

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT



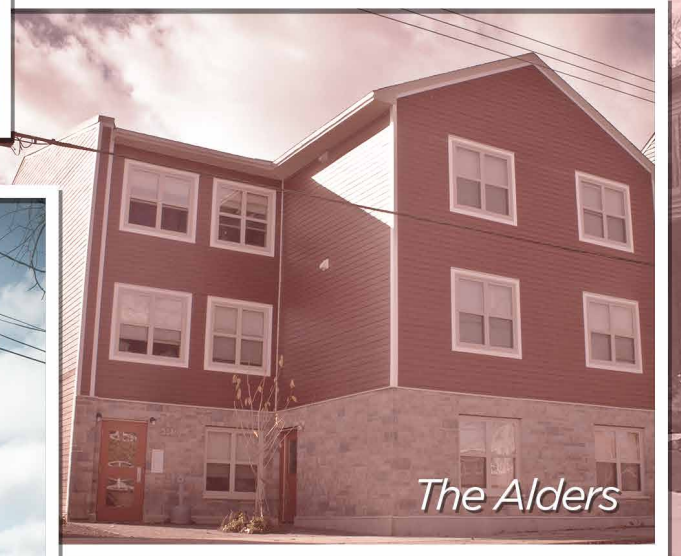
The Sunflower



Adsum Court



The 107



The Alders



Adsum House



3 Condominiums



adsum
FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN

JOINT MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Reflecting on the past fiscal year, one word seems to encompass much of what we're feeling - bittersweet. We are not new to this work - in fact, we are halfway through our 40th year of providing emergency shelter at Adsum House - but the simultaneous crises of the lack of affordable housing, the sky-rocketing cost-of-living, the growing impacts of climate change, and the ongoing effects of the pandemic have a lot of people feeling weary.

At Adsum, however, we are driven by hope and even on dark days, there are glimmers of hope all around us. The opening of The Sunflower in early September 2022 provided an eruption of hope for our team but even more importantly, it realized the aim of our guiding principles - to help build hope, security, self-esteem, and choice for those we support. Witnessing women signing leases for their new homes, seeing children settling in before the beginning of the school year, and watching a community quickly take shape demonstrates what we know is possible with affordable, stable housing.

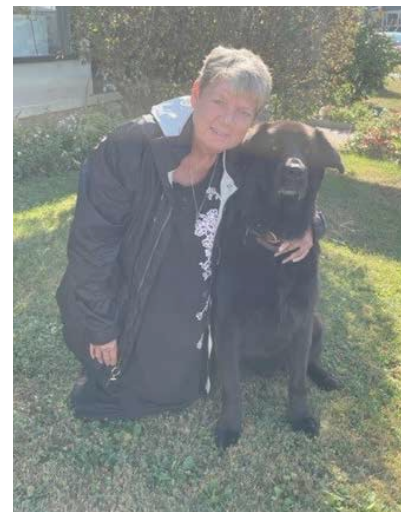
For all the celebration around The Sunflower, there were also, at times, feelings of frustration and despair. Our team was stretched further than ever before. Through the Shelter Diversion Program, we were able to provide temporary shelter for individuals and families in hotel rooms throughout the Halifax Regional

Municipality, but hotel rooms are not stable housing. Permanent solutions are exceedingly rare. While we have long known folks living rough, supporting whole families staying in campgrounds or cars is new.

We had more requests for assistance than ever and found we had to say 'no' more and more. This is tremendously difficult for Adsum staff and even more so for the folks turning to us for support.

In addition to the lack of affordable housing and limited temporary solutions, extreme weather events created dangerous situations for the hundreds of people living outside across HRM. Hurricane Fiona last fall and historically freezing temperatures over the winter put many of our neighbours' lives at risk. We were buoyed by the community coming together to help those without housing during these emergencies, but we know that it is never safe to live without housing, to have basic human needs unmet.

Over the 2022/23 fiscal year, our team took many opportunities to educate the public, business leaders and various levels of government on the impacts of the housing crisis and the urgent need for true solutions. Through published opinion pieces, media interviews, public statements, social media campaigns, and speaking engagements, we used every opportunity we could find or that we were offered to share the impact of homelessness on individuals and families and the

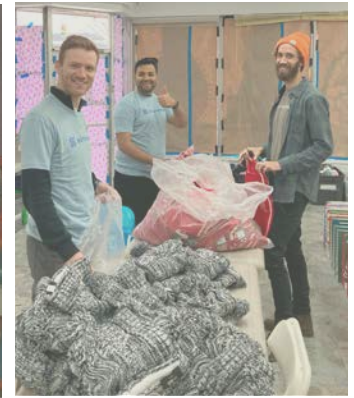


need for public and political will to end this crisis. Housing, a fundamental human right, is the answer to homelessness. Safe, secure, permanent, and deeply affordable housing.

