

pulse



SUMMER 2018



*The Sí:le Fund:
helping parents
find solid footing*

INDIGENOUS WISDOM

Reconciliation in philanthropy

Accessible Recreation

Overcoming barriers for improved quality of life

Adopting a New Mindset

The Adoption and Permanency Fund

Community Knowledge

Research to deepen our understanding

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Accessible Recreation

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Welcome to the latest installment of *Pulse* magazine, bringing you community news and information from the Victoria Foundation.

Our work as a community foundation has evolved considerably from the days of our origin back in 1936. No longer do we simply invest a donor's gift and distribute the returns as grants. While we've held tight to this founding principle, we've become so much more, as we continually add to our knowledge of community needs and opportunities, and then take a leadership role in pushing for proactive improvements.

This issue's feature article takes a look at Indigenous wisdom, reflecting on a few of the many ways the Victoria Foundation is bridging the work of reconciliation and philanthropy. We also explore how we're using research, measurement techniques, and a global framework for sustainable development to strengthen our understanding and effectiveness.

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find stories on everything from community leadership and grants for adoption and permanency, to inspirational donors and the professional advisors who help bring their philanthropic dreams into reality.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Pulse* and maybe share what you've learned or apply it to your own community engagement. Our vision is a vibrant, caring community for all, and we welcome everyone's participation in bringing it to life.

Sandra Richardson,
Chief Executive Officer



GREGG ELLIOTT

With an estimated 14,200 people who identify as Aboriginal, Greater Victoria is home to a rich diversity of Indigenous peoples and cultures. We would like to acknowledge that the Victoria Foundation's office is located on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen people, as represented by the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.



Professor Nigel Livingston (left) of UVic's School of Public Health and Social Policy and Ph.D student Tunai Porto working on James, a robot being built at UVic to assist quadriplegic individuals.

COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE AS A COMPASS

THE VICTORIA FOUNDATION IS PLOTTING A COURSE TOWARDS A VIBRANT, CARING COMMUNITY FOR ALL — AND USING DATA TO GET US THERE.

As a powerful catalyst of change in our community, the Victoria Foundation understands the importance of knowing where the needs are so they can be best addressed through our work and the work of our partner organizations.

That's why, for the past 12 years, the Victoria Foundation has published *Victoria's Vital Signs*® — our annual check-up on the Capital Region's well-being. *Vital Signs* helps us gather knowledge about our community's needs, measures the region's vitality, and identifies areas of concern. The key areas we look at include housing, transportation, health and wellness, settling in as a newcomer, belonging and engagement, and arts and culture, among others. Through the information we glean via *Vital Signs*, the Victoria Foundation is better able to determine areas in need of support, and then effect change through community initiatives and the monies we grant.

New for 2018, we've also created a way for our supporters to learn more about the agencies with which we partner. Vital Charities is our online portal connecting you with profiles and information about the local organizations we support. This interactive tool includes profiles of hundreds of local organizations addressing the needs identified in *Vital Signs*. Searchable by any keyword or combination thereof, Vital Charities makes it easier than ever to find a charity that's in alignment with your personal passions.

More recently, we have been taking a broader view, too, by aligning our work with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to drive the changes in our community that reflect our collective path toward global

betterment. Launched in 2015 as an agreement between 193 countries that represents “the world's collective vision for a thriving and sustainable planet,” the SDGs work as guiding beacons for the Victoria Foundation, too. “If you look at the issues that are global in perspective, there is a natural framework already set for us,” says Victoria Foundation CEO Sandra Richardson.

It's an exciting time of collaboration and shared commitment to the common good.

Research Deepens our Understanding

In our quest to identify and address the region's needs, the Victoria Foundation partners with other organizations to conduct original research, as this is one way to deepen our understanding of the issues identified in *Vital Signs*.

One project this year saw the Foundation partnering with the University of Victoria to examine how Victoria residents with disabilities navigate the challenges of everyday life, and how they connect to the supports and services available to them. Some key findings from School of Public Health and Social Policy Professor Nigel Livingston's work show a common theme among the approximately 200 agencies in our region that provide support to people with disabilities: most of them are pressured by increasing costs (e.g. rising rents) and increasing demand on their services. “So that's a challenge that we as a city have to face,” Livingston says.

From the perspective of people with disabilities and their families, the research points to gaps in knowledge regarding what supports are available and frustrations with navigating an inefficient system involving



“There has been a call for the centralization of support services.”

NIGEL LIVINGSTON

government and multiple agencies. “There has been a call for the centralization of support services,” Livingston says.

Other barriers for people with disabilities include a lack of opportunities to participate meaningfully in society, accessibility in the workplace, and ableism that shows up in people's tendency to focus on an individual's disability instead of their ability. A public conversation as part of this year's IdeaFest shared preliminary findings of this research, discussed the issues underscored in the research, and began identifying solutions.

We are also working with UVic to look at the economic and social impact of the charitable sector as a whole.

The research takes the form of a survey distributed to about 800 of the approximately 1,100 non-profit organizations of all sizes and compositions across Greater Victoria's 13 municipalities. The survey gathers data on the social impact of the sector from both local and global

perspectives. “We wanted to look at social impact using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a framework,” says UVic Associate Professor Crystal Tremblay.

Organizations were asked to identify the impact of their activities at each of the individual, community, and system levels.

“There are about three or four of the goals we’re doing really strongly in,” observes Tremblay, with SDG #3 — good health and well-being — being the most commonly cited. “This research will play a strong role in advocating for the charitable sector, demonstrating the significant role it plays in these areas.”

While the findings are preliminary at press time, we already suspect the sector’s influence is huge: “If you unplugged the charities and the volunteers, what is the economic impact of that?” Richardson asks.

Monitoring Progress on Community Change

The Victoria Foundation is supporting a number of large cross-sector collaborations aimed at addressing the root causes of issues raised in *Vital Signs*, such as homelessness, low literacy levels, and food insecurity. One of the questions that arises in this work is: how do we know if we are making progress towards our long-term goals? Through supporting evaluation and monitoring efforts as part of these collaboratives, we seek to help build community knowledge about what is and isn’t working.

For example, with food security being one of the Foundation’s strategic priorities and the focus of the 400 members of the Good Food Network, we are looking to develop a clear way to monitor and measure change in our regional food system over time.

The Victoria Foundation is working with the Good Food Network, Capital Region Food and Agricultural Initiatives Roundtable (CRFAIR), Island Health, and other community food leaders as part of a Food Metrics working group to develop indicators to align with the Good Food Strategy — a living document that identifies aspirational goals and targets for the region’s food system.

Metrics will be identified for the Good Food Strategy’s three targets for food access, food literacy, and the food economy. “These targets are for 2025,” explains Carol Hall, Director of Community Initiatives and Grants at the Victoria Foundation. “So for food access, for example, the goal is to see a 25 per cent drop in the number of households reporting food insecurity, from 14 per cent of households in 2012 to 10 per cent.”

Measuring progress will help us learn which initiatives are having the greatest impact in creating a food-secure region.

“What we’re finding is often there is no data being captured for what we really want to measure,” says Hall. “One of our desires through this work is to highlight the data gaps. We want to see how collectively this work is contributing to a sustainable food system and to food security for all.”

Aligning Our Local and Global Efforts

Our region’s toughest issues echo those found in other parts of the world. The 2017 *Vital Signs* report directly linked the 17 UN SDGs to the work that the Victoria Foundation funds.

“Many of our donors want to give locally, nationally, and internationally,” Richardson says. “Aligning our work with the SDGs really supports some of these bigger issues, whether around water, poverty, or education.”

Working in concert with government, charities, and non-profit organizations, as well as Canada’s nearly 200 other community foundations, the Victoria Foundation is proud to help build community knowledge to drive human and environmental betterment here at home and on a provincial, national, and global scale.

CRFAIR’s Linda Geggie (right) reviews plans for the former Sandown Raceway property, where 87 acres will be divided into small plots for farming.





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THE LEGACY OF STELLY'S VITAL YOUTH: Revisiting Past Initiatives



Members of the Stelly's Vital Signs Youth group: teacher Jeffrey Bishop with Emma Walsh, Kitana Sivananthan, and Jeremy Burton.

JEFFREY BOSDET

Fifteen years ago, the Victoria Foundation created an opportunity for high school students to make significant decisions around how philanthropic funds should be spent. The Vital Youth program allocates high school committees \$2,500 per school year to direct towards local federally registered charities as they see fit, while responding to the needs of their community. Using *Victoria's Vital Signs*® as a tool, these student groups read about critical issues in their community, then research potential charities online and through site visits before deciding as a group where they'll allocate their grant funds. In 2017/2018, nine high schools in the Capital Region participated in Vital Youth. Some schools, including Belmont Secondary, Oak Bay High, and Vic High, have been with the program since its inception in 2003.

Since joining the Vital Youth program in 2010, the Stelly's Secondary Vital Youth group has granted \$17,500 to nine organizations. Because the Saanich Peninsula Community Foundation also supports the program — and has for a number of years — the Stelly's group tries to support organizations working on the Saanich Peninsula. "Somehow it has to come back to this community," says Stelly's teacher Jeffrey Bishop. "The challenge for us is to find programs that are specific to Central Saanich."

Last year, the group worked with Beacon Community Services to introduce a music program for patients with dementia. Called Music to Memories, the Vital Youth grant purchased 20 iPods and 20 headsets to enable patients to listen to music from their past. As per the students' request, the program directed the remaining money towards purchasing iTunes cards so family and friends could choose music that would resonate with the patients. "There are similar programs across North America

where they see patients come alive and suddenly, they're 'there' because the music just taps into something solid," says Bishop.

The Stelly's Vital Youth group has also given to the Habitat Acquisition Trust to support restoration work in nearby Oak Haven Park, purchasing shovels and equipment and covering several days' worth of \$500-a-day invasive-species management. Over the years, the Stelly's group has also funded initiatives such as the Sidney Lions Food Bank, Creating Homefulness Society, Power of Hope, Victoria Therapeutic Riding Association, Peninsula Streams Society, and Crisis Intervention and Public Information Society (NEED2). "It really satisfies that desire to help and be a significant contributor to their own community," says Bishop.

For 2017/18, instead of forging ahead and covering new ground, the group decided to loop back to the agencies it has funded in years prior. "This year, as we wondered whether to help teens or the environment or the food bank, we started thinking about last year's fund recipients and wondered whether they needed replacement headsets," says Bishop. "We wanted to keep the program going. And then the kids thought: 'What about all those other programs that go back six years?'"

The decision to revisit organizations funded by the Stelly's Vital Youth group in the past came down last October, says Bishop. "As soon as they said it aloud, it was like a light bulb for everybody."

