
2016 A GOOD YEAR FOR THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

April 27, 2017 – Stratford, ON – The [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#) (SPCF) hosted their 2016 Annual General Meeting last night at the Stratford Country Club.

“Together we’ve built on the positive momentum from past years,” noted Tracy Van Kalsbeek, SPCF Executive Director. “We have continued with our focus on growing endowments, investing more back into our community through our grant program all the while engaging the community in the work we do.”

Highlights from the past year included:

- Endowed assets reached almost \$3.5 Million
- New gifts to the Foundation reached an all-time high at \$724,355
 - Seven new endowed funds and nine new named funds under the Smart & Caring Community Funds umbrella
- Grants in 2016 totaled \$120,589 with cumulative grants totaling over \$606,000 since the Foundation’s inception in 2004
- Mayors Gala in January was best yet raising over \$118,000 for the Foundation’s community leadership and outreach activities
- Smart & Caring Community Funds were kicked off in St. Marys and Perth South
- Random Act of Kindness Day was another success bringing our communities closer together in a celebration of kindness and generosity

“As part of our five year strategic plan we are working to build our assets so that the small fee we take will cover all of our operating costs,” shared John Wilkinson, SPCF Board Chair. “We’ve crunched the numbers and know that we need to get to \$12 Million for that to happen. At \$3.5 Million we still have lots of work to do and we need your help.”

The event also featured a special presentation by SPCF Fund Holder Jean Aitcheson – who shared details about her nursing career and how, by starting a scholarship at the Community Foundation, she was able to finalize her retirement plans. “After a 52 year career, I’m deeply passionate about nursing,” said Jean Aitcheson. “In celebration of my retirement, I set up the scholarship at the Community Foundation so that I could encourage young people to pursue their dream of nursing. Investing in the Foundation makes it an annual reminder for me.”

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About the [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#)

The Stratford Perth Community Foundation (SPCF) is an organization for everyone and unique because donations – large or small – are never spent but are combined and invested. The earned income is used to make grants to local charities year after year to build a vibrant not-for-profit sector in Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County. To make all this work, we share our unique understanding of community needs and help mobilize and guide donors to specific community initiatives. For more information about SPCF please visit www.spccf.ca

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StratfordPerthCommFdn>

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