

ANNUAL REPORT

## **OUR MISSION**

OUR YMCA IS A LEADING CHARITY THAT WORKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR COMMUNITY TO PROMOTE A HEALTHY SPIRIT, MIND AND BODY AND THE BASIC RIGHTS AND NEEDS OF ALL.







#### PRESIDENT & CEO

### MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

YMCA MISSION IN ACTION: The mission of the YMCA of Fredericton is clear. Posting this mission statement on letterhead and websites is easy. The more inspiring challenge is making sure our mission statement takes on life, meaning and impact. We hope this annual report highlights the many ways that you have helped bring life to the mission of your Y.

MY Y STORY: In this year's annual report you'll read about Ken, Gwyn, Elaine, and Heather. The common thread in these stories is the impact the Y has on the quality of life of our members, volunteers and staff. Whether it be a healthy bond within a family, a center of inclusion for a young child, a social hub for a new retiree, or a vocation for staff, the Y truly does develop people in spirit, mind and body.

MYY HIGHLIGHTS: This past year was another vibrant year for your Y. Details are in this report but we'd like to highlight the following:

Your Y membership base is stronger than ever with a community of 5800–6000 members participating in a wide range of programs throughout the year.

Your Y health, fitness and aquatics programming has grown and diversified, offering members an average of 163 programs a week to choose from. Our slogan that "Every body finds their fit at the Y!" has never been more

Your Y child care programs continue to deliver safe, affordable and licensed services to 417 children in our pre school, day care and after school programs.

Your Y employment counselling services continue to deliver free and accessible support to over 223 community members including 56 newcomers to our community.

Your Y provided financial support to 1308 kids, teens and families thanks to the generosity of our Strong Kids donors.

These My Y Stories and operational highlights would not be possible without our qualified and caring staff, our selfless volunteers and our dedicated members. Thanks to you, our Y remains the hub of community health and vitality that is has been since 1858. Now that's a legacy.

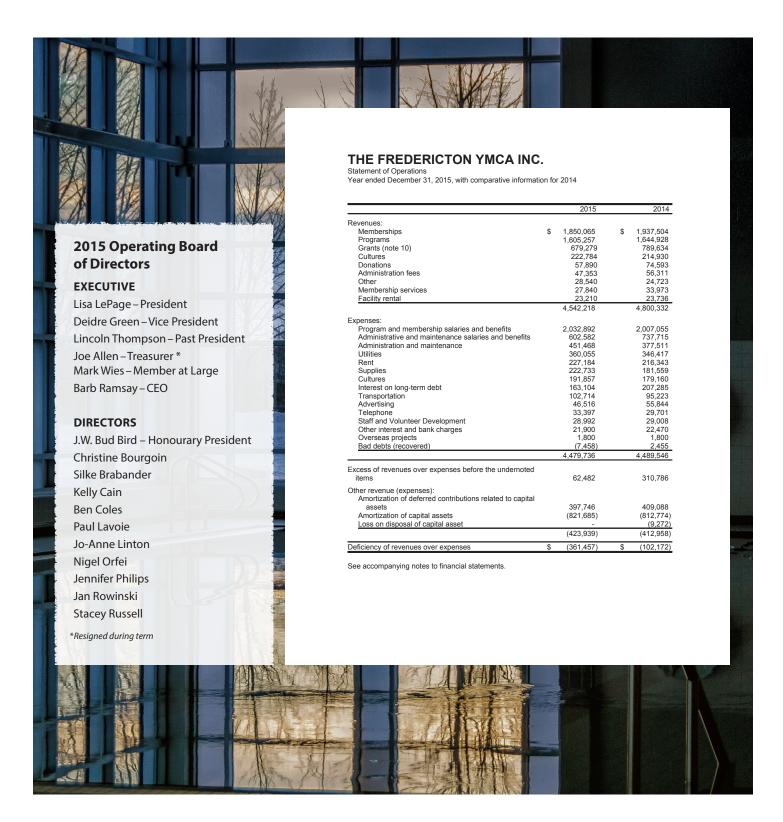
The YMCA of Fredericton thanks your for contributing to the mission of your Y!

