

BIENNIAL
REPORT

2016-2017

POWER
DISRUPTED

A photograph of a forest path covered in fallen yellow and orange autumn leaves. The path leads into a misty forest with tall trees and more yellow foliage hanging from the branches overhead. The scene is serene and atmospheric.

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WELCOME REMARKS

As the newly appointed Board Chair, I am excited about the work of the Catherine Donnelly Foundation (CDF). This report describes the innovative and far-ranging work of CDF over the past two years. It has been a time of sharpening focus and strengthening priorities in the program areas of Housing, Environment and Adult Education, and expanding commitment with Impact Investments. During this period, following the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, CDF has sought to incorporate the TRC Calls to Action, into all areas of the life and work of the Foundation. Following a successful Strategic Planning process involving board members, staff and other stakeholders, CDF is well positioned to move forward. CDF, as a living, dynamic legacy of the pioneering Sisters of Service, is strengthened in its commitment to be a catalyst in the years ahead, for innovative action towards the positive, transforming social change that is much needed in Canada today.



Bob McKeon
Chair, Catherine Donnelly Foundation

“If you can’t see yourself as part of the problem, then you can’t see yourself as part of the solution.” Adam Kahane

This report documents the challenges that the Foundation’s board and staff have been grappling with as we seek to integrate an Indigenous-influenced perspective into our granting and investing process in order to “decolonize” our philanthropic approach. It also shares the learning that is emerging as we participate in community-driven coalitions aimed at preventing and ending youth homelessness, championing the right to a healthy environment and “righting relations” by addressing social, cultural, political, economic and environmental issues. The CDF recognizes that we are part of a system (the problem) that perpetuates inequality. We seek to disrupt the “business as usual” approach to philanthropy and recognize that in doing so we must be prepared to relinquish power.



Valerie Lemieux
Executive Director, Catherine Donnelly Foundation

OUR PHILANTHROPIC APPROACH

The Catherine Donnelly Foundation is committed to promoting positive social change by funding a combination of programs and projects in our priority areas of Environment, Housing, Adult Education and Impact Investing. Our efforts in this respect are intended to promote joint action and networking by enabling key institutional actors to combine their efforts, to build on one another's strengths, constituencies and common experiences in pursuit of social change objectives.

The Foundation recognizes that our granting and investing process is influenced by a Western colonial approach and is committed to integrating an Indigenous-influenced perspective with an intention of moving towards a decolonized approach to philanthropy (as grantmakers, communicators and investors) to enhance CDF's overall effectiveness in the philanthropic sector.

In moving towards a decolonized approach to philanthropy the Foundation seeks to promote a power dynamic different from the standard grantor-recipient relationship. We will seek initiatives that promote community decision-making and control over community resources. In integrating an Indigenous-influenced perspective, we recognize the need for flexible program areas that show fluidity and appreciation for Indigenous worldviews that all life - human and nonhuman - is interrelated. This flexibility will encourage the exploration of more crosscutting work between housing, environment and adult education including investment opportunities in housing, Indigenous-led initiatives, and green/sustainable energy.



Our Commitment

The Catherine Donnelly Foundation is the legacy of a progressive community of Catholic women religious. We acknowledge the histories between the Christian churches and Indigenous peoples in Canada, and the impacts of colonialism that continue to this day. The Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission have created an historic opportunity for a growing movement of people of faith and civil society to work toward reconciliation.

As a signatory to the Philanthropic Declaration of Action, and in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Recommendations, the Foundation acknowledges the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation in Canada.

The Foundation is committed to right relations by actively seeking to build mutually respectful relationships with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples through proactively supporting creative initiatives in the area of Adult Education, Housing, the Environment and Impact Investing.

Our history of funding in Indigenous space

Although the CDF has supported Indigenous initiatives since it first began funding in 2005, more recently, this has emerged as a priority focus across all three of our funding streams.

We reached out to many of our colleagues already working in the Indigenous space for guidance. We began by looking at our own funding history and discovered that 20% of our granting from 2005-2017 has been Indigenous-focused. When we drilled that down to just the environment stream it rose to 37%. However, we still felt that we had a lot of learning or "unlearning" to do.

Shift to Indigenous-led – not Indigenous-focused

In reviewing the grants we had made in this space for the past ten years or so we realized that for the most part grants had been made to ENGOS/ NGOS who were working with or supporting Indigenous communities or partners. Given the learning emerging through our Righting Relations program (Adult Education multi-year partnership) and coupled with our commitment to the Philanthropic Declaration of Action we recognized we needed to build direct relationships with Indigenous-led organizations if we truly wished to decolonize our funding approach.



Healing Through the Land Initiative

As a result, we have been engaged in a process over the past couple of years of actively seeking out partnerships with actors/allies/funders currently engaged with/within Indigenous communities.

We have convened three meetings (in November 2017, April 2018, September 2018) with Indigenous leaders, allies and funders to explore and understand the best role that funders could play in addressing capacity needs faced by Indigenous communities that fit within the climate change/climate justice framework. We were also interested in learning how we could support the advance of Indigenous communities' incorporation of clean energy projects as a climate justice and economic/social development solution.

What has emerged is the understanding that to truly address community capacity needs the project should:

- Focus on healing through land-based initiatives, and
- Integrate and enhance the elements of community leadership, cultural revitalization, increasing efficiency and creating renewable energy sources, localizing food and protecting water across Indigenous communities in a holistic and innovative way.



We entered the meetings with an understanding that we needed to begin from an Indigenous rights-based perspective; an openness to learn from challenges; that the balance between funder priorities and community expertise is important; that a measurement framework would require an Indigenous lens; and we would need clearly defined Terms of Reference especially around decision-making.

A lot of discussion focused on the need to decolonize the grantmaking process and that a change in attitude of those who don't understand the context of Indigenous challenges could be fostered by developing new tools and ways forward grounded in Indigenous ways and knowledge. We shared and discussed examples of international funds that were rooted in this approach. This was in aid of imagining what a pan-Canadian Indigenous-led pooled fund would look like.

We acknowledged that in order to move from a conceptual idea, Indigenous peoples would need to take the lead in design and implementation and have full and effective participation in the decision-making process. There was acceptance among participants for the seven-grandfather teachings as grounding principles (wisdom, love, respect, bravery, honesty, humility and truth), but acknowledgment that these teachings are Anishnaabe. We agreed to incorporate the "4Rs" (utilized by the Indigenous Funders for Indigenous Peoples) of Respect, Reciprocity, Responsibility, and Relationships to re-frame funding relationships for greater beneficial impact.

