



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA

2018

Annual Report



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Letters

From Our Chair

2018 was an extraordinary year for Community Foundations of Canada. I am privileged to chair the CFC Board of Directors and to work with such a talented and inspirational group of people who represent our collective interests nationally, regionally and locally.

In May 2018, the terms of several long-standing board members ended. Their commitment and service to CFC and community philanthropy were exemplary. We welcomed five new members, who have brought new skills, perspectives and competencies to our work. They are making a significant contribution to our leadership and guidance of CFC.

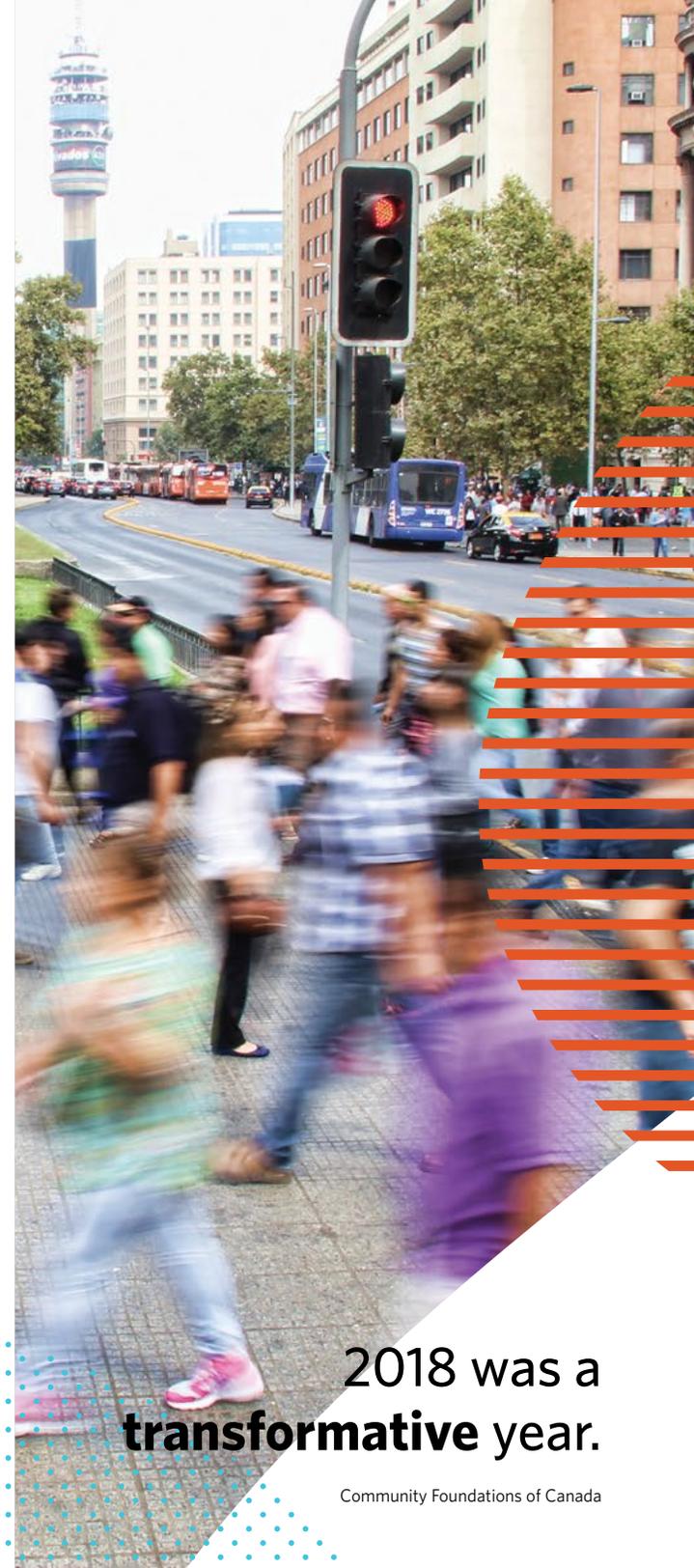
In many respects, 2018 was a transformative year. As you will read in this report, our board and staff embarked on an ambitious strategic initiative to review and refresh our core purpose. CFC's work must remain relevant and intentional, having regard for the needs and aspirations of the movement while acknowledging and being adaptive to the many influences of rapid global and national change. The refreshed and ambitious *raison d'être* aims to address this and ensure we continually support, collaborate and partner with community foundations as they advance bold and innovative solutions at the local level. There is no doubt: this is both a challenging yet exciting time for community philanthropy.

