



Levelling Up

2023 Annual Report





Levelling Up

Message from the CEO and Chair



In challenging times, moving forward can seem overwhelming. Saskatoon Community Foundation won't simply "stay the course" and hope for change – we know we need to join in leading the change we want to see.

- The Foundation makes space for many voices, building community partnerships to support a vibrant community. We released our **Vital Focus™** on Homelessness, a data snapshot highlighting issues faced by some of the most vulnerable members of the community.
- We held **Vital Conversations** with key stakeholders to guide our actions and met with agencies that could support people experiencing homelessness.
- We announced \$1.23M in multi-year community partnerships made possible by the Robert Steane Fund to Alleviate Homelessness on World Homelessness Day, October 10th.

While 2023 marked the final year of the Community Fund for Reconciliation, the Foundation's commitment to reconciliation continues through the endowed fund.

We received over **\$8.58M in new donations** and contributions and provided **\$4.17M in grants** for community impact. We continue to achieve a solid **ten-year average rate of return**, now at **6.16%**.

Looking forward, our foundation board and staff team is resolved to level up in collaborative, innovative solutions with our community.

With gratitude and great hope for our shared legacy,

Carm Di Santo (Michalenko), BComm, MBA
Chief Executive Officer

Danielle Favreau, CPA, CA
Board Chair (Dec 2021 to Dec 2023)

Parting thoughts from CEO Carm Di Santo (Michalenko)

Earlier this year I announced I will move on as your CEO feeling the need to give more time to aging parents and growing family. With this being my last annual report, I part with a deep sense of gratitude for your trust in, and support of, me and our shared commitment to our community.

As the eldest daughter of immigrants, I truly felt a sense of belonging and purpose in joining Saskatoon Community Foundation. My passion for community will remain strong as I hope to continue to find ways to make a difference and stay involved. On July 31, 2024, I will proudly leave the Foundation well positioned to grow its impact. It has been my honour and privilege to work alongside an incredible team of professionals and dedicated Board of Directors.

Thank you, I truly believe "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together".
(African Proverb)

With Gratitude, Carm



VitalFocus Homelessness in Saskatoon

Saskatoon's
VitalSigns
2023

Make a donation to the **Give YXE Homelessness Fund at Saskatoon Community Foundation.**



This report is part of Saskatoon Community Foundation's Vital Signs program. Through a data snapshot, it takes a closer look at the issues and realities impacting homelessness in Saskatoon.

What does "homelessness" mean?

The Canadian Homelessness Hub defines homelessness as "the situation of an individual, family, or community without stable, safe, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect means and ability of acquiring it."

Homelessness occurs due to complex social and personal factors and is impacted by many connected systems, sectors and services. Any response toward ending homelessness must be aware of these complexities.

In the face of so many challenges, what can the community do?

1. Advocate for policies that create lasting solutions to reduce homelessness.
2. Insist all levels of government, ministries, and departments act with a coordinated response.
3. Work in partnership with governments, community organizations and the private sector.



Housing is a human right.

Every person deserves a home and support to be included in a community. In Saskatoon, hundreds of people, including women and their children, experience ongoing or repeated periods of homelessness. We acknowledge many of the following numbers have significantly increased since this data was collected. Saskatoon is in a crisis situation and the time to act is now.

Barriers to Housing

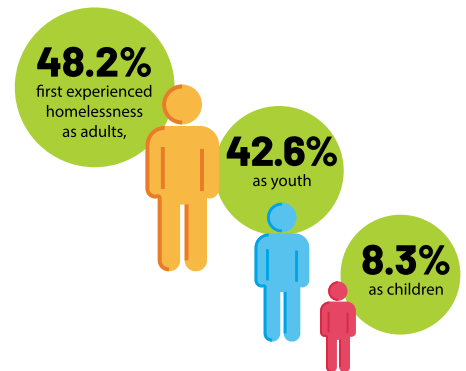
People experiencing homelessness face many barriers and have overlapping needs for support:

68.1% Money	37.1% Mental health support
60.3% Help to find affordable places	31.0% Help in addressing health needs
52.6% Assistance with housing applications	31.9% Harm reduction support
50.9% Help with transportation to see housing	22.4% Help managing alcohol issues
48.3% Help getting I.D.	20.7% Disability accessibility

Source: CUISR

Can People Find Housing?

