

West Side Legacy Trail
Supporter of 2019 Construction



ANNUAL 2019 REPORT

Because we love our community...



Dean Midyette
Chair



Caitlin Hall-Sharp
Executive Director

message from the
**CHAIR &
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

It was a year of innovation and change for the Columbia Valley Community Foundation (CVCF).

After years as Executive Director, during which time she raised the profile of the foundation to successful new heights, Laurie Klassen stepped down in August 2019. With the skill and support of Sheila Leman as Interim Executive Director, the CVCF hired Caitlin Hall-Sharp in early 2020. We are grateful to both Laurie and Sheila for their support during this transition.

In 2019, our Board of Directors also welcomed three new faces: Nancy Wilfley, Shawn Raven and Kyla Lam, two of whom are featured in this Annual Report (see pages 8 and 9). These individuals bring a wealth of insight, professional experience, and passion for our community. Our Board is a diverse and dedicated group of individuals who volunteer their time, expertise and heart in the operation and development the foundation. It is with these individuals that we are able to build and support a stronger community.

The 2018 Vital Signs Report identified important local topics. As follow-up, in order to better understand the challenges, needs, and opportunities within our community, the foundation organized a series of facilitated discussions through the “On the Table” program (to read more on this project, see page 14). To remain a vibrant, adaptable and connected organization, initiatives such as this help us understand how we can best serve our community through impactful granting. Thank you to those who shared their insights and ideas.

***Our Board is a diverse and dedicated
group of individuals who volunteer their
time, expertise, and heart in the operation
and development the foundation.***

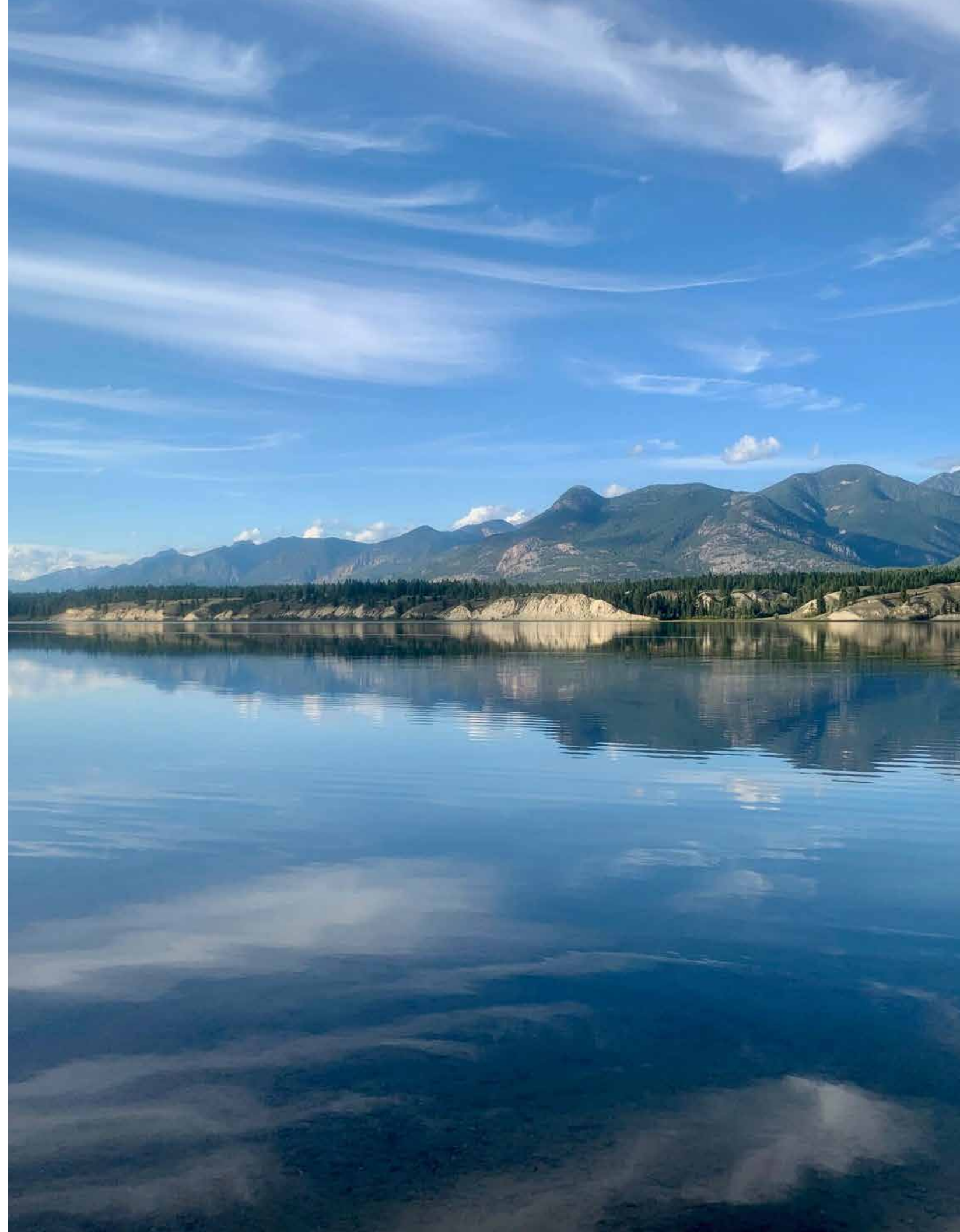
Our impact is made possible by community-minded, generous donors like Alan J. Witherspoon. Alan was a passionate artist who, with a gift to the CVCF, created the Alan J. Witherspoon Memorial Fine Arts Award. This new fund granted its first student award in 2019 to an individual pursuing post-secondary in the fine arts. For more information on this legacy, see pages 4-5.