Lisa Je Pays. Lisa LePage

Jarbara Ramsay **Barb Ramsay** 

**OUR VISION** HEALTHY PEOPLE FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

## LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE







### BY DAY KEN FORREST IS DIRECTOR OF GROWTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AT THE CITY OF FREDERICTON. AT NIGHT YOU CAN FIND HIM, HIS WIFE AND HIS TWO KIDS AT THE YMCA OF FREDERICTON.

"Monday night we were here for karate. Tonight I'm here for basketball. Tomorrow there's more karate. Thursday's hip-hop dancing, Friday's basketball and Saturday's gymnastics," he says with a smile. Forrest and his children became Y members in 2013 when the family moved back to Fredericton from Saint John. "The great thing about the Y is that it lets kids experiment with sports and recreation activities they wouldn't try otherwise," says Forrest. "My son wanted to try karate and I said, 'Why not!' Because we have a membership he tried it and he loves it."

Trying out new things is an important value in the Forrest household. Every year, Ken and his son go on a trip around the world. So far, the duo has visited Iceland, New York, Jordan, Egypt and southeast Asia. "Each year, we go as local as we can to soak up the real deal. This year, we're going to drive across South Africa by flying into Cape Town and working our way up to Johannesburg over three weeks."

These travels let Forrest share his passion for discovering the world while spending quality time with his children. "You get a really interesting relationship with your kids when you spend that kind of time with them. Last summer, we were in rural Laos and we had to figure out how to get from the airport to the bus station to take a bus across the border to Thailand. My son's mind was wide open to it all."

For the Forrest family there are no boundaries, either between countries or between neighborhoods, which is where the YMCA comes in.

"My son comes here with a buddy, a friend he would have never met other than through the Y. They go to different schools and live on different sides of the river, but the friendship came from here."

The Y is so important in the family's life, his kids are currently looking at opportunities to get involved even more. His son wants to become a basketball referee and a lifequard, says Forrest. "He sees it as an opportunity to work and to give back, because it's something he's passionate about."

While the family lives an active and busy lifestyle, it also gives Forrest, a busy professional with a demanding job, time to himself.

"It's a place where I can focus on my own health and my own wellbeing," he says. "The Y gives me a chance to hit the gym while my family does their thing."

From a professional point of view, he says he is able to witness the direct impact of the Y in the city's social fabric. "The Y's reach extends out to every corner of the city," he says. "It provides opportunities for kids and adults to get active while meeting new people. That's so important."



#### **FRIEND**

Jennifer Agnew **Alexalor** Anne Allen Margaret Allen Mary Allwood **Anonymous Doreen Armstrong** Bernard Arseneau Ian Arseneault **Sharon Astles Charles Ayles** Linda Banks Fred Barton **Bert Bates** Patricia Beaney **Greg & Michelle Beers** Cathy & Dave Belmore Paul Blackmore Fllen Blake John & Roberta **Bleumortier** Carmel Borland Cindy Boyce Mary-Ann Boyle Silke Brabander Dale Brav Sharon & Patrick Brennan **Louise Brooks Bob Brown** Ralph & Carolyn Brown Elizabeth & Ken Burke Evan Campbell Josheph Campbell Canada Helps Inc. Catherine Clark Manon Bertin Couillard **Sharon Cowan** Mark Coy Ervn Craft Celinda & Graham

Daniel & Carol Crowther John L. Cullinan **Dave Daley** Sean & Cher Daley Tania Davies Matt DeCourcey **Guv Desaulniers** Patricia desChamps Isabelle Dicare Abmer D'Niese Lisa Doucet Lorna Drew Jennifer Drost Rob & Daneen Dymond **Becky Gallant** Gary Gallant Marc Gathercole Mary Lou & Lawrence Grant **Burton Green** Danielle Green Deidre Green Gayle Greer Gordon & Carol Gregory **Brian Griffiths** Mark Haines-Lacey Lee Ann Hanlon Roger Harley Frank Harriott Anne & Gary Hawkins **Geoff Holloway** Robert & Nancy Howie Allison Hubbard Flovd Jackson Nicole & Ryan Jacobson James E. Gairns Professional Corp Michael Keays Chris Keenan Robert Kenyon Michelle LaFrance

