



**COMMUNITY
 FOUNDATIONS
 OF CANADA**
all for community

Foundation Chair

A Message from the Brandon Area Community Foundation Chair

"Impact" can be defined as having a strong effect on someone or something. We cannot think of a better way to start this year's annual report than by conveying the impact of the Brandon Area Community Foundation (BACF). Our impact is felt across the Westman area through committed fund holders, generous donors, board members and staff which enables BACF to support community projects and charities in the surrounding areas. The word impact so aptly describes the work of our Foundation, and we are pleased to share with you our 2019 Annual Report.

One of the many highlights in 2019 was the launch of BACF's first Vital Signs report. The Vital Signs report will be used to help the Board of Directors guide BACF's most important decisions, whether it's investing our grants in projects and charities that are on the front lines of community building, or working with donors to develop funds that will

make a difference, today and well into the future.

2019 was another significant year that took our total grants to new heights with contributions into the community. \$617,753 was granted throughout Brandon and the Westman area to various child care facilities, recreational venues, arts and cultural events, and community health and wellness programs. Congratulations to all successful grant recipients! Your vision and concern for the overall wellbeing of your community is what has enabled us collectively to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

The past year has gone by so quickly. As I wind down my term as Board Chair, I cannot help but reflect on my journey with Brandon Area Community Foundation and be thankful for the numerous opportunities I've had to learn and get to know Brandon and Southwestern



Terri Roulette-McCartney, *Chair*
Brandon Area Community Foundation

Manitoba better. I am constantly inspired by the passion, commitment and generosity of our donors and our fund holders, and am completely in awe of our community's relentless not-for-profit leaders, who work tirelessly toward building a strong social environment where no one is left behind.

2019 Board Members



Back Row: Brian Cottom, Gail Cullen, Bev Cumming, Jaime Pugh-Clemmensen, Harvey Laluk
Front Row: Dan Robertson, Andrea Epp, Janet Shaw-Russell, Bob Patterson
Inserted: Terri Roulette McCartney, Hope Switzer, Michelle Hood, Brandon Mayor Rick Chrest





First Vital Signs Launch

In November 2019, the Brandon Area Community Foundation (BACF) launched their first 'Vital Signs' report!

The launch of this community report endorsed by the Community Foundations of Canada (CFC), was held at the Keystone Centre where Past Chairs Bev Cumming and Brian Cottom shared statistics and stories about the benefits and accomplishments of the BACF, as well as the needs of the communities in Westman.

Bev Cumming spear-headed the initiative together with Laura Kempthorne, Executive Director of the BACF. "The goal of our community check-up report is to identify the granting needs in Brandon and the area we serve" stated Bev Cumming, Chair of BACF's Vital Signs Committee. "We want to understand our community's strengths and needs in order to work together and move forward."

Brian Cottom, Director and Secretary for the BACF stated "the report is a compilation of information about our community in a number of different areas. This report will help us to figure out how healthy our community is. Are we doing good things? There is always a need," he says, "and what we're trying to do is develop a process where we can direct money to areas where we think the greatest need or the greatest benefit is."

Cottom continued, "Our Vital Signs report will give us a tool to be a little bit more 'intentional' with our granting and looking at areas that need help."

Statistics shared in the Vital Signs report include data on population, education & literacy, physical and mental health, housing, homelessness and poverty, sports and recreation, and more.



With the aid of the Brandon University Faculty of Health Studies and Student Research Unit, local data was collected and compiled.

The report is based on the principles of Community Foundations of Canada and measures a number of indicators of community needs and vitality in several areas.

More than 65 communities in Canada and around the world are using Vital Signs to mobilize the power of community knowledge for greater local impact.

For your own copy of the Vital Signs report, please call the BACF office or visit bacf.ca to view the report online.