We struggled a bit with the mechanics of all of this. How do we fund these types of Indigenous-led, grassroots initiatives when we know the limitations of charitable funding? Just as Indigenous communities/grassroots leaders struggle within the colonial context, so do we as funders. We are subject to the same restrictions in terms of qualified donees and charitable activity. We are currently exploring the potential of partnering with Indigenous-led community foundations and/or supporting the emergence of an Indigenous-led, self-determined model.

“HOW DO WE
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Emerging Northern Leaders Initiative

The CDF agreed to advance \$90,000 to Tides Canada, over three years in support of the Emerging Northern Leaders Initiative. This project is empowering the next generation of Indigenous leaders in the Yukon (Our Voices), Northwest Territories (Dene Nahjo) and Nunavut (Qanak) to lead their own solutions to climate change and other social and environmental challenges. This is being accomplished by building resilient institutions with broadening networks and the human and financial resources to champion, develop and implement environmental sustainability and community well-being projects.

The Dene Nahjo Urban Moose Hide Tanning Camp, in Yellowknife, NWT is an example of reconciliation in action. The camp has been bringing the Indigenous community together reclaiming language and culture along with a deep connection to the land. It has also been a bridge to non-Indigenous community members and provided an opportunity for dialogue.

www.denenahjo.com



ADULT EDUCATION

Righting Relations

In the fall of 2015, the Catherine Donnelly Foundation launched the Righting Relations: Adult Education for Social Change program. This was the culmination of two institutes that brought together adult educators from across the country to discuss adult education's current capacity to address the most critical and complex issues of our time and to bring about radical social, cultural, political, economic and/or environmental change in Canada. A key outcome of the institutes was the recruitment of a working group that led to the development and submission of a proposal to the CDF Board. This then led to the formation of the Righting Relations Steering Committee to oversee and implement the program on behalf of the Catherine Donnelly Foundation (CDF).

The past three years have seen substantive growth in the program (3 hubs – Eastern, Central and Western) plus a northern partner and various “local” circles. A number of regional gatherings have been held, culminating in a National Gathering this past June (2018).

Now entering our fourth year of Righting Relations, the Foundation had an opportunity to reflect on what we are learning and “unlearning” as a funder on this journey at a recent Philanthropic Foundations of Canada conference.

For the past ten years, the CDF has been engaged in a process to build deeper relationships with our grantees. To go deep – to share power – to in effect disrupt the power imbalance.

Our shift from providing one-year project grants to supporting longer-term program initiatives aimed at systems change has been a learning journey. We have had the opportunity to learn from some truly amazing partners in our environment and housing streams. However, our experience with the Righting Relations program has been unlike any other grantmaking that the foundation has engaged in.



 Adult Education for Social Change





Righting Relations

We see ourselves (at the CDF) as an active participant in the systems change that we hope to see realized. However, we certainly are not leading Righting Relations. This is a community-based and community-led initiative.

This kind of work stretches you as a funder and can result in some very uncomfortable situations. There are no administrative processes and committees to shield you from what is taking place on the ground.

As a signatory to the Philanthropic Declaration of Action, and in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Recommendations, the Foundation recently acknowledged the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation in Canada. The Righting Relations program helped inform our learning journey. The program fosters intersectoral dialogue through building deep relationships. Learning to share power – to hear all voices – to take your time and to imagine a more inclusive Indigenous-influenced process has been instrumental in helping shape how the CDF lives out our commitment.

However, this work has not been without its challenges!

Righting Relations is a network of adult educators and community activists rooted in and often leading and advocating on issues impacting grassroots communities. All of its members feel a deep connection to the network. They feel a sense of ownership – and rightly so – they are building it.

However, at present Righting Relations is a program of the Catherine Donnelly Foundation therefore any position taken by Righting Relations is in effect a position taken by the Foundation. As a result, the CDF needs to be consulted to ensure that we are “on-side” with regard to political activities for example – and that we can defend whatever action has been taken. This has been challenging because, as noted earlier, the Foundation does not see itself leading or controlling the work.

“How do we arrive at a place that meets the needs of the network and the Foundation?”

This is something we are currently navigating with the Righting Relations Steering Committee and Righting Relations Network members.

For more information on the program visit www.rightingrelations.org.

ENVIRONMENT

The CDF feels an ever-increasing sense of urgency around the need to act on climate change solutions. In 2016, the Foundation shifted the focus of our one-year project grants in the Environment stream to climate change and climate justice, seeking projects that catalyze significant increase in public support for fast and deep-reaching climate change solutions. A full list of grants awarded in this area can be found at the end of this report.

Multi-Year Program: Ecojustice

The CDF has been supporting Ecojustice since 2011 in their work to reach a radical goal – to see environmental rights recognized as part of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. We are currently mid-way through a second 5-year grant for this patient, yet vital legal work. Ecojustice's strategy for reaching this goal remains rooted in three pillars of activities:

1. Litigation
2. Strategic Law Reform
3. Communications.

Whether it's working with Aamjiwnaang First Nation in Sarnia to fight for improved air quality standards or the residents of Harrietsfield, Nova Scotia whose water is contaminated, they continue to fight for Canadians and their right to clean air and clean water. Moving forward, they are preparing to launch a Charter Case to establish that government actions and inactions are enabling dangerous levels of GHG emissions, asking the court to order the government to implement a remedy putting emission reductions on a path toward a stable climate. This rights-based approach underpins the work we support through the Environment stream.

For more information about Ecojustice visit www.ecojustice.ca

PARTNERSHIPS

CDF has been engaging in the just transition space, whereby the transition to a low carbon future is fair, equitable, and good for 'people, planet and place'. We recently supported Iron & Earth (www.ironandearth.org) - a worker-led non-profit empowering oil and gas, and Indigenous workers to build a renewable energy economy. We also contracted Reclaim Alberta (www.reclaimalberta.ca) to dig in and explore the just transition space. They are calling on industry to reclaim 450,000 abandoned oil and gas wells, cleaning up their own mess, while employing Albertans as part of the transition away from fossil fuels.

CDF also works collaboratively with other organizations and funders toward shared goals. We are members of the Canadian Environmental Grantmakers Network Low Carbon Funders Group where, together, we support the implementation of the Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change. Specifically, CDF has focused on the communications strategy and building a public narrative in support of fast and deep-reaching action on climate change solutions through targeted grants to Climate Action Network (www.climateactionnetwork.ca). We have also been active in supporting policy-related climate work, through Clean Energy Canada (www.cleanenergycanada.org) – a climate and clean energy think tank working to accelerate Canada's clean energy transition through research, convening, policy leadership and citizen engagement.