From there, the students were tasked with tracking down the organizations and initiatives previously funded in order to assess how the initial donations helped and to determine which would be good candidates for a new injection of funds. "It was something they started, and they stuck with it," says Bishop. "Rather than look for a new thing to go out and do, they looked to the past to make sure the places

"RATHER THAN LOOK FOR A NEW THING TO GO OUT AND DO, THEY LOOKED TO THE PAST TO MAKE SURE THE PLACES THEY'D HELPED WERE STILL WORKING."

they'd helped were still working." While it was tricky at times to locate all the past initiatives and their organizers, the students managed to close the loop on most of them and make a decision about what to do with this year's grant.

The group decided to divide this year's \$2,500 between two initiatives: the Music to Memories program they had created with Beacon Community Services last year; and the Growing Young Farmers Society, which, in 2014, had received funds to create and sustain food-growing gardens. This year, Music to Memories will be able to purchase more headsets and iTunes cards; funds will also cover some person-hours for loading the music onto the iPods. The Growing Young Farmers Society will receive funds to help them establish a new program for Grade 6 students at Bayside Middle School to connect with local farmers so they can learn about food chains and local growing.

While Bishop acknowledges his role as the teacher sponsor for the Stelly's group, he says it's wholly driven by the students. "Generally the kids get an idea, start making calls, and then run with it," he says. "They come back as a group and say, 'Hey, I think this' or 'I'm passionate about this; what do the rest of you think?'" Bishop has been with his current core team for three years, with students having joined in Grade 9.

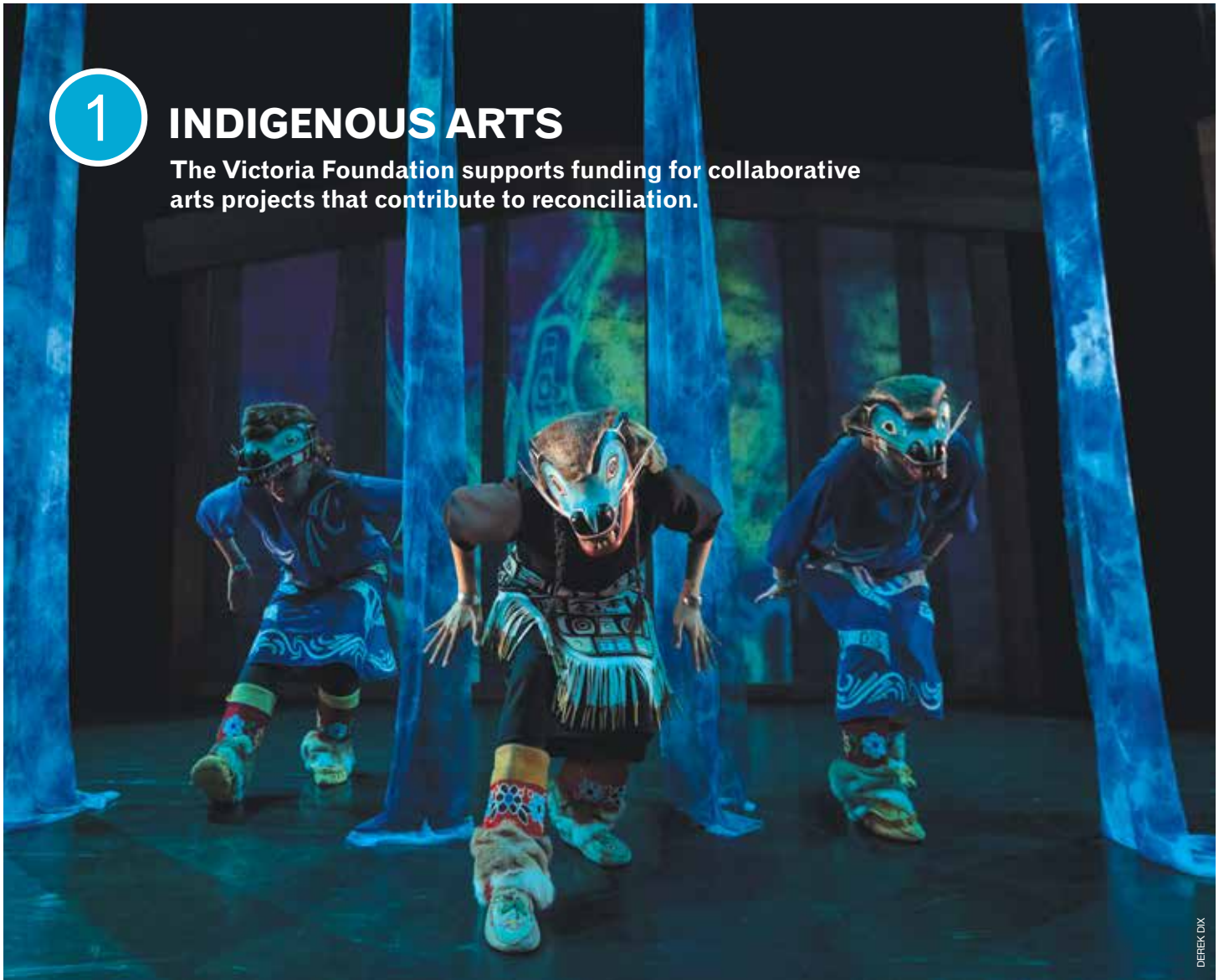
"Vital Youth is certainly giving the students a greater appreciation of the impact of even a small amount of money," says Bishop. "When you think about the impact it can have at a local level in your community, it's really nice for the kids to see how much you can do with a little."

"VITAL YOUTH IS CERTAINLY GIVING THE STUDENTS A GREATER APPRECIATION OF THE IMPACT OF EVEN A SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY."

1

INDIGENOUS ARTS

The Victoria Foundation supports funding for collaborative arts projects that contribute to reconciliation.



As Canadians from coast to coast to coast undertake the calls to action from Justice Sinclair's Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, community organizations have recognized and stepped into their role in reconciliation. Call to Action #83 asks the Canada Council for the Arts to prioritize funding for Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists to produce works and collaborate on projects that contribute to reconciliation. In the 2017 applications for Community Grants, there was an uptick in organizations wanting to create space for Indigenous arts practices and knowledge, ranging from performances

by Indigenous artists to organizational shifts to include Indigenous staff advisors.

As one of Victoria's most established cultural institutions, the Belfry Theatre has developed a framework to support paid positions for emerging Indigenous artists, as well as those who are interested in working in the arts or in arts administration. Inspired by a partnership with Full Circle: First Nations Performance that saw Indigenous artists working with Indigenous companies to build their skill sets and advance their careers in the arts, the Belfry asked whether there would be value in doing the same at their organization. Interested individuals have the opportunity to join the Belfry

Theatre as paid associates, where they will receive mentorship in their area of interest.

And the learning is a two-way street: "From the Belfry's perspective, what is important is that there be an actual exchange of experience and knowledge," says Executive Director Ivan Habel. "That we would gain insights and a closer relationship with the Indigenous community, both locally and nationally, in understanding better how they want to approach telling their stories, and how we can be part of that process."

A \$40,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation allowed the Belfry to post a position for a cultural advisor to provide

Opposite: Jeanette Kotowich (left), Margaret Grenier, and Raven Grenier perform Dancers of the Damelahamid's production of *Flicker*.
Right: The West Shore Indigenous People's Day is a celebration of arts and culture for all ages.

support to Indigenous artists working with the theatre, as well as to the theatre itself. "This support from the Victoria Foundation has provided us with the opportunity to start up a program that we want to ensure is an ongoing part of our core operations here," says Habel.

Other community organizations are engaging Indigenous artists to open conversations about reconciliation and to broaden our understanding of Canada's history. An \$11,000 grant to Dance Victoria enabled the organization to host outreach workshops around the January performance of West Vancouver-based Indigenous dance company Dancers of Damelahamid (DoD). As part of Dance Victoria's 10-day festival, the sold-out DoD performance at the McPherson Playhouse, *By Invitation Only: Dance, Confederation, and Reconciliation*, was bookended by pre- and post-show talks by experts about how women and Indigenous peoples were left out of and maligned by Confederation. Patrons listened to Troy Emery Twigg of Blackfoot ancestry speak about how the culturally significant potlatch tradition was banned shortly after Confederation — yet how, whenever royalty came visiting, First Nations would be exhorted to dance for these VIP audiences.

A workshop the following day by Margaret Grenier, DoD's Gitksan choreographer, shared with participants the sacred nature of her people's stories and the work her parents, Margaret and Ken Harris, did to bring back traditional dancing and singing after the potlatch ban was lifted.

"The Victoria Foundation grant enabled us to enhance the value of this offering," says Dance Victoria Executive Producer Steven White. "We were able to offer doorways into the evening and the next day that made the experience richer and deeper for the general audience."



M'AKOLA GROUP

Another organization working to celebrate Indigenous culture is M'akola Housing Society. Through the West Shore Indigenous People's Day (formerly the West Shore Aboriginal Festival), now in its fourth year, M'akola Housing Society brings together artists, entertainers, service agencies, local leaders, school-aged children, and the general public for a celebration of Indigenous culture. This year, a \$7,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation will help the Society host the event in partnership with seven other agencies serving Indigenous people in the Capital Region. Open to everyone, the day offers an informal platform for reconciliation, "where people can show up and get to know other people," says Charla Huber, M'akola Housing Society Communications and Indigenous Relations Specialist.

M'akola CEO Kevin Albers agrees, noting the event helps to break down barriers and misconceptions. "It allows people to feel equal and feel like you're just there as a community member, enjoying what the community has to offer," he says.

From drumming, singing, and art to sports events, Indigenous teachings, and information tables hosted by agencies

serving the West Shore, the celebration has more than doubled in size every year.

And it's all offered free of charge, thanks to grants from the Victoria Foundation and other local agencies.

"When we started organizing this, we decided this was going to be a celebration, and generally, celebrations you're not going to charge for," says Huber. "So we appreciate people willing to offer us grants to put this on, because it means that anyone who comes can just participate."

A number of projects funded by the Victoria Foundation through the Community Fund for Canada's 150th also supported and celebrated Indigenous arts. The Pacific Centre Family Services Association received funding for Indigenous art in their new Centre for Wellbeing, and the Canadian Heritage Arts Society (Canadian College of Performing Arts) received support for an Emily Carr project. Grants also funded community engagement for Pacific Opera Victoria's performance of *Missing* and a welcoming pole in Tod Inlet, a SeaChange Marine Conservation Society project, carved by Tsartlip elder and master carver Charles Elliott (Temosen).

