

Guelph Community Foundation announces fall grants & celebrates Governor General's award for founding member

October 3, 2013 – Over 100 community members gathered at the River Run Centre on Thursday October 3, 2013 to participate in the Guelph Community Foundation's (GCF) Fall Event. Attendees celebrated the power of philanthropy and its critical impact in our community, honoured founding members, welcomed new leadership and announced current grant recipients.

“The incredible power of legacy - endowments that give forever, volunteerism that makes a lasting impact – is so moving at these events,” said The Foundation's Chair and Grants Committee Chair, Susan Brown. “Whether you look at the macro level of our growth from one modest fund in 2000 to over \$7 million in permanent endowed assets today or to the micro impact of one child who is able to attend camp, you can't help but marvel at the role we are honoured to play as stewards of these gifts.”

Underscoring the breadth of The Foundation's funding, the attendees heard stories from Rachel Farahbakhsh of The Julien Project and Glenna Banda of The Children's Foundation who described the impact of GCF grants in their organizations.

“Part of The Foundation's uniqueness is the range in our grant making. Our unrestricted funds provide us with the most flexibility in responding to community needs,” explained The Foundation's Executive Director, Chris Willard. “In our history we've funded over 800 charitable initiatives, ranging from arts to environment, education to food security, from children to senior's programs. As the needs of the community evolve, we're here to respond.”

Showing leadership and meeting the community's needs are key to the founders' vision for the organization. One of these community builders is Patricia McCraw who received the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award from His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston in September and was recognized during the GCF Fall Event.

The event culminated with the announcement of the GCF's Fall Community and Musagetes Grants.

- The Guelph Community Foundation allocated \$67,855 to 23 local community organizations through several funds held at the Foundation, including: Hugh and Lorna Guthrie Fund, Guelph Community Foundation Environmental Legacy Fund; Norman Earl Webb Funds; McKeough Taylor Fund; The Co-operators Fund; William K. Greenaway & Anne C. Bawden Fund; Meridian Credit Union Fund; Clare and Shirley Rennie Family Fund for Literacy; BDO Community Support Fund; Tom Bird & Jay Elinesky Fund; RLB LLP Community Fund; and Macquarie Private Wealth Fund.
- The Musagetes Fund granted \$12,526 to three community organizations through the Musagetes Grant Program, plus an additional \$37,500 through its Donor Advised Fund.

The Fall Grants are in addition to scholarship and summer camp grants, various donor advised, and flow through grants, bringing the Foundation's total number of grants to date in 2013 to over \$240,000.00.

Of course, philanthropy and community building are not all about donations, the Foundation reminded attendees as it invited everyone – seniors, school kids and CEOs alike, to participate in its upcoming Random Act of Kindness Day on Friday November 1.

About The Guelph Community Foundation

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in promoting community philanthropy and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guelph and surrounding communities. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of many donors into permanent, income-earning endowments. Income from the endowments supports a wide range of charitable programs and activities. Total funds under administration are \$10.4 million with over \$7 million in permanent endowed assets. Since inception, over \$2 million has been distributed to over 800 charitable initiatives.

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For more information visit www.guelphcf.ca or contact

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BACKGROUNDER

TWENTY-THREE COMMUNITY GRANTS FROM GCF FUNDS (\$67,855)

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

Guelph Concert Band **\$1,446**

Guelph Concert Band Musical Equipment

This funding will enable the band to purchase needed musical equipment.

Guelph Museums **\$3,000**

The Art of the Lacemaker (Revisited)

The Art of the Lacemaker (Revisited) is an exhibition of 17th to 20th century lace which explores the significance and cultural values historically placed on this art form.

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Guelph and Wellington Branch **\$4,000**

Heritage Awards & Heritage Guide

Funding will support the creation of award plaques made from local limestone and wood by a local craftsman as well as a heritage restoration guide for local residents.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Community Resource Centre of North and Centre Wellington **\$1,000**

Indoor Running Shoes

This grant will provide gift cards to families in need to purchase indoor shoes for use in school gymnasiums.

Guelph Public Library **\$4,380**

Opening Minds to a Lifetime of Learning – Early Literacy Station at the GPL

Funding will support the purchase an Early Literacy Station (ELS) - a comprehensive digital learning solution for children aged 2-8 for the East End library branch.

Guelph Youth Music Centre **\$3,000**

High Notes Choir for Children with Special Needs

Working in cooperation with KidsAbility, this funding will support the creation of a choir for children with special needs.

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis **\$2,750**

Safe Child Care

This program will provide onsite, safe child care for women accessing the services of the Sexual Assault Centre and Transitional and Housing Support Program.

KidsAbility Centre for Child Development Foundation **\$2,000**

Translation Services

A translation service program which allows KidsAbility to provide therapy sessions for families who speak little to no English.

Portage Ontario **\$3,000**

Portage After Care Program

This grant will enhance Portage's aftercare program for youth in the Guelph Wellington area.

Start2Finish **\$5,000**

Running & Reading Club Guelph Expansion

This grant will support the Running & Reading clubs that operate within local inner city schools from October to June. Each week, children build their strength and endurance through running and fitness activities, receive individualized assistance in both reading and writing and are given a balanced, energy-filled snack.