Brandon Area Community Foundation 2019 Financial Statements

Summary Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the year ended December 31, 2019

	2019	2018
Balance, beginning of year	\$12,188,777	\$7,824,063
New capital contributions	388,358	4,920,903
Flow-through funds received	167,834	411,478
Share of administration expenses	16,902	13,178
Share of net investment income	264,514	245,831
Grants returned	-	-
Grants disbursed	(449,918)	(154,242)
Flow-through Grants disbursed	(167,834)	(411,478)
Unrealized gains on held for trading assets	1,504,731	(520,750)
	<u>13,913,364</u>	<u>12,328,983</u>
Transfers:		
Operating reserve to income	(129,663)	(135,206)
Other funds to income	-	(5,000)
Deferred contributions	-	-
	<u>(129,663)</u>	<u>(140,206)</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$13,783,701</u>	<u>\$12,188,777</u>

Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2019

	2019	2018
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash	\$202,633	\$280,621
Accounts Receivable	2,243	1,581
Prepaid Expense	<u>204,876</u>	<u>282,202</u>
Investments	15,294,514	13,455,314
Land	<u>619,782</u>	<u>620,793</u>
	<u>\$16,119,172</u>	<u>\$14,358,309</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts Payable	<u>38,645</u>	<u>33,559</u>
Deferred Contributions	683,991	683,991
Managed Funds	<u>1,612,835</u>	<u>1,451,982</u>
	<u>\$2,335,471</u>	<u>\$2,169,532</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Endowments	1,842,921	1,867,085
Field of Interest Endowments	527,773	530,280
Designated Endowments	1,754,048	1,687,262
Donor Advised Endowments	7,931,939	7,869,422
Market Restricted Endowments	51,547	49,858
Operating Reserve	56,917	71,045
Unrealized gains on held for trading assets	1,618,556	113,825
	<u>13,783,701</u>	<u>12,188,777</u>
	<u>\$16,119,172</u>	<u>\$14,358,309</u>

The above information are excerpts from audited financial statements dated December 31, 2019 reported by Sensus Partnership of Chartered Accountants



The Murray Auto Group Fund ~ Benefiting our Community

There's always a story behind every Endowment Fund, and often it is one specific family member who has inspired the beginnings of a family legacy of giving. With the Murray family, it was their mother Millie who inspired not only her family, but also her community of Brandon to be passionate about giving back.

Millie read about the Brandon Community Foundation numerous years ago in the Brandon Sun. She was intrigued by such a concept as a 'community foundation.' That was in the early 1980's. It wouldn't be long before Mrs. Murray would sit as Chair of the new foundation, supporting projects and organizations that would make a difference in the City of Brandon. and beyond its borders.

The concept of philanthropy was embraced by the next generation, with sons Doug, Paul, Dan and Chris, each living in different cities across the Prairie Provinces: Doug in Brandon, Paul in Calgary, Dan in Winnipeg and Chris in Lethbridge.

It would be youngest son Chris who would learn how a family foundation could be developed as a powerful means to support community projects.

The Murray family had the option of creating their own foundation, but found that it would require a great amount of

time to manage the many legalities and documentation of funds given.

Thus began the Murray Auto Group Endowment Fund which reaches into over 30 communities and supports local projects through their auto dealerships across Canada. The Murray Family and their staff have a passion for philanthropy in each of the communities where they live and serve.

Chris felt the BACF's strategy of recognizing where the greatest need was, is what intrigued their mother to be a strong supporter of the Foundation. "Every community foundation is a steward that supports multiple charities, multiple different thoughts," he said. "The BACF receives all the requests and they find out where they feel the greatest need is and this is what Laura and her team do. So, as an individual group we're not trying to figure where the most need or the best use of the money is."

In addition to supporting the philosophy of BACF, Millie Murray had the foresight to recognize the need for a special fund for the Foundation to support paying rent, hiring staff, and being in business in the community. Under her leadership, Millie created the BACF Administration Fund so the Foundation could continue to do what it was intended to do: to grow and develop in the community.

Millie Murray would sit on the Foundation Board of Directors from 1984 to 2002, leading as Chairperson in 1984 and 1985. Eventually, the Brandon Community Foundation would become the Brandon Area Community Foundation that included the surrounding area, widening their scope of building community throughout the Westman region.