2

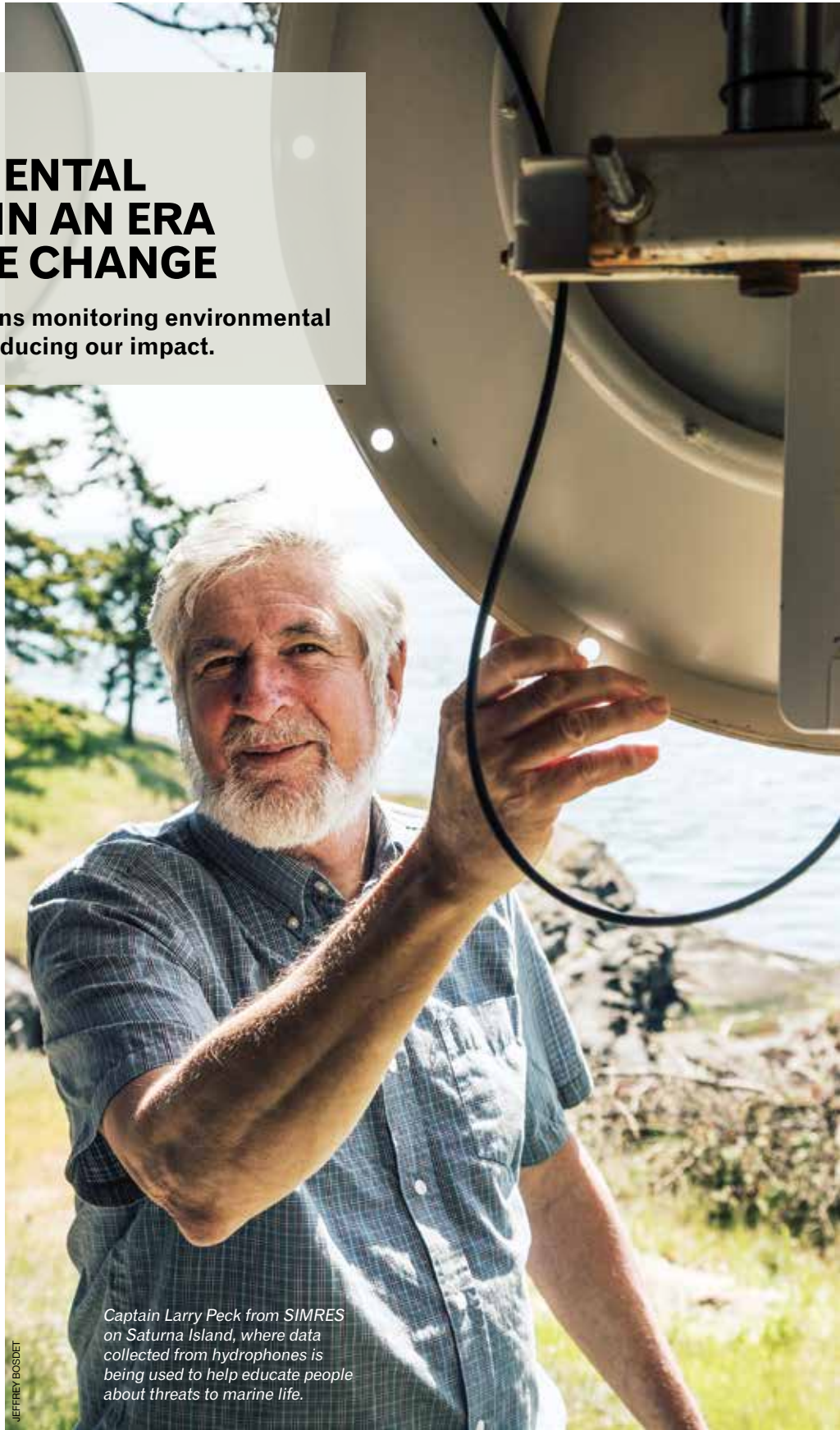
SUPPORTING LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN AN ERA OF RAPID CLIMATE CHANGE

Adapting to a shifting climate means monitoring environmental health, educating our youth, and reducing our impact.

We're fortunate in the Capital Region to be surrounded by an awe-inspiring natural environment. But we're also collectively concerned about our impact on the natural world that sustains us. Several Victoria Foundation grants this year relate to monitoring the environment's health and functioning, as well as supporting opportunities for residents to learn about reducing our impact and adapting to a shifting climate.

Rocky Point Bird Observatory received support to continue monitoring passerine (songbird) populations, as bird data accurately reflects the health of our natural environment. A grant of \$25,000 helps a swarm of seasonal volunteer birders monitor mist nets daily from July to October, removing birds, checking their health, then measuring and banding them before releasing them. "The funding allows us to hire a federally licensed bander to ensure bird safety, data integrity, and the training of volunteers," says board member Ann Nightingale.

Monitoring is also taking place under water. After a few years of gathering data from their hydrophones in Boundary Pass, researchers with the Saturna Island Marine Research and Education Society (SIMRES) realized their data was valuable for more than just monitoring marine mammal activity. "Over the last four to five years, there's been a real awakening in



Captain Larry Peck from SIMRES on Saturna Island, where data collected from hydrophones is being used to help educate people about threats to marine life.

JEFFREY BOSDET

terms of vessel noise,” says Postdoctoral Fellow Lauren McWhinnie, who serves as scientific director for the SIMRES Salish Sea Acoustic Monitoring and Educational Outreach Project. The monitored area is a high-traffic shipping lane, pointing to the need for greater awareness of the impact of human activity on marine life. A \$15,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation is helping the group spread the word.

“The Victoria Foundation grant has allowed us to begin disseminating our findings and provide the wider general public with information about these whales and the threats they are facing, particularly from vessel noise.” McWhinnie and her colleagues travel around the island, speaking at schools, festivals, and outreach events, sharing infographics and activity books, painting faces, and screening a short video to educate people about how to help spread the word.

Other organizations in the region are dedicated to ensuring our young people understand the importance of environmental protection. The SeaChange Marine Conservation Society received \$15,000 to support further development of its Blue Grouse Open Classroom program. With these funds, visiting students from School Districts 61, 63, and ŁÁU, WELNEW Tribal School (WŚÁNEĆ School Board) can explore Tod Inlet from right on top of the water. Children explore the ethnobotany of Tod Inlet by canoe and under microscope and learn about restoration in the area. A new program component includes an Indigenous telling of the first person who arrived at the inlet, and uses iPads as a fun way for children to learn SENĆOFEN. “Always, the intent is to have the children fall in love with the forest and the water,” says SeaChange Executive Director Nikki Wright.

In order to support environmental education in the classroom, the Sierra Club of BC is taking a train-the-trainer approach to mentoring local teachers in offering more nature-based learning in their classes. Supported by a \$15,000 grant, the program

gathers interested teachers into monthly meetings with guest speakers and activities to create a community of practice.

“The overall goal is to give teachers the confidence, knowledge, and tools to take their students outside more often for hands-on, nature-based learning opportunities,” says James Davis, Sierra Club education program manager.

The grant also makes it possible to offer teachers relief through Teachers on Call in order to attend special half-day environmental education workshops to extend their practice.

The Victoria Foundation was involved in another initiative last year that focussed on climate change and environmental education. Last summer, we helped the Students on Ice Foundation bring youth from around the world to the Arctic to learn about the importance of the polar regions and the effects of climate change. During the expedition, these high-school and university students engaged in life-changing learning experiences guided by elders, scientists, historians, and artists.

“From the retreat of glaciers to reductions in sea ice, the effects of climate change in the Arctic are clear,” said Victoria Foundation Community Initiatives Specialist Jayna Brulotte. “The implications of these effects are widespread and include changes in migratory and feeding patterns of an array of animals, rising sea levels, and a high likelihood of increased shipping traffic through northern passages.”

For the students and staff who participated, the expedition was the beginning of the journey not the end.

“It was a jumping off point to making a difference in our communities and in the world more broadly to take action on climate change and other issues, including reconciliation,” says Brulotte.

Taking action in the face of climate change means, in part, getting more of us to take responsibility for growing our own food. The Galiano Conservancy Association’s Food for the Future Project teaches people how to build their own



Thanks to a grant from the Victoria Foundation, the Galiano Conservancy Association’s Food for the Future Project is building an irrigation system to help improve their food security.

forest gardens, identify native plants, and prepare homegrown food. A \$25,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation is helping to build an irrigation system, a propagation chamber to grow native plants, and cedar trays — not plastic — for delivering produce to local markets and restaurants.

A little farther south, the Pender Island Recreation and Agricultural Hall Association has similarly focussed on food and food growing as a way to build resilience. “Because delivering food to Pender is so costly, the more people can grow for themselves, the better,” says Executive Director (and renowned artist) Mae Moore.

With a \$10,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation, the association has partnered with Heartwood Folk School Society to deliver classes in beekeeping, planting winter gardens, creating food forests, pruning and grafting, as well as clean energy for island homes. The grant also covers part of Pender’s eco-home tour as well as honoraria to presenters who come to share their teachings. “This is the first year we’ve applied for a grant and we’re so thrilled to get it,” says Moore.

3

ACCESSIBLE RECREATION FOR IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE

Victoria Foundation grants help make recreation more accessible to everyone by supporting programs to reduce barriers.

Hoopfest, Victoria wheelchair sports, is one of the programs supported through OneAbility.

Our 2017 *Victoria's Vital Signs*® report revealed the hard fact that equal access to recreation opportunities isn't always a reality. Whether financial, physical, cognitive, or cultural, there are still myriad barriers facing some groups of people in the Capital Region. In an effort to overcome those barriers, Victoria Foundation grants contribute to agencies and initiatives designed to make recreation more accessible to everyone.

One particularly impactful initiative is OneAbility, a collaborative alliance involving more than 30 community partners who are working together to improve access and inclusion to physical activities and sport for people with disabilities. Representatives from each partner group come together around common issues to share their knowledge and organize and deploy resources and expertise efficiently. Thanks to a \$50,000 grant, OneAbility is able to strengthen its programs as well as assess and share best practices between organizations and communities. The grant has also made possible a new community resource guide and OneAbility ProMotion public education week to increase public awareness of programs.

To address the persistent barrier of a lack of information about current programs, OneAbility Coordinator of Services Amie Renaud says, "We're undertaking research that looks at all programs OneAbility members are offering in the community and working on a way we can make that information more accessible in a user-friendly manner."