WHO is homeless?



90%



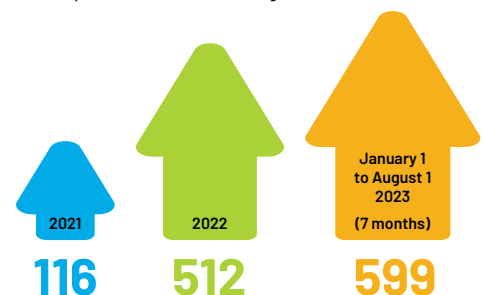
In Saskatoon, 90% of people experiencing homelessness are Indigenous. Solutions need to embrace Indigenous worldviews and involve Indigenous leadership.

Growing Number of Encampments



With shelters at capacity and affordable rental vacancies at the lowest levels in years, many are turning to unsafe alternatives.

Saskatoon Fire Department (SFD) interactions involving unhoused individuals living in unsafe/inadequate forms of housing:



Levelling Up Community Grants

Saskatoon Community Foundation's Community Grants programs (Quality of Life grants, Youth Endowment Saskatoon and the Community Fund for Reconciliation) support many organizations and areas of focus each year, thanks to thousands of donors and hundreds of endowed funds built by the Foundation since 1970. These donors have trusted the Foundation to grant each year to organizations that can support a vibrant, inclusive community where everyone belongs.

The following grants present a snapshot of our support for community. For a complete grant list, please visit saskatooncommunityfoundation.ca.

Quality of Life Grants

21 grants, \$328,864

Feature Grant: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatoon and Area: Youth Facing Adversities Mentorship Project

The project engages youth to help elevate the impacts of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) by encouraging healthy lifestyles, furthering education, building their circle of support, building life skills, and providing access and opportunities of interest.



Youth Endowment Saskatoon

19 grants, \$102,042

Feature Grant: Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services: Camp Dragonfly

Camp Dragonfly is an immersive, week-long experiential learning opportunity for deaf and hard-of-hearing students and their support workers (E.A.s, Speech-Language Pathologists, Special Education Teachers, etc.). It offers holistic learning, literacy and language acquisition, and full communication support for all involved, building skills for youth across the province.





Community Fund for Reconciliation

10 grants, \$130,919

Feature Grant: The Evermore Centre: "Strengthening Our Families" Round Dance

The Evermore Centre offers services and programs for families grown through kinship, guardianship, alternative caregivers, and adoption. Evermore's mission is supporting permanency and empowering families through education, programs, and services so that every child can flourish in a forever family. The grant allowed Evermore to host a Strengthening Our Families Round Dance, connecting families with Indigenous children living with non-birth parents who are often non-Indigenous.

Partnering to Help the Community

Community Services Recovery Fund

Saskatoon Community Foundation disbursed over \$1 million in funding to support projects across central Saskatchewan through the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund (CSRF). The CSRF was a one-time investment of \$400 million across Canada to support charities, non-profits, and Indigenous governing bodies as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Foundations Learning had outgrown their technology supports with increased program demand and volunteer management. The CSRF grant helped us explore the integration of new systems to benefit workflows, update our website, and ensure consistent registration and evaluation processes.

Sheryl Harrow-Yurach, Executive Director





Cameco Fund for Mental Health

24 grants, \$700,000

Feature Grant: Canadian Mental Health Association: Family Navigator Program

Cameco provided \$700,000 raised in partnership with the Foundation to support the Cameco Fund for Mental Health, in its fifth year in 2023. The grants supported mental health programs throughout Saskatchewan, such as the Family Navigator Program. This program directly supports 125 families, building family capacity and understanding of the impacts of mental illness and substance use.



Learn more about Cameco Fund for Mental Health

Investment Readiness Program

The Investment Readiness Program (IRP) is a program that helps social purpose organizations scale up their social enterprises to prepare to accept investments. Saskatoon Community Foundation serves as a Regional Hub, partnering with Community Foundations of Canada, and the Government of Canada in the Investment Readiness Program (IRP) granting process.

