



helping good people
do great things
in their community

2008
ANNUAL REPORT

NIAGARA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The logo for the Niagara Community Foundation features the text "NIAGARA" on the top line and "COMMUNITY FOUNDATION" on the bottom line. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic consisting of two curved lines, one dark blue and one light green, that sweep upwards and to the right.

OUR VISION

Realizing community dreams through philanthropy.

OUR MISSION

The Niagara Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation dedicated to improving the quality of life in Niagara through building endowment funds, providing grants and enabling philanthropic partnerships.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

ENABLE, COLLABORATE AND TRANSFORM:

Enable community improvement by providing funding and community knowledge. Bring organizations together to form partnerships based on the respective strengths of each organization to focus on key community priorities.

DEMONSTRATE PHILANTHROPIC LEADERSHIP:

Demonstrate expertise and best practice in philanthropic leadership.

PUT NIAGARA FIRST:

Communicate and support the Niagara story. Build community leadership. Seek and develop individuals who will bring leadership to the community.

BE TRUSTWORTHY AND TRANSPARENT:

Engage in practices that are open, accessible, fair, objective, flexible, timely and built on a foundation of respect, trust, integrity and honesty.

ENSURE SOUND GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT: Ensure that the Niagara Community Foundation governance and management is sound, relevant and realizes its full fiduciary responsibility.

Cover photo – Visit our website to read more about Maddie, Will and Katie Caughill who along with their parents have created the Caughill Family Fund.

2008 A MILESTONE YEAR FOR OUR FOUNDATION



Liz Palmieri
Executive Director



Brad Hutchings
President

THERE ARE SOME YEARS IN THE LIFE OF A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION THAT ARE MILESTONES.

2008 was one such year not only for the Niagara Community Foundation but our colleagues in Canada and around the world. While the volatility of the investment market impacted our endowment funds, we were still able to accomplish much during the year.

Through the generosity of many of our donors, we were able to increase our grants over the previous year. While not all funds were able to grant, our older funds had built up a reserve in order to grant in years when the markets declined.

In partnership with other local funders, we produced the Living in Niagara Report which serves as a community report card on how Niagara is doing in a number of sectors in comparison to other jurisdictions, at the regional, provincial and national level. This report will serve as a guide to the board insuring that the priorities of our granting programs align with the issues the community has identified as needing support.

The board continues to provide leadership to the organization, implementing the new strategic plan early in the year. Given what was accomplished in 2008 and the significant changes with the economy, the board and staff have revisited and provided a greater focus to the plan. Our goal continues to be to increase our impact in the community, especially during these difficult times.

Our continued success is due to the leadership and assistance of so many. Thank you to everyone who played a part. We would not be where we are today without them.

Brad Hutchings
President

Liz Palmieri
Executive Director

GRANTS ENABLE COMMUNITY DREAMS

INCLUSION BUILDS COMMUNITY IN THOROLD

Children with disabilities and special needs now have a central location in Thorold with suitable recreational equipment where they can interact with their peers, develop friendships and improve their skills.

A youth grant provided funds to the Thorold Community Activities Group in efforts to include all children, regardless of ability, in after school recreational programs and day camps. Funds were used to purchase resource and inclusiveness equipment, and adapted equipment for indoor hockey and basketball.

Instructors can now include participants with special needs without bringing attention to their differences. The group has seen an increase in participation in their programs, while seeing benefits for children without disabilities who have developed positive attitudes towards others who are different from themselves. *

PARTNERS PROTECTING THE DUNES

A community partnership in Fort Erie is working to stabilize sand dunes adjacent to Bay Beach. The Town of Fort Erie and the Friends of Crystal Beach received an environmental grant to maintain sand levels and reduce sand movement.

Funds were used to install native plant materials along two dunes. The project will be used as a model for future dune and soil stabilization projects.

The Crystal Beach community has taken significant ownership of and pride in the project, which has contributed to the beautification of the site and community. As an example of a successful partnership between the Town and a community partner, the project is also anticipated to lead to future environmental partnerships. *



SAFETY EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

“The Foundation is helping bring important safety lessons to life at The Niagara Region Children’s Safety Village,” says Shirley Cordiner, Administrative Director of the Village.

The Village provides safety presentations by fire, police and emergency services personnel to elementary school children. Two grants facilitated the purchase of interactive teaching tools, including a battery operated car to teach road safety, and most recently, a Hazard House. This valuable teaching aid is a large model complete with operational smoke alarms and rooms that fill with smoke, to assist students to visualize the hazards contained in a typical house.

20,000 students will benefit from the delivery of these fire safety education programs, with the goal of reducing the number of injuries and deaths in our region.

