



# RURAL COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION *of* NOVA SCOTIA



## ANNUAL REPORT 2016

*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.

Arthur Bull *Chair*

Teresa MacNeil *Past Chair*

Greg Levy *Vice Chair*

John Beaton *Treasurer*

Kathy Gamache *Secretary*

Brenda Wallace-Allen *Director*

Chris Atwood *Director*

Maureen Coady *Director*

Jean Ward *Director*

Jayne Hunter *Resource to the Board*

Anna Roch *Senior Navigator Project Coordinator*

### Contact Us

Email [info@ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca](mailto:info@ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca)

Visit our website [www.ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca](http://www.ruralcommunitiesfdn.ca)



**Annapolis Valley Produce.** Photo courtesy Tourism Nova Scotia

Cover photos, clockwise from upper left:

1. Digby Harbour, 2. Pictou Harbour, 3. Dog Sledding at Sugar Moon, Tatamagouche. Photos courtesy Tourism Nova Scotia
4. Flowers 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***

### **2016 was an important year of growth and development for the Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia (RCF).**

Drawing on our greatest strength, which is that we are deeply rooted in the life of rural Nova Scotia, we have both broadened and deepened the ways in which we support rural organizations.

**This work, effectively led by the Board, has been largely carried out by RCF's committees, and each delivered on their mandates, and more.**

**The Fund Development Committee continued its work on the creation of grant programs that focus on the immediate issues facing rural Nova Scotia.** These included three key grant programs: **the Rural Youth Grant Program, the Woodlot Owners Innovation Fund and the Rural Seniors Grant Program.** Each of these programs was based on collaborations with partner organizations, an approach to grantmaking that we believe is breaking new ground. In addition, it also laid the groundwork for the **Rural Vitality Grant Program**, which is being delivered in 2017.

**The Grant/Nomination Committee did excellent work in managing the Seniors Grant Program, supporting five exciting initiatives relating to rural seniors.** RCF also facilitated a grant of \$20,000 from RBC for Heartwood Centre for Community Youth Involvement, our partner on the youth grant program. This committee also delivered on the nomination side of their mandate, bringing in three excellent board members. These new directors, **Greg Levy, Jean Ward and Maureen Coady**, have jumped right in and contributed a lot over the last year.

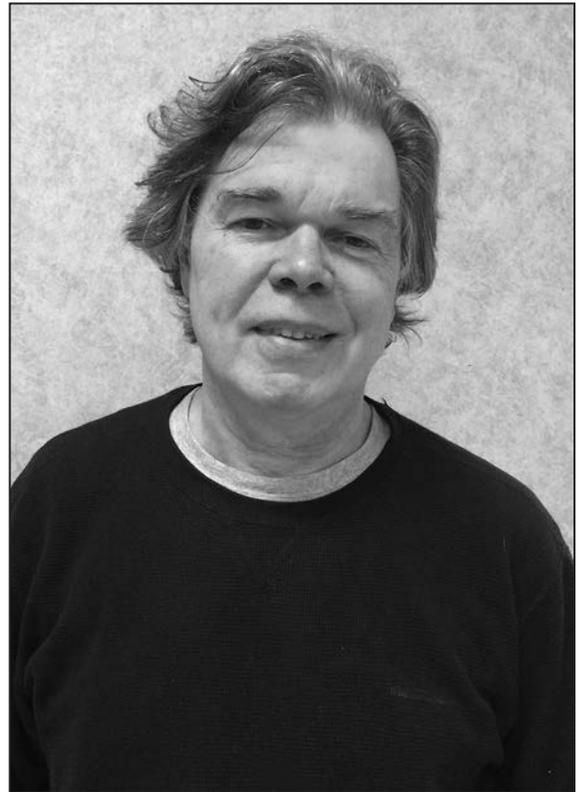
**RCF continues to collaborate with our sister organizations, and in particular with Literacy Nova Scotia, which continue to provide us with solid dependable and well-informed support in our operations.**

**The Finance Operation Committee has extended its track record of financial management, supporting RCF's reputation for transparency and accountability.** This is largely due to the work of our outgoing Treasurer **John Beaton**, to whom we wish a fond farewell, together with the very best of wishes for the future. This was also the last year on the board for our Past Chair **Teresa MacNeil**, whose clear-eyed judgment and leadership has provided a steady hand on the tiller for RCF over many years. We, and in fact all of rural Nova Scotia, owe Teresa a huge round of applause. I am sure that we will still be calling on her for advice for some time to come.