Not all barriers are of the physical variety. To reduce cultural barriers to full participation in Canadian life, the City of Victoria has arranged for women with cultural sensitivity requirements, including Muslim women, to have a dedicated swimming time at Crystal Pool. "Because the women can't swim when men are present in the building, we can't do it during our usual operating hours," explains

Kelly Graham, Aquatic Coordinator for City of Victoria Parks and Recreation. To cover costs for the extra staffing needed, the Victoria Foundation provided a \$14,104 grant. "Those women cannot participate otherwise," adds Graham. "And it doesn't feel right that the cost of access should be higher for them."

The City of Victoria also recognizes that parents of children with cognitive differences face barriers to inclusion when their child's behaviour warrants 1:1 staff time — and that means a much higher pricetag.

"We know parents of children with disabilities have so many financial commitments

to support their child," says Graham. "When we talk about the costs of speech and language pathology and occupational therapy, recreation often comes in last. They just don't

have the money anymore to do those private lessons. So we try to subsidize the cost of our program for kids with disabilities, so those parents are paying the same as the parents of a neuro-typical child."

Finances can be another barrier when accessing sports and recreation. KidSport Victoria is well into its 18th year of helping to connect children across the Capital Region with organized sport — an activity often too expensive for parents of limited means. KidSport received a \$25,000 community grant from the Victoria Foundation this year to help serve the growing demand; on average, KidSport sees a 15 per cent increase in requests for support every year. "Victoria is expensive to live in," says Executive Director Jill Shaw. "Despite the reputation for people having high income here, there are a lot

of low-income families here, too, who are struggling to pay for groceries and rent, let alone organized sport."

Working with 43 other community organizations and schools, the Society for Kids at Tennis provides free tennis lessons to school-aged children every year. A \$15,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation helps to pay for certified instructor fees, as well as equipment like racquets, balls, nets, and teaching aids. The lessons are offered to children who are selected by the society's partner organizations and are inclusive of kids with autism, Down syndrome, or who come from families struggling to pay for



extracurricular sport. Now, in its fourth year and covering the region from Sooke to Sidney, it's bigger than founder Sy Silverberg ever thought it would be.

"I'm retired and I was looking for something to do to give back to the community," says Silverberg. "It was my wife's idea. We were looking at volunteering and all sorts of things, and she said, 'You love tennis so much — isn't there something you can do with tennis?'"

Four years and 8,000 kids later, Silverberg is expanding the program both geographically and operationally: "I'm in the midst of discussions with the BC Wheelchair Sports Association," he says. "We're looking at putting together a training workshop for our instructors and our volunteers to teach them how to work with kids in wheelchairs."

In 2017, the Victoria Foundation approved a record high \$2,294,724 in annual Community Grants to 104 non-profit organizations on Vancouver Island.



Sooke Philharmonic Orchestra: 20th Anniversary Music Program

The 2017-2018 season marks the 20th anniversary of the **Sooke Philharmonic Society**. This community orchestra of 60 musicians and a 40-voice chorus has a long-standing presence in Sooke and the West Shore. A \$15,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation will support the music program, including eight to 10 concerts annually, with over 70 rehearsal sessions throughout the year. Funding will also support the Sooke Harbour Chamber Music Workshop Program, in which participants study chamber music and receive coaching by internationally known musicians.

TSARTLIP FIRST NATION COMMUNITY AND FAMILY GARDEN PROGRAM

In partnership with the **Victoria Community Food Hub Society**, Tsartlip First Nation is improving food security in the community. The Family Garden program provides support for 60 Tsartlip households to build backyard gardens and grow a variety of fruits and vegetables. The Teaching Garden program involves children and parents who attend the infant-toddler and after-school programs, and programming includes traditional plants as food and medicine. The purpose of both programs is to build knowledge of and give access to healthy food. A \$25,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation will support the purchase of a tractor to maintain and expand these programs.



You're Not Alone: Access to Community-Based Counselling Support

This community-based mental health and addiction program provides supportive counselling to 350 adults annually. The program is rooted in accessibility, especially in at-risk and low-income

communities. Forty trained volunteer counsellors respond compassionately to the full person, listening, advocating, and following up with each individual client. A \$36,500 grant from the Victoria Foundation

will allow the **Esquimalt Neighbourhood House Society** to continue this low-barrier program free of charge, including after-hours availability, matching, and client referrals.

Book Clubs for Inmates and the Victoria Writers Initiative

Federally incarcerated inmates comprise one of the most under-served populations in terms of education and learning opportunities. A \$10,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation will support monthly book clubs at William Head Institution through **Book Clubs for Inmates Inc./Circles de livres pour detenues Inc.** Programming will be expanded to include six to eight writing workshops for a group of 20 inmates, facilitated by local writers in partnership with the Federation of BC Writers. Through writing prompts and exercises, writers will help inmates develop language tools, boost their self-esteem and confidence in learning, and build a community around writing and creative self-expression. The workshops will enhance inmates' communication skills, ultimately helping them develop life skills necessary for successful community reintegration.



Galiano Community Daycare Pilot Program and Evaluation

Galiano Activity Centre Society offers programming for children and adults on Galiano Island. A grant of \$15,000 from the Victoria Foundation will support this organization to pilot and evaluate Galiano Island's first licensed daycare. An Early Childhood Educator will provide play-based care with a focus on outdoor experiences and creative exploration. This service will improve the lives of young families by reducing their stress, increasing family together time, and improving their economic prospects, thus enabling more families to remain living on Galiano Island.



Culturally Informed Care Training for Caregivers Parenting Traumatized Children

The Regional Caregiver Service Providers Network has identified as a top priority trauma-informed practice integrated with Indigenous modalities of healing. With a \$15,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation, **Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services Society** will support caregiver-training programs to address the daily challenges of parenting a child living with complex trauma. These programs will build caregiver capacity to help children and youth reduce symptoms of stress, enhance emotional and behavioural regulation, and foster cultural identity and attachment in a culturally appropriate manner. In addition, participants will learn cultural sensitivity and cultural safety in parenting survivors of intergenerational trauma. Reduced symptoms of traumatic stress will improve the outcomes for children and families.

ONCE UPON AN ISLAND: BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH STORYTELLING

To address growing concerns about seniors' isolation, this project will unite the Pender Island community through intergenerational engagement in seniors' storytelling. A grant of \$15,000 from the Victoria Foundation will allow **Ptarmigan Music and Theatre Society** to coordinate a series of inclusive gatherings with community partners, where seniors' stories are told through song, music, and



spoken word; a night of storytelling on stage; stories filmed and shared online; and a series of senior-led community storytelling workshops for all ages. The project

aims to empower seniors to share their life experiences, thereby creating intergenerational friendships, social connection, and a lasting sense of identity and meaning.

The Shift: From Care to Career

With a \$15,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation, the **Construction Foundation of BC Society** is helping youth in care and transitioning out of care to become employable in the construction industry. Achieving a driver's license and completing safety certificates are the most important steps they can take to become more employable. This grant will support fees related to licensing and certification, enabling more youth to be mobile, attain employment, and be safe on the job.

Vancouver Island AIDS Society:

SOLID Peer Navigation and Support Project

Many people with substance-use issues who experience poverty and homelessness are unable to access health and social services. Supported by a \$15,000 grant from the Victoria Foundation, **Vancouver Island AIDS Society** will partner with the Society of Living Illicit Drug Users (SOLID) to develop and pilot peer navigation and support services for people with problematic substance-use issues who are either experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The project will offer training to peers with lived experience and provide supports such as accompaniment to appointments, navigation of social and non-profit services, advocacy, and capacity-building. Project benefits for participants include increased access to services, enhanced individual self-determination, and improved health and well-being.



NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL GRANTS

A SIMPLE BUT POWERFUL IDEA TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES

When people feel connected to their neighbourhoods, they are more likely to take action to make it a better place to live. The Neighbourhood Small Grants program supports neighbourhood-level projects that strengthen our communities from the ground up.

When artist Anisa Newell looked around her neighbourhood as a new resident, she saw an amazingly diverse population. As she made connections with neighbours and through her daughter's school, she noticed something about the new friendships she and her family were building.

"We started to see how many connections there were and wondered how we could we deepen and broaden them," she says.

Newell looked for a way to use the arts as a vehicle for community building. A quotation from Bahá'u'llah, founder of the Bahá'í Faith, provided inspiration: "Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves of one branch. Deal ye one with another with the utmost love and harmony, with friendliness and fellowship. So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth."

From that seed, the Neighbourhood Family Tree Project took root and grew — with help from a Neighbourhood Small Grant (NSG).

Families from eight different cultural backgrounds gathered at CDI College for an intercultural and intergenerational art event celebrating different family heritages. Participants painted leaves to attach to a tree constructed especially for the purpose and shared their thoughts about the Bahá'u'llah quotation. The project didn't stop after the initial gathering.

"You realize those connections aren't limited, and they can extend outward in sort



of concentric circles that keep widening," says Newell. "We have met so many more new friends and extended the project."

It's a fine example of a community-strengthening project that may not have happened without Newell's action and the support from the NSG program.

Through the NSG program, small grants of up to \$500 are available for people to lead a project in their neighbourhood. The program aims to support projects that connect and engage neighbours, share neighbours' skills and knowledge within the community, build a sense of belonging and connection, and respect and celebrate diversity.

All granting decisions are made by a group of volunteers who live in



the neighbourhood and comprise the NSG committee. Alex Norfolk is the NSG coordinator, and he explains the community benefit of supporting these goals.

"The entire community is given an opportunity to learn from one another and to build diverse networks," says Norfolk. "The NSG program creates stronger, vibrant neighbourhoods by encouraging community members to engage with one another and their environment."

NSG committee members get directly involved with projects by becoming mentors to project leaders. The MeetUp on Market was a project Norfolk was involved with as a mentor — and also as a resident of Market Street, which is notable for multi-



Clockwise from top: The Neighbourhood Family Tree Project, Kids' Biking Clinics in Topaz Park, and the MeetUp on Market are all 2017 events that started as a community member's idea and benefited from a Neighbourhood Small Grant.

family buildings. Project organizer Janis La Couvée did a tally of the number of residential units on Market Street: almost 200 on one very short city block.

"Given the nature of multi-family buildings, the residents were unlikely to know one another," says La Couvée. "The MeetUp on Market was a neighbourhood celebration and an opportunity for people to meet one another and create connections with the goal of building a firm foundation for future events."

And, it worked.

"People attending ranged from small children to people in their 80s, from new residents to people who have lived on the street for over 40 years," says La Couvée. "Since then, we've held a potluck and are looking forward to activities this spring and summer."

The most rewarding aspect for Norfolk was the lasting connection: "That shared experience created a deeper sense of belonging for me, and I would imagine many others felt the same way."

