



Westshore

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INC

"Building a Lasting Legacy"



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TIM ARNASON

The Westshore Community Foundation is celebrating its 20th year in 2019. It was formed in 1999 with seed money from the old Johnson Memorial Hospital and the Thomas Sill Foundation and guidance from the Winnipeg, Killarney and Portage la Prairie Foundations.

Some will recall that the Johnson Memorial Hospital had a catchment area along the west shore of Lake Winnipeg from Matlock in the south, Fraserwood in the west and Riverton in the north. When the area Health Authority model came to be, the JMH had a modest fund of approximately \$200,000 that was established by the Hospital Auxiliary and others and was to be used for hospital/health care improvements in our area. The hospital did not want this fund to be swallowed up by the health authority and preferred that a group of people set up a stewardship model that would manage and grow this fund for the benefit of the community. Hence, the Westshore Community Foundation was born and adopted the same catchment area.

The Westshore Foundation is part of a large family. There are 191 such foundations across Canada; 54 of which are in Manitoba. Stop and think about that for a minute. Manitoba, with about 2 ½ % of the Canadian population makes up 28% of the Community Foundations. This speaks very directly to the generosity and volunteer spirit in our Province. Philanthropy is alive and well in this Province and certainly, in our community. I should add that The Winnipeg Foundation is Canada's first community foundation, established in 1921.

Collectively, Canada's Foundations hold combined assets of more than \$5.8 billion and has put hundreds of millions back into communities over our 98-year history. We put the strength of our philanthropic network to the best possible use for our communities and our country.

We champion issues that matter to our community. Our projects, initiatives and events explore new ways to create lasting impact, for today and for future generations. We see community philanthropy as critical to meeting some of our community's most pressing challenges.

The mandate of the Westshore Community Foundation is "Building a Lasting Legacy". Our mandate and the delivery of our mandate are consistent with Community Foundations across the country.

Since our inception, we have seen steady growth. From our modest start of approximately \$250,000, we now carry assets of approximately \$2.4m in our endowment funds and through the support of our donors and partners, we will continue to grow. We are not going anywhere but up.

We have provided grants in excess of \$600,000 to not for profit organizations within our catchment area for projects in support of:

- The Environment
- Heritage
- Culture
- Sports and Recreation
- Community Services
- Health
- Education

In addition, Westshore has provided over \$200,000 through our scholarship program to support and encourage students in pursuit of their post-secondary studies.

Assuming the lead chair of this organization is an honour. I am fortunate to be able to work with a group of Directors who share a passion and commitment to our community and who assume a responsibility to give of their time and expertise to contribute to the quality of life we all enjoy.

Please visit our website at www.westshorefoundation.com or give us a call at 204-642-9796. We are proud of what we do and would love you to be a part of it.

Tim Arnason, President
Westshore Community Foundation