We are forever grateful for the support from all our donors: past, present and future. Their vision and generosity make it possible for the CVCF to fulfill its mandate to “support investment in people, ideas and activities through inspired philanthropy.”

It is with your support that we build stronger and more vibrant communities in our region. On behalf of the Columbia Valley Community Foundation and Columbia Valley communities — thank you!

Yours in Giving, **DEAN MIDYETTE**
Chair, CVCF

CAITLIN HALL-SHARP
Executive Director, CVCF



PASSING ON HIS PASSION

for the World of Arts



Alan in the 1960s

“It was his decision to begin with,” said his daughter, Deb Witherspoon. “He wanted to give something but wasn’t sure how.”

When Alan fell ill in 2014 and could no longer manage errands like picking up groceries, he received help from a local single mother who was struggling financially.

“This made him realize there may be students in the valley who might not be able to afford college or university,” Deb said. “My father was empathic to these students.”

She believes Alan specifically designated the fund for young artists who want to pursue art because as a youth that’s what he wanted to do, but his parents did not support this decision.

Alan was born in Montreal in 1926. When he was four, his family moved to Penticton where Alan finished high school. Shortly after graduation, he joined the Canadian Armed Forces for two years before going on to study at the University of British Columbia, graduating with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Geological Engineering in 1952.

A self-taught artist passionate about sketching, painting and taking pictures, Alan’s art took a backseat while he became geological engineer, but from his diaries, it’s evident drawing became a comfort

Alan J Witherspoon Memorial Fine Arts Fund

Years before his death, retired geological engineer and artist Alan Witherspoon was vocal about his desire to leave a lasting legacy for the Columbia Valley.

and positive outlet for him during that time.

Alan’s career led him to spend many summers surveying the Rocky Mountains with pack horses during the 1950s. In 1959, he met and married Arlene Newel and they settled in Calgary. Several years later, they were introduced to the Windermere area through friends. In 1967, Alan and Arlene purchased a property in Windermere and built a cabin, where their three children — Deb, Jill and Jim — spent every summer and many weekends.

“In Calgary, Alan built a studio downstairs in the house and spent hours practising, sketching, painting and designing,” said Deb. “On vacations at the Windermere cabin, he would take the truck and lunch, and spent all day in the mountains, painting on site. He was passionate about his art.”

Alan first started painting using oil and acrylic, then taught himself how to use watercolours. He read a multitude of art books then practised the techniques while making notes on what worked and didn’t, creating binders full of his work.

Alan’s art became a constant amid many changes. His career brought him and his family to England, then Denver, Colorado. Following his divorce, Alan moved to Boulder,

Colorado then Germany. Throughout his travels, he yearned to settle in the Columbia Valley, which he eventually did upon retirement in 1990 and his passion for sketching and landscape painting continued. He also began to explore different mediums.

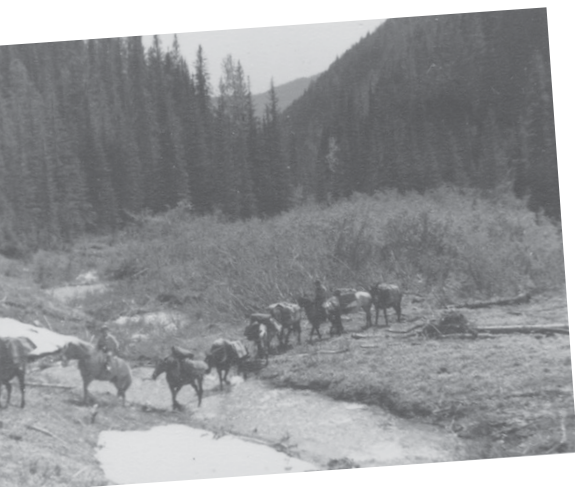
“Whatever he dabbled in, his drafting designs were unique, his furniture stunning, his mirrors elaborately carved, his photographs beautifully composed and his wood turnings made ornate vases. It is through the Alan J. Witherspoon Memorial Fine Arts Fund that his passion for the arts will live on,” states the memorial fund’s description on the CVCF website.

“My siblings and I have four containers of paintings and sketches, hundreds and hundreds,” said Deb. “He was incredibly talented and is now ensuring that young artists in the valley area are able to cultivate their own passion and do something with it.”