In my experience, I have come to recognize we succeed more frequently when we partner and collaborate with others with whom we share values and ambitions. Our board admires how the CFC staff and leadership are continually expanding the horizons for our network, building new relationships with partners and community leaders from across sectors, pursuing emerging opportunities and in concert with others, working towards a common good. We continue to achieve advancement and awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals and calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, realizing their importance as guiding principles in many of our communities.

On behalf of the board, I express our appreciation for the great privilege to collaborate with leaders from across Canada in service of our outstanding community philanthropy movement. We look forward to the year ahead and extend to all of you, our sincere gratitude and best wishes as our collective journey continues.



Bill Lockington
Chair



2018 was a
transformative year.

From Our Co-Leaders

Belonging is a concept that has, for many years, been at the heart of community foundations' work in Canada. It has served as a north star for policy and programming. It has helped foundations share the stories of their work, and connect with donors and communities.

It was pivotal as the theme of our biennial gathering in Ottawa in 2017. We are deeply proud of all we have achieved together around belonging. As we know too well however, the challenges our communities face are never static. We are witnessing profound forces at play in our towns, cities, regions and world; from climate change, to growing urbanization and inequality, to the proliferation of new technologies and demographic shifts. It's clear that the twenty-first century requires new capacities and shifts in thinking to solve for these. We need innovation, collaboration, generative discussion and constructive conversation and debate more than ever before. Our ability as a movement to forge new pathways around belonging is crucial if we are to tackle the challenges ahead.

In 2018, after nearly three decades of operation, we took a step back to consider the ways we as a movement can best continue to serve and create

impact in the world. Community foundations and partners' engagement was central to this process. Our refreshed purpose, "to relentlessly pursue a future where everyone belongs," is a reflection of our collective ambitions.

Looking forward, CFC will continue to support and strengthen Canada's community foundation movement through networking, learning opportunities and more. At the same time, we are intentionally building our capacity to collaborate with actors beyond the movement so that we can unlock new opportunities for community foundations and greater impact in communities. We are adopting a more global outlook, given that the challenges we face know few borders. Our posture is both curious and disruptive, in pursuit of solutions that truly move the needle. We are practicing leaning into uncomfortable truths and conversations. If we fail, we want to fail faster. Where we learn, we

want to share our knowledge and scale the approaches that work. Our goal is to build on the efforts and learning from the past decades, while also elevating and honouring new voices and models of leadership that reflect the diversity of our communities today. We believe the CFC of tomorrow can be bolder and more courageous, and together as part of the community foundation movement, advance outcomes that matter to Canada and the world.

Of course, none of this is possible without a strong network, sound governance and truly exceptional partners. We are grateful for the trust and collaboration of community foundations coast to coast to coast, the confidence of our board of directors and the host of partners who are joining us on this journey of belonging in greater numbers than ever before. As we say in our *No Little Plans* podcast, "to make big changes, there can be *no little plans*."



Ian Bird
President



Andrew Chunilall
CEO

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191 Features

Vital Signs plays an important role in helping community foundations identify and respond to the issues that matter most in their communities. We'd like to recognize all the community foundations who ran *Vital Signs* programming in 2018:

Community Foundation of Nova Scotia	West Vancouver Community Foundation	Victoria Foundation	SurreyCares Community Foundation
Clayoquot Biosphere Trust	Community Foundation of Whistler	Community Foundation of Lethbridge & Southwestern Alberta	Community Foundation of South Okanagan Similkameen
Alberni Valley Community Foundation	Winkler Community Foundation	Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough	Plum Coulee Community Foundation
Banff Canmore Community Foundation	Community Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador	Town of High River (in partnership with Calgary Foundation)	Muskoka Community Foundation
Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta	The County Foundation	Calgary Foundation	Community Foundation Grey Bruce
Edmonton Community Foundation	Community Foundation for Kingston & Area	Port Coquitlam Community Foundation	WindsorEssex Community Foundation
Comox Valley Community Foundation	London Community Foundation	Campbell River Community Foundation	Toronto Foundation
Salt Spring Island Foundation	Saskatoon Community Foundation	Columbia Valley Community Foundation	South Saskatchewan Community Foundation

The Movement at a Glance

\$292,911,835

contributed by Canadian community foundations to charitable organizations.*

*This total reflects aggregate grants for 2017

Communities across BC responded to Vancouver Foundation's invitation to host **On the Table Conversations**, bringing thousands of friends, colleagues and neighbours together to share meaningful conversations over food.