HOUSING A Way Home

Officially launched in January 2016, A Way Home is a cross-sectoral national coalition whose members are aligning strategies and resources to affect real change on the issue of youth homelessness. The goal is to shift the focus from simply 'managing' the problem through emergency services, to actually preventing and ending youth homelessness.

The CDF first prioritized youth homelessness as an "upstream" intervention in chronic homelessness in 2012. A Way Home emerged as a stand-alone entity from the coalition-building model that was developed through the Mobilizing Local Capacity to End Youth Homelessness program seeded by the CDF. The second generation of CDF support for the youth homelessness program began in January 2017 with a 5-year commitment of \$1.25 million to A Way Home Canada.

Collective Impact

A Way Home takes a Collective Impact approach, which goes beyond collaboration. Collective Impact involves a group of relevant actors from different sectors working together to address a major challenge by developing and working toward a common goal that fundamentally changes outcomes for a population. Collective Impact utilizes the coalition model to align strategies and resources for maximum impact on youth homelessness and is transforming how all levels of government, the public, and service providers think about and act on this particular issue.

Expected Results

- Evidence-based policies and practices that support the shift to prevention and appropriate models of housing and supports
- Integration of policy and program model learnings into other youth-focused systems of care
- Increased number of communities, regions and provinces/territories are engaged in youth homelessness
- Service providers shift programs and services away from a primary focus on emergency services to models of prevention
- Increase in the research, knowledge, mobilization, policies and practice that prevent and ultimately end youth homelessness

Coalition partners have been key in releasing research papers and policy recommendations in support of the work of A Way Home. Some key reports released during the past two years include: the **State of Homelessness in Canada 2016** research paper by Coalition partners Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness; the **A Way Home: National Housing Strategy Recommendations** which outlines some key recommendations to address the unique needs of homeless youth; and the release of the **National Youth Homelessness Survey**, the first pan-Canadian study of youth who experience homelessness; and **What Would it Take**, a consultative report that asked homeless youth how we could prevent youth homelessness in Canada. A myriad of tools and resources are available for communities across Canada to access in order to plan their own responses to youth homelessness.

For more information about A Way Home visit www.awayhome.ca





HOUSING

A Way Home Funders Table

From the outset, the Catherine Donnelly Foundation was committed to seeking out additional funders to support preventing and ending youth homelessness. We clearly saw this as an initiative that was much bigger than the capacity of one organization (hence the coalition approach) and felt that the same collective response was required on the part of foundations. As a result, the CDF committed to hosting a “Funders’ Table”. In May 2016, we brought together funders that we had been engaging with on an individual basis, to discuss collectively how we as funders could ensure that the goal of ending youth homelessness (within the next ten years) was realized.

The A Way Home Funders Table (AWHFT) is an informal structure that supports the A Way Home national coalition by: 1) actively collaborating in the work, 2) coordinating financial commitments, and to the degree possible, 3) tailoring reporting and administrative demands on the coalition. The AWHFT is co-developing and exploring what we as funders can do together more effectively around this initiative to support the intended outcomes. AWHFT meetings are held 4-6 times per year and are hosted by funder participants. Membership in the AWHFT is open to funders interested in supporting the A Way Home national coalition (financially and/or in-kind).

In the spring of 2017, members of the AWHFT agreed to pool their resources to co-fund a new role (Director of Public Policy & Planning) at A Way Home for two years. With this added capacity, A Way Home has been able to research, write and mobilize policy briefs aimed at informing and shifting government response to youth homelessness at the municipal, provincial and federal levels.

Current AWHFT participants include:

Children’s Aid Foundation of Canada, Graham Boeckh Foundation, Great West Life, Home Depot Foundation Canada, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Laidlaw Foundation, Maytree, PetSmart Canada Foundation, Robert L. Conconi Foundation, Virgin Unite and the Catherine Donnelly Foundation.

**WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO PREVENT,
REDUCE AND ULTIMATELY END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS.**

#AWAYHOME



HOUSING

Housing Professionals Mentorship Program

The withdrawal of federal support for social and affordable housing in the late 1990's resulted in stagnation for a whole generation of social housing developers in Canada. Coming out of a session the CDF convened with leading housing experts, we heard that there is an urgent need to train and mentor the "next generation" of non-profit/social housing professionals. In response to this need, the CDF has contracted the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association to run the Housing Professionals Mentorship Program (in partnership with the Chartered Institute of Housing Canada and Housing Partnership Canada). 2017 marked the first year of the three-year pilot to nurture the next generation of leaders, which saw 27 mentees and 23 mentors from across six provinces and two territories take part. We are excited to see the early results and the program is expanding in its second year to include 45 mentor/mentee matches. Highlights include: one-on-one mentorship pairings, members online website with webinars and resources, learning supports, and in-person leadership and networking events.

www.chra-achru.ca/en/HPMP

Partnerships

Oftentimes opportunities arise to support initiatives that overlap with our three funding areas and merit pooling resources from across our streams. One such instance was the construction of a tiny home by the Wolastoq Grandmothers and Mothers at the proposed Sisson mine and tailings site on Wolastoq territory in New Brunswick. The intervention allowed them to continue to raise awareness about the impact of the mine on the environment and the importance of the land for their community. The CDF funding committees jointly supported this construction as it touched on two of our focus areas – Environment and Housing.