**Looking ahead to 2017 and beyond, we see that RCF still has huge challenges awaiting us.** 2016 put us in a position to meet these challenges with new energy and imagination.

**As we set new targets and objectives, we remain rooted, above all, in our belief in the inherent value of the small communities of rural Nova Scotia.**

*Arthur Bull, Chair  
Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia*



*Arthur Bull, Chair  
Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia*

## Accounts for the year - Year ended December 31, 2016

This summary is based on excerpts from the audited financial statements by Mclsaac-Darragh Chartered Accountants.

### Income and Expenditure Account for year ended December 31, 2016

	2016	2015
<b>REVENUE</b>	\$	\$
New Horizons for Seniors Project	68,347	9,252
Donations	26,045	1,805
Rural Housing Nova Scotia	1,500	-
Rural Leadership Capacity Development Fund	-	54,546
	\$ 95,892	\$ 65,603
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising and promotion	2,279	113
Literacy NS service fee	18,057	27,500
Meetings and travel	14,407	11,198
Memberships	575	620
Office expenses	5,994	2,357
Professional fees	8,200	14,929
Salaries and benefits	30,415	-
Rural Leadership Initiative Grants	-	15,000
	79,927	71,717
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS</b>	\$ (15,965)	\$ (6,114)
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Investment income	11,911	4,804
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(745)	(44)
	12,656	4,760
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	\$ 28,621	\$ (1,354)
 <b>Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2016</b>	 2016	 2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 36,465	\$ 4,428
Contributions receivable	-	300
HST recoverable	1,353	1,712
Prepaid expenses	450	-
Investments	279,491	257,202
	317,759	263,642
<b>INVESTMENTS HELD IN TRUST</b>	9,993	9,571
	\$ 327,752	\$ 273,213
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 784	\$ 7,967
Deferred contributions	41,305	8,626
Trust liability	9,993	-
	52,082	16,593
<b>TRUST LIABILITY</b>	-	9,571
	\$ 52,082	\$ 26,164
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
General Fund	111,358	82,737
Internally restricted reserve fund	164,312	164,312
	275,670	247,049
	\$ 327,752	\$ 273,213

## 2016 Rural Seniors Grant Program: 5 grants totaling \$15,000

### Seniors' Safety Program Association of Hants County: \$3300

The grant provides funding for Seniors' Lunch and Learns that allow seniors from differing communities to socialize, share a nutritious, hot meal and enjoy presentations from community groups and volunteers on topics related to seniors health, safety and well being.

### Hants Shore Health Association: \$1500

The funding pays for the weekly Shore Seniors Drop-In Program. Each Thursday, seniors gather at the Centre Burlington Hall for presentations, a healthy lunch, low impact aerobics sessions and musical entertainment.

### Harrison Lewis Coastal Discovery Centre Society: \$3700

The grant is used to facilitate the Elderberry Program, which is designed to promote senior mobility and socialization by encouraging active participation in Nova Scotia's natural environment and rural history. The program consists of monthly day trips to the Centre for presentations, nature walks, hands-on activities, led discussions, and lunch.

### Old School Community Gathering Place Cooperative Ltd: \$2500

The funding pays for the Community Based Peer Support Program for Chronic Disease Management. Through the program, people living with chronic illness are able to access information sessions, resources and mentoring in order to adopt health strategies to improve their lives.

### Richmond Literacy Network: \$4000

The grant will be used for the Seniors Take Action Conference, which will focus on the contribution of seniors in rural communities and how volunteer involvement helps to reduce social isolation and increases community engagement. Seniors, stakeholders and service providers will gather to recognize the contribution of seniors in our communities.

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