

NOVA SCOTIA

RURAL
COMMUNITIES
FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2013

Dedicated to creating a dynamic, healthy and prosperous future for Nova Scotia's coastal and rural communities

Who We Are

The Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia (RCF) is an emerging charitable foundation governed by a volunteer Board of Directors from across the province.

Teresa MacNeil *Chair*

Arlene MacGregor *Vice Chair*

Al England *Treasurer*

Elsbeth McLean-Wile *Secretary*

Cathy Leslie *Director*

Jayne Hunter *Director*

Trudy Amirault *Director*

Mark Austin *Director*

Tracy Kittilsen *Director*

Brenda Wallace-Allen *Director*

Contact Us

Email info@ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca

Visit our website www.ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca



Photo: Kimberly Smith.

Cover photos by Elaine Frampton, except 'Guysborough Farm in Winter' by Derek Hendsbee.



Our Mission

To build on the strengths of Nova Scotia's rural communities by stimulating and establishing philanthropic giving, to develop a permanent endowment and to grant funds.

Our Vision

Nova Scotia's rural communities are dynamic, healthy and prosperous!

Our Values

- We believe in the inherent value of rural communities and the important contribution they make to our province.
- We believe in being accountable to donors, grantees and communities.
- We believe that leadership and innovation are integral parts of community vitality.

A Defining Statement

The Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia supports community based initiatives which:

- Seek to improve understanding of issues facing rural and coastal communities in Nova Scotia.
- Offer solutions to problems and challenges of rural and coastal Nova Scotia.
- Create an environment that enhances and sustains rural and coastal Nova Scotia.

Message from the Chair

Our website includes this arresting message:

“The board is now at a crossroads. All options have to be considered so that The Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia can continue to be a partner in shaping the future face of rural Nova Scotia.”

Just before last year’s AGM we confronted the crossroads: the number of worthy funding applications was increasing to a point where our endowment fund was insufficient to meet the valid demand. We would not be able to continue despite our ten-year success in funding projects of rural community-based groups. This year, for example, there were 24 qualifying applications for our Leadership Grant, totalling nearly \$111,000. We awarded 5 totalling \$18,300. There are few alternatives where the remaining applicants can obtain financial support. Convinced that the Foundation’s funding success is too vital to ignore, we chose to significantly strengthen our endowment fund.

The Board is putting together the necessary pieces to undertake a campaign for funds. One-time financial support from the Province enabled the hiring of a Fund Development Coordinator for a one year term. She is working in cooperation with our very active committees toward a full-blown campaign, expected to be launched this fall.

The Foundation’s day-to-day work continued in addition to the focus on fund development. Thanks to a Service Agreement with Literacy Nova Scotia, we are proud of our website, our social media initiatives, and of the timely management of a range of business commitments.

We are a “working board” in the sense of fulfilling roles that might otherwise be filled by paid staff.

Because our members live in the west, east, north, and south of the province most of our meetings are held through teleconference. This year three Board members attended the Georgetown Conference on rural revitalization in Atlantic Canada; one member attended the annual conference of the Community Foundation of Canada, in Winnipeg; two members pursued the question of the appropriate relationship of our Foundation with the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia; and, five members participated in a one-day workshop to develop a Business Plan for the Foundation.

By anyone’s measuring stick the Board of Directors of the Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia has performed at the highest level over the past year. We reluctantly say farewell and express the heartiest Thank You to three members who will not be renewing their terms. We have much to complete of the plans they helped to build, and we promise not to let them down.