Maurive Lavigne

Jasmine LeBrun Doreen & Bill Leonard Lisa LePage Clair LePage Daryl Lisson Pam Love Jordan Lutes Gayle MacDonald Heather MacLennan-Cormier Jeff MacLeod Willima & Anne MacMullin Elizabeth Mancke Gordon Sandra Mavnard Tim McCullum Mike McGee Mel McGuigan Francis McGuire & Beth Webster Joan McKay Julie McKean Sadie Miller Mitch Clarke Sports for Kids Memorial Fund Jim & Beverly Morell William & Judith Morrison Grogory A. Morton Albert & Margaret Murray Dan & Maggie Murray Lorainne Neill Donna Nolan Stuart Norton Michelle Nowlan Frank O'Donnell Nigel Orfei Jacqus Paynter Marc Peppin Sandy Perley Flaine Peters

Edward A. Petrie

George William Phillips

Jennifer Phillips Jim & Carol Pictot Stacey Pineau Nanette Lily Powers Angela Prime Kathy Pupek David Rayworth **Bruce & Cathy Read** Stephanie Richardson Cheryl Robertson **Ruth Rogers** Sandra Romo Ken & Cindy Ross Jan Rowinski Stacev Russell Chantal Sabourin Bijoy & Seema Saha Jane Ann Sears **Betv Shore Ross & Janice Simmonds** Dayna Sinclair Krista Steeves Arlene Stocek **Bob Stranch** John Sturgeon Sean Sullivan Terry Teskey Catherine & George Thompson Jon Thompson Stacev Thornton Malcolm Trail United Way of Greater Burlington Ann Wagner John Waite **Exeline West** Chris Whalen Shawna & Mark White **Brian Wilkins** Donna Wilson Ben Wuest

#### **MEMBER**

Anonymous **Bird Stairs** Christine Bourgoin Arnold Budovitch Ian Burgess City of Fredericton Andrew Clark & Dr. Shelley Quinlan Ruth & Mitch Claybourn Ben & Rachael Coles John Collins Dawn DeCourcey Joey Doucet Dr. L V Noftall Prof. Corp. Kendell Dunham James & Donna Dysart E.H.E. Holdings Ltd. Epsilon Y's Menettes Ronald & Sherrie Evans **Robert & Anne Forbes** Jeanne Geldart & Alan **Bentley** Phillip & Colleen Gilks Linda & Cedric Haines John M. Hanson **Robert & Mary Hawkes** Dale Horncastle John & Margaret Keddy Joseph Kelemen Paul Lavoie Frank Lawrence Ron & Donna LeBlanc Jo-Anne & George Linton **Loblaw Companies** Limited Heather MacDonald-Rosse Sheila McLeod Carl & Rose McLeod Dr. John McMullen

Crandall

George & Barbara Cross

# 2015 Strong Kid Donors

Harriett McNeill Maureen Michaud Susan Montague William Morrison James Nicholson Ken Oliver Elizabeth Richard Nancy Ross & Don Feeney Georgette Roy S/S Tire & Auto Servcie Ltd. Lori Schriver Heather Smallman

#### **PATRON**

Tim Andrew **Anonymous** Cecil & June Aucoin Richard & Arlene Audas Navin Bhutani Rene Blanchard Larry & Rhonda Broad Jennifer Brown Frank Camm Mike Casey Robin Chaplin Rick Chisholm Wladyslaw Cichocki Tim Clark & Leslie Thomas Cowan **Huah Croll** Dalton & Mary Dickinson John Dixon & Dianne Brittany

Ron & Carol Loughrey William & Martina Matthews Joan McCready Mary McKean Michele McKinley Paul Munroe Susan Nind Patty Ramsey Scott Ricketts Derek & Arlene Rose Neil & Leesa Russon Calvin Smith

Ed & Ann Smith

Stephen Smith Jason Sullivan Jan Thompson

Lily Fraser

Joyce Gagnon

Dr. Ron Harding

John Hildebrand

Al & Helen Kingston

Frank & Karina LeBlanc

John Gorrill

Trius Inc Judy & Wavell Underhill / In Loving Memory of Evan Underhill Gerrit D. Van Raalte Jason & Shawna Vandertoorn J.M. Mark Wies **Arnie Wilkins** 