Alan rewrote his will to include the legacy fund before he passed away in March 2016. The Alan J. Witherspoon Memorial Fine Arts Fund was established in 2019 to provide bursaries to Columbia Valley youth pursuing an education in Fine Arts. To learn more visit, <https://valleyfoundation.ca/alan-j-witherspoon-memorial-fine-arts-fund/>.



Samples of Alan’s art from his vast array of work.



One of Alan’s survey expeditions with pack horses crossing the north fork of Windermere Creek.

IMPACT OF VITAL SIGNS

in our community

CV Arts programming supported

The Columbia Valley Arts Council is one of the longest running registered charities in the Columbia Valley. With inclusive programming open to all ages, CV Arts (as it's commonly known) is much loved by the Valley community, and a vital part of the local culture and lifestyle.

The CV Arts headquarters — the charming and historic Pynelogs Cultural Centre located at Kinsmen Beach in Invermere — is a hub of live music, art shows, special events, art sales, workshops and more throughout the year, and offers the added benefit of a picturesque lakeside restaurant overlooking Taynton Bay that operates during the spring and summer months.

As a result of a random fire safety inspection in early 2019, CV Arts learned there was a requirement to install a fire suppression system above the commercial stove in the Pynelogs kitchen. CV Arts was given time to seek out the best system for the facility and find funding to get the job done.

“Purchasing and installing a new kitchen fire suppression system was required to keep

Pynelogs’ commercial kitchen to code, so that it can continue to be used and rented in order to keep generating revenue for those CV Arts programs that operate at a loss,” said CV Arts president Lisa Zavitz. “For the last two years, Café Allium has been renting the kitchen and restaurant space and we wanted that relationship to continue.”

The District of Invermere owns Pynelogs and is responsible for maintaining the exterior of the building and surrounding grounds. As the leasee, CV Arts manages the building and takes care of any interior maintenance and preservation work when the need arises and funding is available.

“In this case, the cost of installing the kitchen fire suppression system was CV Arts’ responsibility and presented a funding challenge because it’s an infrastructure expense not directly related to arts and culture or heritage building preservation work, which are typical granting streams,” Lisa said.

Historically, the CVCF Community Grants program has supported other infrastructure projects at Pynelogs, including the construction of a new reception desk, which now graces the entrance of the Pynelogs gallery, and moving the AV system from its original location in the kitchen (where it was unlocked and sustaining damage) to a custom-made cabinet in the main performance space.

“We were ecstatic that the Community Foundation awarded CV Arts the full amount we requested through the Community Grant program. Those funds combined with financial support from the Regional District of East Kootenay’s Grant in Aid program covered the entire cost of purchasing and installing the new system,” said Lisa, “We would not have been able to keep the Pynelogs kitchen compliant with building code regulations without the foundation’s incredible support.”

A CVCF Community Grant helped purchase new safety equipment for the Pynelogs commercial kitchen.

Innovative app will benefit local youth

In early 2019, the Summit Youth Centre in Invermere started looking at more ways to get mental health information out to local youth. Thanks to a successful application to the RBC Future Launch Community Challenge (a partnership between the RBC Foundation and Community Foundations of Canada), the Summit Youth Centre Hub App was born, putting this important information literally into youth’s hands.

“We wanted to have a tool where we could have this information in one place, including the Kids Help Phone, which is a crisis hot line that anyone can use,” said Summit Youth Centre Director Kelsey Prichard.

The Summit Youth Centre Hub App was one of 210 youth-led initiatives in small and mid-sized communities across Canada to receive a RBC Future Launch Community Challenge grant. The Challenge was a call to action for youth, aged 15 to 29, to team up to turn their bold community ideas into reality. Through the Columbia Valley Community Foundation, the Summit Youth Centre received \$15,000.

“We have youth voices on our board of directors, within our Centre staff, youth leaders and volunteers,” said Kelsey. “We held consultations about the kinds of things youth wanted to see in the app, and what they would find useful. That’s why we included the volunteer and job opportunities section — local opportunities to get some work experience.”

The Summit Youth Centre Hub App can be downloaded for free onto iPhones through the Apple App Store or onto Android phones using Google Play. With one tap on the icon (which appears as the Hub’s colourful logo), users enter the

app where they are immediately presented with a selection of options: “What’s Happening” (events, job and volunteer opportunities), “Gallery” (photo gallery), “You” (general news, accomplishments, rewards and coupons), “Information” (descriptions and definitions of all the mental health issues someone could be experiencing), “About Us” (information about the Hub and its events) and “Contacts” (a list of crisis

and emergency numbers as well as health, medical and community resources). On the bottom right of every screen is a little blue hand symbol that links directly to the Kids Help Phone number.

While the main reason for developing the app was for the mental health aspect, there needed to be more to it so that a youth would want to have it on their phone.

“Unless you’re in a crisis or having a mental health issue, you’re probably not likely to be seeking out that information,” said Kelsey, “so we wanted to have a section that was a little bit lighter, someplace they could showcase their skills, accomplishments and pictures of each other. This helps with the stigma piece too, so it’s not just the ‘mental health app’ and youth wouldn’t be embarrassed about having it on their phone.”