Ours is a tight-knit community and over the past year we lost a number of friends, former staff, donors, and community members. While we mourn these losses, we celebrate their contributions, their generosity, and their friendship.

As the fiscal year drew to a close, we traveled to Toronto to visit several shelters and organizations to consider different models of shelter provision for all genders, particularly those that integrate health services for clients. This was our initial response to a request from the province to consider running a very large shelter in a hotel setting, integrated with the delivery of basic health care.

Looking ahead, Adsum’s board of directors is engaged in strategic planning for the next five years and we are excited to work on the priorities that will emerge. One of the immediate actions is the addition of a Manager of Culture and Diversity to the Adsum team to ensure that all staff see themselves represented and heard. Expanding The Sunflower is another goal for the future that would lead to affordable housing for dozens more people experiencing homelessness and insecurity.



Despite the difficult days of the past year, we remain hopeful. We are proud of our team of compassionate professionals who offer dignified support and respect to clients. The work is challenging, and can be heartbreaking, but our team shows up day in and day out to be here for those who turn to Adsum for support.

We are grateful for the gifts of time and expertise of our volunteers and the financial support of our donors. Much of our work would not be possible without their generosity. We extend gratitude to our many community partners for working with Adsum to build relationships that support the collective good in our city and province. Thank you to all of our supporters for helping us provide housing, support services and advocacy. It is our hope that one day soon there will be safe, affordable housing available for all of our neighbours. Thank you for joining us on this journey to make it a reality.



Flora MacLeod

Flora MacLeod
President of the Board

Sheri Lecker

Sheri Lecker
Executive Director



It has the power to unlock
much more than just a door.



adsum
FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN

VISION

Everyone has a safe and secure home.

MISSION

To lead change in housing through advocacy, supports and services to end homelessness.

VALUES & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We live these values to create hope, security, self-esteem and choice.

RESPECT

In order for people to feel respected, valued and have dignity, we meet people where they are, without judgement.

SELF-WORTH

We value the uniqueness of each person in order to support self-worth.

TRUST

We build and maintain relationships that exemplify credibility and trust.

INCLUSION

We believe that people have the right to be included on their own terms.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1. To be the best we can be as a centre of excellence in housing and homelessness
2. To expand our ability to care for people along their housing and homelessness journey by offering a continuum of holistic supports in combination with case management
3. To be truly client-directed by ensuring the people who use our services are engaged in identifying their needs
4. To make Adsum a great place to work



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Adsum for Women & Children is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship, which Mi'kmaq, Wəlastəkwiyyik (Maliseet), and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

At Adsum, we understand that we are all treaty people, and have responsibilities as such. We recognize that acknowledgement is meaningless without action. We endeavor to keep our commitment to reconciliation in all our approaches, and take every opportunity to reflect, ask questions, and seek guidance and direction from our relationships with Mi'kmaw knowledge keepers. We are committed to hiring and retaining Indigenous staff, to trauma-informed practices that recognize the impact of the generational trauma suffered by many Indigenous women and families that seek our services, to educating our staff and seeking professional development opportunities whenever possible, and to working in partnerships with Mi'kmaw service providers, like the Housing Program at the Mi'kmaw Friendship Centre.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Flora MacLeod
*VP Business Development,
Ven-Rez, The Shaw Group*

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Executive Director, Sisters of Charity

SECRETARY

Jenny de Zoete
University Instructor

PAST - PRESIDENT

Catherine Baker
*CMA. Business Manager Wholesale
Wilson Fuel Company Limited*

TREASURER

Raelene Kennedy
Professional Accountant



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Courtney Brown
*Social Worker,
Families Plus program coordinator*

Denise Bradbury
*Associate Director of Sales,
The Westin Nova Scotian*

Ashley Donald
Lawyer, MDW Law

Sue Kelleher
*Director of Innovation and Learning,
Feed Nova Scotia*

Elizabeth Kingston
Customer Service Professional, Manulife Bank

Kothai Kumanan
*Academic Quality Assurance Consultant,
NSCC Institute of Technology*

Enkelejda Little
Manager of Support Services, ISANS

Daisy Karasek
CPA, Comptroller, Innovacorp

Alice Mudhluli
Corporate Tax Consultant, Emera Inc.