“ THANKS TO THIS PROGRAM I HAVE TAKEN A BIGGER LEAP INTO THE HOUSING SECTOR. ”

Mentee



OUR CURRENT IMPACT INVESTMENTS:

CiCan Essential Skills Social Impact Bond \$101,000

Investor capital is used to fund four College Service Delivery Providers to raise the essential skill levels of unemployed adult Canadians. www.collegesinstitutes.ca

CoPower \$250,000 Investment

CoPower is a leading Canadian clean energy investment platform (includes LED lighting retrofit projects, as well as solar and geoxchange heating/cooling projects).

www.copower.me

Hypertension Social Impact Bond \$150,000

The Community Hypertension Prevention Initiative is a lifestyle-change program to help seniors at risk of developing hypertension adopt healthier habits to lower their blood pressure. www.heartandstroke.ca/chpi

New Commons Development \$400,000 Investment

As a non-profit developer, New Commons is advancing the interests of some of Canada's most marginalized communities by building and protecting community real estate assets, specifically affordable housing.

www.newcommons.ca

SolarShare \$100,000 in SolarShare Bonds

SolarShare is a leading Canadian renewable energy co-op that develops commercial scale solar energy installations.

www.solarbonds.ca

The Atmospheric Fund \$82,500 Investment

This is an investment in energy and resource efficiency retrofits at the Marine Heights co-op housing apartment building in Scarborough, Ontario. www.taf.ca

ZooShare \$100,000 Community Bond

ZooShare is constructing North America's first zoo-based biogas plant - fuel for the plant will come from inedible food waste from a major grocery retailer and animal manure from the zoo. www.zooshare.ca

IMPACT INVESTING

The CDF was an early adopter of one of the most rigorous Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) screens for our investments and we have been engaged in shareholder activism for over ten years. In 2014, we were the one of the first foundations to divest from fossil fuels, motivated by a deep concern for environmental stewardship as well as a strong investment logic.

From 2016-2018 we continued this journey by further exploring how we can use our capital in a way that both aligns with our values and mission, while also promoting social and environmental impacts. Indeed, we have set a goal of having 10% of our assets deployed in impact investments by 2020 and have been intentionally pursuing new opportunities while sharing our learnings with other organizations and foundations.

Our impact investment exploration also saw us investing in two social impact bonds (SIBs). Both SIBs provided access to programs (health & education) intended to improve the circumstances of social service beneficiaries. Although the CDF participated in these investments, it was not without some concerns and questions about the nature of a "pay for success" social service model. As a result, during this past year we supported *The Invisible Heart* documentary because we saw the benefit of examining the pros and cons of SIBs with regard to the CDF, and for any other foundation considering this type of investment. For more information on *The Invisible Heart* check out www.theinvisibleheart.ca

In November 2017, the CDF released a report entitled *Impactful Investment: Capital as a Force for Good: Moving from Theory to Practice*, written by Jason Dudek, Chair of the CDF's Investment Committee. In it, he writes,

“Engaging with our capital, and fully understanding its power, is a matter of ethical integrity for foundations and endowments. For those seeking to make positive change through the proceeds of capital, it is vital we cultivate a deep understanding of how it is actively shaping our increasingly globalized and financialized world.”



Strategic Planning

In 2017, the Catherine Donnelly Foundation undertook a strategic planning process that culminated in the development of a plan that will inform the work of the Foundation over the next five years.

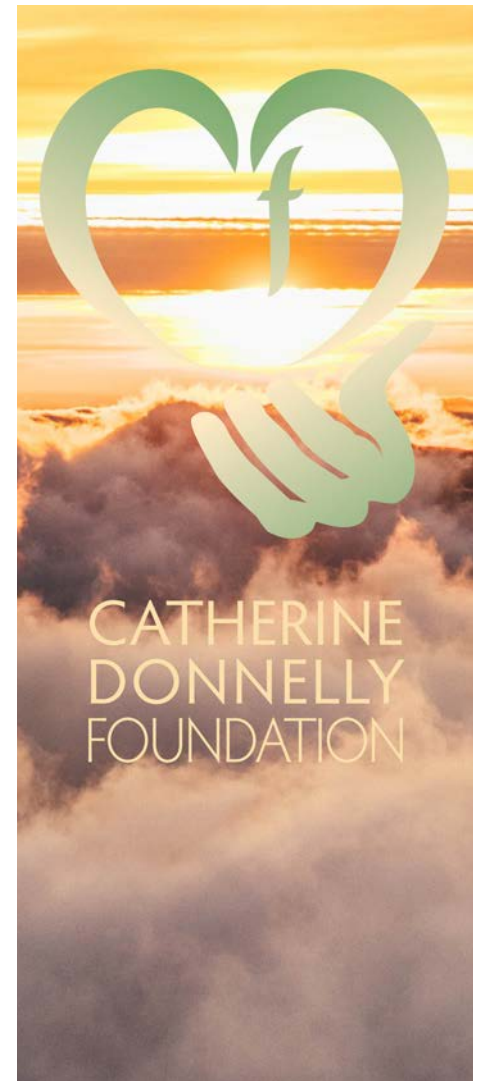
A key priority is integrating an Indigenous-influenced perspective/lens into our work. This is in aid of honouring our commitment to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Recommendations (Calls to Action) and in keeping with our intention to explore the concept and process of decolonizing the CDF's work.

The CDF is also committed to developing a comprehensive plan to fully realize the CDF's commitment of deploying 10% of its capital in impact investments.

On the principle that one can do more together than alone, the CDF is open to building relationships with allies and collaborators within the social and philanthropic sectors. As a result, the Foundation maintains membership or formal affiliations with a number of networks (i.e. Philanthropic Foundations Canada, Canadian Environmental Grantmakers Network, The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada, Responsible Investment Association and SHARE). We also will seek to further our mission by amplifying grantee voices, and sharing our progressive practices to influence the public and philanthropic space.

To achieve these goals, the board has committed to engaging in a board recruitment process that would see, over the next five years a greater representation of the constituencies that the CDF supports on the board.

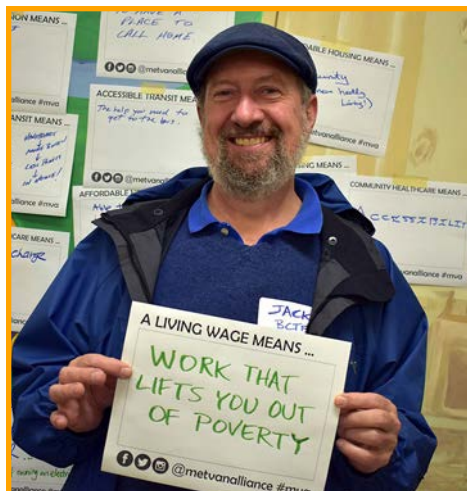
A more diverse board will be supported by a growing staff structure capable of efficiently administering and meeting the strategic objectives of the Foundation, such as impact investment, program development, networking and public relations.





GRANTS AWARDED

The Foundation's one-year project grants offer an opportunity to build relationships with organizations across the country who are on the same social and environmental change journey. From 2016-2017 we provided \$1,402,442 in funding to 62 organizations through our open call for applications. These projects also complement the work of our multi-year program partners. Find out more about the lessons learned from this work on the following pages.