While some projects are focussed on connections between people sharing a street or building, others are broader in attendance and focus, as exemplified by the Kids' Biking Clinics in Topaz Park, another project which received an NSG grant in 2017.

"Every municipality was represented," says project leader Yvonne Mendel. "Over 75 participants aged three to six attended, and tons of parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbours attended and volunteered."

Bringing people together to create community, play outdoors, and get exercise in Topaz Park were key goals, along with increasing interest in biking safety and programs. Seven different cycling organizations collaborated for the event.

"I hoped to encourage my neighbours to get their kids on bikes and raise the recognition of Topaz Park," says Mendel, who is a force behind the "Build a Bike Park at Topaz" movement.

Do you have an idea to strengthen your community? The NSG program is open to residents in the North Park, Oaklands, Burnside, and Hillside-Quadra neighbourhoods. Learn more at victoriafoundation.bc.ca/nsg.



GIVINGTUESDAY

JOIN THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT DEDICATED TO GIVING BACK


After the retail frenzy of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, GivingTuesday is a time to celebrate and encourage activities that support charities and non-profits.




Tuesday, November 27 is the official opening day of the 2018 year-end giving season, when charities, companies, and individuals join together and rally for favourite causes.

By harnessing the potential of social media and the generosity of people around the world, GivingTuesday brings about real change. It provides a platform to encourage the donation of time, resources, and talents to address local challenges, and it also brings together the collective power of a unique blend of partners — non-profits, organizations, businesses, and individuals — to encourage and amplify small acts of kindness. Across Canada and around the world, GivingTuesday unites communities by sharing our capacity to care for and empower one another.

Since 2012, the Victoria Foundation has encouraged everyone in Victoria to give back through GivingTuesday in whatever way they can to causes meaningful to them. More than 100 non-profits in Greater Victoria are involved in GivingTuesday and are looking for your support. Please consider making a donation or volunteering your time. For a full list of participating charities and an interactive map, as well as more information, go to givingtuesday.ca.

 Watch for more about GivingTuesday on our Facebook page: [facebook.com/TheVictoriaFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/TheVictoriaFoundation)

A man with dark hair and a slight beard, wearing a blue jacket, is holding a large, light-colored wooden carving of a stylized human figure. He is also holding several dark feathers. The background is a workshop with wooden beams and tools.

Fifth-generation carver and Indigenous artist Carey Newman joined the Victoria Foundation Board of Directors in 2016.

INDIGENOUS WISDOM

Bringing reconciliation into philanthropy

When the Victoria Foundation struck its own task group to understand how philanthropy fits into the conversation around truth and reconciliation, a declaration was made to champion the work done in this realm.

From finding ways of bringing traditional Indigenous tools directly into the organization, to reaching out into the communities to support young and marginalized families, to funding new approaches to learning, the Victoria Foundation has its focus sharpened. Here are three recent initiatives that draw from the wisdom of the Indigenous community.

Sí:le Fund supports community's youngest families

When Patrick Kelly first considered creating the Sí:le Fund, it was like a light went off — literally.

Kelly, a member and past chair of the Victoria Foundation Board of Directors, was visiting the Young Parents Support Network (YPSN) and using one of their meeting rooms, when he noticed a light fixture wasn't working. He asked staff how to turn it on, and they explained it was removed on purpose — funds were so tight, they had to choose between spending money on electricity or snacks for the kids.

"I thought, how could an organization doing such important work in our community be in a situation this dire?" says Kelly.

That "light bulb" moment grew into what is now a fund to help the families that desperately need the services the YPSN provides. Sí:le, which is the Halq'eméylem word for "grandmother" and "grandfather," is the fund established by Kelly and board member Carey Newman. The fund is a legacy left to the community in support of young parents, and one that ensures the conversation includes Indigenous voices.

"I believe the strength of our society is found in the strength of our children and families," says Kelly. "Helping young people make their way in life means we're all better off. Some of these kids — and parents —



The Sí:le Fund is a legacy left to the community to support young parents through the programs and activities of the Young Parents Support Network (YPSN).

just need a leg up that will give them a chance to develop skills or find solid footing, and the YPSN does that. These are values I want to support."

Kelly realized a large proportion of the families who access the resources of the YPSN are Indigenous, and he wanted to recognize this through the fund. The Sí:le Fund will aid all the programs and activities of the YPSN as it carries out its mission to support and empower young-parent families.

"In Indigenous communities, our elders teach that the primary role of parents is to raise your children to be self-supporting, independent individuals who can use their skills to care for themselves, their communities, and, if they have more to spare, their world," says Kelly. "When I see what YPSN is trying to do for these families, it's in such alignment with our community. It's important work for our whole society."

Eagle carving carries the voices of all

Carey Newman has dedicated a lot of his work to the conversation around reconciliation. When he joined the Victoria

Foundation Board of Directors, he wanted to explore what it means for an organization to make its own inroads with efforts towards reconciliation. As a fifth-generation carver and an Indigenous artist whose livelihood is working with mixed disciplines, Newman was able to use his skills to create a piece that would leave a lasting impact. With a vision of supporting that goal, Patrick Kelly, who was board chair at the time, commissioned Newman to create a legacy art piece that would become a symbol of conflict resolution and a tool for the Victoria Foundation and its Board of Directors to use for years to come. The piece is a traditional carving of an eagle head, with true eagle feathers adorning the wood. The carving represents connection and progress, with the design featuring the concept of a Möbius strip — an unbroken, continuous line, similar to an infinity symbol.

"I chose the eagle because it's a symbolic creature capable of bridging worlds, with vision into the future," says Newman. "Patrick contributed the feathers, and in our tradition, when you hold the feather, you hold the attention of the room, so this was two ideas coming together to create something we could use at the Foundation."

The work contributed to the Victoria Foundation's exploration around bringing reconciliation into the philanthropic context. Newman has been highly engaged in reconciliation efforts through a national project he led called *The Witness Blanket* — a monument of collected stories and artifacts to recognize the atrocities of the Indian Residential School era, honour the survivors, and symbolize ongoing reconciliation. The project is now housed at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg.

The idea of the carving came from his work on the Victoria Foundation Board of Directors, noting the diverse opinions that get raised in the work of the Victoria Foundation. He hoped to create something that could be used as a tool to help in situations where there is conflict to resolve.

"I thought it would be useful for

us to have our own definition of how reconciliation can happen,” says Newman. “Having traditional tools, like a feather in a board room, can change the impact of how we see Indigenous issues — it brings it into the room in a new way and forces us to examine it closer.”

Bringing Indigenous law into focus

Robert Clifford has been passionate about Canadian and Indigenous law for most of his life. So, when Clifford, a member of the WSÁNEĆ and Tsawout First Nation, met John Borrows from the University of Victoria’s Faculty of Law, the two put into motion an idea that could change the way Indigenous law is taught.

After extensive consultations with local Indigenous communities and members of the Faculty of Law, the WSÁNEĆ Field School was born.

The field school pilot program, launching September 2018 thanks to a Victoria Foundation grant, is the first of its kind and will offer law students a four-month placement into the WSÁNEĆ communities to focus on Indigenous law. The students and community members will work together to identify frameworks, standards, and practices in Indigenous governance.

“Learning from each other is a key value in our communities, and knowing what this brings to both the students and the communities is very exciting,” says Clifford. “Discovering how our legal systems work alongside traditional values is an important way to revitalize the conversation and help people see law in action.”

Borrows, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law, will be a primary teacher of the program, along with Clifford. The pilot will welcome 16 students, including two spots held for students from the WSÁNEĆ communities and two spots open for law students from across Canada.

UVic’s Law program has been recognized as an international leader in Indigenous legal education and has previously partnered with the WSÁNEĆ School Board to offer an annual Aboriginal Awareness Camp for law students. Jeremy Webber, Dean of UVic’s Faculty of Law, anticipates the field school will become a mainstay

in the curriculum and suspects this new program will enhance the demand for focussed studies.

“It’s important for the students to see how the law in these communities is held, transmitted, used, and lived,” says Webber. “And, it’s important for the communities, because it helps them think about how they can respond to issues within their own legal frameworks.”

The pilot is part of the larger announcement of UVic’s new Indigenous

Law degree, a first in Canada, which grants students two professional degrees: one that allows them to practise within Canadian Common Law, and one that allows them to reason and act within Indigenous legal traditions.

“This is the direction we need to move as a society, and our hope is to train a body of lawyers that can work with understanding between cultures,” says Webber. “This field school will help give students the practical tools to be able to do this.”



Robert Clifford and John Borrows have teamed up to lead the field school pilot program to teach law students about Indigenous law.

JEFFREY BOSDET



VITAL CHARITIES

The best place to discover local organizations that matter most to you



Vital Charities is an online resource that fosters connections to charities within our community. Whether you are an individual community member, business leader, educational institution, or non-profit organization, Vital Charities can assist you in discovering the causes that matter most to you and the ways you can provide support.

Using the Vital Charities website, you can:

SEARCH hundreds of local organizations that have received grants from the Victoria Foundation or hold a Victoria Foundation endowment fund.

EXPLORE your community and connect with programs and projects working in various areas of need.

DISCOVER the innovative and effective solutions local organizations are undertaking to address issues raised in the *Victoria's Vital Signs*[®] report.

LEARN about the ways you can help make a difference, whether you are an individual or family, charitable organization, business, or professional advisor.



Organization Name	Address	Phone	Website	Vital Signs Issue	Sort
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Search by keyword to find the charities that interest you ...

... or by Vital Signs issue, for example. Toggle the arrow at the top of the column to sort.

Start your search here, at Vital Charities:
victoriafoundation.bc.ca/victorias-vital-charities



Russell Pohl and some of the members of his family. Top to bottom: Dylan, Russell, Darrell, Rain, and Jessica.

ADOPTING A NEW MINDSET

Funding permanency in the lives of B.C. children

Some might find it surprising that Russell Pohl and his family have fostered 60 kids in the last 17 years. It might sound even more surprising that he has 10 kids of his own — two biologically, and the rest through adoption.

Yet Pohl will tell you these numbers aren't high. Indeed, there are families in B.C. and across Canada who foster and adopt many more family members. As a member of the Advisory Committee of the Adoption and Permanency Fund of B.C., and as former President of the Board of Directors for the B.C. Federation of Foster Parent Associations, Pohl should know.

He's become a lifelong advocate for children and families, and his passion showcases tireless efforts to bring children to a place of permanency, safety, and love in their lives. Whether through his work with the federation building relationships between ministry workers and foster parents, or his facilitation as an independent speaker across Canada and the U.S., Pohl is well known for his work in these circles.