Teresa MacNeil

Chair



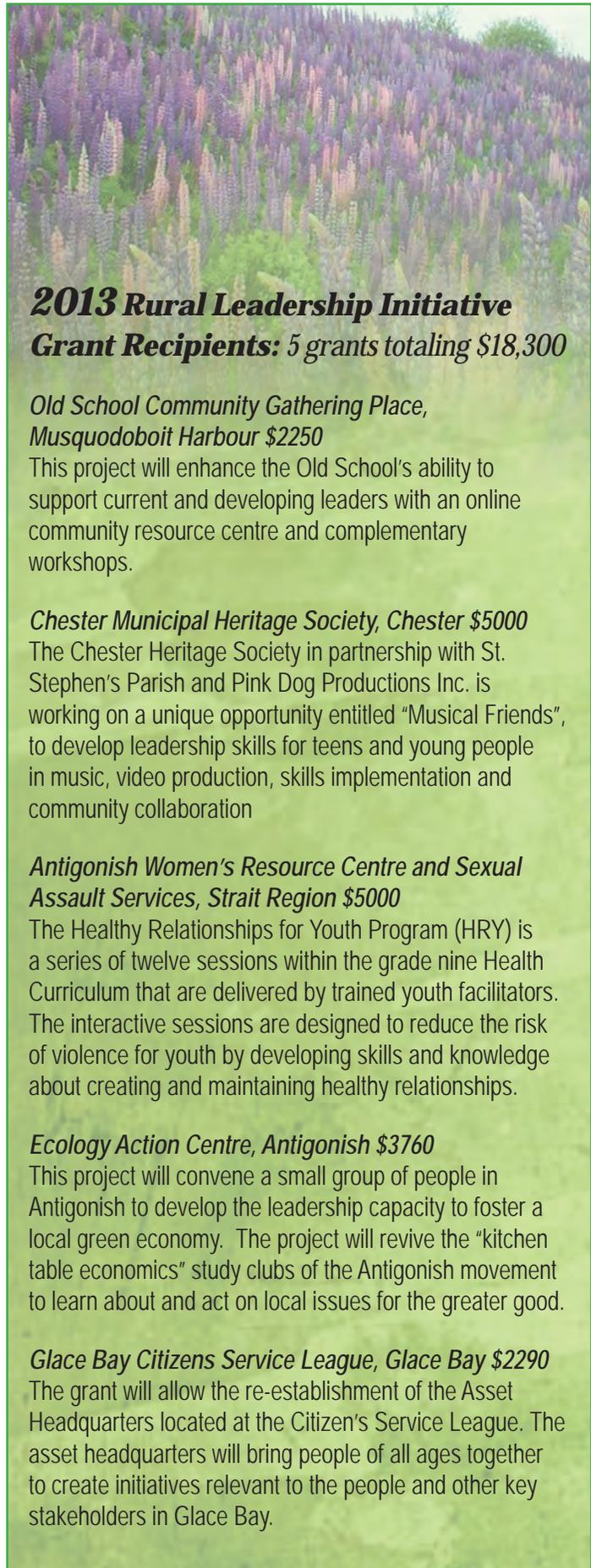
Teresa MacNeil, Chair

Accounts for the year - Year ended December 31, 2013

This summary is based on excerpts from the unaudited financial statements of the Review Engagement by McIsaac-Darragh Chartered Accountants.

Income and Expenditure Account for year ended December 31, 2013

	2013	2012
REVENUE	\$	\$
Rural Leadership Capacity Development Fund	37,508	
Donations and grants	1,674	-
Barkhouse Little Rock Curling	272	-
Rural Innovation Fund	-	177,620
	<u>\$ 39,454</u>	<u>\$ 177,620</u>
EXPENSES		
Advertising and promotion	889	121
Funding Development Coordinator	5,024	-
Interest and bank charges	68	125
Literacy NS service fee	14,346	22,779
Meetings and travel	6,397	7,870
Memberships	550	600
Office expenses	2,283	3,998
Professional Fees	3,049	5,375
Rural Innovation Fund grants	-	140,210
Rural Leadership Initiative grants	15,000	14,924
	<u>47,606</u>	<u>196,002</u>
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	<u>\$ (8,152)</u>	<u>\$ (18,382)</u>
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES)		
Dividend income	546	244
Interest income	518	968
Realized gain on disposal of investments	886	6,178
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	12,647	12,055
	<u>14,597</u>	<u>19,445</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 6,445</u>	<u>\$ 1,063</u>
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2013	2013	2012
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 53,752	\$ 9,015
Accounts receivable	-	-
HST recoverable	1,177	1,149
Investments	344,382	215,785
	<u>399,311</u>	<u>225,949</u>
INVESTMENTS HELD IN TRUST	<u>8,434</u>	<u>7,244</u>
	<u>\$ 407,745</u>	<u>\$ 233,193</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 10,375	\$ 5,678
Deferred contributions	162,492	272
	<u>172,867</u>	<u>5,950</u>
TRUST LIABILITY	<u>8,434</u>	<u>7,244</u>
	<u>\$ 181,301</u>	<u>\$ 13,194</u>
NET ASSETS		
General Fund	75,149	68,704
Internally restricted reserve fund	151,295	151,295
	<u>226,444</u>	<u>219,999</u>
	<u>\$ 407,745</u>	<u>\$ 233,193</u>



**2013 Rural Leadership Initiative
Grant Recipients: 5 grants totaling \$18,300**

**Old School Community Gathering Place,
Musquodoboit Harbour \$2250**

This project will enhance the Old School's ability to support current and developing leaders with an online community resource centre and complementary workshops.

Chester Municipal Heritage Society, Chester \$5000

The Chester Heritage Society in partnership with St. Stephen's Parish and Pink Dog Productions Inc. is working on a unique opportunity entitled "Musical Friends", to develop leadership skills for teens and young people in music, video production, skills implementation and community collaboration

**Antigonish Women's Resource Centre and Sexual
Assault Services, Strait Region \$5000**

The Healthy Relationships for Youth Program (HRY) is a series of twelve sessions within the grade nine Health Curriculum that are delivered by trained youth facilitators. The interactive sessions are designed to reduce the risk of violence for youth by developing skills and knowledge about creating and maintaining healthy relationships.

Ecology Action Centre, Antigonish \$3760

This project will convene a small group of people in Antigonish to develop the leadership capacity to foster a local green economy. The project will revive the "kitchen table economics" study clubs of the Antigonish movement to learn about and act on local issues for the greater good.

Glace Bay Citizens Service League, Glace Bay \$2290

The grant will allow the re-establishment of the Asset Headquarters located at the Citizen's Service League. The asset headquarters will bring people of all ages together to create initiatives relevant to the people and other key stakeholders in Glace Bay.

Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia was registered July 11, 2000 under the Canada Corporations Act. Registration number: 3786251