The interactive and social side of the app also has the benefit of extending the four walls of the centre to the virtual world so when youth aren’t physically at the centre, they can still feel a part of it.

“We wouldn’t have been able to have it developed without the Foundation,” Kelsey said.



The Summit Youth Centre: a 2019 CVCF Community Grant Recipient, a Recipient of RBC's Future Launch Community Challenge Grant.

BOARD MEMBER FEATURE

Meet two of our new Directors



Shawn grew up in the Columbia Valley and is the youth worker at David Thompson Secondary School.

Shawn Raven, Director

Shawn Raven brings a distinct perspective to the Columbia Valley Community Foundation Board of Directors. For over 15 years, Shawn has worked as the youth worker at David Thompson Secondary School in Invermere, mentoring at-risk youth who find themselves unable to cope with the traditional school setting.

“I work with lower income families and kids who don’t come from well-to-do families — disadvantaged youth who might be couch surfing, for example — so that helps me show the board a different aspect of society and help them see the other side.”

Shawn was raised in the valley and became educated in early childhood development in Victoria before returning to raise a family of her own. With both her daughters now pursuing post-secondary education, Shawn decided the timing was right to apply her skills to the Columbia Valley Community Foundation.

“Both my daughters received scholarships from the foundation, which really helped them pursue their goals, so I saw it as a giving organization and thought it would be really interesting help out,” she said.

Shawn joined the board in 2019. Her expertise in the complexity of serving at-risk youth leads to a better understanding of how government, private philanthropy and public services can work together to serve vulnerable populations and bridge any gaps.

“I love how by supporting students, the community foundation is also supporting families,” she said. “For families that can’t afford to send their child away to school, it’s been very rewarding to see their reaction when their kids receive the bigger scholarships. And when the students send us their impact statements, it’s also rewarding to read those and see how the community foundation has contributed to their success.”

As much as Shawn appreciates how the Columbia Valley Community Foundation connects students to scholarships, she also values the foundation’s role in donating money to local non-profits. She regards the new Columbia Valley Food Bank building as the perfect example of the foundation’s philanthropic work, and is excited to be a part of it.

“It’s a big learning curve, I’ve never been on a board before,” she laughed. “I’m part of the scholarship committee and I really enjoy that, helping kids get funding for their post-secondary education. I would like to help with as much of that as I can.”

Kyla Lam, Treasurer

The first time Kyla Lam drove down the main street of Invermere, she felt like she was home. Kyla moved to the Columbia Valley in 2012 from Mackenzie and it wasn’t long before she became aware of the Columbia Valley Community Foundation.

“I knew that it was gaining a lot of momentum and it was really exciting to see,” Kyla said.

A Chartered Professional Accountant with extensive not-for-profit experience, Kyla was approached by the previous treasurer, Cameron Dow, who had just completed two terms and was ready to step aside.

“I thought it was right the time for me to get involved,” Kyla said. “I’ve always felt really tied to my community and believe that volunteerism is really important.”

The giving nature of the Community Foundation appealed to Kyla, as did the generosity of the permanent and part-time residents who were giving back to the Columbia Valley community through donations to the foundation. Kyla stepped into the role of treasurer last May and appreciates being able to help manage and safeguard these gifts to ensure they contribute to the valley in perpetuity.

“A good portion of the work I’ve always done has been in the not-for-profit and charities sector so I bring that experience,” said Kyla. “It’s something I’m really passionate about.”

Kyla owns her own accounting firm, Aspire Professional Corporation, which she opened in the fall of 2019. She also teaches a Not-For-Profit Board Basics course that she has delivered through both the College of the Rockies and the Mountain Hub.

While every gift to the Columbia Valley Community Foundation is unique and

Kyla moved to the Columbia Valley in 2012 and brings extensive non-profit experience to the role of Treasurer.

precious, Kyla admits to being especially moved by the Arnold Ellis contribution, a donation of over \$1 million to ensure that students in the Columbia valley can continue their education at the post-secondary level.

“I think it is powerful because I know how much scholarships contributed to my university education and easing the financial stress,” she said, “and because he provided for the foundation as well, with an endowment that’s specifically for administration.”

As a Board member, Kyla wants to help grow awareness about the Columbia Valley Community Foundation and the positive contribution it can have on the valley’s way of life.

“We want the community to know who we are, what we do, and how we can contribute or facilitate the different ideas that people have about improving the valley.”