As though this wasn't significant enough, Pohl and his partner are also one of the first publicly gay couples to venture into the world of adoption, and theirs has become a poster family for the province ever since.

"Our goal as a family is to give back. We have been extremely blessed in our lives, and when Darrell and I were asked 20 years

ago to consider fostering a gay child, we realized maybe this is something we can do," says Pohl. "For us, it's about giving kids a solid foundation. Whether they stay or return home, we're family now and they have a home here. The kids can see they're not being abandoned, no matter how many times it has happened before. I often say, I might not be the best, but I'll be the most consistent parent you'll ever know. I'm there no matter what."

The Adoption and Permanency Fund was created in 2003 and has awarded 327 grants, totalling over \$1.2 million to more than 100 organizations throughout B.C. Pohl joined the fund's advisory committee last fall and is responsible for reviewing applications and approving grants. He marvels at the innovative way organizations across the province aim to build permanency in a child's life — from books and public-service videos to camps, educational programs, and direct support tactics.

Rory Grewar, Director of Special Funds at the Victoria Foundation, says that while the Foundation has strong roots in the Victoria community, many people are unaware it manages several province-wide funds like this one. The Victoria Foundation is responsible for the management, reporting, and investment of the fund.

"One of the best parts of my job is meeting the passionate volunteers who serve on the advisory committees that make

"...when Darrell and I were asked 20 years ago to consider fostering a gay child, we realized maybe this is something we can do."

the granting decisions," says Grewar. "Every year, many groups, organizations, and, ultimately, families benefit from this work. It's wonderful to witness."

While families will always be needed to step up for kids who require support, Pohl says the first choice is always to reunite kids with their biological homes when possible. When it's not, he strives to create a one-stop-shop philosophy, where kids don't have to worry about being bounced around a system.

"It's joyous when you realize a child is here to stay, but there is heartbreak for the kid who understands, 'I'm not going home.' No matter what the parents have done, there's always that trace hope that they'll be able to get it together," says Pohl. "In our house, we instill a little tough love. Everyone has the right to be upset and feel sorry for themselves — for five minutes a day. After that, it's time to pick yourself up and move forward. It's not easy, but we want to raise kids who can thrive in their communities. Every step counts."



VICTORIA FOUNDATION

CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER®

VICTORIA'S VITAL SIGNS®

measures the health of our region and reports citizens' grades in a number of areas critical to Victoria's vitality.

The Victoria Foundation takes an active role in addressing issues of concern in our community. *Victoria's Vital Signs* focusses on 12 of the key issues, including giving each a grade based on public opinion findings and presenting some of the ways the issues are being addressed.

QUALITY OF LIFE IN GREATER VICTORIA

Participants in the 2017 Vital Signs survey were generally very positive about their quality of life and feelings of connectedness to their community.

Get your copy of VITAL SIGNS at VICTORIAFOUNDATION.CA or at #200-703 Broughton Street in Victoria.

2017 FEATURE STORY

Belonging or Barriers

Belonging is about feeling like an accepted and valued part of a community. We look at how our institutions, public policies, social structures, and systems set the tone.



JO-ANN LORO



Find out more about what's happening with arts and culture, belonging and engagement, economy, environmental sustainability, getting started as a newcomer, health and wellness, housing, learning, safety, sports and recreation, standard of living, and transportation.

87%

WOULD DESCRIBE THEMSELVES AS HAPPY



69%

rate their general sense of physical well-being as high.

66%

ARE SATISFIED WITH THEIR WORK AND HOME/LIFE BALANCE



92% agree or strongly agree that it is every citizen's duty to vote.



71% agree or strongly agree that it is every citizen's duty to engage in activities that strengthen democracy.



64% feel Greater Victoria is welcoming to new Canadians.



29%

of transgendered individuals report frequently feeling uncomfortable as a result of discrimination.

88%

FEEL SUPPORTED BY LOVING FAMILY, COMPANIONS, AND/OR FRIENDS.



The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were launched in 2015 after three years of negotiations between 193 countries and represent the world's collective vision for a thriving and sustainable planet. You'll also see the SDG icons in *Victoria's Vital Signs* to demonstrate how they relate to the 12 key issues of concern in our community.



MILESTONES

A year of important changes, events, and activities at the Victoria Foundation

2017

MAY

VITAL YOUTH

Participants from nine area high schools wrapped up another successful year, granting \$22,500 to local charities.

GOOGLE GRANTS

The foundation co-hosted a workshop with Treehouse Media on Google Grants that was attended by 20 non-profit organizations.

JUNE

IMAGINE CANADA

One of the original 18 to receive certification in 2012, the Victoria Foundation became one of only 223 organizations to receive certification through Imagine Canada's Standards program, arguably the most demanding assessment of charities in the nation.

STAFF NEWS

Anna Glenny joined the Foundation as Grants Associate.

AUGUST

STUDENTS ON ICE

Victoria Foundation Community Initiatives Specialist Jayna Brulotte was part of a group of 90 staff supporting 125 youth from 17 countries for the Students on Ice Foundation's 2017 Arctic Expedition to the Canadian North and Greenland.

SEPTEMBER

BOARD MEETS AT SONGHEES WELLNESS CENTRE

Our September board meeting was attended by guests from several area First Nations and held at the Songhees Wellness Centre.

VICTORIA FOUNDATION DAY

The Foundation welcomed the public to tour 40 local venues free of charge on September 16. Thousands of citizens visited museums, galleries, gardens, parks, churches, non-profits, sport facilities, and more.

OCTOBER

VICTORIA'S VITAL SIGNS

The 12th edition of our popular report focussing on measuring well-being and creating change was published.

NOVEMBER

VITAL VICTORIA PODCAST

Recorded and produced at the Victoria Foundation, our new monthly podcast launched with an interview with Victoria Mayor Lisa Helps talking about belonging and engagement.

RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS DAY AND GIVING TUESDAY

Back by popular demand, these two days celebrated giving back to our community.

GATHERING OF ISLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

The Victoria Foundation hosted a two-day learning and sharing event involving 11 community foundations from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

DECEMBER

GRANTS ANNOUNCED

A record \$2.3 million in community grants were awarded to 104 non-profit organizations on Vancouver

Island, bringing the total amount awarded in 2017 to over \$20 million and over \$196 million since the Foundation began in 1936.

2018

JANUARY

BOARD CHANGES

Dr. Grace Wong Sneddon took on the role of Board Chair, while James Darke was appointed Vice Chair. Lori Elder, Michael Cridge, and Zaman Velji also joined as new Directors.

VITAL CHARITIES

The best place to discover local organizations that matter most to you, this new online search tool was added to our website.

MARCH

VITAL CONVERSATIONS

The Victoria Foundation was host to four community engagement events, discussing such issues as living with disabilities, youth mental health, moderate drinking, and Canada's open government plan.

APRIL

ANNUAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Garth Homer Society received the 2018 Victoria Foundation Community Leadership Award. The award recognizes an organization that is building community capacity and achieving positive change.

A LEGACY OF GIVING

From funds for the environment and gifts dedicated to loved ones, to maritime causes and education, the Victoria community is committed to supporting others.

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

WORKING TOGETHER TO LEAVE A LEGACY IN THE COMMUNITY

LEGACY FUND WILL BENEFIT ENVIRONMENTAL AND CANINE CAUSES

Throughout their lives, **Anne Landry and Rosanne Konrad**'s careers and personal interests have revolved around a love of the natural world. Whether working to protect natural ecosystems, promoting humane treatment of pets and livestock, or enjoying wilderness travel, their passions have always been connected to nature. So when it was time to start thinking about the legacy they'd like to leave, these were the top causes that came into view.

Konrad and Landry have had a mission to make sure the impact they have on the community outlives them both, so they decided to set up a legacy fund through the Victoria Foundation to guarantee the causes they care deeply about will receive their support long into the future.

"Anne and I met when we were both working for national parks in the Rockies," says Konrad. When they got their first dog, Konrad became obsessed with learning positive dog training methods. Their retriever became a certified avalanche rescue dog. "We've been very fortunate, and philanthropy has been part of our lives, so we wanted to direct what happens to our funds while

we still could."

Ali Edgell, Vice President, Wealth Advisor and Portfolio Manager with BMO Nesbitt Burns, first met Konrad at a dog agility camp. Later, she referred them to the Foundation when she knew a personal fund was within their goals.

"Wealth management is about more than just figuring out what to do with your money — it's about living the life you want, reaching the goals you envision for yourself, and building a legacy into the future that captures your vision," says Edgell. "The Victoria Foundation offers people a chance to be part of that planning process while they can still make those decisions themselves."

Konrad says the flexibility allowed by a legacy fund is what appealed the most. The

two will be able to carry on living as they are, and if priorities change during their lives, the fund will adjust accordingly. After they are gone, their causes will continue receiving their support.

"We don't have children, so this is another way for us to be able to give back to the community," says Landry. "I grew up as a child going to summer camp, canoeing and spending my days in the out-of-doors appreciating nature. We want to ensure intact ecosystems thrive and that Canadians can experience wilderness long after we are gone."



The Victoria Humane Society is one of the causes supported through the legacy fund established by Anne Landry and Rosanne Konrad.

JEFFREY BOSDET

A FOUNDATION DEDICATED TO A BELOVED WIFE AND HER MISSIONS

When Amar Sethi speaks about his wife, Christine, you can hear his devotion to her in his voice. The two met in university and married shortly after. When they came to Canada, Sethi focussed on his work in the oil research industry — and to making Christine's dreams come true.

"My wife missed her home in Belgium, so I told her, 'Christine, why don't you start writing down what you miss, what you want, and we'll build your dream home here,'" says Sethi. "I'll work hard, you manage the money, and together we'll do this."

Years later, their family's dream home was built in North Saanich. However, shortly after, while hanging holiday lights, Christine fell and suffered a fatal head injury. She died almost instantly, and Sethi was distraught with grief. Though he couldn't bring her back, months later, he decided he would keep her memory alive by supporting the causes she cared deeply about. He established the Christine A. Sethi-Van Impe Foundation, and dedicated the funds of his research company entirely to her foundation.

"I miss my wife dearly, and I would have done anything to change places with her, but the best thing I can do now is support the work she would have wanted done," he says.

Though Sethi set up his wife's foundation in 2003, this year, for succession planning, he migrated it to the Victoria Foundation



under the guidance of his lawyer John van Cuylenborg of Cook Roberts LLP, so his wife's missions could be supported in perpetuity.

"Knowing that people will be there to carry out the legacy of your charitable wishes can bring a lot of comfort, and the

Victoria Foundation creates a wonderful opportunity for this," says van Cuylenborg. "My client wanted to stay highly involved in the direction of the funds, and now he knows his wishes will live on."

