



December 2010

# Giving Matters

Community Foundation of the North Okanagan

## Enhancing the quality of life in the communities of the North Okanagan

### Our Mission

The Community Foundation of the North Okanagan is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the region by distributing the earnings from a permanent, ever-growing pool of funds.

### The Foundation

- Exercises philanthropic leadership in identifying and addressing community needs and opportunities;
- Attracts and manages charitable gifts of cash, bonds, shares, pledges, bequests, memorials and life insurance in the form of permanent endowments;
- Invests these pooled funds prudently, and uses the earnings to make creative grants to deserving charitable organizations for the benefit of all types of activities: community services, arts and culture, education, health, and seniors and youth.

The Community Foundation is thus a catalyst and resource for philanthropy throughout the region. It is a vehicle for caring citizens who want to give something back to their community in perpetuity, both during and after their own lifetime.

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## Okanagan Landing Community Association is Celebrating Our History

The CPR Station House tells an important story of the history of the North Okanagan. In the late 1800's transportation was provided by the CPR via rail to Okanagan Landing and by Paddlewheel boats down the lake to Penticton. Residents, visitors, cattle, fruit and other goods all used this system.

When the CPR decommissioned the service in 1936, the facilities and land remained idle until the Okanagan Landing and District Community Association acquired it using the maintenance building as a community hall and developing the lakeside property into a park.

In 1999 fire consumed the original hall and the Association, with tremendous support from the community, built a new hall using the architectural design of the original CPR station house as inspiration. At the time, there were not enough funds available to renovate and restore the stationhouse wing so that part of the project was tabled to a later date.

Now is that time and the Association is excited to be bringing the stationhouse

into use as a museum to showcase the many artefacts and photographs that community members have cherished over the years and donated for display. Once again a plea has gone out to the community for help, securing support from individuals, businesses, service groups and government agencies to meet the costs of the project.

Already well over 1000 hours of labour at a value of over \$20,000.00 have been worked by Association members. In addition, Chapman Mechanical has donated the materials and labour to install the heating system, PJ Devries Construction has donated many hours of labour, Kalamalka Rotary has funded the installation of electrical services and the Community Foundation of the North Okanagan has contributed \$10,000.00 toward the project. With continued support like this, it is hoped that the museum will be open to the public before the end of 2011.

*Val Heuman  
Project Manager*

## TEN REASONS PEOPLE CHOOSE A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION.

1. We are a local organization with deep roots in the community, and part of a nationwide movement whose support we build and share.
2. We bring donors to the table as community builders, working closely with them to align their philanthropic vision with the community's needs.
3. We identify long-term needs and opportunities and invest in solutions that let our communities guide their own future.
4. We take a broad and inclusive view of what a community is, and provide grants to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives.
5. We provide highly personal and flexible service, accepting a wide variety of assets and offering donors maximum tax advantage.
6. We build permanent funds and those that can respond to immediate needs, helping our communities ensure vital futures.
7. We multiply the impact of gift dollars by pooling them with other gifts.
8. We believe that diversity is strength, so we bring the entire community together to stimulate new ideas, build participation and strengthen community philanthropy.
9. We are transparent and reputable stewards of community resources, committed to being accountable, accessible and responsive.
10. We build community vitality – the unique and essential spirit that flourishes when people believe their community holds possibilities for everyone.

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**North Okanagan Hospice House**

## *Community Foundations Provide Critical Investment Management Resources for Other Charitable Organizations*

Why do local agencies have endowment funds at the Community Foundation of the North Okanagan (CFNO)?

If you asked the Executive Director of a local charity what their biggest problem was, it would probably be the lack of funding available for administration. Many granting organizations demand that charities put grant money toward more visible projects.

To help overcome this problem, many local organizations (Agencies) have created their own endowment funds with the CFNO. In some cases they are building an endowment fund which can be used to cover administration costs such as

salaries or marketing. In other cases the income received from their endowment fund is used for their own community programs.

No matter what their reason, they have come to realize that the CFNO has an excellent track record of protecting their capital and generating income which comes back to them to be used for their own charitable purposes.