“ We are immensely grateful for the funding received from the Investment Readiness Program (IRP). As we continue to recover from the pandemic, this support is instrumental in creating more jobs, fostering cross-cultural connections, enhancing the quality of life for our residents, and inspiring visitors with the unique experiences Saskatoon has to offer.
Steph Clovechok, Chief Executive Officer, Discover Saskatoon ”



“ We are very grateful to have received two IRP grants. The support has made our organization even more welcoming to the entire community and has helped us to foster even more inclusivity. One clear outcome was a successful application to a granting body that was not previously available to us. Thank you!
Trish St. Onge, Executive Director, Navera Community Connections ”

Growing Impact Through Individuals and Family Funds

The reasons that lead individuals and groups to the creation of a family fund are as diverse and heartwarming as the people who commit to supporting the well-being of and growth of Saskatoon and its people through Saskatoon Community Foundation. Whether they donate through living funds, gifts in will, cash, gift of securities, unrestricted funds, or any other type of fund, their intent is clear – helping those who live in our city, protecting and sustaining our environment and ensuring we can all thrive. The following highlights and quotes honour some of our generous donors.



Learn more about Individuals and Family Funds



Legacy Fund Robert Steane Fund to Alleviate Homelessness

On October 10, 2023, World Homeless Day, Saskatoon Community Foundation announced a grant of over \$1.2 million to support three agencies (over five years) whose programs will have a lasting impact on many lives. This funding is possible through the Robert Steane (Be A Bob) Fund to Alleviate Homelessness legacy gift. The three agencies are Central Urban Métis Federation Inc., YWCA Saskatoon and Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon Inner City Inc. (CLASSIC).



Learn more about this homelessness initiative

Family Foundation Brownlee Family Fund

The Brownlee Family Fund, established by Ina Lou and Wayne Brownlee with Saskatoon Community Foundation, directs \$6 million over 15 years to the Salvation Army, Saskatoon Friendship Inn, and Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre. Using their private family foundation to invest in a Saskatoon Community Foundation Donor Advised Spendable Fund, the Brownlee family is designating their fund for food and shelter that grows over time, keeps pace with inflation, and generates annual grants for these three charities.



Learn more about the Brownlee Family Fund



Gift of Securities Pederson Family Fund

When he established his family DASF, David Pederson saw the opportunity to use appreciated securities to create a fund. According to his daughter Jen, who is the Philanthropic Advisor at Saskatoon Community Foundation, David liked an intensive, shorter-term investment because of his experience in community projects. He used (the fund) to look after his annual giving to a list of approximately ten organizations as he understood the importance of predictable revenue for agencies. Upon David's passing in 2023, his three daughters, Jen, Sandy and Susan, had a thoughtful conversation with the foundation about their beloved dad and the legacy he was leaving behind through the Pederson Family Fund.



After Mom died, Dad thought about what their charitable legacy (as a couple) might be. Dad was savvy and astute, very careful with his investments, and worked with financial advisors who understood philanthropy. He had settled Mom's estate and knew the financial picture. When the DASF (Donor Advised Spendable Fund) came out, he liked that option.

Jen Pederson

Gift in Will Postle Family Fund

We feel that the Saskatoon Community Foundation supports a variety of organizations in our community that are near and dear to our hearts, and it is our belief, as stated by the author Jennifer Pahlka, that "When one neighbour helps another, we strengthen our communities," and that benefits us all. The SCF is an organization that will be ongoing, unlike some organizations that may not continue in the future, and thus, we feel that the funds we contribute through the SCF will be here to give back to the community after we are gone. Future community needs and organizations may change, and the SCF is in the best position to respond to those changes.

Art and Janet Postle, gift in will fund holders

Leave a Gift in Your Will



Your legacy reflects the life you lived. Your legacy gift is as unique as you are, expressing your values, passions, and hopes for your community.