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
of the Year Ended December 31st

	RESTRICTED	UNRESTRICTED	TOTAL 2019	TOTAL 2018
REVENUE				
Donations	183,426	1,416	184,842	241,854
Grants	34,000	15,250	49,250	32,233
Investment Income	129,572	48,424	177,996	177,419
TOTAL REVENUE	346,998	65,090	412,088	438,733
CHARITABLE DISBURSEMENTS				
Community Grants	127,536	0	127,536	150,552
Student Awards	71,400	0	71,400	64,219
TOTAL CHARITABLE DISBURSEMENTS	198,936	0	198,936	214,771
EXPENSES				
Advertising		3,328	3,328	7,337
Bank and Donation Charges		703	703	(133)
Insurance		2,901	2,901	2,585
Membership and Dues		700	700	734
Office and Meeting Costs		16,763	16,763	5,688
Professional Fees		5,963	5,963	6,775
Rent		5,447	5,447	5,447
Subcontracts		15,729	15,729	6,128
Travel and Meals		1,983	1,983	109
Website and Internet		4,812	4,812	9,855
Wages and Benefits		35,935	35,935	40,579
TOTAL EXPENSES		94,264	94,264	85,104
REVENUE IN EXCESS OF EXPENSES				
	\$148,062	\$(29,174)	\$118,888	\$138,898

ENDOWMENT FUND INFORMATION

ENDOWED FUND BALANCES 2019

Value represents Original Contribution plus Undistributed Investment Income

TYPES/NAMES OF FUNDS	Dec 31, 2019
Community Fund	347,275
Kootenay Savings Community Fund	113,632
DESIGNATED FUNDS	
Columbia Valley Arts & Culture Fund	17,305
Environmental Education Endowment Fund	20,310
Hospice Society of the CV Fund	32,153
Invermere Public Library Endowment Fund	18,246
Schnider Family Legacy Fund	20,700
Radium Hot Springs Public Library Fund	23,300
DONOR ADVISED FUNDS	
Gordon Wilder Memorial Fund	52,537
Our Children's Legacy Fund	86,052
Sherry and Harvey Doerr Family Fund (BC)	102,109
Tom Sanders Memorial Fund	109,693
FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS	
Alan J. Witherspoon Memorial Fine Arts Fund	84,476
Ann Tilley Memorial Fund	7,440
Arnold Ellis Scholarship Fund	1,502,195
Bidder Bursary Fund	10,550
Erwin Kloos Memorial Fund	15,645
Fairmont Family Fund	31,511
Opportunities for Youth Fund	90,195
Wittke Family Fund	6,007
OPERATING ENDOWMENT FUND	
Operating Endowment Fund	603,162
TOTALS	\$3,294,493

FLOW THROUGH FUNDS	
Flow Through Fund	13,051
Greg Constable Toyota Corolla Fund	2,838
John Mason Memorial Fund	10,976
Stay In School Fund	5,127

One of the best things about a Community Foundation is helping donors fulfill their wishes.

About our Funds

The Columbia Valley Community Foundation manages charitable gifts from donors whose generosity allows us to create permanent, income-earning funds that are distributed in the areas the donors wish to support.

Donations to the Foundation may be designated or undesignated by the donor:

- *Undesignated* donations under \$1,000 are allocated to operations.
- *Designated* funds can be directed to endowed, flow-through or operating funds.

FUND TYPES WITHIN THE FOUNDATION'S ASSETS

ENDOWED FUNDS are endowed either permanently or for a specific period of time (generally 10-30 years). The contributed principal is invested and the returns from the investments are allocated to grants and operating fees. The donor can provide succession management instructions for the funds during, or after, their lifetime.

- *Community funds* give the Foundation the greatest flexibility to respond to current community needs. Donors can create named funds within the Community Fund.

- *Designated funds* are granted to specific, named charities.

- *Donor Advised* funds are normally established by individuals or families who wish to remain involved in granting decisions and disburse grants annually.

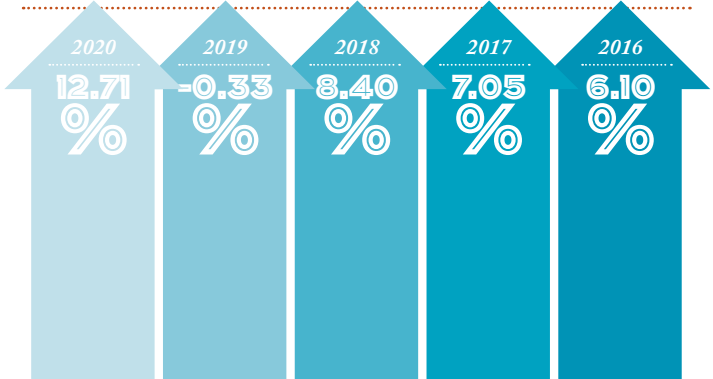
- *Field of Interest funds* are established by donors who wish to support their charitable interests: student awards, arts and culture, environment, recreation, literacy, health and safety, social services, community facilities, youth or education.

FLOW-THROUGH FUNDS are restricted funds. The principal of (Restricted Flow-Through) Funds may be granted at any time as specified by Foundation policy or the donor, generally within 12-36 months.

OPERATING FUNDS come from non-designated or designated donations, and returns on investments from operating endowment funds are available to the Foundation for its operations.

Investment Performance (to Dec 31, 2019)

VANCOUVER FOUNDATION



TREASURER'S REPORT

I find myself penning this year's Treasurer's Report at an unprecedented time, not only for our community, but for the world. In a time of uncertainty and insecurity, I have seen the true heart of this community and there is truly no better place to call home.