ADULT EDUCATION

The Catherine Donnelly Foundation takes a proactive approach to adult education, viewing it as an important tool to address the most pressing social, environmental, cultural and community development problems and concerns today. We are committed to supporting projects that promote active citizenship, democracy, personal and social transformation by fostering the development of critical consciousness and skills required to promote a more just, equitable and sustainable society in Canada.





ADULT EDUCATION 2016

CANADIAN CHURCHES FORUM

Toronto, ON \$13,000

Funding was provided for the *Leadership Development of Engage Difference Respectfully in Refugee Settlement Support* project, which built relations with historically excluded communities in Canadian churches by developing the leadership capacity of 12 individuals of immigrant and culturally diverse backgrounds. www.ccforum.ca

COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRES CANADA

Toronto, ON \$40,000

Funding was provided for *Community Action Programs* to increase awareness of poverty and food system issues and build the leadership capacity of low-income community members to take effective action on these issues. Community advocates helped their peers navigate community supports. www.cfccanada.ca

CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Fredericton, NB \$12,500

Funding supported Growing Tula's Farm Leaders, a training program for newcomers to assist them in learning about sustainable agricultural practices and the farming sector in Canada. The program focused on developing leadership and interpersonal skills among participants, including demonstrating a commitment to social justice.

www.conservationcouncil.ca

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Montreal, QC \$5,000

Funding was to support the *World Forum on Theology and Liberation* in the context of the World Social Forum in Montreal from August 8-14, 2016, in partnership with Réseau écuménique justice, écologie et paix (ROJEP). www.devp.org

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE

Toronto, ON \$20,000

The *Refugee Women Count* project engaged refugee women and women with precarious immigration status to enhance knowledge and skills, as well as increase the participation of newcomer women in Canadian society. The project had a peer-mentoring component, train-the-trainer methodologies and participants took leadership roles in the program.

www.fcjrefugeecentre.org

INDUSTRIAL AREAS FOUNDATION

Vancouver, BC \$27,500

Funding supported the creation of new and updated training curriculum to foster leadership skills for member organizations of two alliances: the Metro Vancouver Alliance and the Greater Victoria Acting Together. This funding helped to develop greater capacity of civil society groups and enhance issues of diversity and relationship building with Indigenous communities.

www.industrialareasfoundation.org



ADULT EDUCATION 2016

ONTARIO EMPLOYMENT EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTRE

(Justicia for Migrant Workers)

Toronto, ON

\$20,000

The *Migrant Workers Adult Advancement Education and Leadership Development in Southern Ontario* project worked with migrant workers to bring forward their experiences, knowledge, concerns and demands for systemic solutions to the issues they face while living and working in Canada. www.harvestingfreedom.org

ONTARIO EMPLOYMENT EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTRE

(Workers Action Centre)

Toronto, ON

\$37,000

Funding supported a popular education and community organizing process with workers from across Toronto who have experienced precarious employment conditions, wanting to bring forward progressive changes to employment laws in Ontario. Project participants included women and people of immigrant background who have faced workers' rights violations.

www.workersactioncentre.org

RAVEN (Respecting Aboriginal Values & Environmental Needs) Victoria, BC

\$10,000

Funding was provided for the *Legal Education Development* project. This initiative focused on developing an education program that advanced the struggle for recognition of Indigenous rights and titles in the legal system. www.raventrust.com

THEATRE FOR LIVING SOCIETY

Vancouver, BC

\$30,000

Funding supported an arts-based forum theatre interactive performance experience, that brought forward ideas and reflections on the Reconciliation process with Indigenous Peoples. They produced multiple public performances and a live global webcast. www.theatreforliving.com

TOGETHER AGAINST POVERTY

Victoria, BC

\$10,000

This project supported the creation of a *Renters Rights Action Group* for diverse low-income residents of Victoria. A core group of community leaders engaged in visioning exercises to develop the terms of reference and goals of the renter's action group, as well as outreach to residents, engagement in educational presentations, and other activities in a supportive learning environment. www.tapsbc.ca



ADULT EDUCATION 2017



GREENWOOD UNITED CHURCH (Bedford House Community Ministry)

Peterborough, ON \$25,000

Funding supported the **Bridges out of Poverty** framework as part of a city-wide effort to reduce poverty and build relationships across class, faith, and social divides.

www.bedfordhouse.ca

COLLEGE OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatoon, SK \$25,850

The College of Law offers a law program to 25 students in Iqaluit. The funded project involved the 25 students in the program working with the cultural facilitator to identify groups in Iqaluit who have a justice-related question, issue, or concern. The experience shaped the students in the remaining years of their law degree program and in their future professional lives, as well as provided a platform for community members and groups to share their knowledge and take part in shaping the future of the legal system and access to justice in Nunavut. www.law.usask.ca

SOCIAL PLANNING TORONTO (Commitment TO Community)

Toronto, ON \$35,742

Through this project, the Commitment TO Community coalition increased the capacity and influence of marginalized residents from eight Toronto neighbourhoods through a network of resident groups, using a collective process of community visioning, advocacy skills training, and engagement with municipal decision-makers on residents' public policy priorities.

www.commitmentTO.com

COMMUNITYWISE RESOURCE CENTRE

Calgary, AB \$17,200

Funding supported the second phase of Community Wise Resource Centre's **Anti-Racist Organizational Change** (AROC) process. This included the development and facilitation of their Advisory and Working Groups. www.communitywise.net



ADULT EDUCATION 2017

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN'S CENTRE ASSN

Vancouver, BC \$20,000

Funding supported the *Power of Women* project - a social justice collective of women, many of whom are poor, racialized, Indigenous, and/or homeless. www.dewc.ca

LIARD ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S SOCIETY

Watson Lake, YT \$49,500

Funding supported the *Mothers of the Land Gathering* including dialogues on the traditional principals and spirituality of land stewardship, issues of land use and resource extraction on traditional lands, and forums to develop consensus on critical issues and social action strategies. www.liardaboriginalwomen.ca

M'IKMAW NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

Halifax, NS \$28,000

As a follow-up to the project *This Is What I Wish You Knew*, participants created, developed and performed an ethnodrama and public forum examining the real life experiences of Indigenous people in urban centres. www.mymnfc.com

MONTREAL CITY MISSION

Montreal, QC \$20,000

Funding supported the *Women Weaving Their Dreams* program which brings together Syrian and other refugee women through workshops that aim to create a safe space to express their feelings of loss and grief, articulate the challenges in their new context, and their dreams for the future. www.montrealcitymission.org



