



RURAL COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION *of* NOVA SCOTIA



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA
all for community.

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

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

Who We Are

The Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia (RCF) is a charitable foundation governed by a volunteer Board of Directors from across the province. RCF is the only rural-focused member of the Community Foundations of Canada and a member of Volunteer Canada.

Teresa MacNeil *Chair*

Arthur Bull *Vice Chair*

Al England *Treasurer*

Tracy Kittilsen *Secretary*

Cathy Leslie *Director*

Brenda Wallace-Allen *Director*

Chris Atwood *Director*

John Beaton *Director*

Kathy Gamache *Director*

Steve Young *Director (resigned December 2015)*

Jayne Hunter *Resource to the Board*

Mark Austin *Resource to the Board*

Contact Us

Email info@ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca

Visit our website www.ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca



Yarmouth Harbour. Photo courtesy Barb Murphy Crowe.

Cover photos, clockwise from upper left:

Blue Rocks Photo courtesy Elaine Frampton.

Lunenburg Harbour. Photo courtesy Nova Scotia Tourism Agency.

Valley Winter. Photo courtesy Kimberly Smith.

Buoys on a Barn. Photo courtesy Elaine Frampton.

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 communities in Nova Scotia.
- Offer solutions to problems and challenges in rural Nova Scotia.
- Create an environment that enhances and sustains rural Nova Scotia.

Message from the Chair

Every committed volunteer knows it takes the diligence of already-busy people to do what we do. My Board colleagues don't stop at being board members. They work on committees. To get the work of the Rural Communities Foundation done we increase the load by combining committee mandates. Thus, the **Operations** committee deals with regular finances and investments; the **Granting** Committee includes Nominations; and the **Communications and Fund Development** committees sometimes recruit the entire board. We work in ways never dreamed, writing information items, or acting boldly to raise funds. What we do is ambitious; always in a spirit of comradeship and with satisfaction. In the absence of full-time staff, we work comfortably with administrative services provided through Literacy Nova Scotia. Again this year, the Foundation maintained a strong program while establishing a solid platform for its future.



Teresa MacNeil, Chair

We continued the grants program to develop leadership skills. Names of the four recipients are presented on page

4. Activities for three of them were respectively carried-out in Antigonish, Annapolis River area, and East Hants; the fourth extended its reach to Inverness, Victoria and Cumberland counties. This program is the fundamental thing we do. It addresses the critical need to develop leadership skills in rural Nova Scotia.

We don't stop there. We are heavily challenged by this province's need for rural revitalization.

Over twelve years of granting, the Foundation gained recognition for its competent management of the fund-granting process which distributed nearly half a million dollars. Still, we regret that our limited financial resources mean we cannot support many other excellent applications. What we are doing about that is to shift our operations to centre around three pillars: **Endowment building; Granting that involves various partnerships; and Convening people around rural community issues.** We are refining our approach to endowment building; initiating partnership arrangements with two province-wide organizations; and convening an assembly of persons who are now building a coalition of rural interests.

In response to an invitation from the government of Canada to submit a proposal for ways to improve Rural Seniors' access to services through the intervention of a Seniors Navigator, we received two-year funding for a locally-centred approach that will be carried out in four selected rural communities.

I want to thank my board colleagues and others who support our work. Special thanks are due members concluding their terms; and, a hearty welcome to new ones joining the Foundation's expanded work.

