A Message from our Executive Director

"Join me in imagining..." These words were used by His Excellency David Johnston when speaking to the national Community Foundations of Canada conference in Vancouver in 2011.

Six years after hearing the words and twelve years as Executive Director, I am delighted to reflect on some of the initiatives and possibilities the foundation has imagined into reality:

- A new name and a new geographic region.
- A community grants program that has reinvested over $1 million since 2004.
- Community conversations on topics ranging from food and food security to Canada 150 to belonging to reconciliation and more.
- A community recognition program called SHINE, honouring people who "help make a difference around here." (See front and back covers.)
- Elevate 150, a national workshop that invited young adults to come to Banff in 2015, sparking visions that are turning into projects in 2017.
- A shared board room and SPACE Lab in the heart of Banff that is about to be launched as a gift to our community in 2017. Read more about this multi-purpose accessible venue on page 6 of this report.

Viewing the foundation’s role through a lens of “imagining belonging” helps me see our impact with a fresh perspective. As we think about belonging, we can address issues that may arise due to differences - whether age or gender or emotional health or cultural context or due to physical realities. Building belonging is an invitation to focus on our collective humanity, overlook our differences and build a personal sense of purpose for the benefit of all.

It’s not just my imagination. Our community is a valley full of capable, talented, and confident people - people who are simultaneously citizens, neighbours, co-workers, parents, grandchildren and born into a world of diverse destinies with tremendous potential. Thanks to all who have volunteered, donated, and helped the foundation in our work to move in the direction of a smarter, more caring community of communities.

It is now my pleasure to step aside and get ready to watch the foundation grow in exciting new directions. Thanks to all who have been part of this stretch during the foundation’s formative years and I hope you will stay involved as we welcome Rob Buffler to this position.

My parting advice? Whenever you aren’t quite sure what to do or say or write or think, try starting the sentence with: “Join me in imagining...” Then, get ready to watch the magic unfold.

Lorraine Widmer-Carson
outgoing executive director of BCCF
Located within Treaty 7 territory, we honour this valley as the home of the Blackfoot, Tsuut’ina and Stoney Nakoda Nations, as well as the Zone 3 Metis.

Social capital is the currency of civil society. It’s the bridges, bonds, shared values, relationships and understandings that enable individuals and groups to trust each other and so work together. It is measured not in dollars or stocks, but in trust, goodwill, fellowship, sympathy and social interaction.

— Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
In June 2016, five Canada 150 projects were awarded from the Banff Canmore Community Fund for Canada’s 150th. The Canada 150 funding was made possible through a matching grant program set up by Community Foundations of Canada and supported by the Department of Canadian Heritage, philanthropic visionaries and donors at all levels.

Mural Project in Banff, Canmore, Exshaw, and Lake Louise — Professionally mentored and inspired by youth, the themes of “belonging and inclusion” will be illustrated in large and colourful murals in five communities

Telling Our Stories — Listening, learning, sitting and sharing—Stoney Nakoda elders will support this legacy project of benches and markers in several locations on lands in the Stoney 1st Nation, MD of Bighorn, and Ghost River Valley

The Shoe Project — Women new to Canada and the Bow Valley will be invited to tell their stories with confidence and skill as they use “the shoe” a symbol of travel and arrival

SPACE Lab — New and innovative programs will soon be launched in the SPACE Lab. The grand opening is on Sept. 20, 2017

Introducing the Banff Commonwealth Walkway

Another gift to community on the occasion of Canada’s 150 is the Banff Commonwealth Walkway. This collaborative project honours the 90th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and celebrates Canada’s heritage, while encouraging everyone to get outside and to enjoy the benefits of walking.

This project has been made possible through the support of the steering committee representatives from Parks Canada, the Town of Banff, Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff Centre, Banff & Lake Louise Tourism and the Banff Canmore Community Foundation. Board Chair Bill Fisher, was invited by Her Honour to serve as committee chair. The walkway will be unveiled on September 20, 2017 as part of a day of celebrations in Banff for Canada 150.

Representatives of the Banff Commonwealth Walkway steering committee gather at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II’s 90th birthday on April 21, 2016 and to unveil the bronze plaques that will mark the walkway.
Community Champions

In 2015 seven corporate partners became our Community Champions. Now, there are 20! By joining forces with the foundation, our Community Champions are helping us build a brighter shared future for groups working in the Lake Louise to Exshaw corridor.