Now at 87 years old, Millie looks back at the many years of giving through the Murray Auto Group Endowment Fund and the BACF. "I would hope that others would know that the BACF is a very good place to put money into, to strengthen our community and all the parts of it," she said.

Throughout her life Millie has modelled passion and commitment to her family and to her community. "Giving back to the community is something that all of my sons are interested in with the communities that they live in. So, this is just another way of contributing to our own community. The Brandon Area Community Foundation is the head of it but it's the wish of a lot of people, like my sons, to support their own community and they've done that very well, wherever they are."



\$40,000 Grant for New Solar Pathway Lighting Project

The Brandon Riverbank continues to be a meeting place for the community. When it comes to recreation, they are constantly striving to improve the area's greenspace, infrastructure and trail systems. In 2019, the Brandon Riverbank embarked on a project to install 40 flood-proof solar LED lights to the existing light stands, which had been dark and not usable since the flood of 2011.

Through fundraising and grants, Brandon Riverbank was able to complete this project which will enhance usability and

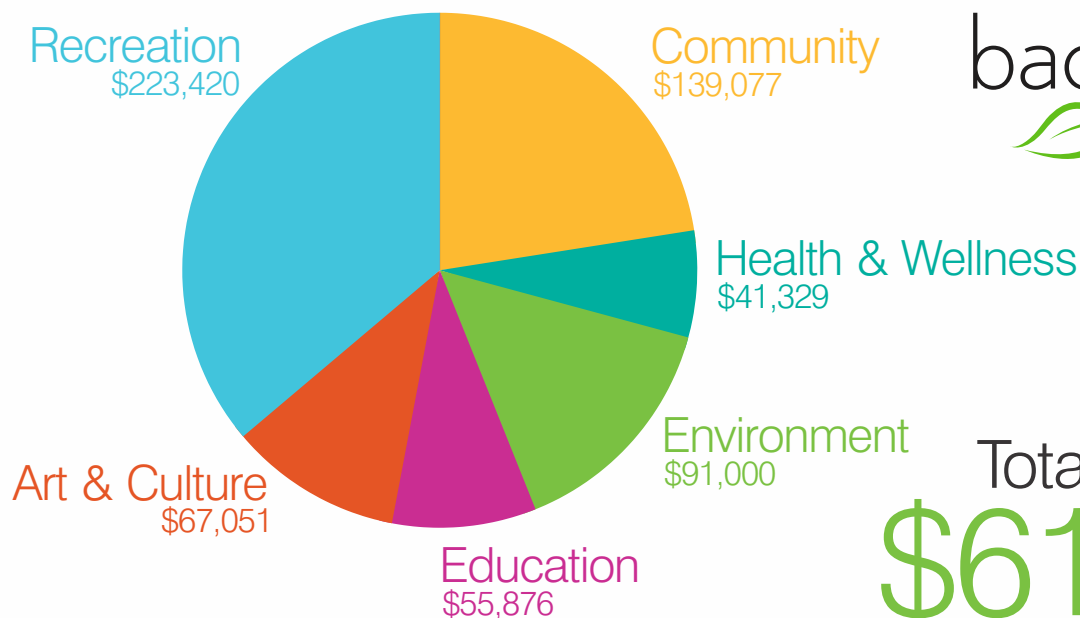
provide a sense of security for visitors and residents.

"Supporting this project was a natural fit," states Terri Roulette McCartney, board chair of the Brandon Area Community Foundation (BACF). "BACF's mission is to strengthen and improve the quality of life for those in southwestern Manitoba. I am so pleased BACF could award a \$40,000 grant to help complete the Riverbank's lighting project. Not only does this project meet our granting criteria, the solar lighting will add

significant value overall to this regional destination hub today and into the future."

Thank you to the other contributors to this project - the Province of Manitoba, Guild Insurance Brokers and the Thomas Sill Foundation.

The community is invited to come out and enjoy all that Brandon Riverbank and the Assiniboine River Corridor have to offer!