Sunrise Therapeutic Riding & Learning Centre **\$3,000**

Therapy Horse Project

This grant will enable Sunrise to purchase a new therapy horse. This acquisition will enable Sunrise to welcome new children into their program and to continue to optimize the use of the existing horses.

The Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington **\$2,000**

St. John Bosco Lunch Program

This grant will ensure that each student has the opportunity to engage in food related activities such as creating healthy meal plans, shopping within a budget and preparing food.

Upper Grand Learning Foundation: Westwood Public School **\$850**

Westwood Reading Buddy Program

This Program matches community volunteers with children who are below grade level and need reading practice and positive reading experiences. Funding will purchase additional resources to reach more children.

EDUCATION

Action Read Community Literacy Centre **\$3,200**

The Action Read Food Literacy Project

This project will build understanding of four important food topics: sustainability, health and nutrition, preparation and community. It will also pay special attention to the literacy, dietary needs and the budget parameters of our low income learners.

Child Witness Centre **\$1,500**

2014 Wellington County Youth Symposium

A one day youth symposium designed to challenge, educate and motivate Grade 8 students at a critical time in their life.

Frontier College **\$3,000**

Guelph Student Success: Literacy and Lifelong Learning

This grant will support three community-based learning programs in Guelph for 5 to 12 year old children.

Upper Grand Learning Foundation: John Galt Public School Music Department **\$6,300**

Instrument Purchase

This grant will help to purchase the required instruments toward completing the class set.

ENVIRONMENT

Pollination Guelph **\$3,000**
Clair Road Emergency Services Centre Pollinator Habitat Garden Project
Pollination Guelph, with the support of the City of Guelph, will replace the present turf area at the Clair Road Emergency Services Centre (CRESC) with habitat for pollinating insects and other wildlife.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Canadian Diabetes Association – Central West Ontario Region **\$3,000**
The Cellbertons in "What's Diabetes?"
“The Cellbertons in 'What’s Diabetes?’” teaches children ages 6-9 about the dangers of type 2 diabetes.

Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition/Family and Children's Services **\$5,000**
Hilltop Collective Kitchen
Funding will provide experiential skills training to the Hilltop Collective Kitchen volunteers. The volunteers will then assist in leading additional/simultaneous collective kitchens throughout the West Willow Village area.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The Alzheimer Society of Guelph-Wellington **\$2,429**
Dementia Education Series: DVD Production
This grant will allow the Alzheimer Society to video record six educational lectures to produce quality DVDs, which would then be available to borrow from the Alzheimer Society as well as other senior’s organizations throughout the Local Health Integration Network area.

Guelph Community Health Centre **\$3,000**
Consultation and Business Planning for the Seed Community Food Hub
The Seed Community Food Hub Committee will use the funds to consult with other community food hubs and centres across Ontario and learn from their best practices and experiences.

Wyndham House Inc. **\$2,000**
Wyndham House Transportation Fund
Through a transportation fund, Wyndham House will provide youth with the transportation support they need to get to medical and counselling appointments, job interviews, apartment viewings, community activities and educational classes.

THE 2013 MUSAGETES GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS (\$12,526)

Ed Video Media Arts Centre <i>The Documentary Storytellers Project</i> In partnership with OPIRG and the Festival of Moving Media, The Documentary Storytellers project is an ongoing series of educational and mentoring events that will encourage budding local filmmakers in the development of new films highlighting social causes and environmental issues.	\$4,000
Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition/Family and Children's Services <i>Girls Art Power (GAP)</i> Girls Art Power will create an annual, ongoing arts workshop for young women (11-15 yrs old) that will offer instruction and training in the areas of Writing and Journaling; Scrapbooking; Audio and Video Storytelling; and Sequential Art.	\$6,000
Pollination Guelph <i>Re:mediate</i> Pollination Guelph (PG) will work with artist Christina Kingsbury and writer Anna Bowen to create a site specific interdisciplinary artwork on the decommissioned Eastview Landfill site in the east end of Guelph.	\$2,526

THE 2013 MUSAGETES DONOR ADVISED FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS (\$37,500)

Macdonald Stewart Art Centre <i>Upcoming Exhibit</i> This grant will support an upcoming exhibit to the MSAC.	\$2,500
Publication Studio Guelph <i>Visiting Artist Program</i> The Musagetes Foundation will support Publication Studio to bring a visiting artist/writer to Guelph to work with a community member.	\$3,500
Suzuki String School of Guelph Endowment Fund This grant will go toward the Suzuki String School of Guelph's Endowment Fund.	\$5,000
The Guelph Jazz Festival <i>Jazz Musicians in the Schools</i> This grant will support music outreach to schools.	\$6,500
University of Guelph, School of Fine Arts and Music <i>Artist Incubator Program</i> Boarding House Arts Incubator is a one year studio residency program designed to provide five Guelph area based artists with resources to help them advance their professional careers.	\$5,000

University of Guelph, School of Fine Arts and Music

\$15,000

Ontario Graduate Scholarships Fund in Fine Arts

This grant enables the University of Guelph to take advantage of a provincial government matching program in support of graduate students in Fine Art through the Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) program. Donor funds are matched 2:1 by the government, thus providing three scholarships.