#### **SPONSOR**

Marjorie Atkinson Linda & Brian Barnes Josheph & Helen Berube Phil Burton Capital Y's Menettes Peter & Kari Clark Brian & Elaine Connell Jamie Eddy & Kelli Simmonds Federal Express Canada Ltd. David & Janice Hashey Les & Eva Hull Constance Mason Men's Health Club George & Audrey Peppin Ray Schriver John & Wendy Sinclair Gerald & Catherine Sutherland

#### **BENEFACTOR**

Anonymous Ralph & MaryJane Bartlett J. W. Bud Bird John Bliss Kelly Cain Jim & Beth Clark John & Pam Clark Richard & Margaret Clark Robin & Joanne Clark Epsilon Y's Men Sarita Gujar Dorothy McDade Richard McGuigan Jerry & Caroline Mulder Nashwaakis Y Service Club Heather Neilson R J Bartlett Engineering Ltd. Vince & Bernice Ramsay Dan & Nancy Rearick David & Jane Rioux Running Room Canada Inc. David & Margot Russell Etienne & Vickie Theriault Lincoln & Donna Thompson

David & Elizabeth Wilson

#### **CHAMPION**

Canadian Tire Jump Start Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation Fredericton Community Foundation Fredericton Direct Charge Co-Op Giftfunds Canada Margaret & Bill Jones Dr. Ramaiyer & Sita Krishnaswamy Rosemary McCain McMillin Barb Ramsay & David Clark Scotiabank







## **ELAINE PETERS**



## ONE OF FREDERICTON'S MOST POPULAR DOWNTOWN STORES STARTED BY ACCIDENT NEARLY 25 YEARS AGO.

It was Christmas time and the YMCA of Fredericton's international department put on a fundraiser selling beautiful and sustainable fair trade products from around the world.

"The rest is history," says Elaine Peters with a smile, standing next to a display of clothing at Cultures Boutique off York Street. From its humble beginnings, Cultures now sells a wide range of clothes, jewelry, crafts, coffee, tea, and musical instruments that bring the world to the city.

As store manager, Elaine takes care of day-to-day activities including buying inventory. "When we buy, it's mostly fair trade," she says.

Fair trade businesses aim to make a difference in the lives of artisans by ensuring they are paid fairly within their local economies, and that labor conditions are safe and non-exploitative. Products are also made from sustainably harvested materials and manufactured in an environmentally friendly way. When Cultures started, it was one of the first shops in the city to consider ethical buying practices to be important.

Last year, Elaine travelled to Mexico with Just Us Coffee, one of Cultures' suppliers and a supporter of fair trade. "I saw how we change our suppliers' lives, but they also changed mine, because I saw how they live. I'll never look at a cup of coffee in the same way again," she says. "When you buy coffee it goes

through 32 people's hands, from that little bean to your cup."

When Elaine doesn't buy directly from craftspeople she goes to a gift show in Toronto to buy from vendors who travel around the world to find fair trade goods. "The store is always fun, bright and welcoming, but I've got to keep it interesting so I look for new things all the time," she says.

While Cultures isn't housed in the YMCA's York Street location, it is a visible representation of the Y values of respect, inclusion, partnership and integrity. Cultures helps our community understand how consumer choices can make a difference in changing the world.

The YMCA has many ways of helping people whether it's by working out, daycare, employment services, or education. Cultures adds an international dimension to the Y by making available some of the beautiful crafts made in faraway places while aiding families in developing countries.

Elaine says, "A lot of people come in and tell me it's their favorite shop in Fredericton. When someone buys a product at Cultures, this means the artisan who made it can feed their family or buy bicycles for their children. Because I know where the items are from, I have stories to tell about the things we have and who made them. That's priceless!"





### GWYN HAS GROWN INTO AN INDEPENDENT, FUN LITTLE GIRL WITH LOTS OF CONFIDENCE BEING A YMCA KID. SHE KNOWS SHE IS A PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL AND SHE LOVES HER YMCA FAMILY.