Have you seen the Community Champions decal on windows and doors around the Bow Valley? Please take time to thank the operator for their investment in the program and for their commitment to community. Together, we are building the capacity for social good.

To learn more, go to: banffcanmorecf.org/communitychampions

We did it!

Since 2004, the foundation has reinvested over $1M in projects that support community health and wellness across all sectors.

Our signature grants program is strengthened thanks to our Community Champions and to all the donors who entrust the foundation to deliver on our mission. Granting decisions are overseen by the board of directors and supported by volunteers who bring their diverse opinions to the grants adjudication process.

At a Glance

April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017

Total Donations and Grants Received and Recognized

- Community Endowment Fund: $103 K
- NOW* Fund (restricted): $182 K
- NOW Fund (unrestricted): $186 K

Grants and Distributions Awarded

- From Endowment Funds: $1.756 M (The Banff Centre Fund and Community Endowment Fund)
- From Operating Fund: $218 K (NOW Fund, not endowed)

March 31, 2017 Total Assets Under Administration: $12.3 Million

Audited Financial Statements can be found on our website: banffcanmorecf.org.

* NOW Fund is for immediate programming purposes
Welcome to SPACE Lab!

SPACE. It's an acronym for: Share Philanthropy: Act with Care and Empathy.

Lab is short for Laboratory = a place for research and learning.

Thanks to our donors and community partners, our SPACE Lab is ready for lift-off. A renovation project at 214 Banff Avenue has transformed the underused basement into an accessible, inclusive, meeting, learning and working space for youth and young adults, centrally located in the heart of Banff.

The SPACE Lab will be a multi-purpose room where youth and young adults can find friends, play games, learn a new skill and discover that they are not alone. This project is about building acceptance, inclusion with occasional lapses of goofiness, creativity and fun. SPACE will be programmed by our community partners who will offer programs that prevent feelings of isolation, alienation, hopelessness and loneliness. This project is a positive step in the direction of joy, optimism, and faith in the future by creating a safe, neutral, community space for sharing.

Can’t wait to see ya in SPACE!

“Nurturing a vibrant community where everyone belongs is at the heart of community foundations across Canada. We’re honoured to support the SPACE Lab in Banff, which will create a bridge across our differences to build an inclusive space for all youth and young adults.”

— Eva Friesen, President & CEO of The Calgary Foundation
What is belonging?

Simply put, belonging is being part of a collective “we.” It’s about how much we believe we fit into a group or a place and how much that place or group welcomes or includes us.

Why care about belonging?

When we feel that we belong:

- Our children learn better
- Our communities bounce back better after emergencies
- Our neighbourhoods are safer
- We have better employment opportunities
- We are healthier
- We are more likely to donate money and volunteer our time
- Life has more purpose

“We need to challenge ourselves as a community. We need to be able to look at ourselves and be confident that we’ve extended every opportunity, exercised every possibility, executed on every tiny little thing within our power to ensure we’ve made a meaningful commitment to smart young minds.”

— Katie Tuff, COO of Banff Hospitality Collective

Read all about it

In the Fall of 2016, we conducted original research on the topic of Sport and Belonging in the Bow Valley.

Take a look at what we found:

banffcanmorecf.org/programs-events/sport-belonging/
Two New Funds Established

Canadian Rockies Science Fair Fund

A new fund to help local students find their passion for the sciences.

Called the Canadian Rockies Science Fair Fund, this fund will support school children from Lake Louise to Exshaw with student prizes, transportation subsidies to the Canada-Wide Science Fair, teacher training, and mentoring support for science fair participants who wish to further develop their science projects.

Created with a $25,000 donation from an anonymous donor through the Edmonton Community Foundation in March 2017, the Foundation hopes to see it grow.

“I can imagine that when this fund reaches $100,000, the income earnings will allow a $4,000 distribution to further the goals that the donor has in mind,” Bill says. “I am encouraging the community to join this anonymous donor in helping young people reach their potential. Gifts of every size will be pooled and leveraged, to increase the earning potential of this gift. Because together, we're stronger – investing in our young learners is an excellent investment in our shared future.”