ADULT EDUCATION 2017

NORTH YORK COMMUNITY HOUSE

Toronto, ON \$30,000

Democracy Talks 2.0 engaged 90 newcomer, immigrant, and racialized low-income residents over 5 months, in a series of experiential adult education workshops and practicum activities aimed to strengthen participants' voices and inspire the possibility of change for themselves and their communities. www.nych.ca

THEATRE FOR LIVING SOCIETY

Vancouver, BC \$26,000

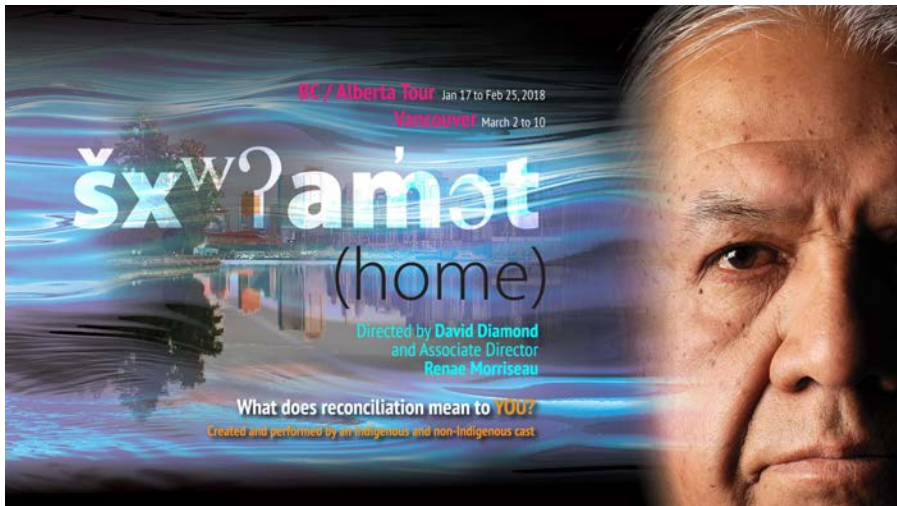
Funding supported a 22-city tour of the production of *šxw?am't (home)* which was created and performed by a mixed Indigenous/non-Indigenous cast. The play was done as Forum Theatre - building to a crisis and then stopping. Performing the play a second time, the audience can stop the action, enter the play, and work towards reconciliation, on the ground, where it really exists. The process was deeply transformative at personal and community levels. www.theatreforliving.com

UNITED CHURCH DOWNTOWN MISSION WINDSOR

Windsor, ON \$18,900

The Downtown Mission's *Peer Leadership and Advocacy Network (PLAN)* is a 10-week program to strengthen the leadership and advocacy capacity of people who experience poverty, homelessness, and/or other forms of oppression and marginalization.

www.downtownmission.com





ENVIRONMENT

In 2016, the Foundation decided to focus our Environment funding on projects that aim to catalyze a significant increase in public support for fast and deep-reaching climate change solutions. Priority is given to broad integrated approaches linking disparate initiatives, enhancing public engagement, and integrating marginalized sectors of the population into climate change dialogues and movements. Of particular interest is a desire to engage with and support Indigenous-led climate justice movements.



ENVIRONMENT 2016

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTMAKERS NETWORK Toronto, ON \$10,000

This grant was awarded to the Canadian Environmental Grantmakers Network as the lead recipient of funding for the Communications to *Advance Canada's Climate Commitment Initiative*. The CDF worked collaboratively with other funders in support of the CEGN's initiative to help secure good climate policy in Canada through an intense and strategic short-term initiative involving analysis, research and implementation of communications activities.

www.cegn.org

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (Clean Energy Canada) Vancouver, BC \$10,000

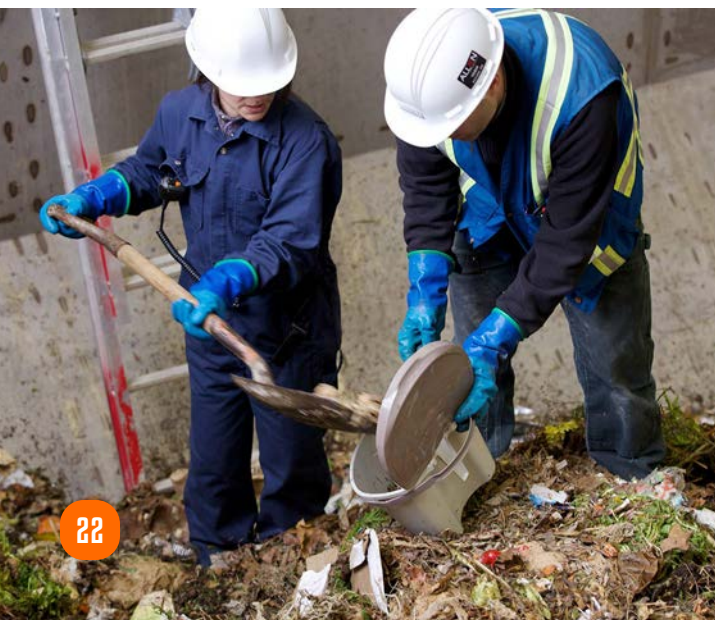
Funding was to support the development of a high ambition policy plan with a focus on electrification as a necessary component of any effective pan-Canadian climate plan, led by Clean Energy Canada (an initiative of the Centre for Dialogue, Simon Fraser University).

www.sfu.ca/dialogue

GREENLEARNING

Drayton Valley, AB \$23,250

The *National Youth Dialogue on Climate Change* project worked with youth from across Canada in a national dialogue process to examine climate change in their communities, engage with government stakeholders, and initiate climate action youth projects. www.greenlearning.ca



ENVIRONMENT 2016

NESKONLITH INDIAN BAND

(Indigenous Network on Economies & Trade)

Chase, BC

\$25,000

In June 2017, members of the Secwepemc nation hosted a Secwepemc/ew Assembly near Clearwater, BC, to take action under Secwepemc rights and title to the land against the proposed expansion of Kinder Morgan's Transmountain Pipeline through their territory. At the conclusion of the assembly, they drafted and approved by consensus the historic Secwepemc Declaration on Protecting Our Land & Water Against the Kinder Morgan Transmountain Pipeline. www.neskonlith.org

POLARIS INSTITUTE (The Leap Manifesto)

Ottawa, ON

\$5,000

CDF entered a contract with the Polaris Institute to respond to the public demand for a national conversation regarding *This Changes Everything* and *The Leap Manifesto Campaign* from May – December 2016. www.polarisinstitute.org