The Columbia Valley Community Foundation is a vibrant, established charity which has been entrusted with over \$3.2 million in assets by donors whose hearts are in this community. The Foundation safeguards and manages these assets prudently through investments with the Vancouver Foundation and Columbia Basin Trust. Each year, income from these investments are distributed back to projects and programs near-and-dear to the hearts of our donors. In 2019, this amounted to nearly \$110,000 of gifting back into the community through grants and scholarships.

If you are looking to make a lasting legacy in the Columbia Valley, the CVCF is committed to and capable of safeguarding, managing and amplifying your gift to the Valley in perpetuity.

Yours respectfully,
Kyla Lam, CVCF Treasurer

"This award has had a direct impact on me... during the application process and in writing this letter, the community aspect of this award inspired me to think about the Columbia Valley and how I might find meaningful ways to give back in the future." Ashton Myers, 2019 Arnold Ellis Scholarship Recipient



DONATING
to Your Community Foundation

There are many ways to leave a legacy. What if you could make a difference in your community – not only today, not just for your lifetime, but forever? The Columbia Valley Community Foundation helps donors create that kind of vibrant, ongoing support.

We do this by establishing endowment funds, which create a permanent legacy felt over generations. The principle is never spent, rather, it is invested to create an ongoing investment income stream. This income is granted to the causes and organizations that mean the most to you.

We offer a range of giving options to help you give confidently and efficiently. You can start your own fund dedicated to a cause of your choice or you may choose to give where the needs are greatest. You can give now, or give later through your estate plan.

There are many ways you can make a difference to the causes you cherish. Imagine how this might look, and share your vision with us.

Do something amazing for your community – create an endowed fund in your name, a loved one or for your charitable passion.



Five years ago Sherry & Harvey Doerr created the Sherry and Harvey Doerr Family Fund which has supported six different organizations in the last five years – only the beginning of a lasting impact for years to come.

You can create a lasting impact in your community through the creation of an endowed fund in your name, a loved one's name, or for your charitable passion.

2019
Donors

Thanks to all who have placed their trust in the Columbia Valley Community Foundation.

INDIVIDUALS

Al Miller
Andrew Wiswell
Anna Lautard
Annette Janzen
Barb Carriere
Barb Gagatek
Bill Green
Brian Felesky
Cameron & Eloise Berry
Cheryl Lenardon
Christie Webster
Dalphine & Gerritjan Van De Walle
Dave and Donna Rae
David & Joanne Richardson
Deborah Griffith
Dee Conklin
Denise Currie
Donna Rae
Donna Verboom
Dorothy Gorby

Duncan Whittick
Eric & Sarah Francis
Erin Palashniuk
Glen Pardoe
Grant Wilde
Jacquelyn Morris
Jane Thurgood Sagal
Jill Logan
John Fitzsimmons
John Hague
Joseph & Pauline Newhouse
Kelly & Donna Hrudehy
Leslie Hancyk
Linda Out
Louise McKellar
Lynda Tutty
Mandi McRobbie
Mardelle Sauerborn
Marianne Tettlebaum
Mark Duk

Melanie Nickel
Mia King
Michael Burnyeat
Phyllis Jackson
Richard Thompson
Rick & Daphne Hammond
Russell Wilson
Ryan Thompson
Sarah Bennett
Scott McClain
Shawn L. Wernig
Sheila Leman
Stefan & Maria Kloos
Susan Malone
Theresa Schnider
Thomas McDonald
Thomas Symington
Troy Huntley
Victoria H. Page
W. Brett Wilson

ORGANIZATIONS

1575140 Alberta Ltd.
Bak 2 Bak Entertainment Inc.
Canyon Camp Ltd.
CBASS
CBEEN
Chris Wills Personal Real Estate Corp.
Copper Point Limited
Eighty-Eight Capital Corporation
Friends of the Invermere Public Library
Gen4 Transport Inc.
Gift Funds Canada
Helna's Stube
Ken Mitchell Contracting
Kinsmen Club of Windermere Valley
Kootenay Permaculture Institute
Kootenay Saving Credit Union

Kootenay Savings Community Foundation
Lake Windermere District Lions Foundation
Lee Klas Finishing and Painting
LMENT Stone Ltd.
Mint Projects Ltd.
Non Profit by Nature
PLG Holdings Inc.
Radium Seniors
Rockies Realty Ltd.
School District #6
Silver Springs Family Restaurant
Singing English Education
TRC Projects Ltd.
True Key Hotels & Resorts Ltd.
Turning Point Business Advisory Services Inc.
Wolfe Mining Inc.



