

Annual Report 2006



Oxford
Community

FOUNDATION

Message from Board President and Executive Director

"Giving today is what shapes our community for the future".

By giving of time, talents and resources this generation will leave a legacy for those who follow.

Since its inception, Oxford Community Foundation (OCF) has been a catalyst to attract community resources and to direct funds in perpetuity within Oxford County.

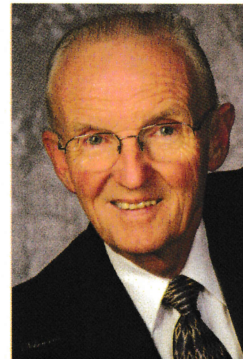
The Board of Directors and committee volunteers continue to forge new partnerships to promote philanthropy. This year there was an emphasis on creating awareness of causes and opportunities through presentations to political, community, and service organizations.

Community development actively remained the focus of the Foundation. It involved partnerships with the cultural community, the Oxford Youth Strategy Committee, along with champions of the environment and agencies which support volunteers.

Through the generous support of our donors, three new funds were established in 2006 and the Founders Circle program was launched. The Foundation has been able to attract new donations and through strong investment returns a solid financial base is being created.

OCF is a member of Community Foundations of Canada, a national network of local foundations where grants are directed to assist urban and rural organizations. This year OCF awarded nine grants throughout the county. Making a lasting difference is what really matters and the Foundation has been working to build local knowledge that helps connect donors to the causes and organizations that matter most to them.

The Foundation is truly indebted to our Board and other community volunteers for their tireless efforts in making the Foundation a worthy and contributing organization.



Earl Shea - President



Pat Smith - Executive Director

Vision

To enhance the quality of life throughout Oxford County by fostering community philanthropy.

What is Oxford Community Foundation (OCF)?

Oxford Community Foundation is one of 155 community foundations across Canada established to be:

- the steward of funds, which are pooled in a permanent endowment to serve the Oxford community in perpetuity;
- the administrator of grants to a wide range of interests through registered charities committed to making a difference in the quality of life in the county;
- a leader in identifying needs and working with other community agencies to assist organizations and communities of interest. The Foundation acts as a catalyst for innovative approaches to connect people and causes to make a difference in Oxford.

Types of Funds within OCF

- **Community Fund** – This unrestricted endowment fund allows the Foundation to identify and respond to ever-changing needs by focusing dollars on creative and effective grants. These may be awarded to an extensive range of needs such as: arts and culture; health; education; recreation; environment and social services.
- **Field of Interest Fund** - The donor decides which area of need the fund should help. Grants will be given which will impact that field of interest.
- **Donor Designated Fund** - Donors can ensure that grants will be awarded to their chosen organization(s).
- **Agency Endowment Fund** – Charitable agencies may establish permanent endowment funds, the income of which will provide operating support forever.
- **Donor Advised Funds** – The donor recommends specific grants from the fund, based on his/her interests.

Service to Donors

The Foundation works with donors to make it easy to give back to the community by creating a named fund or contributing to an existing fund. Donors who endow their gifts can make a difference in the community during their lifetime, and at the same time, provide a gift that lasts forever.

Why choose OCF?

- We build permanent endowments that will benefit Oxford forever.
- We help donors create legacies, thereby promoting philanthropy in our community.
- We are a local organization with knowledge in a wide variety of local needs.
- We provide flexible giving options.
- We can maintain donor intent even when community needs and organizations change.
- We multiply the impact of gifted dollars by pooling them with other gifts and grants.
- We assist donors with options which may provide significant tax benefit.
- We look after the administration and required reporting related to your legacy.

There are a variety of ways to create a legacy:

- Cash
- Securities
- Life insurance
- Bequests
- Other more complex asset transfers such as property and remainder trusts

Investment

Stewardship is one of Oxford Community Foundation's most important responsibilities, requiring strict oversight and intelligent investment. Management of the Community Foundation's portfolio is vested with the Board of Directors through the Investment Committee.

With an investment policy developed jointly by the Investment Committee and our investment consultant at RBC Dominion Securities, the Community Foundation delivers excellent returns. OCF is fortunate to have the experience of these individuals to establish performance benchmarks and continuously monitor portfolio effectiveness. The Investment Committee adheres to a disciplined process, regardless of market fluctuations, to ensure the integrity of the Foundation and the preservation of donor intent in perpetuity.

Our Funds

Community Fund

As OCF continues to grow, the unrestricted Community Fund provides the underlying heart of the Foundation. Donations of all sizes are combined to provide the means to operate the Foundation and provide the Grants Committee with the most flexibility in meeting community needs. In December 2006 we began the Founders Circle to accelerate the growth in the Community Fund.