Total 2019 Grants
\$617,753

For more information visit www.bacf.ca



Four Generations of Giving Back to Community ~ The Leech Family Fund

One family that has deep roots in the City of Brandon is the Leech family.

The Leech Letter Co. was started in Brandon in 1927 by Cecil Leech, and it has played an integral role over the years in Brandon and surrounding area by supporting the community. Over the 92 years of business, Leech Printing has become a four-generation company with grandson Michael at the helm as President, and great-granddaughters Meredyth and Gillian joining the family business in 2014 and 2017 respectively. Little did Cecil know that his great-granddaughters would eventually take the wheel as the fourth generation in the family business.

Michael and Pat Leech have given back to their community through a variety of ways, one of which is through the Brandon Area Community Foundation (BACF). Michael was on the board of the BACF for nine years and held the position of Chairman for three of those years.

"I feel we need to contribute and volunteer to build the community. So when Millie Murray approached me to consider joining the Foundation, I took the opportunity. For me, it's important that people look at an organization, how they're built, what their mandate is, how they spend their money, and how they use their operational administrative money."

What appealed to Michael about the BACF was seeing how the Foundation operated on a stringent budget, and was then able to put more funds into community projects. He said he also learned a lot about his community through reviewing grant applications, and by sharing a seat around the table of the BACF boardroom.

"The other cool thing about the Foundation is that the investment, the contributions and the donations that the Foundation gives are typically in the right spot," he added. "I think if you're looking for a grant, the process at the Foundation is a pretty good process. That's a function of people knowing what's going on and where to put the ointment."

Michael explained how the Foundation was a good fit for him and his family, eventually inspiring his wife Pat to reach into community in a unique way, that being through the youth.

Pat took a special interest in BACF's Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) program that operates in four High Schools in the Brandon area, with Keay Dobson-Golletz spearheading the project.

"We like to see kids at an early stage start understanding the value of a contribution like volunteering and to mentor that junior core of kids who know what volunteering is," explained Michael. "It's about teaching kids what community is, and the

dynamic of community, and that there are new communities to be part of."

Michael and Pat continued to support community projects by building a unique family fund administered by the BACF, called the Field of Interest Family Fund.

BACF directs the surplus of the family fund to specific projects in the community. The Leech family are keenly interested in projects that provide social benefits within the community. Programs affiliated with Samaritan House Ministries, Helping Hands, and the Women's Resource Centre have benefited from the Leech Family Field of Interest Fund through the BACF.

As he looks forward to the next generation, Michael says he will pass the torch on to their daughters. He sees that his daughters are the future, and given the direction they've gotten from family, they will bring their own ideas to various organizations and Foundation boards, just as they have brought new ideas to the family business of Leech Printing.

Going back to 1927, Cecil Leech wouldn't know the impact his family would have on a growing city, and how Brandon and surrounding communities would benefit from his family business. He would have been proud to see his legacy of community commitment continue through four generations and those that follow.

2019 Youth in Philanthropy

The Crocus Plains High School Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) group was the host of the 2019 grant evening. The group welcomed their fellow students, teacher advisors, guests and representatives from the various charities who attended. Students from the four local high schools – Crocus Plains, Elton Collegiate, Neelin and Vincent Massey High Schools granted \$10,000 to 23 organizations in our communities.

All YIP students are to be commended on their presenting of their grants. Each student spoke to the charity of their choice, what the charity does within the community and to what project the grant money will be directed.

The students, teacher advisors and BACF would also like to thank the United Way Brandon & District for their partnership with BACF to provide financial assistance for the YIP program. The YIP students are very appreciative of

the power and responsibility associated with the decision making of the grant monies and leadership opportunities this program provides to them.



Prairie Lakes Community Donor Advised Fund

Created in 2019 by a group of community-minded individuals, the Prairie Lakes Community Fund is an endowment fund held with the Brandon Area Community Foundation.