Teresa MacNeil

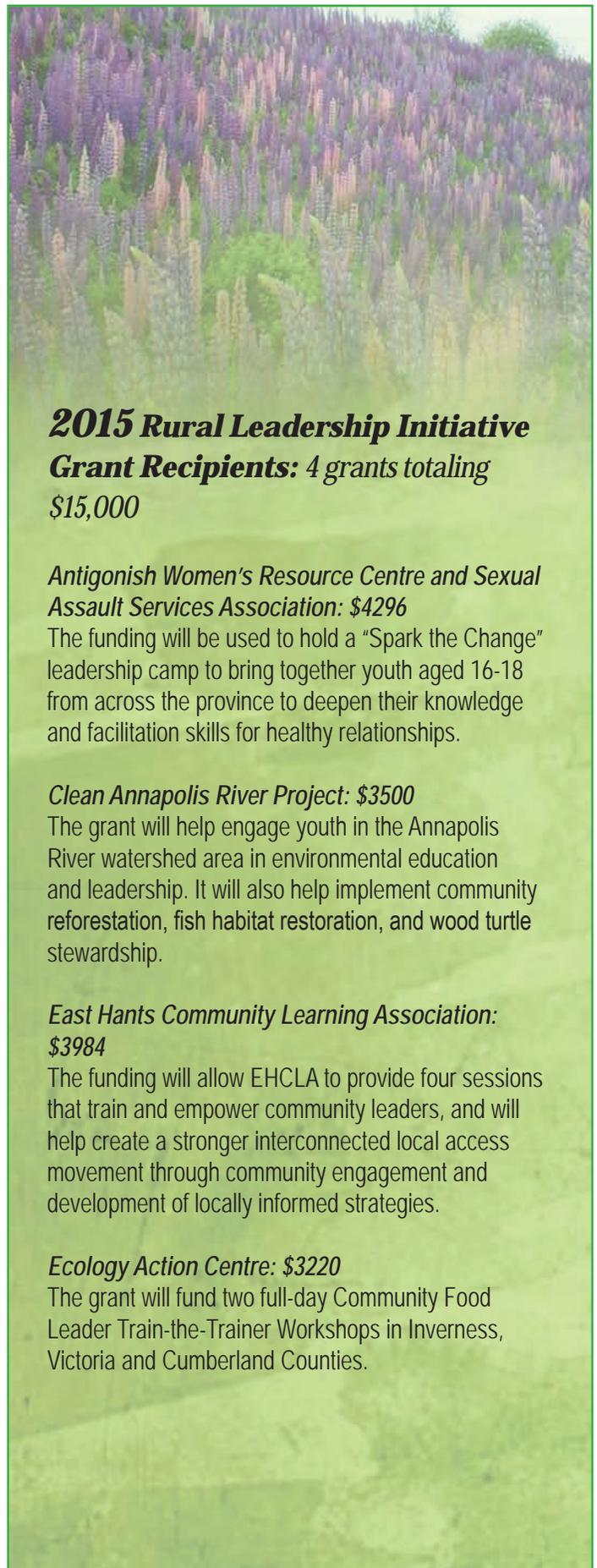
Chair, Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia

Accounts for the year - Year ended December 31, 2015

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, 2015

	2015	2014
REVENUE	\$	\$
Rural Leadership Capacity Development Fund	54,546	107,947
Donations and grants	1,805	11,315
New Horizons for Seniors Project	9,252	-
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	\$ 65,603	\$ 119,262
EXPENSES		
Advertising and promotion	113	6,528
Funding Development Coordinator	-	47,732
Interest and bank charges	38	170
Literacy NS service fee	27,500	25,200
Meetings and travel	11,198	10,187
Memberships	620	550
Office expenses	2,318	3,771
Professional Fees	14,929	3,225
Rural Leadership Initiative grants	15,000	15,000
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	71,716	112,363
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	\$ (6,113)	\$ 6,899
OTHER INCOME		
Investment income	4,804	2,306
Unrealized gain on investments	(44)	12,754
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	4,760	15,060
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ (1,353)	\$ 21,959
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2015	2015	2014
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 4,428	\$ 5,968
Contributions receivable	300	250
HST recoverable	1,712	4,858
Prepaid expenses	-	450
Investments	257,202	294,441
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	263,642	305,967
INVESTMENTS HELD IN TRUST	9,571	9,180
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	\$ 273,213	\$ 315,147
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 7,968	\$ 3,019
Deferred contributions	8,625	54,546
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	16,593	57,565
TRUST LIABILITY	9,571	9,180
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	\$ 26,164	\$ 66,745
NET ASSETS		
General Fund	82,737	85,895
Internally restricted reserve fund	164,312	162,507
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	247,049	248,402
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	\$ 273,213	\$ 315,147



2015 Rural Leadership Initiative Grant Recipients: 4 grants totaling \$15,000

Antigonish Women's Resource Centre and Sexual Assault Services Association: \$4296

The funding will be used to hold a "Spark the Change" leadership camp to bring together youth aged 16-18 from across the province to deepen their knowledge and facilitation skills for healthy relationships.

Clean Annapolis River Project: \$3500

The grant will help engage youth in the Annapolis River watershed area in environmental education and leadership. It will also help implement community reforestation, fish habitat restoration, and wood turtle stewardship.

East Hants Community Learning Association: \$3984

The funding will allow EHCLA to provide four sessions that train and empower community leaders, and will help create a stronger interconnected local access movement through community engagement and development of locally informed strategies.

Ecology Action Centre: \$3220

The grant will fund two full-day Community Food Leader Train-the-Trainer Workshops in Inverness, Victoria and Cumberland Counties.

Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia was registered in July 11, 2000 under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act. Registration number: 3786251