Cranbrook, BC

The Cranbrook and District Community Foundation rebranded to the Community Foundation of the Kootenay Rockies.

Columbia Valley, BC

Columbia Valley Community Foundation launched Volunteer Columbia Valley, a website that connects organizations with a pool of active volunteers.

Did you know?

Canada's first community foundation was established in Winnipeg in 1921. Stay tuned for lots to celebrate as the Winnipeg Foundation (and Canada's community foundation movement) turns 100 in 2021!

Medicine Hat, AB

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta helped to establish three new funds to serve the charitable needs of the region.

Kitchener-Waterloo, ON

The Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation launched its new website and brand, making it easy for people to #DoMoreGood.

Fort McMurray, AB

The Wood Buffalo Community Foundation issued its first round of community grants after launching in 2017.

Saskatoon, SK

Saskatoon Community Foundation hosted a Vital Conversation with the Honourable Murray Sinclair on the importance of reconciliation in communities.

Grey Bruce, ON

Community Foundation Grey Bruce's Smart and Caring Community Fund initiative, which supports access to post secondary education, exceeded its target and reached \$1.8M in 2018.

306

full-time staff, 97 part-time staff and hundreds of amazing volunteers.

32

community foundations participated in *Vital Signs* in Canada (94 globally).

108

community foundation staff members participated in a peer gathering.

30%

of Canadian community foundations are fully volunteer-led.

75 years

of the Vancouver Foundation and 30 years of La Fondation Québec Philanthrope.

2

new foundations: Dufferin Community Foundation and the Ulnooweg Indigenous Communities Foundation.

Manitoba community foundations raised more than **\$1M** in their Giving Challenge.

Ottawa, ON

The Ottawa Community Foundation granted \$125,000 to Youth+ via its New Leaf Community Challenge, a grant competition focused on tackling youth unemployment in Ottawa.

Montreal, QC

In 2018, Fondation du Grand Montréal awarded more than \$8.5M in grants to 467 organizations and established 111 new funds, a record for the foundation.

Hamilton, ON

Hamilton Community Foundation partnered with Green Shield Canada to grant \$6M in six communities to improve healthcare for Canadians, beginning with Hamilton, Windsor Essex region, Calgary and the Atlantic region.

Did you know?

The Community Foundation of PEI awarded more than \$360,000 in grants and scholarships. Over the course of its 25 year history, it has granted in excess of \$3M to 1000 individuals and causes.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS RUNNING VITAL SIGNS.



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Year in Review

Highlights of Our Year

A global outlook to meet the challenges of tomorrow

CFC co-hosted the inaugural North American Community Foundation Summit in Mexico City in February 2018, alongside Council on Foundations and Comunalía, our American and Mexican counterparts. Leaders from all communities large and small explored how foundations, working at the local level, can have global impact towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The Summit helped bring our movement closer together. The most memorable part for me was the opportunity to learn from others around the table, and to dive deeper into the Sustainable Development Goals. It helped build my understanding for how local initiatives in communities can translate into broader global impact.

Tracey Vavrek
CEO, Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta

 2 days

 3 countries

 120 participants

Strengthening

our global connections by speaking and participating in key international gatherings hosted by the U.K. Community Foundations, the Global Fund and WINGS, among others. Advancing dialogue on a range of topics, from impact investing and social finance to feminist philanthropy to community data.

Hosting

and visiting international delegations — from community foundations in Australia, South Africa, among others — who are keen to learn from the Canadian experience share their expertise and experience with the Canadian movement.

Setting

the stage for new global initiatives like Future Forward through active dialogue and collaboration with private foundations in Europe as well as the United States.

Transforming our partnership capacity

We aligned our efforts with a growing roster of new and longtime partners and collaborators, from civil society, the private sector as well as the federal government, with a view to unlocking community philanthropy's full potential.

The power of networks

We co-founded Alliance 2030, a national network committed to achieving the SDGs in April 2018. Alliance 2030 now comprises of more than 1,500 members from across sectors, throughout Canada.

Launching

No Little Plans, a podcast about Canada and the SDGs. We are proud to have made Apple's List of Best 2018 Podcasts!

Attending

the UN High Level Political Forum in New York alongside our Alliance 2030 partners.

Learning institute activities and Vital Signs programming

We officially launched the Learning Institute, and offered ongoing educational opportunities to a growing number of community foundations across Canada with support from our friends at Mawer Investment Counsel and Foundant Technologies.

Gathering

with leaders from across the movement at six peer gatherings and in more than 30 webinars.