The earnings generated from this fund will be awarded in the form of grants to support local organizations, projects, and communities within the RM of Prairie Lakes. An endowment fund is one of the most important assets that small and rural communities can have.

The RM of Prairie Lakes is located southeast of Brandon and encompasses Pelican Lake and the Belmont area.

BACF is very honored to be the stewards of the Prairie Lakes Community Fund. If you wish to make a contribution to this fund, you will be helping to create a legacy and building a valuable permanent resource for the residents of the RM of Prairie Lakes. Visit bacf.ca to donate.



\$47,750 Awarded

Women from the Westman area have made an impact by way of collectively giving \$47,750 to 16 local charities in our community over the past four years.

The 100 Women Who Care (WWC) group's initial contribution also boosts the Women's Endowment Fund held with BACF, which now sits at \$87,000. This fund provides annual grants supporting organizations affecting girls, women and their families in our community.

We are women who share the common desire to give back and inspire local philanthropy in our communities. As

women, we know what it is like to be stretched for time and resources but still feel the strong pull to help others – that is why we have created this group.

Recipients in 2019 included Brandon's Food for Thought, Westman Immigrant Service Inc., Adult and Teen Challenge, and Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society.

100 Women – 1 Hour - Local Impact



YMCA Child Care Centre in Maryland Park School \$19,500 Grant

The YMCA of Brandon will operate the child care centre in the new Maryland Park School in Brandon. The \$19,500 grant from BACF will be used to furnish the infant room with cribs as well as 8

other rooms that need shelving, chairs, tables, cots and other necessities to host 54 preschoolers, 20 infants, 30 school age and 20 nursery children.



Russell's Lots A Tots Inc. \$25,000 Grant

This will fund an expansion to the daycare centre that is located within Major Pratt School in Russell Manitoba. There will be an increase of 2,600 square feet, and an additional 8 infant, 24 preschool and 20 school age spaces. The total cost of the project is \$1,350,489. Lots A Tots employs 10 full-time and 8 part-time staff

as well as acting as a student learning facility for work experience students and Early Childhood Education students from Assiniboine Community College.

BACF's grant of \$25,000 will be used to purchase furniture for the daycare centre expansion.



Oak Lake Care Centre Inc. \$5,000 Grant

The grant monies from BACF will be directed to the installation of artificial turf that will provide a safe, usable play space for the children who attend the Care Centre. The centre will also be increasing their outside space to accommodate a new play structure, a bike path and a new space for infants and preschool children.

Victoria Daycare Centre \$15,000 Grant

The grant of \$15,000 is for exterior renovations to the McCutcheon building, which hosts the Preschool Enrichment Program and the Victoria Daycare Centre in Brandon. Installing energy efficient windows, siding and renovating the roof were deemed essential to house the 75 children in the day care as well as the families accessing the programs that are offered.





Donn and Sylvia Mitchell Agricultural Bursary

Sylvia Mitchell, in honour of her late husband Donn Mitchell, has established an endowment fund with the BACF for the purpose of awarding an annual bridging bursary for a deserving second year student enrolled in the Agribusiness program at Assiniboine Community College.

Donn and Sylvia Mitchell were married in 1959 and settled on land homesteaded by Donn's grandparents. There, they established Klondike Farms, with their outstanding herd of Registered Polled Herefords.

Over the years, Donn & Sylvia exported semen, embryos, and cattle to the global livestock industry. They travelled to many countries in their promotion of quality animals, and in some of these places, Donn performed as a cattle judge.

One of the unique aspects of their combined activities is their electronic system for farm record keeping. Donn's experience in meticulous record-keeping, matched with Sylvia's training in bookkeeping, provided a great combination.

Their five year cropping program included input costs, revenues, and nutrient soil analysis. Also recorded were

the genetic history and the generation pedigrees of every cow and bull and their offspring. The system of electronic record-keeping developed at Klondike Farms became a model for the cattle industry. The Mitchells were among the first couples to enrol in the beef cattle "Record of Performance" program. Klondike Farms was a founding partner in Bar-Five Simmental and the Shilo Farms Irrigation Project.