our
GRANT
recipients

Community Legacy Building

in 2019

QUALIFIED CHARITY OR DONEE / PROJECT PARTNER	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	GRANT \$
EDGEWATER RECREATION SOCIETY	Endowment Fund Disbursement	848
COLUMBIA BASIN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NETWORK	Endowment Fund Disbursement	143
HOSPICE SOCIETY OF THE COLUMBIA VALLEY	Endowment Fund Disbursement	1,076
FRIENDS OF THE INVERMERE PUBLIC LIBRARY	Endowment Fund Disbursement	677
RADIUM HOT SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY	Donation from Designated Fund	110
COLUMBIA VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL	Donation from Designated Fund	289
COLUMBIA VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	Flow-through Donation	5,000
COLUMBIA VALLEY CHRISTMAS BUREAU	Flow-through Donation	2,000
COLUMBIA BASIN ALLIANCE FOR LITERACY	Flow-through Donation	2,000
COLUMBIA VALLEY FOOD BANK	Flow-through Donation	3,000
HOSPICE SOCIETY OF THE COLUMBIA VALLEY	Flow-through Donation	2,000
INVERMERE COMPANION ANIMAL NETWORK SOCIETY	Flow-through Donation	1,000
DISTRICT OF INVERMERE/Invermere Public Library	Flow-through Donation	5,000
WILDSIGHT	Flow-through Donation	1,000
COLUMBIA VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL	Flow-through Donation	5,000
DISTRICT OF INVERMERE/Columbia Valley Youth Soccer	Flow-through Donation	1,000
FAMILY DYNAMIX ASSOCIATION	Flow-through Donation	20,000
WINDERMERE VALLEY YOUTH CENTRE SOCIETY	Flow-through Donation	20,000
COLUMBIA VALLEY GREENWAYS TRAIL ALLIANCE	Access the Valley Project	2,000
DISTRICT OF INVERMERE/Toby Creek Nordic Club	Setting Tracks for Teens	1,500
DISTRICT OF INVERMERE/Columbia Valley Youth Soccer	Youth Soccer Skills Development Program	1,500
DISTRICT OF INVERMERE/Invermere Public Library	Community Technology Hub	2,000
RADIUM HOT SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY	Community Technology Hub	3,231
RAD RECREATION ADAPTED SOCIETY	Access to the A-Linker	1,000
COLUMBIA HOUSE ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY	Columbia House Community Healing Garden	1,700
WINDERMERE DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Museum Exhibits Enhancements	4,568
HOSPICE SOCIETY OF THE COLUMBIA VALLEY	Training Adults to Help Children with Loss & Grief	4,000
WINDERMERE VALLEY YOUTH CENTRE SOCIETY	Youth Mental Health Initiatives	4,500
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN MUSIC SOCIETY	The 9th Annual Steamboat Mountain Music Festival	1,000
VILLAGE OF RADIUM HOT SPRINGS/ Rotary Club of Radium Hot Springs Sunrise	Rotary Splash Park (Radium Hot Springs)	1,000
COLUMBIA VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL	Kitchen Fire Suppression System Installation	1,860
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF EAST KOOTENAY/ Invermere District Curling Club Society	Invermere District Curling Club 2020 Renovation Project	5,000
COLUMBIA BASIN ALLIANCE FOR LITERACY	Connecting Generations Through Sharing Songs, Rhymes, & Stories	1,433
ROCKY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT #6/Groundswell Network Society	Local Food & Gardening School Programming with Groundswell	1,000
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF EAST KOOTENAY/Fairmont & District Lions Club	Enhancements to Wilder Memorial Park	2,600
WILDSIGHT/Wildsight Invermere Branch	Wild Connections	2,500
WINDERMERE VALLEY YOUTH CENTRE SOCIETY/Summit Youth Centre	Summit Youth App RBC Future Launch Community Challenge Grant	15,000
AKISQ'NUK FIRST NATION	"Getting There" Community Activity Bus RBC Future Launch Community Challenge Grant	15,000
TOTAL COMMUNITY GRANTS AWARDED IN 2019		\$142,536

*Grant funds distributed in 2020

ON THE TABLE

Community conversation series

A discussion on the Columbia Valley's priority areas

On The Table is an innovative conversation series that was organized for the Columbia Valley in 2019. The idea for On The Table originated with the Vancouver Foundation, which released a report in 2017 on loneliness and social isolation. Research conducted for the report revealed that people were yearning to connect, specifically off-line. The Vancouver Foundation developed the On The Table program to give people the opportunity to do exactly that.

Based on the premise that good food leads to good conversation, the On The Table format asks that some sort of food be served. Through this platform of sharing food, community members come together to connect face-to-face and talk about what's important to them.

The Columbia Valley Community Foundation contracted Wendy Booth to facilitate the program for the Columbia Valley. Eleven different On The Table events were organized from Canal Flats to Brisco between September and November 2019. Each event took place in a different location (some were commercial while others were private homes), and had its own host who was responsible for serving the food. To help inspire conversation, nine topic cards were created based on priority areas outlined in the Columbia Valley Community Foundation's 2018 Vital Signs report. Each card was printed with one of the following priority areas of concern and related questions:

- Environment
- Job Skills & Training
- Aging Population
- Divided Opinions
- Sense of Belonging
- Forest Fires
- Transportation
- Visible Minority
- Caring Community

Once the series started, however, it quickly became evident to Wendy that one priority area was missing: Housing.

"Affordable housing is an emerging issue throughout all of B.C., all of Canada for that matter, whereas at the time of the 2018 Vital Signs report, because it was done a year earlier, it may not have been seen as quite a high priority then," she explained. "But because it kept coming up in the On The Table discussions and linked to so many other priorities, I felt it was

important enough to have its own topic."

