



# RURAL COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION *of* NOVA SCOTIA



## ANNUAL REPORT 2019

*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.

**Jean Ward** *Chair*

**Kathy Gamache** *Secretary*

**Marta Anderson** *Treasurer*

**Arthur Bull** *Past Chair*

**Chris Atwood** *Director*

**Maureen Coady** *Director*

**Chris Googoo** *Director*

**Marta Anderson** *Director*

**Sherry MacLeod** *Director*

**Ben Haightway** *Director*

**Holly Kennedy** *Director - (Resigned February 1, 2020)*

**Jayne Hunter** *Resource to the Board*

### Contact Us

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

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



*The Landscape of Grand Pré. Photo Courtesy Tourism Nova Scotia.*

*Cover photos, clockwise from upper left:*

*Horses Near the Harvest Moon Trail. Photo courtesy Elaine Frampton.*

*Mavillette Beach Provincial Park. Photo Courtesy Tourism Nova Scotia.*

*Photographer: Acorn Art Photography.*

*Cape Breton. Photo courtesy Tourism Nova Scotia. Photographer: Wally Hayes.*

*Historic Shelburne. Photo Courtesy Tourism Nova Scotia. Photographer: Acorn Art Photography.*

## 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*

**N**ova Scotia is geographically rural and the fabric of our economy lies within the rural areas. We are in the midst of the COVID-19 with self-isolation and closures of businesses, yet within rural areas, our milk, eggs, beef, poultry, wine, vegetables, fruit and honey and fish are still available so consumers in the urban areas can be fed.

**During 2019/20, many grants have been awarded to many areas and for many reasons in rural Nova Scotia. The RBC Future Launch Community Challenge** funded by the RBC Foundation through Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) is designed for community youth aged 15 - 29 and their partner organizations to turn the bold ideas of the youth into reality through leadership of programs. These programs include health, food security, education, the environment and many other community priorities. There are 7 projects, totalling \$90,000.00 being conducted throughout Nova Scotia, all the way from Digby to Glace Bay. While participants are learning leadership and management skills, they are also contributing to the community through the rentals of halls and schools and the purchase of supplies. It is hoped that through the skills developed with the management of these projects, they will also become the future leaders in our communities.

**The Community Sparks Program**, funded by Susan Hirshberg and her family, is designed to empower youth to turn good ideas into direct action on climate change. "The youth are often already leaders on climate change issues in their community and are also a valuable resource for bringing creativity, energy and passion to solve the thorny issues surrounding climate change in Nova Scotia," says Susan Hirshberg. A donation of \$13,605.00 was made available to youth groups through an application process for seven grants to carry out projects.

**The Gender Equality Program** of 2 grants totalling \$33,000.00 was made available to the Town of Port Hawkesbury and the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation to carry out projects in their community. This program was funded through the CFC who joined the Equality Fund and the Government of Canada to advance gender equality known as the Pilot Fund for Gender Equality. This Pilot Fund will capture learnings that will help inform future learning opportunities.

**Donations of land and properties** continued to be made and added to the endowment fund.

**RCF continues to collaborate with our sister organizations** including Community Foundation of Nova Scotia (CFNS) and has assisted them with the IRP program. Literacy Nova Scotia (LNS) continues to provide us with dependable support in our operations.

**RCF committees Granting and Nomination, Fund Development, and Engagement** continue to work diligently in carrying out the duties of their committee work to ensure the programs and efforts of RCF are in good hands.

**This past year, monthly board meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month and are enhanced by the use of the Zoom program.** We welcome 4 new directors: Eirinn Fraser, Penny Day, Mark Embrett and Ella Lentz. Their skill sets and interest in RCF will be an added bonus to our work.

**As I write this report, many things are in limbo.** Because of COVID-19, we've had to postpone Anniversary celebrations for 20 years of operation planned for June 2020, and vital conversations for the RBC grantees.

**Many thanks to the board of directors, to LNS, to Chris Atwood who is retiring, and to Arthur Bull** who stepped down as chair last year but continues to be a director.

***Jean Ward***

*Chair, Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia*



**Jean Ward**  
*RCF Chair*

## Accounts for the year - Year ended December 31, 2019

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

### Income and Expenditure Account for year ended December 31, 2019

	2019	2018
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
RBC Future Launch Community Challenge	90,000	-
Community Spark Grant and admin fee	18,793	-
Donations	598	50
Storytelling Project Grant and admin fee	-	14,000
New Horizons for Seniors Project	-	5
Rural Housing Nova Scotia	-	500
	<b>\$ 109,391</b>	<b>\$ 14,555</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Advertising and promotion	322	826
Community Spark Grants and expenses	15,793	-
Honoraria	-	500
Literacy NS service fee	28,400	28,400
Meetings and travel	12,912	6,098
Memberships	469	592
Office	1,252	1,959
Professional fees	6,988	6,450
Property expenses	6,964	521
RBC Future Launch Community Challenge Grants	90,000	-
Rural Vitality and Senior Grants	-	1,500
Storytelling Project	-	11,015
	<b>163,100</b>	<b>57,861</b>

<b>DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ (53,709)</b>	<b>\$ (43,306)</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Investment income	4,135	4,152
Realized gain on sale of investments	3,751	2,804
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	8,078	(12,866)
	<b>15,964</b>	<b>(5,910)</b>

<b>DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (37,745)</b>	<b>\$ (49,216)</b>
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<b>Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2019</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
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<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ -	\$ 2,582
HST recoverable	1,511	1,749
Investments	184,857	193,893
Prepaid expenses	-	450
	<b>\$ 186,368</b>	<b>\$ 198,674</b>

<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Bank indebtedness	\$ 551	\$ -
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,681	-
Deferred contributions	19,207	-
	<b>25,439</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
General Fund	(3,981)	34,362
Internally restricted reserve fund	164,910	164,312
	<b>160,929</b>	<b>198,674</b>
	<b>\$ 186,368</b>	<b>\$ 198,674</b>

## 2019

### Community Sparks: 7 grants totaling \$13,605

The Seagull Foundation.....	\$2,000
Navy League of Canada Cape Breton Division; Glace Bay Branch.....	\$2,000
Chapel Island Indian Band (3 grants).....	\$5,700
Bridgewater Inter-Church Food Bank.....	\$1,905
Clean Nova Scotia Foundation.....	\$2,000

### RBC Future Launch Community Challenge:

7 grants totaling \$90,000

Ducks Unlimited Canada.....	\$13,500
Kings Volunteer Resource Centre.....	\$10,170
Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation.....	\$15,000
Tatamagouche Centre.....	\$15,000
Calvary Temple.....	\$15,000
Pictou County Roots for Youth Society.....	\$6,330
Navy League of Canada Cape Breton Branch.....	\$15,000

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