



Community Roots

A publication of the Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Foundation Fall 2006

*The community foundation idea is simple:
Anyone may use it to give something back to the community.*

Message from our Chair

Creating Treasured Memories

Food For Thought Event and Corporate Sponsors

Sign Posts - Highlights

Watch our website in late December for information about priorities and deadlines for 2007 granting.

I am very proud to share some highlights of "Sign Posts" with you in this newsletter. "Sign Posts" is a new publication documenting the research resulting from our partnership with Social Planning Council, and identifies many rapidly changing social needs in our neighbourhoods, like adult literacy, health, post-secondary education and affordable accommodation. The publication illustrates primarily socioeconomic trends based on these needs for the neighbourhoods in our communities.

We have highlighted salient points in this newsletter to give you the flavour, hopefully encouraging you to read more. You will find a personal copy enclosed giving you the complete edition, or see the online edition at www.cambridgefoundation.org.

During our recent donor luncheon, we were able to also highlight the Galt city core neighbourhood. This neighbourhood is just one example of a local neighbourhood with many socioeconomic challenges, as well as many needs stemming from health and early learning perspectives.

Why is this so important? These revealing and important trends will influence not only our granting priorities, but also highlight which relevant issues require our leadership efforts to illicit positive change.

While you are exploring "Sign Posts", check out the rest of our new website: it is getting bigger and better, just like your community foundation, with your support.

Dian Bell, Chair

"A grieving child's life is like a piece of paper upon which every passerby leaves a mark." - Alan D. Wolfelt

Creating Treasured Memories By Kristin Shantz, Coping Centre

"Companioning" describes the model of walking alongside of and supporting people who have lost a loved one, and helping them find ways to express their pain, memories and feelings towards their loss in ways that are important to the individual (A.H. Fine, N.M. Fine, 1996; Mattson, 2003). One way to honour a person who has died and has been loved by a child is for the child to create a memory garden. The Coping Centre did just that with the assistance of a grant from the Community Foundation.

Each camper at the Adventure Camp, held this summer at the Coping Centre, created a memory stone and planted plants in honour of loved ones. Not only did they enjoy their experience working outside, they also were able to share with their peers some of their treasured memories.

One ten year old camper declared, "When I grown up I am going to bring my wife back to see the garden and stones". The campers loved showing their memory stones and the gardens to their family and new friends: this was their special way of remembering and walking their individual journeys of grief. A parent of a 15 year old camper has also let us know that her daughter had told her that after the camp "she felt alive again". A supportive environment helps to reawaken a desire to reinvest in life again.

The individual stones have been set into a small stone wall surrounding the garden where campers from the past, present and future can see this beautiful memorial created by children and youth expressing their grief in a positive way.

Thanks especially is extended to the LeBrun Family Fund and the Pinnington Family Fund for making this garden possible. Income from these two family funds supported this grant and have influenced a young child's life forever.



Contact your Community Foundation

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Food For Thought
 November 10, 2006
 6:30pm, Holiday Inn
 Event and Corporate Sponsors

Event Sponsor



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We thank all sponsors for their support.

Sign Posts - Highlights

- ▣ High illiteracy rates in Cambridge and North Dumfries are above national (48%) and provincial (47%) levels with well over half of the adult population functioning at the lowest 2 levels (out of 5 levels); 59% and 56%, respectively.

	Region of Waterloo		City of Cambridge		Township of North Dumfries	
	1996	2001	1996	2001	1996	2001
university educated w/degree	13.4%	18.4%	8.4%	11.9%	12.4%	17.9%
trade certificate	3.4%	11.1%	3.6%	11.7%	4.6%	15.2%
non-university/college	24.9%	23.8%	25.3%	25%	28.1%	24.7%
grade 9-13	39%	32.9%	43.8%	38.4%	39.7%	30.6%
< grade 9	10.7%	9%	12.2%	9.6%	6.8%	7.1%

- ▣ From 1996 to 2001, nearly 4 times the number of Cambridge and North Dumfries residents are obtaining trade certifications. Increasing numbers of residents, as well, are successfully attending university.
- ▣ In 2001, around one-half of the workforce in Cambridge and North Dumfries aged 20-64 had post-secondary qualifications. (44% in Cambridge and 54% in North Dumfries). This is less than provincial levels which are at approximately 55%.
- ▣ The face of Cambridge is changing. In 2001, 9.2% of the population identified themselves as a visible minority, which has increased from 7.5% in 1996.
- ▣ From 1996 to 2005, Cambridge's unemployment rate dropped from 6.5% to 5.3%, but rates among immigrant populations remain considerably higher (ranging from 7.1% to 12.4% in 2001).
- ▣ Over the past decade in the Waterloo Region, the income gap ratio—measuring the gap between rich and poor—climbed from 7.2 in 1990 to 10.2 in 2000; mirroring similar trends nationwide.



Attending Food For Thought?

Visit Sid Somer's Men's Wear between November 1 – 15 and 10% of your total purchase will be contributed to the Community Foundation.

Available to Food For Thought attendees only.



Did You Know? Community Foundations of Canada (CFC) is the membership organization for Canada's vibrant and growing network of 155 community foundations.

Share this newsletter with your neighbours!

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, call or email your Community Foundation!

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Enriching our communities forever!

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