Overall, 148 community members participated in the Columbia Valley On The Table series with attendance ranging from five to 28 people per event.

"Once people got into the room, the floodgates opened and there was lots of conversation.," said Wendy. "I didn't even need to use the prompter questions because everyone was so open to talking about the topics."



ON THE TABLE 2019 REPORT

COLUMBIA VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION | WWW.VALLEYFOUNDATION.CA

When the series wrapped up, Wendy captured all the in-person feedback she received in a report that is available online on the Columbia Valley Community Foundation's website and in print at select locations through the Columbia Valley.

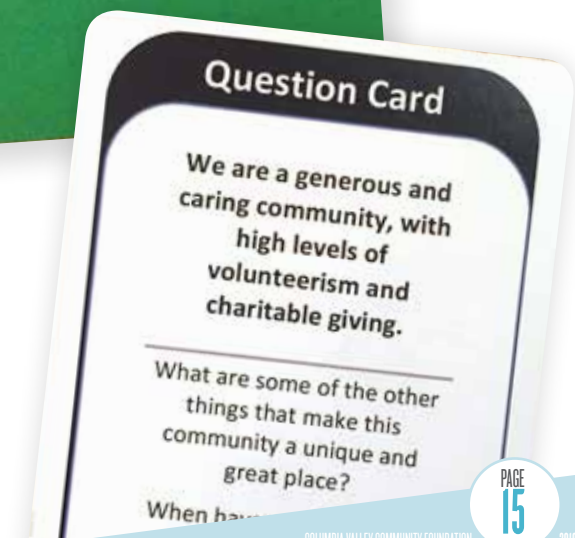
The 2019 On The Table Report gives an exciting snapshot of what's on people's minds and their ideas for the Columbia Valley, and contains action items and ideas that community leaders can consider implementing or exploring further. The foundation is using these findings to support informed grant making decisions to focus resources on the community's greatest needs. Initiatives such as On The Table assist the Community Foundation in creating a greater impact.

"What's unique about On The Table is that the Community Foundation took this on as a respected independent third party entity in the Columbia Valley, yet the action items that came out of it aren't necessarily the responsibility of the Community Foundation. They're the opinions of the community, and they're responsibility of the community."

To access the 2019 On The Table Report as a PDF, visit <https://valleyfoundation.ca>. For a print copy, contact Columbia Valley Community Foundation Executive Director Caitlin Hall-Sharp at 250-342-2845 or info@valleyfoundation.ca.



Topic cards were created for the On The Table series to help inspire conversation.



The Grants Committee conducted the 2019 spring granting for student awards from the Arnold Ellis Scholarship Fund, Alan J. Witherspoon Memorial Fund, Bidder Bursary Fund, and the Erwin Kloos Memorial Fund.

The Tom Sanders Memorial Fund recipients were recommended by the Kinsmen Club of the Windermere Valley, and the Greg Constable Bursary Fund recipients were recommended by DTSS & Greg Constable; these parties conduct the application process in an advisory role to the donor advised fund.

"I have always loved cooking and now I can move forward with my dreams to become a red seal chef, and it's all thanks to the Columbia Valley Community Foundation."

— Paiten White 2019 Arnold Ellis Scholarship & Bidder Bursary Recipient

Arnold Ellis Scholarship Fund

\$1,250/Award (2019 Recipients)

Aidan Knuckey

Alexa Kalika

Allison Barsby

Amyra Elwakeel

Anna Erikson

Ashton Myers

Braeden Hessel

Brody Myers

Cassidy Cunliffe

Christine Constable

Clare Ross

Cody Feldmann

Connor Woodworth

Davis Tenta

Eisley Tan

Hailey Kwok

Holly Nikirk

Isabella Hul

Jacob Pronk

Jacob White

James Carriere

Jazlyn Oaks

Jocelyn Taylor

Jonathan Downey

Jordan Geiger

Kableah Bodry

Kaitlyn Hessel

Kaitlyn Raven

Katherine Watt

Kelsey Frank

Kristyn Tamelin

Kyra Jukes

Larissa Kurtz

Layla Chouchene

Lia Morin

Lucas Persson

Luis Bondoc

Luke Anderson

Madison Hromadnik

McKenna Hutchinson

Mya Wiegert

Naomi Zehnder

Paiten White

Samantha Tyrrell

Skylar Zaporosky

\$1200/Award
(2018 Recipients)

Oliver Orchiston

Alan J Witherspoon

Memorial Fine Art Award

\$3500/Award

Lucas Persson

Erwin Kloos Memorial Award

\$400/Award

Jacob Pronk

Greg Constable Bursary Award

\$400/Award

Award Pending

Bidder Bursary Award

\$400/Award

Samantha Tyrrell & Paiten White

Tom Sanders Memorial

\$2,000/Award

Mya Wiegert

\$1,000/Award

Kristyn Tamelin

Our young people of the Columbia Valley are pursuing ambitious, world-wide studies. **WE ARE VERY PROUD.**

Total Student Awards in 2019 **\$70,200**

THANK YOU

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2019 Community Grant Recipient and
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