ADSUM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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FINANCE MANAGER

Doreen Logan

FUND DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

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PROGRAM MANAGER

Cheryl Maclsaac

SOCIAL WORK COORDINATOR

Crystal John

HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAM MANAGER

Rylee Booroff & Meghan Hansford

PROPERTY MANAGER

Julie Hasler & Roberta Joyce

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Sarah Carrier

HOUSEHOLD COORDINATOR

Jane Delorey & Fiona Lochhead

SHELTER DIVERSION MANAGER

Ainslee Umlah

DIVERSION WORKERS

Morgan Banfield, Emma Flowerdew,
Rachelle Mailloux & Natalie Tweed

HOUSING SUPPORT WORKERS

Erin Austin, Hope Kasutu, Sylvia O'Neill & Shannon Power

JOURNEY HOME PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Rochelle Butterfield

INTENSIVE CASE MANAGERS

Rhonda Longard & Zhanelle McHugh

SOCIAL WORKERS

Hallie Burt, Bonnie Hill, Monique Kellemen, Hannah Moore, April Peckham & Adrianna Pilgrim

CLIENT SUPPORT OFFICERS

Nic Blinn, Jodi Clark, Grisha Cowal, Angie Demont, Mackenzie Eddy, Kim Harper-Given, Elizabeth Harvie, Senna Hollihan, Catherine Hubbard, Ellie Lamothe, Nicole Norlock, Ferne McCombie, Bethany Porter, Virginia Roberts, Nikia Thompson & Kayla Thomson

CLIENT SUPPORT OFFICERS (CASUAL)

Ayesha Akbar Ali, April Bartlett, Jessica Beirsto, Bailey Colburne, Jeighk Coyote, Dawn Emery, Rachael Gardiner, Summer Johnson, Antifa McDonald, Nicola Nemy, Marie Christine-Parent, Courtney Peters, Nora Richter, Sydney Slaunwhite, Bria Stark & Dolly Williams

PEER WORKS COORDINATOR

Latesha Auger

SUMMER STUDENT

Bailey Colburne & Elizabeth Smithers

RENOVATIONS/REPAIRS

Randy Carey



COMMUNITY “FRIEND” RAISING EVENTS

Being isolated for 2 years and thinking of people who didn't have a home to stay safe in, the community stepped up to provide corporate funding, plan events, make legacy gifts, and teach children ways to help people who were experiencing homelessness.



A special *Thank You* to companies who gave large multi-year donations and to private friends, who helped make The Sunflower a reality for women and families as a safe, stable and affordable forever home.



The 8th annual Females Fore Females golf day brought 103 women, and enthusiastic sponsors together, making the day a huge fundraising and fun event. Thank you to our sponsors:



The holidays were another chance for companies, families, school and community groups, and individuals to show the true meaning of the season. People arrived with thousands of toys, pjs, clothing, and toiletries for the 800+ children and 300 adult clients we supported this year with bags of gifts and gift cards to help make the holidays a little brighter.

Halifax has a huge heart, and we are proud to work throughout the year with the kind people of all ages who want to make life better for the folks we know.

Thank You from all of us at Adsum,

Kathy McNab
Fund Development and
Communications Officer



What does it take to move a family from homelessness to housing?

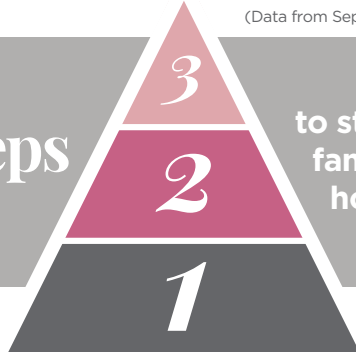
Diverting Families from Shelter to Home reveals the answer:

appropriate supports.

(Data from September 2017 - March 2023)

3 Steps

to stabilize a family facing homelessness:



376 families with **755** children diverted from shelter

316 new housing requests this year from families
April 2022 - March 2023

Parents are able to decide the level of support they receive.

80 families were supported with one-time help of **\$100 - \$4108** to become stably housed.
April 2022 - March 2023

\$130,637 spent on one time financial supports
April 2022 - March 2023

Includes: hotel stays, food security, oil, rent, power arrears, furniture, damage deposits

Check-in's range from daily, weekly, biweekly, and monthly depending on family needs.