Launch of Foreman Wong Scholarship

When Christie Foreman and Christopher Wong bought Banff Dental Care in 2012 they made a decision to approach their business with sound entrepreneurial skills. The husband and wife team decided to view all decisions through a lens of ‘how might we do things better?’

Fund purpose: to support residents between the ages of 21 and 35 who have a connection to Banff National Park and are actively pursuing their educational goals with a view of giving back to the community.

“We are thrilled that Chris and Christie have made this decision and are delighted by their commitment to philanthropy,” executive director Lorraine-Widmer Carson says. “Banff Dental Care is stepping up in a new way – as business people, as philanthropists, entrepreneurs and as role models. It is so wonderful when young professionals move into town, grab hold of community ideals and make such a strategic and philanthropic statement by establishing an educational scholarship endowment fund.”

Hats off to Dr. Christie Foreman and Christopher Wong on behalf of all of the young people who will benefit from this decision for years and years to come!
What is an endowment?

An endowment is a professionally managed investment fund owned by the foundation. Generally, new gifts are added to the invested fund and over time, the income generated is distributed in accordance with the fund purposes - restricted or unrestricted. Endowment funds generally have dual goals:

1. To maintain their real economic value

2. To make distributions that provide ongoing support to the community, thus aligning local priorities with donor wishes and the foundation’s mission.

There are options related to timelines, fund purpose, and financial impact. Questions? We are happy to help.

NEW! The Shining Stars Monthly Giving Program

Monthly giving is a quick and convenient way to make a significant difference in the lives of your friends and neighbours in the Bow Valley throughout the year.

How It Works

Each month your gift will automatically be charged to your credit card on the same date. You can cancel your support at any time. You will receive a tax receipt for the total of your annual donations. Once a year, we will also send you an update that highlights how your monthly gift has been leveraged to create lasting impacts in the community.

To become a monthly donor, go online to: banff-canmorecf.org/help-us-grow/shining-stars-monthly-giving-program/
Annual Donor List:
April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017

Individuals
Anonymous (4)
Melanie Aldread
Karen Antrobus
Kathy & Paul Arney
Karen & David Aspden
Betsy & Andrew Aziz
Maja Beck
Garth Beetstra
Tammy & Luc Berthiaume
Rae-An Bilodeau
Margaret & Elliott Bingham
Ian Bird
Joan & Sean Booth
Paula Booth
Michelle Borowiecki
Margaret & Fred Bosinge
Shelly Buchan
Dawn & Bruce Byford
Brian Callaghan
Laurel Carlton
Donna Carson
David Chaplin
Ron Chapman
Taxeares Chustas
Graham Cobb
Shane Coulits
Margaret & Stewart Crerar
Anita Batrum Crosby
Nancy DaDalt & Bob Krysak
Kristy Davison
Elizabeth Desjardins
Mark Dickin
Corrie DiManno
Ashley & Andrew Donohoe
Merna Duncan
Chris Duncan-Webb
Jeremy Elbourne
Leah Elenko
Richard Elenko
Roxanne Elenko
Ruby Elenko
Vince Elenko
Susan Elkins
Ruby & Bill Fisher
Christie Foreman &
Christopher Wong
Sam Forrest
Les Furer
Dennis Graham
Patricia Green
Brett Habijanac
Betsy Hall-Findlay
Pat & Bob Haney
Carla & Hans Helder
Jeff Henderson
Janet & Keith Hoffart
Anne Hopkins
Diana & Joe Horler
Ginette & Larry Huismans
Frances Hunter
Jill Jamieson
Priscilla & Robert Janes
Ronda Krasnodemski
Jessica & Julien LaBonte
Marsha Laub
Yvonne & Doug Machuk
Brenda & Ian Mackie
Heather MacPherson
M.E. MacRae & David Miyauchi
Cynthia Magee
Joanna Magee
Nancy Mannix
Mike Maskewich
Peter McCaffrey*
Kylie McKendrick
Scott Moncur
David Morihiro
Shaina Morihiro
Carol & David Morrison
Paddy Mulloy
Bruce Nagel
Madeline Nagel
Stephanie Nagel
Matthew Naruzny
Sandy Naruzny
Trevor Nichols
Yuka Ozawa & Ed Whittingham
Susan & Taso Palidis
Eric Porter
Mary & Stephen Prime
David Purcell
Sonja & John Purcell
Ruth Quinn
Lynne Richardson
Mary & John Robbins
Carolyn Robertson
Jill Robinson & Steven Smith
Alan Rogers
Jillian Roulot & Jim McIvor
Peter Scantlebury
Charles Scott
Nini Secara
Mona & Ray Seguin
Erin Sellers
Jean Shafo
Glenn Shortt
Susan & Nathan Simms
Brenda & Al Skiber
Kevin Slemko
Allison & Jeremy Sluyters
Miller Smith
Reid Solodan
Karen & Carsten Sorensen
Elizabeth Sorochan
Barbara Steiner
Bill Stirud
Heather Stubley
Paul & Eva Sylvestre
Jodi Townsend
Joanna & Cor Vande Panne
Lori Ward
Lorraine & Erwin Widmer
Joanne Wilson
Kevin Wood
Melissa & Graham Young
Jina Zuemir