Our foundation works as a bridge with donors who want to direct their support to charitable organizations. You can support a cause that matters to you and your family, or you can memorialize a loved one with a fund in their name. Whether you want to designate your gift to healthcare, education, arts and culture, social justice, the environment, or another cause, we will ensure your gift is disbursed as you have directed.

Your gift keeps giving. Your story never ends.



[Learn more](#)

Highlighting 2023 Impact and Recognition

Will Power



A founding partner of the national Canadian Association of Gift Planners Will Power campaign to promote gifts in a will, Saskatoon Community Foundation sponsored Big Brothers Big Sisters of Saskatoon, Meewasin Valley Authority, Ronald McDonald House, Wanuskewin, and 4-H Saskatchewan Foundation to participate.



[Learn more](#)

Many Voices Together



The foundation announced \$554,000 in grants for 49 community-based organizations at the June 8 grants celebration.



[Learn more](#)

Saskatoon Circle Tea



The Saskatoon Circle gathered for High Tea on May 28th at Little Bird Patisserie at River Landing.



[Learn more](#)

Rock Your Roots



The foundation funded the September 30 Rock Your Roots Walk for Reconciliation, with 2,000 community members participating.

Women of Distinction Award



YWCA Saskatoon honoured Saskatoon Community Foundation CEO Carm Di Santo (Michalenko) & former board member Tracy Muggli with the Truth and Reconciliation Award on May 25.

National Philanthropy Day Award



Saskatoon Community Foundation recognized Arnie and Linda Shaw at the 2023 National Philanthropy Day luncheon with the Honoured Supporter Award.

Making Spirits Bright



An estimated 150 philanthropists and community stakeholders attended Saskatoon Community Foundation's annual holiday reception, Making Spirits Bright.

Industry West Magazine



CEO Carm Di Santo (Michalenko) was featured in the Summer 2023 cover story "Raising a Glass to Powerful Saskatchewan Women: Leading Us Into Tomorrow."



2023 Numbers in Brief

\$4,171,086
in grants*

6.16%
10-year average return

\$8,586,921
in donations*

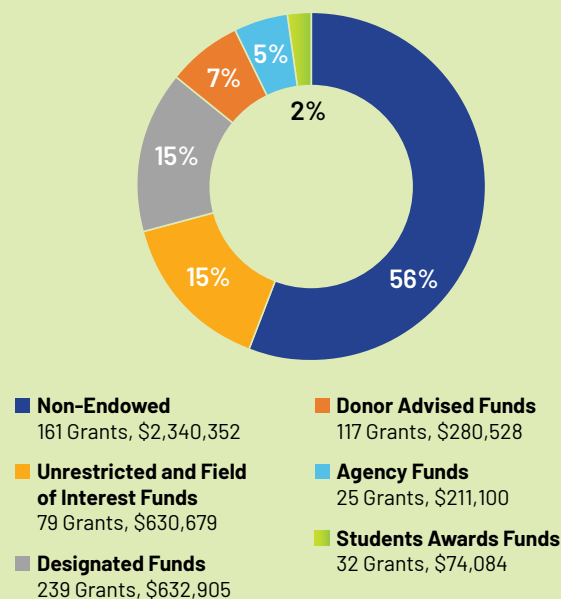
5.54%
Grant disbursement
as a % of net assets at the beginning of the year.

Financial Highlights		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net Assets	Endowed funds (including excess earnings)	\$55,850,813	\$53,604,660	\$59,696,572	\$55,351,934	\$50,549,648
	Non-endowed funds	\$18,349,062	\$12,091,834	\$7,479,494	\$5,184,743	\$4,709,632
	Operations	\$1,155,929	\$897,210	\$659,751	\$610,037	\$503,224
Revenue	Investment income (loss) (all sources)	\$5,539,063	(\$4,420,698)	\$6,220,031	\$4,829,287	\$6,275,682
	Donations (including estate bequests and non-endowed)	\$8,586,921	\$9,899,343	\$6,683,619	\$6,392,037	\$7,485,744
Expenditures	Grants	\$4,171,086	\$5,728,214	\$4,994,124	\$5,409,372	\$3,343,289
	Operating expenses	\$1,480,741	1,286,173	\$1,421,941	\$1,272,893	\$893,820
Net Fundraising		-	\$94,812	(\$5,247)**	(\$15,519)**	\$159,382

* Endowed & Non Endowed Funds.