1. INTERVENE

Intervention reduces the trauma and stress parents and children are exposed to and can experience.

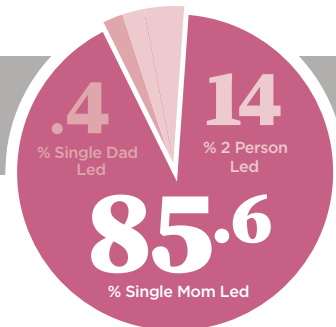
2. HELP

Poverty is identified as a core reason for family instability. Diverting Families is able to reduce financial stress.

3. SUPPORT

Case management support helps families to heal from trauma, build their self-confidence, and re-gain their autonomy.

STRUCTURE



Families led by single-mothers are the most common family structure in the program.

Repetitive episodes of couch surfing were common.

PAST

Many parents had previously experienced periods of housing instability. For many, this started in childhood as a result of their own parents being homeless or insecurely housed.

HOPE

Our hope is to have better outcomes for children at school, with their health and behaviours. By ending children's homelessness, we hope to stem the flow of people into homelessness in later years.

Milestone!
This year marked **3 years** without a child in the shelter!

Many had previous stays in shelter.

66 Families Graduated

130 families stably housed

Children are no longer ashamed of their housing.

TREASURER'S REPORT

AUDITED STATEMENTS

The Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023 (the Financial Statements) are being prepared and audited by Baker Tilly (the Auditors). As with many not-for-profits, the Auditors issued a qualified opinion over the Financial Statements. This is due to the difficulty in obtaining satisfactory audit verification around fundraising revenues and therefore, they must rely on the records of Adsum for Women & Children (the Association). Except for the effects of this qualified opinion, the Auditors felt the Financial Statements fairly present the financial position of the Association for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

OPERATIONS

In fiscal 2023, an increase in homelessness and a higher cost of living continued to impact the Association, adding a layer of complication and additional work to the staff. This year saw the Females Fore Females Golf Day sell out and fundraising activities brought in \$50,111. In fiscal 2023, \$1.3 million was contributed to the Association for current operations via donations and major gifts (\$1 million in fiscal 2022), and \$2.6 million via grants and fees for services (\$2 million in fiscal 2022). The monies were used for vital programming and housing support. With the increasing housing crisis Adsum worked with the city and

province to manage people staying in hotels. This brought in \$3,156,884 (\$658,731-2022) in revenue and \$3,156,916 (\$668,706 - 2022) in expenses almost 5 times more than the prior year. The Association worked diligently to address the community's unique needs during this challenging year.

MAJOR PROJECTS - SUNFLOWER PROJECT

The Sunflower Project was completed and the first tenants moved into the complex in September 2022.

BUDGET

The 2023-24 Budget has been approved by the board.

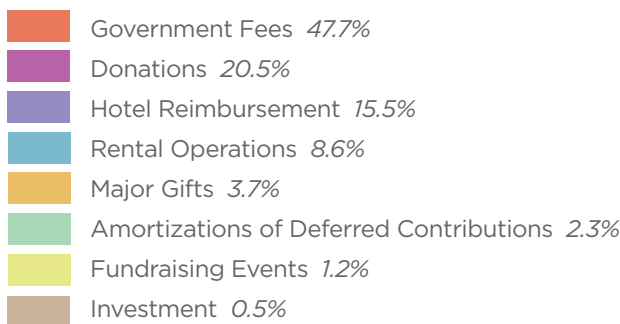
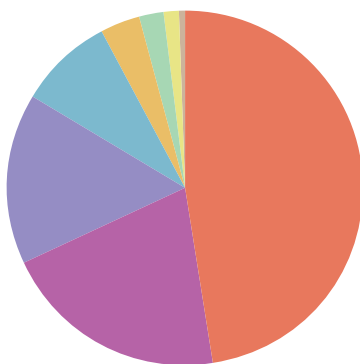
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It has been both a pleasure and honor to serve as Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the Association. I am grateful to the Staff and Directors of Adsum for supporting me in my role as Treasurer. I am inspired by the amount of heart, effort and depth of knowledge that the Executive Director, Sheri Lecker, and the Finance Manager, Doreen Logan, put into their work at Adsum. Their role in financial management is critical in the long-term success of the Association.