Douglas and Yvonne Eckel Fund

Yvonne and Doug have been significant contributors to many worthwhile causes over the years. It is part of their “give back” make up. They believe that the Foundation is the best way to benefit others for generations to come. The variety of activities supported make any donation to a community foundation appealing.

As treasurer, Doug knows better than anyone else the importance of building a stable base to support the Foundation. He and Yvonne chose to create a named fund within the unrestricted Community Fund. In May 2006 the federal tax laws changed allowing individuals to donate stocks and securities to community foundations without having to pay tax on the capital gains on their appreciated value. Doug and Yvonne chose to donate securities receiving a tax receipt for the current value of their stock and without having to pay tax on the capital gain. This allowed for a greater donation to the Foundation. This was truly a ‘win, win’ situation.



Field of Interest

Brian and Rosemary George Cultural Fund

Brian and Rosemary have both been very active in the community providing and supporting musical and theatrical productions, the Rotary Music Festival and providing leadership on various volunteer boards and in their church. It is not surprising they were two of the first donors to step forward in order to give back. Their lives have been enriched by cultural opportunities. They chose to create the Brian and Rosemary George Cultural Fund so that others might also be able to participate in cultural experiences. Their action has served as an inspiration to Helen Darby who annually contributes to the George Fund as an expression of gratitude for the lessons and transportation her late mom provided to enrich her life. It has become Helen's unique way of honouring her mom's birthday. Currently this is an Emerging Fund. Grants will begin to be made from this fund when the capital commitment to establish the fund is complete.



Oxford Environmental Legacy Fund

This fund currently is valued at over \$10,000. The fund was made possible through the generous support of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and the County of Oxford as matching contributors. Grants from this fund will be used to educate and promote sustainable environmental projects and practices throughout the County.

Fund Held for Others

Oxford Community Foundation assists the Children's Aid Society of Oxford County by investing an independent agency fund along side the pooled investments. The CAS determines how the earnings from that fund are used on an annual basis. They may be spent for specific purposes or a portion may be added back to help the capital investment grow.

Our Donors

Founders Circle

Donors who contribute \$2,000 to the Foundation by March 31, 2008 will be identified as members of the Founders Circle. They will be listed as such on our website and historical records forever. The confidence and financial commitment of these donors will provide a significant base from which to grow. Our goal is to welcome at least 100 donors to the Founders Circle before our next general meeting in April 2008.

Founders Circle

Alabastine- Wilkinson Family
Brian and Rosemary George
Douglas and Yvonne Eckel
Grant Smith
Bernice Marsland
John B. Finlay and Mary Anne Silverthorn
Shirley Julian
Barry and Pat Smith
George Klosler
Bill and Jane Paquette
Mark and Barbara Seaton
Michael Harding and Terry Chisholm
Don Post
William and Mary Mackesy
Gene and Phyllis Lawrence
David and Sherry Lowes
David and Lynda MacKenzie
Pow Laboratories Inc.
Ted and Mary Thorn
Ernie Hardeman
Jeff and Kelly Cole
anonymous donors

Contributors

Marion Harrington
Neil and Inez Fishwick
Liz Lessif
Eileen Stamper
Penny Esseltine
Diane Stuart
Kelly Cole
Ken and Lynda Whiteford
Helen Darby
Norwich Otterville Lions Club
Elsie Taylor
Learning Unlimited

Grants from:

The Ontario Trillium
Foundation
J.W. McConnell Family
Foundation
County of Oxford

In Memorium

Donations have been received
in memory of:
Robert Jull
Agnes Riley
Anne Barah

In Tribute

The marriage of Joanna Taylor
and Jim Gallagher

2006 Grants - \$6,000

1. *Canadian Harvard Aircraft –
\$750 to assist with light fixtures and radiant heater*
2. *CMHA Oxford Suicide Prevention –
\$500 for the production of a brochure*
3. *Oxford Early Years-
\$1,000 to expand 'School's Cool' program*
4. *Friends of the Otterville Park –
\$500 for promotional material for Bicentennial*
5. *Ingersoll Services for Seniors –
\$350 for exercise mats and weights*
6. *Oxford Child and Youth –
\$1,000 for the expansion of Moms, Tots and Mother Goose Program*
7. *Oxford Co. Library Norwich –
\$450 for a double-sided children's reading bench*
8. *Oxford Winds - Junior Concert Band –
\$500 for leather music folders*
9. *Community Living Tillsonburg Lisgar Place Family Resource Centre –
\$950 for purchase of tables and chairs*