SALAL FOUNDATION (Stand)

Vancouver, BC

\$30,000

Funding for the *#Dear Justin Social Media Campaign* was directed to organizing a communications and social media campaign to push for bolder action on climate change. www.stand.earth



ENVIRONMENT 2017

CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NEW BRUNSWICK (CAN-Rac) Fredericton, NB \$10,000

Funding was to support the Conservation Council of New Brunswick in partnership with the Climate Action Network Canada to launch a *Climate Communications Hub*. This ambitious new communications effort was designed to reach new segments of the Canadian population while providing the Canadian environmental movement with a fresh set of tools and narratives that aim to revitalize their approach to public engagement. www.conservationcouncil.ca

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY (Clean Energy Canada) Vancouver, BC \$40,000

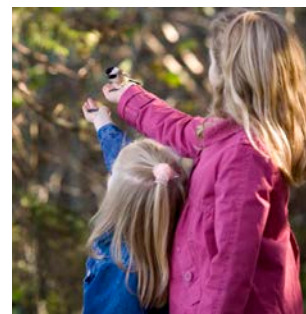
Funding was to support the development and implementation of a program strategy aimed at moving the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change from promises to policies and then to results on the ground, led by Clean Energy Canada (an initiative of the Centre for Dialogue, Simon Fraser University). www.sfu.ca/dialogue

SKEENAWILD CONSERVATION TRUST (Discourse Media) Vancouver, BC \$30,000

Funding supported Discourse Media as they seek to deepen their innovative and investigative reporting on climate change and climate justice in Indigenous communities in BC. www.discoursemedia.org

INSTITUTE FOR NEW ECONOMICS (Dogwood) Victoria, BC \$25,000

The goal of this project was to defeat the Fraser Surrey Docks proposal to transship U.S. thermal coal and prevent further expansion of coal export infrastructure in B.C. through the mobilization of supporters to organize British Columbians in support of a levy on thermal coal trans-shipments. www.dogwoodbc.ca



ENVIRONMENT 2017

EAST COAST ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Halifax, NS

\$5,000

Funding was to support the next steps of a private prosecution case being undertaken by East Coast Environmental Law on behalf of Ms. Brown and the community of Harrietsfield, Nova Scotia who have been living with contaminated water for more than a decade. www.ecelaw.ca

ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE

Halifax, NS

\$24,150

Funding supported the *Climate Jobs Roundtables Initiative*, which engaged marginalized communities around Nova Scotia in conversations about climate jobs. Ecology Action Centre hosted roundtables in four marginalized communities, with an ambassador for each community partnering to organize the roundtable according to each community's unique needs, and building relationships beyond the project. www.ecologyaction.ca

NATIONAL OBSERVER

Vancouver, BC

\$7,500

Funding was to engage the National Observer to produce a yearlong in-depth investigative series entitled First Nations Forward focusing on First Nations rights and title, which are central to land use and decision-making in British Columbia. The series offered a fresh perspective on First Nations leadership in BC's political, legal, and environmental landscape. www.nationalobserver.com

PEMBINA FOUNDATION (Iron & Earth)

Calgary, AB

\$35,000

Iron & Earth aims to conduct the *Solar Skills Campaign* to up-skill 1,000 former oil and gas workers into the solar industry. Funding from CDF is to support the delivery of a training program for 10 selected trainees (representing different demographics). Working with the Louis Bull Tribe, they installed a field mounted solar energy installation in the field of their community K-9 school. www.pembinafoundation.org



ENVIRONMENT 2017

PEMBINA FOUNDATION

Calgary, AB \$24,150

Funding supported the Mikisew Cree First Nation and The Pembina Foundation in a joint initiative to coordinate and strengthen the First Nations and ENGO caucus to ensure toxic tailings in Alberta's oilsands are quickly and effectively removed from the landscape. www.pembinafoundation.org

SIERRA CLUB BC

Victoria, BC \$21,700

Funding supported Sierra Club BC's *Pull Together* campaign to mobilize grassroots community support for First Nations' legal challenges opposing Kinder Morgan's tar sands pipeline and tankers proposal. www.sierraclub.bc.ca

SMALL CHANGE FUND

Toronto, ON \$5,000

Funding was to support the development of the *Transitioning to a New Model of Philanthropy* proposal – a new business model and organization restructuring – whereby Small Change Fund is prepared to transition to a platform to support nonqualified donees and emergent changemakers, especially young Indigenous leaders. www.smallchange.org

SUSTAINABILITY NETWORK

Toronto, ON \$2,500

Funding was to support the Sustainability Network in the development of a cross-cultural understanding of environmental identity and in helping build relationships between ENGO leaders and Indigenous knowledge keepers. sustainabilitynetwork.ca

TIDES CANADA (Shift)

Vancouver, BC \$15,000

Funding supported the project *Action for Pension Wealth & Planet Health* a new initiative bringing together and educating pension fund beneficiaries, influencers and fund leaders to shift investment priorities to minimize climate risks and tap opportunities in a low-carbon economy. www.tidescanada.org/projects/shift/

WWF - CANADA

Toronto, ON \$25,000

Funding supported WWF's *Community Voices* program, in which they co-create an action plan that facilitates Indigenous-led organizations to strategically and effectively participate in regulatory processes through engagement and the provision of pro-bono support from WWF-Canada in the form of legal and technical expertise. www.wwf.ca





HOUSING

In 2016, the Foundation shifted our funding focus away from supporting service delivery in primarily transitional housing settings to supporting projects that address homelessness and the lack of affordable housing through research, policy development, effective and independent communication initiatives, capacity building, and advocacy within the sector. We want to hear from groups engaged in collective efforts to examine and craft solutions for the root causes of Canada's housing crisis.