Businesses
1588510 Alberta Ltd
ATCO Energy
Barbara McNeil & Associates
Buffaloberry Bed & Breakfast
Dance For Joy Studio Banff
Doncath Holdings
Dr. Greg Buchko Professional Corp
Eric Harvie Professional Corp
Job Resource Centre
K.T. Feragen Consulting
Paradise Lodge & Bungalows
Rocky Mountain Agencies Co.
Rocky Mountain Telecom
Seekers Media
Stones Jewellery

*With condolences to the McCaffrey family
SHINE: the faces on the cover

At the heart of the Bow Valley is a vibrant community of people who make our mountain towns a better place to live, work, and spend our days. These people represent who we are at our core.

Find out more at banffshine.com.

Save the dates

September 20, 2017 — A day of Canada 150 celebrations. Banff Commonwealth Walkway unveiling and SPACE Lab grand opening!
November 15, 2017 Kindness Day — Come by 214 Banff Ave for cookies and messages of kindness
January 26, 2018 — NEW Community Grants deadline
April 27, 2018 — Deadline for scholarships including: Marika Laub Memorial Scholarship, Foreman/Wong, and Lafarge are due.

In-Kind Support

Ashton Construction Services
Banff Ave Brewing Co.
Banff Park Lodge
Guenther’s Landscaping
Parks Canada
TD Bank
Ticino Swiss-Italian Restaurant

Foundations & Others

Banff Alpine Racers Ski Club
Banff Mountain Film & Book Festival
Canadian Mountain Arts Foundation
Community Foundations of Canada
Crowfoot Media Inc.
DC Anderson Family Foundation
Mactaggart Third Fund
Mitchell Legacy Fund
Park Warden Service Alumni Society
Royal Canadian Legion, Colonel Moore Banff Branch #26
The Calgary Foundation
The Edmonton Community Foundation
Toronto Foundation
Town of Banff
United Way Ottawa
Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation

SPACE Lab donors

Anonymous (1)
David and Christine Anderson Family Foundation
Margaret & Elliott Bingham
Ian Bird
Brian Callaghan
Canada 150 Fund
David Chaplin
Community Foundations of Canada
Margaret & Stewart Cretar
Edmonton Community Foundation
Priscilla & Robert Janes
Mactaggart Third Foundation
Mona & Ray Seguin
The Calgary Foundation
The Rick Hansen Foundation
Ticino Swiss-Italian Restaurant
Town of Banff
Lorraine & Erwin Widmer & Family

Gifts in Kind:

Parks Canada
Ashton Construction Services
Enlightened Organizing

Welcome

Rob Buffler, our new BCCF executive director

As an experienced and passionate non-profit leader, Buffler has a successful history of innovation, collaborative leadership, and relationship building with proven management, communication, political and business acumen, and fundraising abilities. Buffler has also delivered community-based programs at the local, regional, and international level for various NGO’s (non-governmental organizations).

“We are excited to welcome Rob to the Banff Canmore Community Foundation team and look forward to introducing him to our donors and community partners in the coming months,” says board chair Bill Fisher. “We are confident that Rob’s passion and vision for our community will serve us well into the future.”