photo by John Tapley, Ingersoll Times

2006 Board

Executive Committee

Earl Shea – President

Diane Stuart – Vice President

Rosemary George – Secretary

Douglas Eckel – Treasurer

Grants Committee

Diane Stuart – Chair

Barry Hunt

George Klosler

Liz Lessif

Janet Wilkinson

Jim Magee -environmental resource

Fund Development and Marketing

Kelly Cole – Chair

Penny Esseltine

Rosemary George

George Klosler

Mark Seaton

Earl Shea

Tanya Murray

Ferne Woolcott

Nominating Committee

Warden of Oxford County - Paul Holbrough -Chair

Pres. Oxford Law Society – Robert Stewart

Pres. United Way of Oxford –Monty Shillington

Principal Fanshawe College – Sheri Knott

Pres. Oxford Labour Council – Broderick Carey

Investment Committee

Douglas Eckel, FCA - Chair

Rosemary George

Gene Lawrence, CPF

Leonard Reeves



Mark Seaton, Rosemary George, Pat Smith ED, George Klosler, Diane Stuart, Liz Lessif, Penny Esseltine, Doug Eckel, Earl Shea, Barry Hunt (retiring director) absent - Kelly Cole, Kelly Gilson (ex officio)

**HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL STATEMENT - OXFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES** Year ended December 31, 2006

	Endowment Funds						Operating Fund	
	Funds Held for Others		Non Designated Funds		Designated Funds		2006	2005
	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005		
<i>Revenues</i>								
Contributions		20,000	37,011	25,000	15,532		54,272	45,000
Investment Income-net	2,234	165	4,760	3,233	999		1,659	119
Services and other							398	2,451
	2,234	20,165	41,771	28,233	16,531		56,329	47,570
<i>Expenditures</i>								
Grants / draws made							11,432	2,415
Grants, etc. to be made			3,829	2,657	745			
Office costs							40,697	14,558
			3,829	2,657	745		52,129	16,973
<i>Excess of Revenues over Expenditures</i>	2,234	20,165	37,942	25,576	15,786		4,200	30,579
<i>Fund Balances</i>								
Beginning of year	20,165		25,576				31,629	1,032
<i>Fund Balances</i>								
End of year	22,399	20,165	63,518	25,576	15,786		35,829	31,629

The above statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund balances should be read in conjunction with the annual audited financial statements of Oxford Community Foundation.

The challenge we face - the future we want

Thanks to Retiring Board Members

Earl Shea

Earl Shea is a founding member of the Foundation who has participated since the initial discussions of the feasibility and creation of a community foundation in Oxford. Earl helped formulate the first strategic plan and brought his marketing experience to the Board table. Earl served as Vice-President until becoming President in 2006.

Earl leaves knowing the early, shared hopes and dreams for establishing the Foundation have become reality. Thank you, Earl.

Douglas Eckel

Doug joined the Foundation Board in 2004 with a commitment to share his expertise and experience in the development of the Foundation. Doug served as treasurer throughout his term with the Foundation. He has been instrumental in policy development, setting up internal accounting and reporting systems and has served as the chair of the Investment Committee. The Douglas and Yvonne Eckel Fund, established in 2006, leaves a lasting legacy and reminder of the many hours of dedication and personal commitment Doug provided to ensure the Foundation got started on the right foot(ing).

Thank you, Doug.

Penny Esseltine

Penny Esseltine served a partial term with the Board in 2006. She was a member of the Fund Development and Marketing Committee. Her photography, as well as excellent writing and editing skills, contributed greatly to the production of our promotional materials.

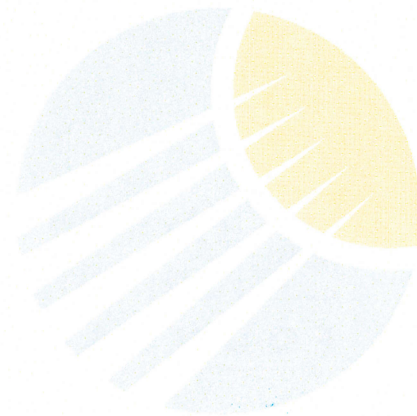
Thank you, Penny.



Acknowledgment

*So much can be accomplished when we work together.
The Foundation is indebted to our many committee volunteers
and the following for their “in kind” support:*

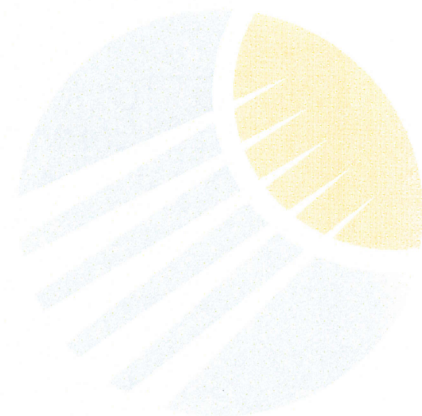
*WDDS –office space and administrative equipment
VanParys, Micacchi, Shippey & Warnick LLP – auditors
Bill Paquette – design and layout
Bill Ebel – technical support*





For further information about the Foundation, including how you can become involved or support the Foundation, please contact:

Pat Smith, Executive Director
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www.oxfordcommunityfoundation.org
Registered Charities Number 89481 8103 RR0001



Member of



Community
Foundations
of Canada

Fondations
communautaires
du Canada



The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives annually \$100 million of government funding generated through Ontario's charity casino initiative.