Our daughter Gwyn first became a member of the Y when she was 6 months old. She enjoyed gym tots, the child minding room and the pool. Swimming has been an important part of Gwyn's life - it is a form of therapy for her. She is now in private swimming lessons and loving it. The YMCA has fantastic teachers that have been able to work with her disability. When Gwyn turned 2 we started in the YMCA daycare program and she also started therapy with Autism Intervention Services. Support services come to the YMCA every day to visit Gwyn for 4 hours to work with her. Having her therapy with her classmates has been such a positive part of Gwyn's treatment. She is learning how to mimic their behaviors and its helping us get her ready for school.

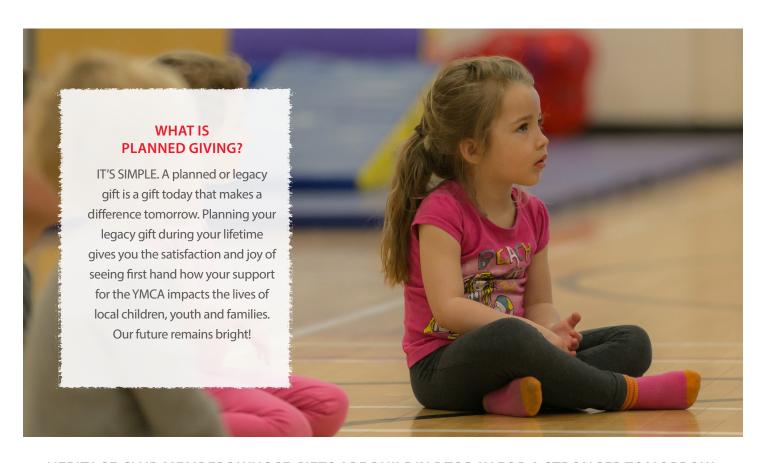
Gwyn enjoys how active she gets to be at the YMCA and she loves her amazing classmates. She swims once a week, visits the library twice a month, and gets lots of gym time

every day. Her favorite part of the day is the time spent outside running in the fresh air on the YMCA property. The childcare workers have been very accepting and understanding of her diagnosis and we feel we've always had lots of support each day from them.

Gwyn has grown into an independent, fun little girl with lots of confidence being a YMCA kid. She knows she is a part of something special and she loves her YMCA family. She proudly tells everyone where she goes to "school".

The YMCA has been a crucial part of our family's everyday life. There is not one day of the week that goes by where we are not there. Gwyn's younger brother is involved in his own Y kid classes and loves seeing his big sister watching him during gym time from the hall upstairs. I look forward to when he gets to experience the Y's daycare program too. He already loves visiting the Y every day!

### HERITAGE CLUB



#### HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS WHOSE GIFTS ARE BUILDING TODAY FOR A STRONGER TOMORROW

**Burton Colter** Ottis Logue Murray Sargeant Will Webb A. J. Sandy LeBlanc Memorial Fund Ellen MacGillivray

#### **HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS**

Marjorie Atkinson Ralph & Mary Jane Bartlett John Bliss & Dorothy McDade Ron\* & Dora\* Burgess Duncan & Fay Campbell Ron & Pat\* Campbell Jim & Beth Clark John & Pam Clark John & Wilma Clark

Richard & Margaret Clark David Clark & Barb Ramsay **Elaine Colter** Meridee Craft Jim & Karon Croll Don Feeney & Nancy Ross Ed & Sandra Fox John Hanson Margaret & Bill Jones

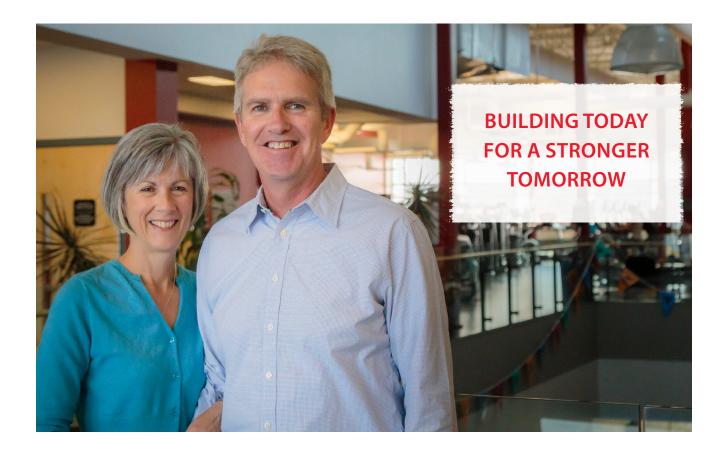
Robert\* & Joan Kenny Dr. Ramaiyer & Sita Krishnaswamy Harry\* & Edith Levine Robert & Maria Matthews Sheila McLeod Lawrence & Miriam\* Menzies Doug & Sheila Morgan Heather & Murray Neilson