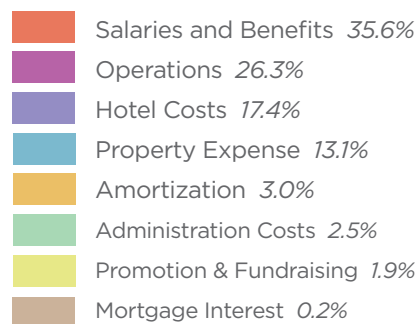
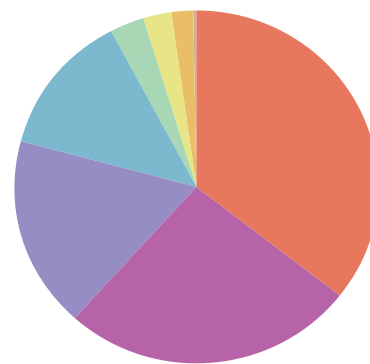
Respectfully
submitted,

Raelene Kennedy
Raelene Kennedy, CPA, CMA
Treasurer

2023 REVENUE



2023 EXPENSES



STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

	2023	2022
REVENUE	\$7,799,998	\$4,270,154
EXPENSES	\$7,582,026	\$3,866,693
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	\$217,972	\$403,461
OTHER INCOME (UNREALIZED GAIN)	(\$18,858)	\$78,145
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	\$199,114	\$481,606
INTERNALLY RESTRICTED FOR SUNFLOWER PROJECT BUILD		(\$299,280)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR AFTER RESTRICTION		\$182,326

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

MARCH 31, 2023

ASSETS	2023	2022
CURRENT		
CASH	\$320,279	\$307,182
MARKETABLE SECURITIES	\$0	\$1,001,573
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	\$603,714	\$562,874
PREPAID EXPENSES	\$50,669	\$49,103
	\$974,662	\$1,884,732
CAPITAL ASSETS	\$9,013,739	\$6,044,072
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS - RESTRICTED	\$115,513	\$114,427
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS - UNRESTRICTED	\$1,851,810	\$1,895,720
	\$11,955,724	\$9,938,951
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
BANK INDEBTEDNESS	\$ -	\$ -
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$480,409	\$590,241
CURRENT PORTION OF LONG TERM DEBT	\$8,491	\$9,763
UNEARNED INCOME	\$16,450	\$6,531
TENANTS' DAMAGE DEPOSITS	\$13,829	\$8,994
	\$519,179	\$615,529
LONG TERM DEBT	\$154,702	\$162,857
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - CAPITAL ASSETS	\$8,295,376	\$1,963,638
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - FUTURE EXPENDITURES	\$913,948	\$5,323,522
	\$9,883,205	\$8,065,546
NET ASSESTS		
INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSET FUND	\$1,437,011	\$1,219,758
INVESTMENT IN ENDOWMENT FUND	\$115,513	\$114,428
UNRESTRICTED FUND	\$519,995	\$539,219
	\$2,072,519	\$1,873,405
	\$11,955,724	\$9,938,951

WE ARE HONOURED TO HAVE MANY SUPPORTERS WHO TRUST ADJUM TO USE THEIR DONATIONS IN WAYS THAT HELP OTHERS FIND HOPE, SECURITY AND SELF ESTEEM. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS.

Listed here are donors of cash, gifts-in kind and sponsorships of more than \$500, between April 2022 and March 2023
(Excluding private individual donors).

FOUNDATIONS

Aqueduct Foundation
John & Noreen Barter Fund
Black Family Foundation
Canadian Online Giving Foundation
Canadian Women's Foundation
Community Foundation of Nova Scotia
Dr. B. Taylor Charitable Foundation
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Flemming Charitable Foundation
Frank & Barbara Hughes Foundation
Grant Thornton Foundation
Halifax Protestant Infants Foundation
Halifax Youth Foundation
Home Depot Canada Foundation
Honda Canada Foundation
Hughes Family Charitable Foundation
J & W Murphy Foundation
MakeWay Foundation
Masonic Foundation of Nova Scotia
Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia
Shoppers Foundation for Women's Health
The Holdsworth Foundation
The Jamille & Gabbour Rania Foundation
The Prasad Family Foundation
The Starbucks Foundation
The Wahdi M. Fares Family Foundation

ESTATES

John & Elizabeth Godin Perpetual Charitable Trust
The Estate of Anne Hallisey
A. Mary Holmes Trust

FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS

All Nations Church
Bethany United Church
Birch Cove Baptist Church
Sisters of Charity
Society of the Sacred Heart of Canada

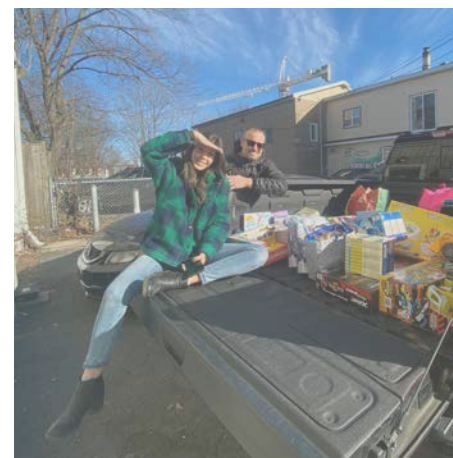
GOVERNMENT

Department of Justice Canada
Government of Canada
Government of Nova Scotia
Halifax Regional Municipality

BUSINESSES

Avcus Legal
Article
Atlantic Elver Fishery
Atlantic Wealth Management Ltd.
Burchell Wickwire Bryson LLP
CAA Atlantic
Cabot Shipping Supplies
Cambridge Professional Group Ltd.
Canadian Tire Halifax Dealers
Casino Nova Scotia
CETEK Applied Technologies & Consulting Inc.
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Cushman & Wakefield Halifax
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DesignPoint
Eastern Fence Erectors Ltd.
Efficiency Nova Scotia
Emera
Emergency Medical Care Inc.
EOBE Law Services Ltd.
Foxy Moon Hair Gallery
Flynn Canada
GAP Inc.
GBS Technologies
Genest Psychological Services
Good Robot Brewing Co.
Green Diamond Equipment
Green Shield Canada
Halifax Stanfield International Airport
Halifax Visiting Dispensary
Hammonds Plains Veterinary Hospital
Hook, Line & Tinker
Imperial Oil
Irving Shipbuilding
Jagger's Piercing Studio
Java Blend Coffee Ltd.
John Allen Brewing Company Ltd.
Kent
Killam REIT
Leahey's Apartment Landscaping & Contracting Ltd.
Local & Luxe
Made in the Maritimes Artisan Boutique
McInnes Cooper
Michelin North America (Canada) Inc.
Mister Transmission Charitable Fund

Namslas Ltd.
North Brewing Company Ltd.
Nova Scotia Liquour Commission
Nova Scotia Power
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Propeller Brewing
Quality Concrete Inc.
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Smith & Touseard Inc.
Summit Salon Business Center
Sylvie Marie Music
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The Black Market Boutique
TM Equities Ltd.
Totally Electric Ltd.
Venor
Verafin
Washington Black Productions Canada Ltd.
Westland Insurance
Wilson's Home Heating
World Financial Group
Xtra Documents Solutions Ltd.
ZZAP Consulting Inc.



SERVICE CLUBS & COMMUNITY GROUPS

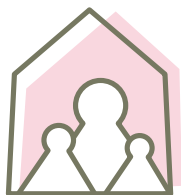
Affordable Housing Association of Nova Scotia
 Aeolian Singers
 Canadian Naval Memorial Trust
 Citadel High School
 Collaborative MTA
 Crew NS
 Father Lloyd O'Neill's Legacy
 FEED Nova Scotia
 Giftfunds Canada
 Halifax Seaport Cider and Beerfest
 Hockey Helps the Homeless
 IBM Employees' Charitable Fund
 Junior League of Halifax Inc.
 Nova Scotia Fair Property Tax Coalition
 Paypal Giving Fund
 Resolutes Amateur Athletic Club
 Rival & Queen
 Sackville High School
 The Halifax Assistance Fund
 Uniacke District School
 Unifor MWF Local 1
 Union of Taxation Employees- PSAC
 United Way of Centraide
 United Way of Halifax Region
 WFG Charitable Trust
 Women's Employment & Advocacy Society
 Women Lawyers Forum
 Workers Compensation Board

IN-KIND DONORS

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 Bedford Eye Care Centre
 Bedford Skin Clinic
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 Commissionaires Nova Scotia
 Dalhousie University
 Davis Pier Consulting
 DORA Consulting
 East Peak Climbing
 East Preston United Baptist Church
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 Sacred Heart School
 St. Mary's University Students
 Scotiabank
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 Sleep Country
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 SportChek
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 Zoomers Physiotherapy





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