Learning

alongside the 50 staff from 35 community foundations who took part in new learning communities, focused on sustaining and deepening leadership practices and exploring best practices in rural philanthropy.

Collaborating

with some 94 community foundations who administer *Vital Signs* programs in Canada and around the world.

Embarking

on a new, multi-year partnership with Leith Wheeler Investment Counsel, whose support will help drive more national scale activities and local public engagement efforts starting in 2019.

Supporting

community foundations in building their skills, accelerating their impact and ultimately strengthening community.

What do I love the most about these learning opportunities? Feeling like we are in this together really gives me the gusto to move onward in our community!

Heidi E.A. Maddrell
Vice President, Port Moody Foundation

Each session brought timely and relevant topics that supported me as a new leader in our sector.

Anne Marie Peirce
President & CEO,
Community Foundation of Mississauga

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Purpose

Refreshing Our Purpose

We believe in a future that is bright; a future that is just and sustainable; a future that goes beyond the status quo. We're building a movement that connects community foundations, Canadians and partners to make this future a reality.

Our values

- Ethical
- Respectful
- Inclusive
- Kind
- Generous
- Assume good will
- Humble

Our posture

- Curious
- Collaborative
- Courageous
- Nimble
- Creative
- Disruptive

In 2018, CFC undertook the challenging exercise of renewing our purpose. An organization's purpose is its lifeblood, its *raison d'être*. It answers the questions: Why do we exist? What problems are we here to solve? To do so, we enlisted the input and help of community foundations, partners, counterparts in the philanthropic and non-profit sector. Many of you gave generously of your time and ideas — thank you.

Communities and the world look quite different today than they did in 1992, when CFC was founded. We refreshed our purpose to position ourselves, and community foundations, to tackle the challenges and opportunities of the twenty-first century. To address the future of philanthropy. To find creative ways of engaging new generations of community-builders and donors. To grow our network of partners and allies. To help us look beyond our borders for solutions, and to share knowledge where we can. The leadership of community foundations has never been more vital. Local solutions to global issues never more important.

Shifting power



Shifting power to those who best know the needs of our communities. Ensuring diverse voices are at the table where important decisions about our future are being made.

Strengthening community



Resilient communities are strong communities. Investing and supporting all facets of community and civic life is at the core of who we are.

Take the long view



We have the opportunity of taking the long view. The capacity to work nimbly and collaboratively toward systemic change.

Introducing our refreshed purpose:
Relentlessly pursuing a future where everyone belongs.





05
Partners



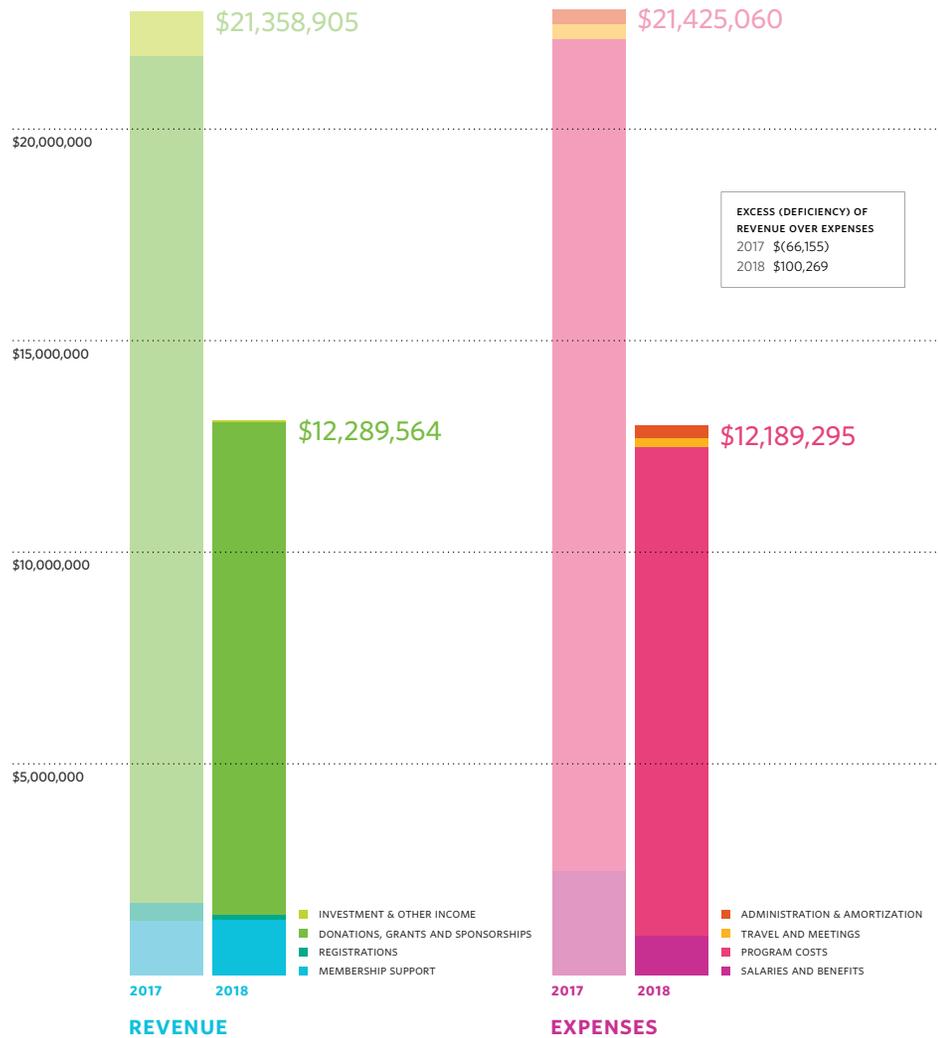
Thank you to our amazing network of partners.