Jamie & Gisele Petrie David Saad David & Brenda Sansom Grant\* & Stella Sansom Richard & Brenda Tingley Rebecca Watson David & Elizabeth Wilson

\*deceased

#### HERITAGE CLUB

### RALPH & MARY JANE BARTLETT



The YMCA has been a part of our lives for over 29 years. We donate to the Y because we have seen first hand the impact that our donations have on the lives of others. No one is ever turned away from YMCA programs and services due to their financial situation. We are members of Heritage Club because we believe in helping to build Strong Kids, Strong Families and a Healthy Community.

~Ralph and Mary Jane Bartlett

#### A FUTURE THAT REMAINS BRIGHT

## 2015 ENDOWMENT FUND INC.

#### **EXECUTIVE**

### Jason Vandertoorn – President Peter Clark – Vice President Heather Neilson – Past President Bill Jones – Treasurer Barb Ramsay – CEO

#### **DIRECTORS**

Ralph Bartlett	Derek Rose
Pam Clark	David Russell
Ron Harding	Etienne Theriault
Sandy Kitchen	Lisa LePage
Rick Miles	Sita Krishnaswamy
Dan Murray	

#### **2015 ENDOWMENT BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

In 2015, with the 30th anniversary of the Endowment Fund Inc. fast approaching (2017), the Endowment Board undertook a strategic review of its current funds, financial obligations and fundraising activities with the intent of improving clarity, choices for donors and impact within the YMCA community.

A key development in 2015 was the striking of a working group tasked with analyzing the Strong Kids Campaign, a shared responsibility of both the Endowment and Operating Boards of the YMCA. A recommendation was made, and jointly accepted by both boards, to transfer the annual Strong Kids Campaign to the Operating Board, wherein all donations would support the YMCA's commitment to access for all.

With this significant change in place, a strategic opportunity has presented itself for the Endowment Board to focus its attention on its core reason for being. To this end, a strategic plan is being finalized that is being informed by stakeholder engagement discussions. Our early deliberations are very encouraging with many YMCA friends strongly committed to the long term success of the YMCA of Fredericton and the impact it has on our community. We look forward to sharing the strategic plan with the YMCA community in 2016.

#### 2015 INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

The YMCA Endowment Fund Inc., ("the Fund"), achieved a significant milestone in 2015 as total assets crossed the \$2 million threshold amounting to \$2.1 million as of December 31, 2015. The growth of the Fund is directly attributable to the continued strong support of many friends and donors along with favourable investment returns and a prudent approach to financial management.

#### **INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

Investment returns for the Fund were 5.74% in 2015 compared to the passive benchmark of 3.62%. These results reflect a continuation of actual returns being ahead of targets over recent years.

Table 1. Annualized Investment Returns After Fees as of December 31, 2015

	1 YEAR	2 YEARS	3 YEARS
Actual	5.74%	8.02%	9.14%
Benchmark	3.62%	6.88%	7.72%

#### A FUTURE THAT REMAINS BRIGHT

### 2015 ENDOWMENT FUND INC.

The Fund takes a long term, disciplined and diversified approach to investments. The investment environment continues to reflect low interest rates with equity markets subject to ongoing volatility. In collaboration with the external investment management firm of Connor Clark & Lunn, the Investment Committee implemented a new category of investments in 2015. This category, a diversified market neutral strategy, is aimed at further diversifying the portfolio, helping to dampen volatility while enhancing overall returns.