*- Marty Armstrong  
CFNO Director and former E.D.*

*Picture above is of Hospice House one of the charitable agencies which maintains an endowment fund with CFNO*



*Carol Williams*

### **Meet Our Directors: CAROL WILLIAMS**

Ten years ago spreading the word about the Community Foundation of the North Okanagan (CFNO) became a new passion for Carol. When a colleague introduced her to CFNO she was struck by how critical the Foundation is for the development of life and culture in the North Okanagan and by how few people knew about it! She volunteered.

Carol says her work on the Marketing Committee and on the Discretionary Funds Grants Committee has increased her appreciation for CFNO's community impact whether large beneficiaries like Hospice House or touching community projects like the "Cherryville Christmas Store". Thank you Carol for your work on behalf of CFNO!

(Carol and her husband Verne are retired and live in Vernon. She has served on the Coldstream Council, the Okanagan Regional Library Board and many other community organizations)

## The Difference a Donation Makes

### RD MCLEAN FUND

The original donation as part of Robert McLean's estate was in excess of half a million dollars. Each year its five designated recipient charities receive approximately \$5000 (a total over \$280,000 since its inception!)

It pays to plan ahead!

The Difference a Donation makes highlights various funds set up within the Community Foundation of the North Okanagan



## R.D. McLean Endowment Fund: Making a Difference for 15 years

### Robert McLean

Bob was one of three sons of the Mclean family of Vancouver, where he went to school and studied music. He joined the Army in 1940 and went overseas with the Canadian Scottish regiment of Victoria B.C. He served in France and Holland until he was wounded on April 6, 1945.

In 1970 he moved to Vernon with his

mother to be closer to an older brother who was living in Okanagan Landing. In the late 1980's, his mother and brother passed away, leaving Bob as the sole survivor of the family estate.

Bob was a bachelor and wanted to make sure he left his estate for a worthwhile purpose. He learned of the Vernon and District Foundation (former name of the Community Foundation of the North Okanagan) and was impressed with their ability to manage donations in perpetuity and with their flexibility in having him name the organizations who should receive the income on an annual basis.

As a result of Bob's foresight and generosity, his favourite charities have received over \$280,000.00 since he died in 1992 and the original contribution of over \$500,000.00 is still there and growing.

The recipient charitable organizations of the RD Mclean Fund are:

- Baptist Missionary Society of Latin America
- Vernon Jubilee Hospital Diabetic Clinic
- War Amps of Canada
- Boys and Girls Club of Vernon
- Community Foundation of the North Okanagan



## Children who have benefitted from the War Amps Program



Meet Our  
Directors:

## KEITH ALLAN

The “elder statesman” of the Foundation’s directors, Keith has worked

with sixty-three existing or past directors over the last 22 years ! He has particularly appreciated working with such “exceptionally talented and concerned citizens” who shared a common focus of improving our community through charitable endeavours.

Keith’s long term commitment to the Foundation attests to his passion for this community. During his time as a director, including five years serving as president, the contributed funds under management increased from \$116,000 to over \$11,000,000!

His knowledge, wisdom and experience has been a tremendous asset for the Community Foundation, its directors and ultimately for the charitable organizations who benefit from the Foundation.

## WHAT ARE MY CHARITABLE OPTIONS WITH CFNO?

Donations to the Foundation can come in the form of cash, shares, bonds, bequests, pledges, memorials and life insurance. Of course planning your charitable legacy is an important matter that you should discuss with your legal and/or financial advisor to determine your best approach to charitable giving, but consider the numerous options available through your local Community Foundation.

**Endowment Funds** are a significant way for your charitable interests to be served **in perpetuity**. Setting up a new endowment fund requires a minimum donation of \$5,000.00, however, you can donate smaller amounts to the Foundations Community Fund or to existing funds.

Donors to the Foundation may choose from different types of funds to meet their charitable goals:

- Designated Fund:
- Donor Advised Funds
- Field of Interest Funds
- Scholarship Funds
- Charitable Organization Endowment Funds
- Community Fund

## How can I make a contribution to the Foundation?

Once you have decided that you wish to make a gift to the foundation and you have discussed this with your financial adviser, a Foundation representative can advise on the remaining steps.



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