Sethi says much the same.

"I know I am getting older, but I want my wife's foundation to be here forever," says Sethi. "I made a plan to build up the assets and have chosen the charities to support, so her memory can continue to live on."

With the guiding principle of Christine's foundation to "alleviate suffering," the causes include support for the blind, for those with leprosy, and for students in poor nations. Much of the fund is dedicated internationally, including a scholarship set up for impoverished students on an island in the Caribbean to attend high school.

"My hope is that my wife's foundation continues doing good work to help the underprivileged and those who are less fortunate than we had been," says Sethi. "My grandfather used to say, 'Don't look at how many people are ahead of you, Amar — look at how many are behind, and try to bring them closer.' Christine really lived that way."

"The Victoria Foundation gives people the opportunity to dedicate their funds to the causes they believe in, no matter how big or small, knowing their wishes will be carried out by a trustworthy source."

— Donna M. Iverson, Barrister and Solicitor with Iverson Law

Company transforms into a charitable fund for local causes

Robert Furber and Jeanette Funke-Furber enjoyed the success of their own self-made company for many years. Now, however, in their mid 70s, they see the administrative side of the business as a chore.

"The books, accounts, fees, and investments were a stress to deal with, and we wanted to bleed out the company and shut it down," says Furber. "We'd been very fortunate, but it had just become a headache."

Thanks to the advice of their accountants, Bill Bradley and Richard Games of Bradley Jacoby Games Chartered Professional Accountants, they found a solution. The Victoria Foundation offered to transform their liquidated company into a charitable fund to be directed according to their wishes. With one donation to the Foundation of approximately \$1 million, the two established a donor-advised fund.

"I've had the privilege of watching these clients go from building their

"The Victoria Foundation gives people the option to enjoy knowing where their money is going without having to take on the administrative work behind that."

portfolio to investing it, but it can become challenging as we age to manage all of these assets," says Bradley, a retired partner. "The Victoria Foundation gives people the option to enjoy knowing where their money is going without having to take on the administrative work behind that."

Though the two haven't yet decided where the funds will be granted, they have a keen interest in supporting education, elder care, and the environment.

"There are many local causes we care about, and we've been very fortunate," says Funke-Furber. "That well-being must be shared."

BEQUEST GIFT OFFERS NEW SECURITY TO GREATER VICTORIA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Organizations in the arts industry often have to find creative ways to meet funding goals. And, too often, it doesn't happen. But, for the Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra (GVYO), one forward-thinking patron has changed the fate of the organization by offering funding security.

The GVYO/ Dorothy and Lawrence Brahan Endowment Fund was created with the Victoria Foundation, thanks to a substantial bequest gift from the estate of Dorothy Brahan. Brahan was a stalwart supporter of the GVYO — a regular donor, dedicated attendee, and routine recruiter, who would frequently purchase subscriptions to the concerts and introduce her friends to the orchestra. Her gift was so transformative that the GVYO will no longer need to rely on gaming grants to meet their budget. Combined with the GVYO/Stuart Knussen Endowment Fund, established in 2006 in honour of the GVYO's

founding music director, the future is looking considerably brighter.

"This was totally new ground for us, so we knew we needed to do something special to honour this gift," says Sheila Redhead, Manager of the GVYO. "This kind of secure funding allows us to have a reliable base, enables our growth, and gives us freedom from the uncertainty of grants."

Income from the capital of the endowment will generate about 15 per cent of the annual budget revenues to help ensure long-term financial stability for

the orchestra and allow the organization new opportunities for growth down the road.

"GVYO is really an organization like no other," says Redhead, whose two children are both GVYO alumni. "It provides young musicians the rare opportunity to learn orchestral repertoire and challenge themselves to achieve higher standards of musical performance. It's wonderful to have security."



Thermopylae Club finds new security for maritime grants

Nearly a century ago, a club was formed in Victoria to preserve the city's maritime history. Founding members called it the Thermopylae Club, after a famous tea clipper, which had been based in the city in the 1890s.

Since then, the club, which averages around 40 members, has had a quiet but persistent presence in Victoria. To this day, members meet once a month to stimulate interest in B.C.'s and Canada's maritime heritage, and the group has dedicated itself to providing merit-based financial-assistance awards to students pursuing maritime studies.

Thanks to a partnership with the Victoria Foundation, the club has now established a new fund dedicated to preserving this goal — thanks to a match by the Victoria Foundation that will help further the financial assistance available for young mariners.

"We represent a key component of the maritime industry," says club board member Tony Gooch, a long-

IN MEMORIAM

The Victoria Foundation lost a number of supporters over the past year. Our condolences to their families and friends. They will be missed.

FUND HOLDERS:

DAVID ALEXANDER GOODWIN (April 11, 2017) and his late wife, Sandra, had a deep passion for music, open spaces near the City of Victoria, and growing local food. Part of the residue of his estate will continue to support those passions.

KENNETH WILLIAMS

(May 21, 2017) established two Charitable Remainder Trusts during his lifetime. The fund will support causes that were important to Ken and his late wife, Joy, and the Victoria Foundation's community granting program.

CONSTANCE

CHRISTINA GIBSON (July 6, 2017) Many charitable organizations were named in her will, one being the Victoria Foundation, in support of our community grants program.

WINNIFRED MARIE

BOCKING (August 9, 2017) designated her RRIF to the Victoria Foundation to continue to provide annual funding to the organizations that she and her late husband supported during their lifetimes.

distance sailor who has sailed around the world twice — once on a solo expedition. “The club was designed to provide a meeting place for retired mariners, and the group has always been keen that there should be support for young people studying to enter the industry.”

The club has managed a number of partnerships since its establishment in 1932, including with BC Ferries, which partakes in a grant-matching program; with Camosun College, which runs a maritime education program; and with the Victoria community for fundraising. The most recent partnership is with the Victoria Foundation, which has made it possible for the group to create an endowment fund to sustain and increase its annual grants, which can reach up to \$600 per student.

Ian Izard is a club board member and a member of the Victoria Foundation’s Honorary Governors and a past chair of the Board of Directors. Izard helped connect the club with the Foundation for the match.

“The club keeps a low profile, but its members are very dedicated, and the Foundation’s match will allow the club to keep offering its grants in perpetuity,” says Izard. “As a third-generation Victorian, I’ve always had an interest in maritime matters and our history. Victoria is an end port, and it’s a beautiful place to focus on the sea.”



VICTORIA CIRCLE



JEFFREY BOSDET

Marilyn and Marcus Redivo are members of the Victoria Circle, our donor recognition program for individuals who have indicated their intention to make a future estate gift to the Victoria Foundation by way of bequest, life insurance, RRSP or RRIF, Tax Free Savings Account, Charitable Remainder Trust, or other estate plan.

Donors join the Victoria Circle for various reasons: to bring about awareness of the lasting impact charitable giving can create, inspire greater giving, fuel the dreams of future generations, engage families and friends in charitable giving, or thank a community that has enriched their lives.

To learn more about the Victoria Circle, contact Donor Services at 250.381.5532.

VIATEC Foundation Fund builds incentive for community giving

Victoria’s tech community has long had a hand in making a difference. As an industry on the edge of innovation, aiding its community, literally and philanthropically, has always been a priority. VIATEC (Victoria Innovation, Advanced Technology and Entrepreneurship Council) has been an industry leader since its launch in 1989, and supporting the community is built into its mission. This past year marked a new chapter in VIATEC’s contributions with the launch of the VIATEC Foundation Fund — a fund, held with the Victoria Foundation, that provides a simple way for VIATEC members to give back.

“People in tech companies love efficiency, and we saw this as a way to offer our members a front door for supporting the causes they care about,” says Dan Gunn, VIATEC CEO.

Gunn, who has been running VIATEC for the last 13 years, says he noticed many of his members were philanthropic, but most gave privately or lacked a direction for their goals. Because it is an industry that thrives on competition and challenges, Gunn saw an opportunity to offer people a way to direct their generosity and show the Victoria community what’s possible. The fund has already generated more success than expected. At the launch event, members raised \$177,242 for the fund, which continues to grow. This year, most funding will support the Mustard Seed Food Bank, and Gunn says the tech community will guide the fund moving forward, from food security to education, homelessness, and other initiatives.

Mark Longo, VIATEC board member and chair of the VIATEC Foundation Fund’s committee, says working with the Victoria Foundation simplified the process of setting up the fund, allowing members to focus on the charities rather than administration.

“Many of us in the tech sector are very fortunate, and giving back is important to us — it’s our responsibility and our honour, and getting involved in the fund makes sense,” says Longo. “I’ve seen the importance of this sector grow over the years, but the consistent theme is giving back. We have a lot of passionate people in this industry, and you accomplish a lot when people work together.”

JOHN ALVIN PELTER

(August 23, 2017)
Al’s thoughtful support of many organizations that touched him during his lifetime will be realized through the Pelter Family Fund.

MICHAEL BRENNAN

(November 25, 2017)
and his late wife, Linda Spano, established the Brennan-Spano Family Foundation Fund to support their family tradition of philanthropic involvement in the community. The family will continue to carry out their philanthropic legacy.

MERTIE ANN CHILTON

(January 24, 2018)
established the Jim and Mertie Ann Chilton Fund by designating life insurance policies to the Victoria Foundation and a gift bequeathed in her will. The fund will support many organizations that she and her husband cared about.

THOMAS MAYNE

(April 17, 2018)
Tommy established a Charitable Remainder Trust during his lifetime. He was well known in Victoria for his philanthropy and lifetime giving. The organizations he has chosen to support in perpetuity had special meaning to Tommy and his late wife, Betty.

OTHER DONORS WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED US THROUGH THEIR ESTATE PLAN:

JUDITH ANN PATT (July 11, 2017) named many charitable organizations in her will, one being the Victoria Foundation. The fund will support a local art gallery’s acquisition and exhibits of art from the Far East and Southeast Asia.

WAR SURVIVOR RUDI HOENSON HONOURS LEGACY HELD WITH WIFE

At nearly 95 years old, Rudi Hoenson is still quick to offer his charm and humour to those he meets. It's hard to believe he's one of the last 200 Allied POW's who survived the atomic bomb that devastated Nagasaki, Japan, 73 years ago, when Hoenson was 18 years old.

The devastation Hoenson witnessed is unthinkable. He and his campmates, who had been serving the Dutch Armed Forces in the East Indies in 1941, had been captured by the Japanese and used as slave labour for three and a half

years. After the bomb struck Nagasaki, destroying much of the city, Hoenson was one of the few who made it out alive — though he, too, would suffer burns and the long-term effects of radiation poisoning. It would be another month before he was freed by American troops.