HOUSING 2016

ATIRA WOMEN'S RESOURCE SOCIETY

Vancouver, BC \$10,000

This *Intergenerational Mentorship* program promotes mentor-peer relations between women from different age groups and generations who live in two housing settings. The mentoring helped increase women's trust, confidence, support networks, and promote knowledge sharing. www.atira.bc.ca

Nelson CARES Society

Nelson, BC \$30,000

Funding supported the implementation of *Ready for Home*, a program that follows a Housing First model of intervention to support a homeless population. www.nelsoncares.ca

New Market Funds Society

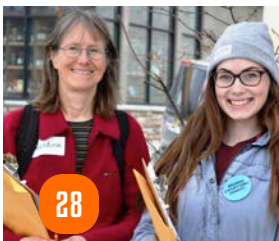
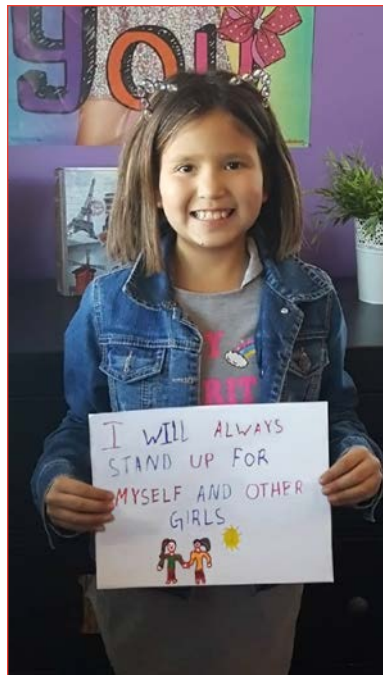
Vancouver, BC \$50,000

The CDF provided a "start-up" grant to New Market Funds Society to help build the equity base for the *New Commons Development* project – an innovative initiative aimed at addressing housing affordability in Canada by reducing the privatization of community-owned assets, revitalizing existing stock, and creating new affordable housing. www.newcommons.ca

PLACE2GIVE (Bishari)

Toronto, ON \$15,000

Funding provided to the *Lowdown Tracks Community Engagement Impact Initiative*. *Lowdown Tracks* - a powerful documentary film that follows the lives of a number of homeless street musicians. The film was used as a community engagement tool to raise awareness of homelessness and the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness 20,000 Homes Campaign. www.lowdowntracks.com





PARTNERS FOR YOUTH

Funding supported the overall operations of **Safe Harbour House**, a transitional shelter and program for youth. This is a 10-bed facility and the only emergency and transitional program available for youth in southern New Brunswick. www.partnersforyouth.ca

HOUSING 2016

Fredericton, BC \$10,000

RAISING THE ROOF

Toronto, ON \$38,000

CDF provided funds to support the **The Upstream Project**. The initiative developed knowledge and resources to support communities and government with planning school-based youth homelessness prevention strategies. www.raisingtheroof.org

SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF SUDBURY

Sudbury, ON \$37,100

This **Indigenous PATH Housing First** project adapted and delivered a culturally-appropriate Housing First Program for 25 Indigenous individuals who were homeless in Sudbury. www.spcsudbury.ca

STELLA BURRY COMMUNITY SERVICES

St. John's, NL \$12,000

Funding was provided to support the **Peer Support Program**. This program builds the capacity of young women with leadership potential to work with residents and participants in Jess's Place, which is a transitional housing program for women in active recovery from addiction. www.stellascircle.ca

COLUMBIA INSTITUTE (The Tyee)

Vancouver, BC \$35,000

Funding was granted to support the **Housing Fix 2016** project - building on the work of reporting on affordable housing issues across Canada. www.thetyee.ca



HOUSING 2017

CANADIAN HOUSING & RENEWAL ASSOCIATION

Ottawa, ON

\$29,500

Funding was to support the development of a research paper that identified and provided details on policy options toward a distinct urban and rural Indigenous housing strategy. The report was discussed and debated by the CHRA Indigenous Caucus and formed the basis of a strong policy submission to the federal government. www.chra-achru.ca

CANADIAN HOUSING & RENEWAL ASSOCIATION

Ottawa, ON

\$180,000 over 3 yrs

The CDF entered a service agreement with the CHRA to conduct the *Housing Professional Mentorship* pilot program from 2017-2020. Early career housing professionals working in the housing and homelessness sector across Canada are matched with mentors and take part in professional development and networking opportunities. www.chra-achru.ca

CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NEW BRUNSWICK (WOLASTOQ GRANDMOTHERS)

Fredericton, NB

\$15,000

This joint Housing and Environment grant was to support the Conservation Council of New Brunswick in partnership with the Wolastoq Grand Council and the Wolastoq Grandmothers & Mothers in the construction of a tiny home to raise awareness and protect the water, forest and land from mining development near Sisson Brook, New Brunswick. www.conservationcouncil.ca

CHOICES FOR YOUTH

St. John's, NL

\$20,900

Funding supported the creation of an expert working group on youth homelessness and the hosting of a conference that together generated a clear understanding of how best to serve at-risk and homeless youth across Newfoundland and Labrador. www.choicesforyouth.ca

ECOTRUST CANADA

Vancouver, BC

\$35,000

Funding supported the first year of the *Tree to Home: Building Cultural Foundations* program to build a new approach to housing with Indigenous communities. It aims to improve the economic, social, cultural and ecological well-being of communities through the development of a community directed and driven housing sector. www.ecotrust.ca

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY MINISTRY SOCIETY

Vancouver, BC

\$15,000

This grant supported the creation of a leadership coalition from providers of housing and shelter on Vancouver's Downtown East Side. Together they developed a systems-based approach to housing precariousness and homelessness, engaged in research regarding innovative approaches to housing and homelessness (including travel to visit vanguard programs in other cities), and engaged in advocacy with the new government in BC. www.firstunited.ca





HOUSING 2017

PARC (Parkdale Neighbourhood Land Trust)

Toronto, ON

\$24,500

In collaboration with Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre (PARC), PNLT aimed to acquire an at-risk rooming house as a demonstration project. PNLT sought to own the property in trust, with PARC as a supportive housing operating partner to ensure long-term affordability. The project created a replicable model and feasibility studies for three additional at-risk or vacant rooming houses. www.pnlt.ca

SOMERSET WEST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Ottawa, ON

\$23,000

Somerset West Community Health Centre has initiated a project to address gentrification in Ottawa's West Centretown with the goal to protect the area's diversity, affordability and inclusivity. www.swchc.on.ca

COLUMBIA INSTITUTE (The Tyee)

Vancouver, BC

\$30,000

This is an independent media/communications project using solutions-focused journalism. It included a focus on emerging urban housing challenges and solutions, with emphasis on national approaches to access and affordability, new models of public housing, and a community engagement event. www.thetyee.ca

VICTORIA COOL AID SOCIETY

Victoria, BC

\$18,000

The Victoria Cool Aid Society, Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness and Vancouver Island Health Authority partnered to create and pilot a culturally-specific approach to Aboriginal homelessness in Greater Victoria, that served to inform leading practice and advance systems-change and lasting solutions to prevent and end homelessness of Indigenous Peoples.

www.coolaid.org