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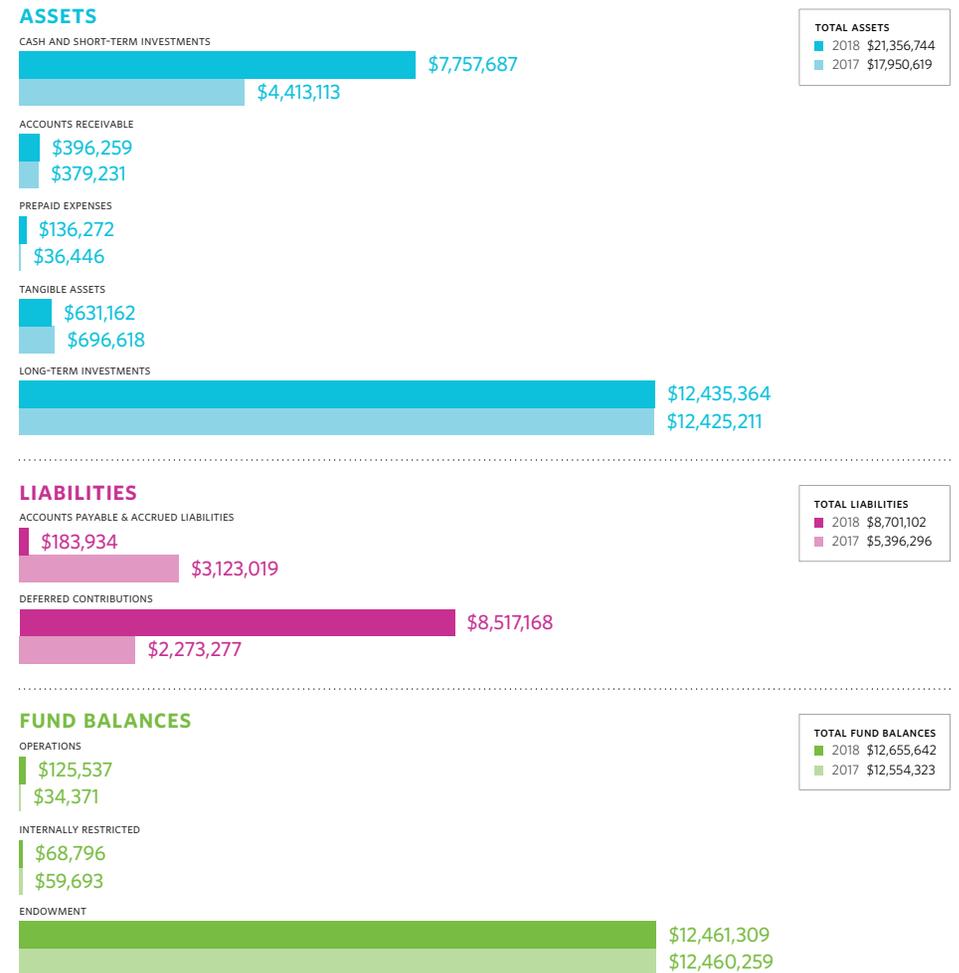
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Financials

Statement of Operations



Statement of Financial Position



To view our full 2018 audited financials, visit:
communityfoundations.ca



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