Both Donn and Sylvia were outstanding volunteers.

Sylvia has served as an International Officer of Quota International, Chairperson of the Wheat Belt Community Futures, Vice-President of the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame, and Life Member of the Women's Institute. Among the honours bestowed upon her are the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award and her designation as a Notable Farm Woman by Farm Woman News.

Sylvia's late husband Donn was the founding President of Douglas Sire Indexing Centre, an elected member of the first Canadian Wheat Board Advisory Committee, an elected member of the Western Grain Stabilization Advisory Board, and a member of the Provincial



Exhibition, Keystone Centre, and board member of the Canada Western Agribition. Donn was Mr. Manitoba Farmer, on the Honour Roll of the Canadian Hereford Association, as well as a Honorary member of the Agricultural Institute of Canada.

Both Donn and Sylvia were awarded Manitoba 125th Anniversary Commemorative Medals.

Donn and Sylvia Mitchell have provided unmatched leadership to agriculture and rural life. Their combined record is one of improving quality production, showing exemplary neighborliness, providing leadership in electronic farming and accounting, and being truly helpful in their involvement with many farm organizations.

BACF is honored to be the stewards of the Donn and Sylvia Mitchell Agricultural Bursary Fund.



\$35,750 Grant Awarded to the Westman Trail Association

The purpose of the Westman Trail Association is to provide maintenance to the 55 kilometers of trail in the Brandon Hills, as well as being the liaison between the private landowners, the Manitoba Wildlife Management Area and the trail users of the Brandon Hills.

Currently, ten committee members, along with a few outside volunteers, maintain the trails in the Brandon Hills. This involves clearing deadfall, repairing bridges and eroded areas, designing and installing navigation signage, tracking cross-country ski trails, assisting organizations to plan activities, assisting emergency services when needed, and promoting trail usage to the public plus much more. These activities go on every

day of the year, throughout the four seasons. Total volunteer hours at the Brandon Hills from everyone involved would be into the hundreds of hours annually. These volunteers are using their own equipment as well.

The grant of \$35,750 from BACF will be distributed to the organization over three years. The monies will be used to purchase equipment for trail maintenance. Due to the Brandon Hills popularity, larger and more industrial sized equipment is needed – chainsaws, a ski tracker, brush cutters, a mower and a quad.

BACF is very pleased to award this organization the funds needed to

maintain the trail conditions that allow people of all ages to enjoy our beautiful forested area right here in our Westman area!

Congratulations to the Westman Trail Association for all the work your organization does!

The Brandon Hills are located 10 kilometers south of Brandon on Highway #10 to the antique store, east for 3 kilometers, and south 1 kilometer to the parking area. The Brandon Hills have long been a haven for outdoor recreation and wildlife. The trail system is comprised of a variety of pathways ranging in distance from 2 kilometers to 7.5 kilometers.



Giving to Your Community Foundation

Your local community foundation is a charitable non-profit organization that contributes time, leadership and financial support to initiatives that benefit your community most.

DONOR

Anyone can become a donor and gift a small or large amount of money to a community foundation.

DONOR ENGAGEMENT

Community foundations and donors work together to determine what community activities the money can support.

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION

Community foundations work with the donor to establish a new endowment fund or give to an existing fund.

INVESTMENT

The donor's gift is pooled with a community foundation's endowed assets, invested through careful stewardship, and investment income is used to make grants.

GRANTS

Community foundations distribute grants to all corners of the community, based on the needs of the community and the priorities set by the community foundation.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The community foundation invests in many ways — grants, building partnerships and pooling knowledge, resources and expertise to stimulate ideas and strengthen community.



For more information visit www.bacf.ca

Why contribute to a community foundation?

- ✓ **Community knowledge** | A deep understanding of local needs and opportunities.
- ✓ **Expertise** | Community foundations are credible partners. They are people with expertise in financial management and granting.
- ✓ **Leadership** | Community foundations are led by a board of directors comprised of knowledgeable community leaders.