The allocation of investments of asset classes as of December 31, 2015 as compared to long term target allocations is outlined below:

	TACTICAL ALLOCATION DECEMBER 31, 2015	STRATEGIC ASSET ALLOCATION	DEVIATIONS TO STRATEGIC TARGET
Fixed Income	41%	40%	+1%
Equities			
Canadian	23%	25%	-2%
US	15%	12%	+3%
International	10%	8%	+2%
Diversified Market Neutral Strategy	11%	10%	+1%
Cash	0%	5%	-5%

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Fund distributed a total of \$95,000 to the YMCA of Fredericton in 2015, the same total as the prior year. \$75,000 was applied towards the 10 year commitment of \$750,000 made to the YMCA of Fredericton Capital Campaign for the new Y facility. To date a total of \$450,000 has been contributed towards this pledge. A further \$20,000 in funds, the same amount as in 2014, were also contributed to the YMCA of Fredericton to support financial accessibility initiatives associated with the Strong Kids Campaign.

After reflecting revenues and expenses, as well as contributions made to the YMCA of Fredericton, the Fund finished the 2015 fiscal year with a net surplus of \$87,608. In keeping with past practices, surplus funds will be added to the investment portfolio and will support continued future contributions to the YMCA of Fredericton.

In 2015 the YMCA community lost a longtime friend with the passing of Bob Kenny, a past president of the YMCA and supporter of the Century Club, Strong Kids Campaign and Heritage Club. A generous life insurance policy was provided by Bob to the Fredericton YMCA Endowment Fund Inc.

The Fund is in full compliance with Canada Revenue Agency's annual disbursement requirements for charitable organizations.



## **HEATHER NEILSON**



### HEATHER NEILSON MAY BE A 65-YEAR-OLD RETIRED PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER, BUT SHE'S CERTAINLY NOT SLOWING DOWN.

Thanks to the YMCA of Fredericton, "Mrs. Neilson" maintains an active lifestyle — both physically and socially. She lifts weights in the morning three times a week, and enjoys a 9 a.m. Tabata interval-training class on Wednesdays. The Y is a "dynamite" place for seniors, says Neilson. She says she sees tons of seniors in the mornings at the gym, in the pool, and in the training classes. "I love to work out, and I love to work out because I love to play," she says. Besides being able to exercise, Neilson goes to the YMCA because she loves the people and the welcoming community. "It's a retired person's dream. It's a super way to meet people."

Neilson, who loves meeting new people, says one of her favourite parts about the YMCA is the long lasting relationships she has made over the years. "I get to meet the best people ever here in Fredericton," she says.

Her passion for the YMCA started when she first joined in 1981. An active woman who once played softball and ringette, she began going to a fitness class with her fellow "stay-at-home gals" when she had her son.

Six years later, she started teaching fitness classes, which she did for 10 years. She also got involved in fundraising by helping coordinate the YMCA's annual fashion show.

In the 1990s, Heather became a member of the YMCA operating board for five years, and in 2000 she became the president of the operating board.

Over the years, Neilson has done a lot of volunteer work for the YMCA, and says her specialties include fundraising and "friend-raising." Neilson is currently a member of the YMCA's endowment board and volunteers with the fundraising for the Strong Kids Campaign — a program that helps children and their families who can't afford to go to the YMCA.

While she worked as a teacher, a job she held for 32 years, Neilson saw firsthand how the Strong Kids campaign benefits children. Each year, some of her students were selected for the campaign. After they started going to the Y she noticed improvements from the children especially in their behaviour, all thanks to the program. "I love it here because I love to see children and families together, being physically and emotionally health always" she said.

In addition to working out and volunteering at the Y, Heather likes to play badminton and ski, both downhill and cross-country. On Sunday mornings, she plays hockey, and says her newest addiction is tennis. In the summer, she says you can find her on the golf course.

## DATA THAT INSPIRES



25

Number of years that Cultures Boutique has been offering fair and ethically traded products and education about the impact of alternative trade principals.



282

Number of children enrolled in licensed YMCA After School Programs who are receiving safe, affordable and quality after school care.

163



Coaches and referees who are health role models to basketball players throughout the year.



95

years young. The most mature member of the YMCA of Fredericton.



159

Number of years the YMCA of Fredericton has been serving the needs of the Fredericton community.

3,529

Number of swimmers developing their skill and confidence in registered YMCA programs in 2015.



847

(2012-2016).





