurer)
- Michael Couchman (secretary)
- Cheryl Nash (chair, fund development)
- Ann Hawthorne (chair, communications)
- Heidi Stepanek
- Rebecca Waterhouse
- Chris Chaplin
- Philippa Syme



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County

\$10,000 Granted

Project Goal: To grow BBSS presence in Perth by expanding their in-school mentoring, co-op mentoring and Go Girls and Game On after-school physical activity programs beyond Stewart School, North Elmsley & Queen Elizabeth Schools to include St. John Catholic High School, St. John Elementary School, Glen Tay Public School, & Perth & District Collegiate Institute.



Lanark Highlands Public Library

\$3,583 Granted

Project Goal: To replace outdated mental health, medical, and healthy living resources for adults, teens and children.

ConnectWell Community Health

\$6,942 Granted

Project Goal: To encourage and allow participation by Perth residents in the Mental Health Support Project 12-week peer support program for adults with mental health challenges.

The program helps people overcome isolation, build emotional resilience, cope better with mental health challenges, & improve their mental wellness overall.

Lanark County Community Justice Program

\$8,500 Granted

Project Goal: To offer the Triple P Parenting of Teens program to 24 participants. The program provides instructional sessions to parents, caregivers & legal guardians of teens who are struggling to support the teenager in their lives. The goals of this project are to reduce family conflict & help participants develop new skills to improve their relationships with the teenagers in their care.

Lanark County Interval House

\$8,000 Granted

Project Goal: To increase staffing hours to meet increasing demand for access to The Perseverance Pantry which offers essential food and personal hygiene items to LCIH clients, thereby responding to and supporting the difficult realities of women & children engaged in recovery.



McDonald's Corners / Elphin Recreation & Arts (MERA)

\$7,334 Granted

Project Goal: To upgrade Dean Hall, built in 1886, with new windows, proper sealing & insulation, thereby enabling MERA to better serve its community throughout the year.



Middleville & District Museum

\$3,000 Granted

Project Goal: To offer events and programs that will attract families with children of all ages and offer a School Field Trip program for local students.



Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust

\$935 Granted

Project Goal: To train eight volunteers in the safe handling and use of a chainsaw so that fallen trees blocking hiking paths can be safely removed.



Perth & District Union Public Library

\$5,000 Granted

Project Goal: To purchase materials for creative play in the children's and teen's area of the library.

PEP Seniors Therapeutic Centre

\$6,000 Granted

Project Goal: To provide all of PEP's clients with a physiotherapy assessment three times per year, with trained staff providing an individual treatment plan for the unique needs of each person.

Plan B Community Organization

\$2,400 Granted

Project Goal: To provide a minimum of two activities a month free to Lanark Highlands community members who will, together, learn new skills, socialize, and build connections thereby further strengthening community ties.

Climate Network Lanark & Salal Foundation

\$10,000 Granted

Project Goal: The Climate Concierge Service will bring resources and information to community members who own single-family homes, cottages and small businesses within Lanark County. It will provide direction on how to fast track retrofit upgrades and thereby contribute to the overarching goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



Shelter Movers

\$10,000 Granted

Project Goal: To provide moving and storage services, at no cost, to individuals and families fleeing domestic abuse. Collaborating with local businesses and community agencies in Lanark County, Shelter Movers will increase awareness of the service they provide, recruit volunteers, and help people trying to escape domestic violence move to a safer place.

Stewart Park Youth Festival Program

\$3,600 Granted

Project Goal: To support the "Be in the Band" program which allows area young people, who have an interest & passion for music, the opportunity to play on a large stage in front of an appreciative audience at the festival.



YAK Youth Services

\$25,000 Granted

Project Goal: To hire a Social Enterprise Program Coordinator to create an active social enterprise at YAK. The goal is for the social enterprise to provide YAK with much-needed, long-term, financial sustainability.

The Table Community Food Centre

\$12,000 Granted

Project Goal: To create a housing coalition which will focus on attainable and affordable community housing development initiatives to meet the urgent needs of Perth, Drummond/ North Elmsley, Lanark Highlands, & Tay Valley residents.

MARCH 2023



Each spring, PDCF offers new members of the Board and a representative from PDCF's Community Grant recipient organizations the opportunity to learn more about the history and current realities of Indigenous Peoples in Canada and about the Omamiwinini, also known as the Algonquin Anishinaabe Nation, whose traditional territory includes Lanark County.

Participants joined a workshop on the history of the Omamiwinini given by The Circle of Turtle Lodge and completed an online course called The Path, created by Nvision Insight Group. Following completion of the course, participants took part in a facilitated conversation with Nvision founder, Jennifer David, about what they had learned and what actions they will take.



APRIL 2023

PDCF launched its *Lanark County 2023 Vital Signs Report* on April 4 to a standing-room only crowd at the Perth and District Union Library. The report, meant for decision-makers, local governments, community organizations and members of the public, provides a snapshot of the well-being of Lanark County. It uses data from the Statistics Canada 2021 census, plus information from local organizations, to look at ten areas critical to healthy communities:

- Housing
- People at Work
- Wealth and Income Gaps
- Health and Well-Being
- Children and Youth
- Transportation
- Environment and Nature
- Arts and Culture
- Safety and Belonging
- Leadership and Civic Engagement

Lisa Deacon, data analyst and author of the report, presented the audience with an overview of key findings. Afterwards, attendees divided up into small groups to hear community members, involved with the different themes, speak about their experiences, the work ahead, and how others could get involved to make change. The five themes covered were: Belonging, Housing, Youth, Environment, and Arts and Culture.