Establish Roots in your community - help seed a fund



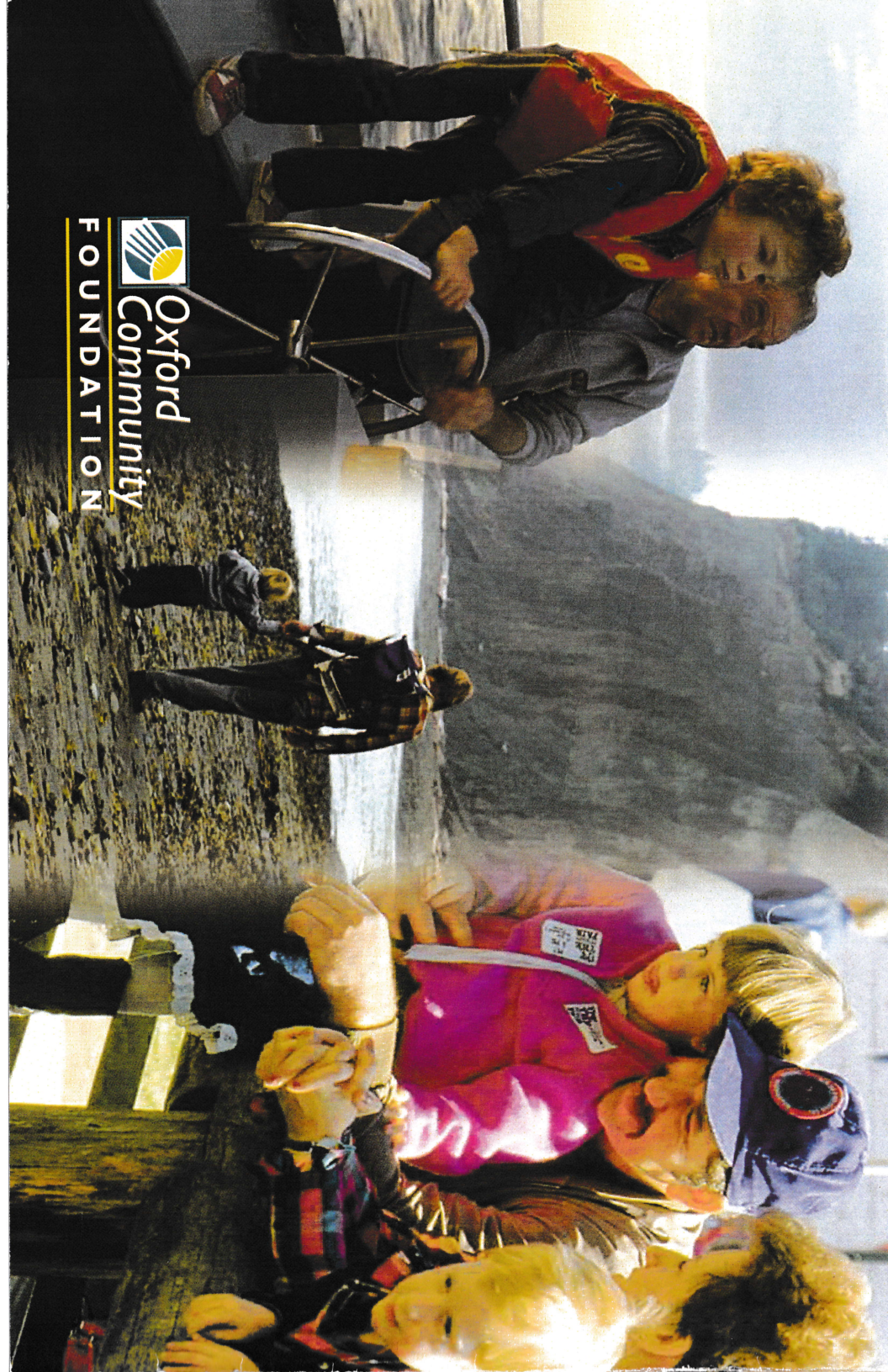
Dr. Barry Hunt presents a grant to Terri McCartney and Dr. William McLeish of the Oxford Suicide Prevention Coalition to assist the Canadian Mental Health Association with the production of an awareness and educational brochure.



Paula Hathaway received the first grant from the Alabastine-Wilkinson Fund on behalf of Community Living Tillsonburg's Lisgar Place. The Alabastine family has a history of supporting their community by helping to make life a little easier for those needing assistance. Through the Alabastine -Wilkinson Fund the caring legacy lives on.



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