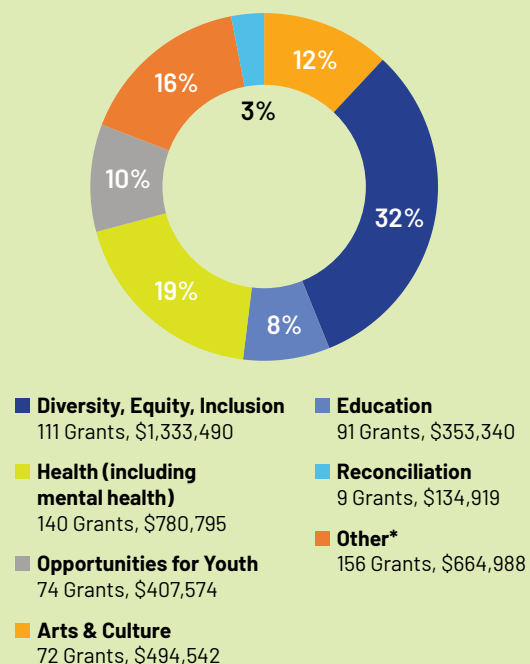
**A Net loss in fundraising revenue resulted from postponement of gala to 2022.

All Grants by Fund Type



All Grants by Focus Area

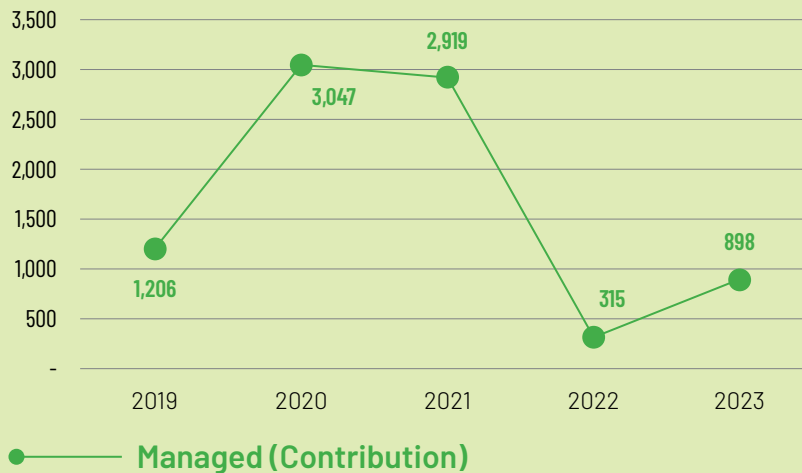
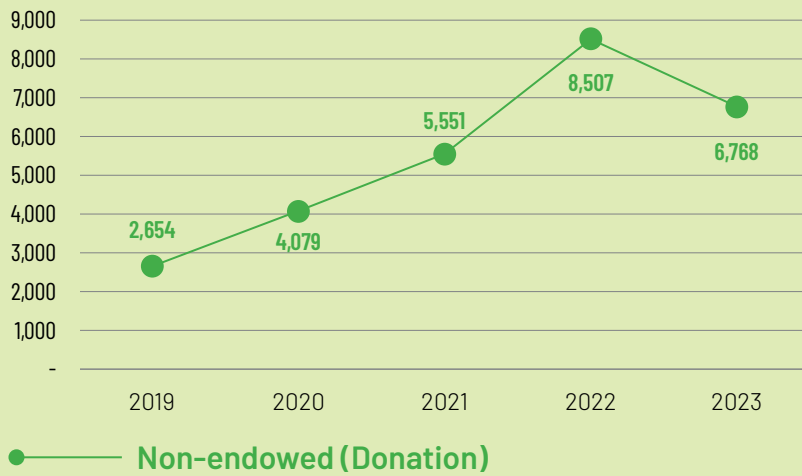
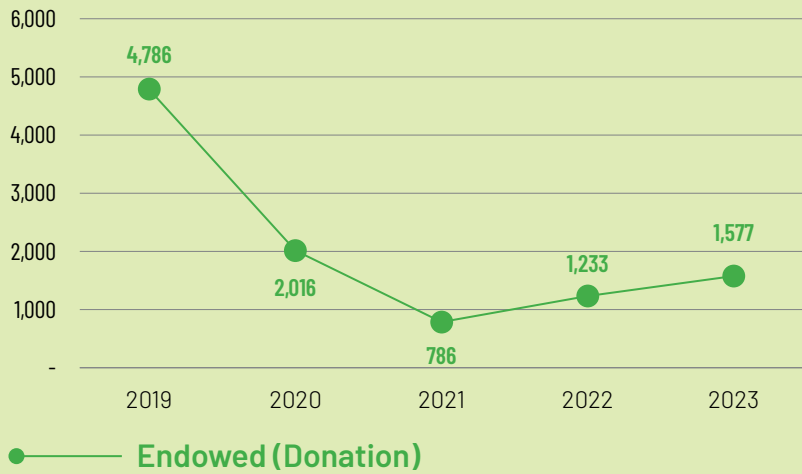
Number of charities supported - 302