APRIL 2023

The *Vital Signs Report* revealed is that there is no permanently-funded end-of-life palliative care program or hospice in the Perth area. In response, PDCF co-hosted and facilitated a Vital Conversation with The Hospice Hub on April 20th. Over 80 people came out to learn more and talk together about a way forward at “Dying in Lanark: A Community Conversation.” After the meeting, The Hospice Hub started a fund with PDCF where tax-deductible donations can be received



ALSO IN APRIL:

To help part-time Executive Director, Victoria Gibb-Carsley, in her work, Meredith Toivanen was hired to work 6 hours per week helping with administrative duties and doing design and maintenance for our publications, website and social media.

MAY 2023

The COVID-19 pandemic had a substantial, negative impact on many Canadian community organizations . To help with financial support, the Federal Government of Canada set up a \$400 million Community Service Recovery Fund (CSRF) which was distributed across the country by Community Foundations, the Red Cross, and the United Way.

PDCF administered and awarded \$297,000 in CSRF grants in Lanark County to seven community organizations whose project proposals met the criteria of investing in systems and processes to help their organizations recover from the impact of Covid.

Climate Network Lanark is using their grant to build engagement organizing techniques that facilitate and mobilize community members to take action on climate change.

Home Hospice North Lanark, who partnered with regional and community service agencies during COVID, is building a shared governance structure with its funding.

McDonalds Corners / Elphin Recreation & Arts (MERA) is building an effective communications strategy including centralizing knowledge, developing a dedicated contact management system, and creating online tools to better manage and facilitate their programs.

Lanark County Community Justice is developing a 5-year strategic plan and a 5-year business plan, while at the same time updating its existing policies and procedures to reflect current best practices in health and safety (including mental health), as well as diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Mississippi Valley Textile Museum is developing an achievable, sustainable fund development plan to help to stabilize operations and increase the museum's resiliency and long-term viability.

PEP Seniors Therapeutic Centre is using its CSRF grant to hire a marketing and communications manager to maximize their capacity to develop a fundraising strategy that includes online donations and marketing campaigns.

YAK Youth Services is using the grant it received to strengthen and expand the Perth Community Services Hub, which was an invaluable tool during the pandemic, used for sharing resources and responding to community needs.

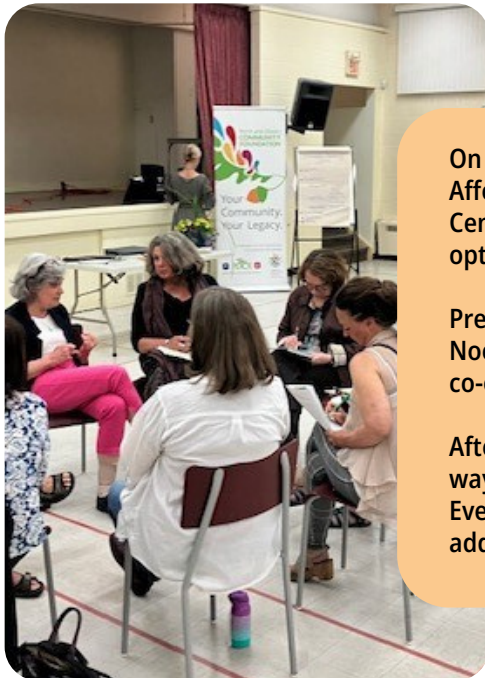


MAY 2023

After COVID derailed plans for their biennial national conference in 2020, Community Foundations Canada held "Reconnect 2023" in Toronto. Executive Director, Victoria Gibb-Carsley, and David Poole, Board Chair, attended on behalf of the PDCF.

Inspiring plenary sessions covered topics like the importance of social capital in community health, and how to build resiliency. David and Victoria attended informative workshops on topics including governance, donor stewardship, impact investing, website design, and new regulations on grant-making. Upon their return, they shared their learning with the rest of the Board.

As importantly, Victoria and David had a chance to make connections, share ideas, and build community with board members and staff from community foundations large and small across the country.



JUNE 2023

On Monday June 5th, PDCF co-hosted a Vital Conversation with Building Lanark Affordable Housing (BLAH!), which is organized through The Table Community Food Centre in Perth. About 30 people gathered at St. Paul's United Church to hear about options that can make housing more accessible and community-focused.

Presentations were made by Terrilee Kelford of Cornerstone Landing Youth Services, Noelle Reeve, planner with Tay Valley Township, and Marla McKenna, who has studied co-operative housing.

After the presentations, participants got a chance to meet in small groups and discuss ways that they could help these affordable options get developed in Lanark County. Everyone recognized that accessible housing is a vital issue and needs to be addressed.

Thanks to many generous donors, PDCF awarded 17 scholarships & bursaries with a total value of \$16,883.

JULY 2023

At its last meeting of the fiscal year, The Board of Directors approved the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan.



PERTH AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026

Purpose

Perth and District Community Foundation grows and strengthens community so that everyone belongs and thrives, today and in the future.

Guiding Values

- Integrity (respect, trust, transparency)
- Community (connection, collaboration, continuity)
- Diversity (inclusion, equity, justice)

Roles

- Community Building
- Fund Development
- Granting for Impact

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Community Building

PDCF will connect diverse groups of people and organizations to help build and strengthen community.

Granting for Impact

PDCF will make impactful grants to support local organizations, helping build and strengthen community.

Fund Development

PDCF will foster and broaden its donor base, wisely manage donations, and continue to responsibly grow the total endowment, focusing on an increase in unrestricted funds, to help build and strengthen community.

PERTH AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026

STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO MEET GOALS