Hoenson shares few details about this time unless he's asked. It was only recently that he told his community about his story, though he says the memories — and nightmares — have become more vivid with the passing years. What is perhaps more

remarkable is his bright spirit and positive outlook — and the fact that he and his late wife Sylvia have changed the lives of countless individuals with their lifelong generosity.

"Sylvia was the love of my life, and she's really the reason I healed," says Hoenson. "She made me better and, if I may say, I've had a good life. We travelled — we travelled everywhere, and I was very happy with her by my side."

After the war, Hoenson came to Canada with \$50 in his pocket and invested it in the Alberta oil industry. His gamble paid off, and after arriving in Victoria with Sylvia in the 1970s, the couple dedicated their philanthropic endeavours to benefit dozens of local organizations, including the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Queen Alexandra Centre, and Lodge at Broadmead, among others.

It was in 2003, however, five years before Sylvia's death, that they established the Rudi and Sylvia Hoenson Foundation Fund at the Victoria Foundation. Since then, the fund's capital has grown to over \$1.2 million and has granted more than \$500,000 to dozens of their chosen charities.

Hoenson focusses on care and services for veterans, hospice care, and children's health, causes he and Sylvia

VITAL VICTORIA FUND

The Vital Victoria Fund responds to applications for funding of projects by local charities across a broad range of interests: arts and culture, community service, education, environment, health and recreation. This is one way to help us do what we do best: respond to the needs and opportunities identified through our *Victoria Vital Signs*® report. Contribute now to the community granting program through a monthly or annual contribution or establish a named fund through your bequest gift.

To find out more, ask us about our *Make it happen!* booklet, which summarizes the annual applications.



deeply believed in. His commitment now is to ensure the longevity of his support.

"When I do go 'toes up,' I hope people can benefit from this support for a long time. I've received generosity in my life, and I want to make sure others do, too," he says. "This was something important to me and to Sylvia and, I guess, in a way, it's something that we're still doing together."

◀ *The Honourable Judith Guichon OBC Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia (former) recently presented Rudi Hoenson with the Vice-Regal Commendation at Government House.*

Sisters of Saint Ann pledge support to Indigenous communities

This summer, the Sisters of Saint Ann will celebrate the 160th anniversary of their arrival in Victoria. It's a bittersweet commemoration, as the group has now entered the phase Sister Marie Zarowny, President of the Sisters of Saint Ann, calls "completion."

"There is only a handful of us left, so we needed to find a way to continue to serve the people who need our support the most, even after we are gone."

That's where the Victoria Foundation comes in. The Sisters have partnered with the Foundation to ensure their wishes, and the work they've dedicated nearly two centuries to achieving, can continue. As part of that dedication, the Sisters will join with the Victoria Foundation to fund the first two years of the UVic Law WSÁNEĆ Field School — a school dedicated to bringing law students and residents into local First Nations communities to learn about and partake in Indigenous law.

When the Sisters first arrived in Victoria in 1858, they established the first schools and hospitals for Island residents. The Sisters soon spread throughout Western Canada and as far north as Alaska to provide education and health care in mainly rural areas, including Indigenous communities.

Since the school closures, the Sisters have been rigorously dedicated to participating in the Indigenous healing and reconciliation efforts across Canada. Zarowny says the Sisters want to use their remaining assets to help support the aspirations and autonomy of Indigenous communities. The Field School fits that goal perfectly.

"The mission of the Sisters of Saint Ann is to meet the needs of those who are most vulnerable in our society, and our legacy is to continue to help people attain the fullness of life," says Zarowny. "When we are all gone, we don't have children we are leaving behind, but we do have a purpose, and we hope other organizations will take that forward with our support."

RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS

Inspire smiles and pass along a message of kindness

NOVEMBER 2

We all know what it's like when a bad day — or even just a humdrum day — suddenly turns bright and beautiful because someone does something kind for us. It may be as simple as an encouraging message from a friend, a compliment from a coworker, or a gift of vegetables from a neighbour's garden, but it turns your day around and inspires you to do something kind for someone else. That's the message behind Random Act of Kindness Day — do something nice for someone and ask nothing in return, except that they pay it forward by doing something nice for someone else.

Since 2008, this special day has brought Canadian communities together by engaging citizens in small acts of kindness and generosity — simple acts that go a long way towards making connections and fostering community. The Victoria Foundation plays a role by encouraging everyone to participate. "Each year, we contact local non-profits and other organizations and businesses, encouraging them to take part in Random Act of Kindness Day," says Kyle Wells, Communication Specialist at the Victoria Foundation.

The Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society (VIRCS) was one of the organizations that participated in 2017, and they turned it into a team-building activity. Three practicum students at VIRCS put together a five-day challenge and encouraged staff to participate and share their acts of kindness on social media. At the end of the challenge, the group held a "high-five celebration" and shared handcrafted cards with inspirational quotes. "The energy in the office totally picked up. It was a real energizer," says Keri Greenidge, Engagement Coordinator of Immigrant Women's Projects at VIRCS. "We put out so much of ourselves everyday, and it was so refreshing to get together. You could tell people felt appreciated."

The Victoria Foundation offers a variety of materials — posters, tent cards, Kindness Cards, and a printable list of 101 Suggestions for Random Act of Kindness Day — to businesses, organizations, and schools. "One of our favourite aspects of the event is seeing schools get involved," says Wells. "We encourage students to colour and write words of kindness in gift card-styled Smiley Cards, which we provide to any school interested in participating." The Smiley cards bring the kindness full circle when they're delivered to a local retirement home or healthcare facility. "Seeing the joy on the face of a recipient as a young, often shy, student hands them a brightly coloured smiling card of kindness truly encapsulates what the day is all about," says Wells.

Individuals can participate by handing out Kindness Cards: a business card-sized handout encouraging the holder to perform an act of kindness and then pass the card along to someone else. "It's incredibly touching to see individuals take up the cause on their own time, with their own resources, simply because they believe in the value of the message," says Wells.

This year, Random Act of Kindness Day is on Friday, November 2.

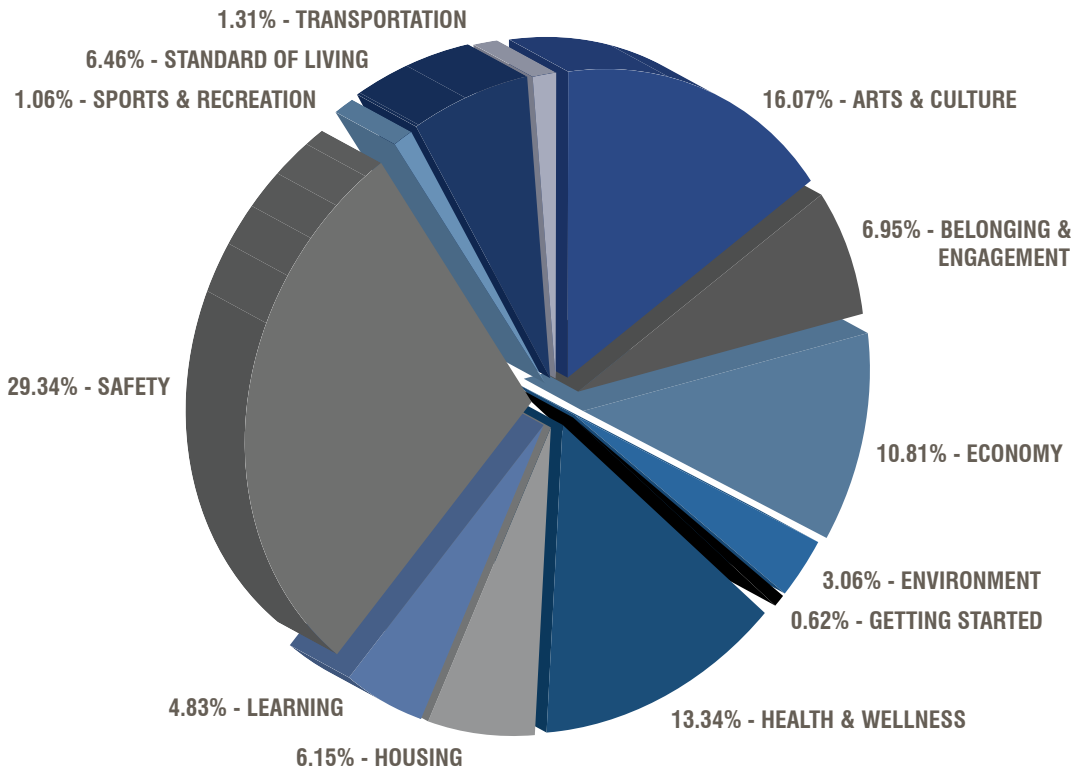


VIRCS staff enjoying their Random Act of Kindness "high-five celebration."

2017 VICTORIA FOUNDATION BY THE NUMBERS

WE HAD AN EXCITING YEAR OF GROWTH, NEW INITIATIVES AND EXPANSION. WE DISTRIBUTED A RECORD 104 COMMUNITY GRANTS TOTTALING \$2,294,724 TO LOCAL CHARITIES. INDIVIDUAL DONORS AND FUND HOLDERS ALSO CONTRIBUTED, THIS YEAR PROVIDING OVER \$800,000 OF THE TOTAL 2.3 MILLION. FOR MORE 2017 HIGHLIGHTS, OR TO VIEW OUR COMPLETE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PLEASE VISIT VICTORIAFOUNDATION.CA

2017 GRANTS BY VITAL SIGNS INDICATOR AREA



OVER \$18.3 MILLION IN GRANTS DISBURSED

\$7.9M ENDOWED GRANTS
\$10.4M NON-ENDOWED GRANTS



SUPPORTED 423 ORGANIZATIONS

135 OF THESE HAVE AN ENDOWMENT FUND WITH US

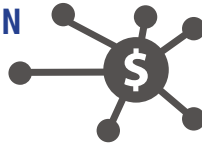
1,098 GRANTS DISTRIBUTED

INCLUDING 104 FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS



TOTAL ASSETS UNDER ADMINISTRATION OVER \$358 MILLION

INCLUDING 39 NEW FUNDS



OVER \$39 MILLION IN GIFTS

INCLUDING BEQUESTS, DONATIONS AND GIFTS OF SECURITIES



\$113 THOUSAND OPERATING



\$25 MILLION ENDOWMENT



\$1.8 MILLION RESTRICTED LONG TERM



\$12 MILLION PASS THROUGH

INVESTMENT RETURNS AVERAGED 8.68%

TEN-YEAR RETURNS AVERAGED 7.71%



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