Annual \$ Donation/Contribution Trend by Fund Category

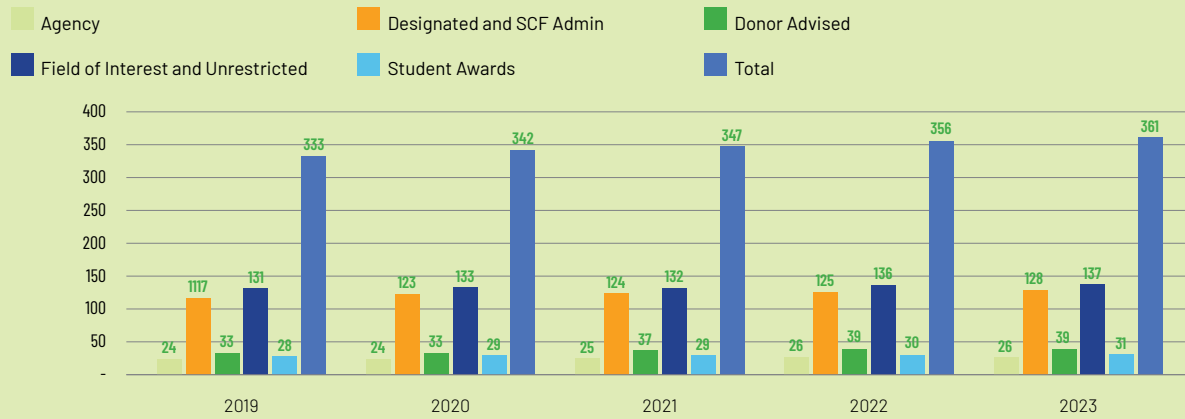
in 000's



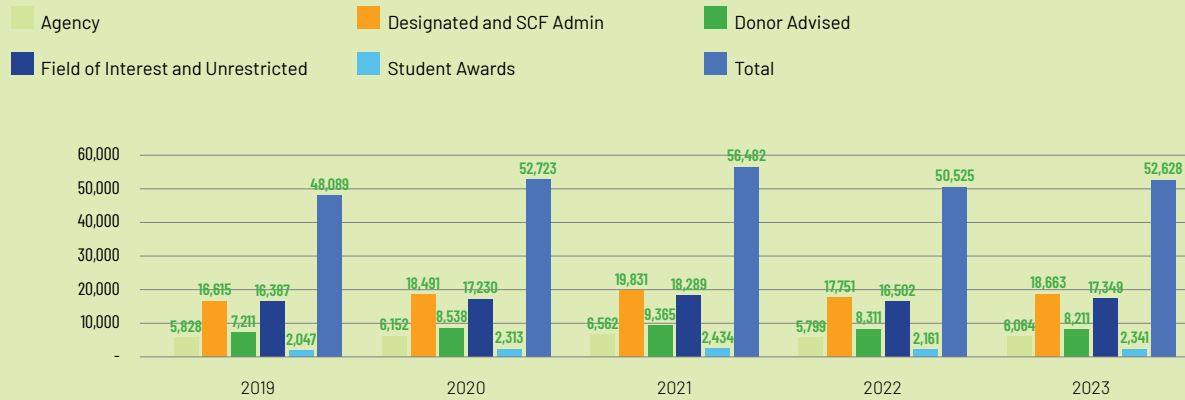


Number of Endowed Funds by Type

in 000's

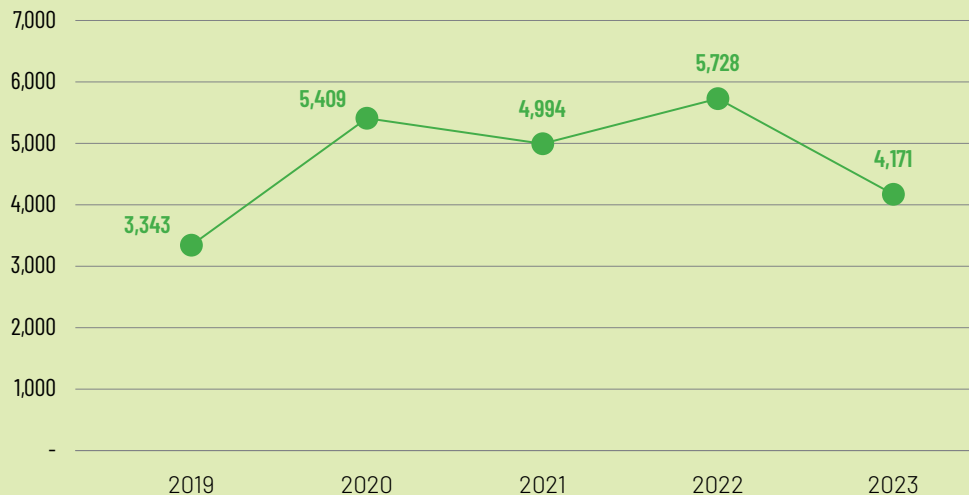


Value of Endowed Funds by Type



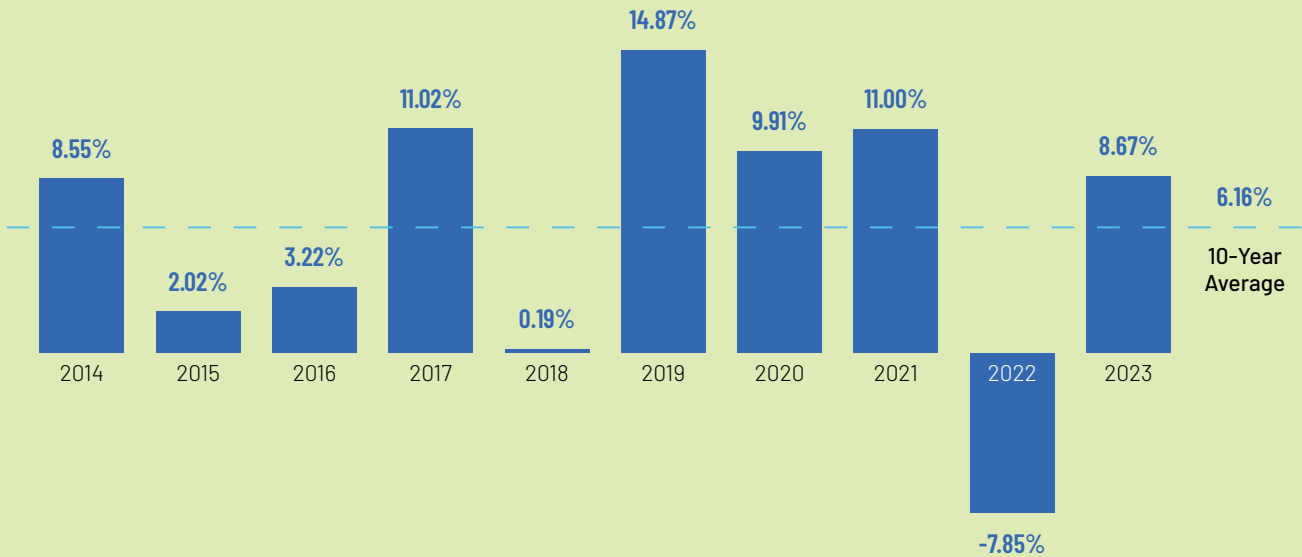
Annual \$ Grants

in 000's



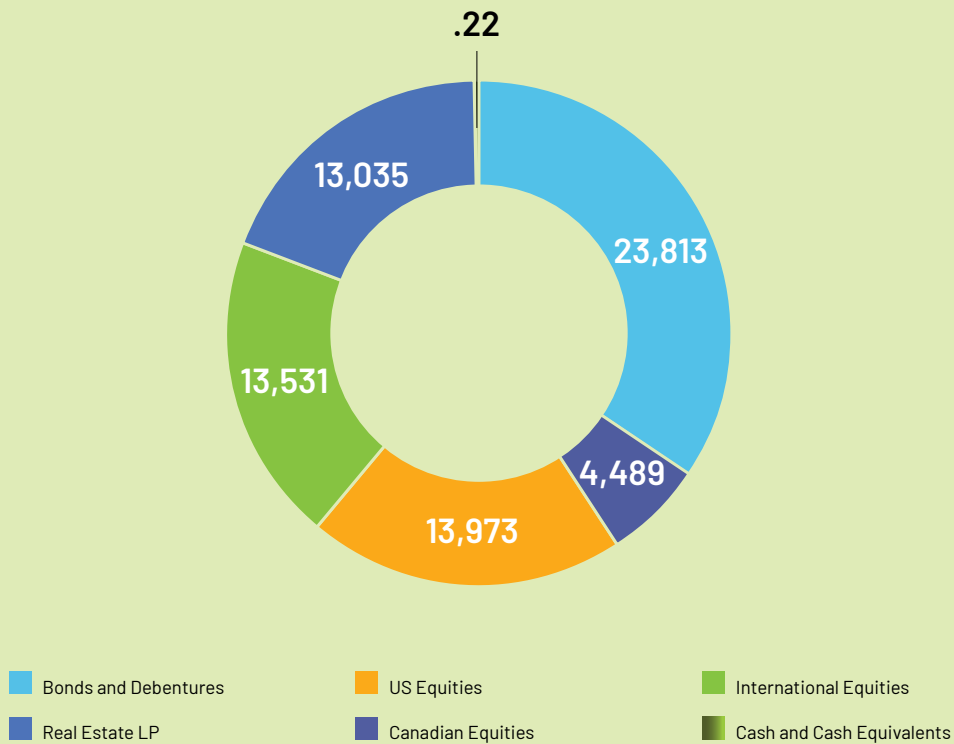


Annual Net Investment Returns



Asset Allocation in Pooled Investments

as of December 31, 2023, in 000's



See all the financial graphs and Audited Financial Statements on our website.





Board & Staff

Board of Directors



Danielle Favreau
Chair, Board of Directors



Wanda Hunchak
Vice Chair, Board of Directors,
Investment Committee Chair



Carson Heagy
Audit Committee Chair



Bev Lafond
Governance
Committee Chair



Jay Stark
Grants Committee Chair



Cara Petrovicz
HR Committee Chair



John Agioritis



Darlene Bessey



Shirley Greeyes



Shreya Pahwa



Heather Sully

Staff



**Carm Di Santo
(Michalenko)**
Chief Executive Officer



Sameer Chhetry
Director, Finance &
Operations



Don Ewles
Grants Manager



Jen Pederson
Philanthropic Advisor &
Manager of Development



**Feronika
Harrisunker**
Executive Administrator



Joy-Ann Allin
Manager, Marketing
& Communications



Joanne McGrath
Advisor Engagement
Associate



Krys Hertzke
Donor Relations &
Grants Coordinator



Sandra Isteevan
Office & Finance Assistant



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Canada Revenue Agency Charitable Registration/Business
Number: 119140911RR0001



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We are a proud member of Community Foundations of Canada.