GRANT HAZARD HOUSE

AMOUNT \$7,000

ORGANIZATION NIAGARA REGION CHILDREN’S SAFETY VILLAGE

2008 GRANTS AWARDED

GRANTS FROM DONOR DIRECTED FUNDS

Adolescent's Family Support Services	\$2,500	Heart Niagara	\$500
Alzheimer Society	\$580	Hope Furniture Bank	\$5,000
Alzheimer Society	\$8,000	Knox Presbyterian Church	\$9,500
Architectural Conservancy of Ontario	\$19,612	Knox Presbyterian Church	\$9,000
Autism Society of Ontario	\$5,000	Lincoln County Humane Society	\$580
Bethlehem Not-for-Profit Housing	\$5,000	Mayholme Foundation	\$19,678
Bethlehem Not-for-Profit Housing	\$1,040	McMaster University	\$500
Bethlehem Not-for-Profit Housing	\$7,000	Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada	\$580
Bob Gale Recreation Fund - City of Niagara Falls	\$33,000	Newark Neighbours	\$500
Boys & Girls Club of Niagara	\$4,000	Niagara Action for Animals	\$580
Boys & Girls Club of Niagara	\$254	Niagara Artists' Company	\$294
Brock University	\$1,000	Niagara College	\$1,000
Canadian Psychiatric Research Foundation	\$500	Niagara College	\$500
Child Advocacy Centre Niagara	\$1,000	Niagara Falls Big Brothers/Sisters	\$480
Child Advocacy Centre Niagara	\$1,463	Niagara Falls Humane Society	\$500
Chorus Niagara	\$7,000	Niagara Falls Humane Society	\$1,343
Church of the Transfiguration	\$1,403	Niagara Foundation for Family and Children's Services	\$893
CNIB Ontario Division - Niagara Branch	\$580	Niagara Foundation for Family and Children's Services	\$500
Community Care St. Catharines & Thorold	\$333	Niagara Foundation for Family and Children's Services	\$46
Community Care St. Catharines & Thorold	\$628	Niagara Health Systems Foundation	\$46
Community Living - Fort Erie	\$4,000	Niagara Historical Society	\$500
Community Living - Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln	\$4,000	Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre	\$2,500
Community Living - St. Catharines	\$4,000	Niagara Region Sexual Assault Centre	\$580
Community Living - Welland Pelham	\$4,000	Niagara Region Sexual Assault Centre	\$325
Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique	\$400	Niagara Support Services	\$4,000
Dog Guides of Canada	\$580	Niagara Symphony Association	\$333
Friends of Fort Erie Creeks	\$34	Niagara Symphony Association	\$7,000
Gillian's Place	\$580	Osteoporosis Society of Canada	\$580
Gillian's Place	\$10,000	Peterson Community Workshop	\$5,000
GNGH Hospital Foundation	\$1,000	Port Colborne CARES	\$10,000
Goodwill Industries	\$7,500	Project Share	\$500
Grimsby Secondary School	\$346	Project Share	\$10,000
Habitat for Humanity Niagara	\$2,500	Red Roof Retreat	\$2,500
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario	\$580	Regional Niagara Upper Canada Lodge Auxiliary	\$3,957
		Regional Municipality of Niagara - Greater Niagara Circle Route	\$4,360

2008 GRANTS AWARDED

Regional Municipality of Niagara \$3,920
Ridley College \$957
Ridley College \$533
Salvation Army \$500
Shaw Festival Theatre Foundation \$1,000
Shaw Festival Theatre Foundation \$7,000
St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation \$576
St. Catharines Resource Service for Youth \$300
Stamford Collegiate Breakfast Club \$8,000
Stamford United Church \$1,000
United Way of Niagara Falls \$1,000
United Way of St. Catharines & District \$500
United Way of St. Catharines & District \$334
University of Toronto \$500
Willowbank School \$1,000
Women's Place of South Niagara \$1,000
YWCA of Niagara Region \$536

GRANTS FROM COMMUNITY, MINI, ENVIRONMENT AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

ALS Society of Ontario \$500
Alzheimer Society \$2,800
Bethlehem Not-for-Profit Housing \$3,500
Bird Studies Canada \$2,750
Boys & Girls Club of Niagara \$3,000
Business Education Council of Niagara \$2,000
Canadian Red Cross - Niagara Area Branches \$2,541
Carousel Players \$500
Carousel Players \$500
Choralis Camerata \$500
CNIB Ontario Division - Niagara Branch \$500
Community Living - Port Colborne/Wainfleet \$500
Community Living - Port Colborne/Wainfleet \$500
Community Living - Port Colborne/Wainfleet \$9,240
Folk Arts Council of St. Catharines \$3,650
Fort Erie Multicultural Centre \$500
Head Injury Association of Fort Erie \$500
Heart Niagara Inc. \$500
Heartland Forest Nature Experience \$500

Literacy Council of Niagara West \$3,250
Neto Hatinakwe Onkwehowe Native Arts \$3,160
Niagara College - Leadership Niagara \$500
Niagara Life Centre \$5,500
Niagara Life Centre Ministries \$4,515
Niagara Pride Support Service \$3,500
Niagara Training and Employment Agency \$4,000
Norval Johnson Heritage Centre \$500
Peterson Community Workshop \$3,740
Regional Niagara Firefighters Volunteer Assoc. \$500
Schizophrenia Society of Ontario -
Hamilton/Niagara Chapter \$3,090
St. John Ambulance Lincoln County Branch \$500
St. Michael Elementary School \$375
Start Me Up Niagara (SMUN) \$415
Thorold Community Activities Group \$6,282
Town of Fort Erie with Friends of Crystal Beach \$5,000
Town of Pelham \$500
Wainfleet Township Public Library \$500
Welland Heritage Council \$3,900
Women's Addiction Recovery Mediation \$500
YWCA of Niagara Region \$3,080

GRANTS FROM SUN MEDIA NIAGARA PUBLISHING GROUP CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP FUND

Autism Society of Ontario \$1,000
Boys & Girls Club of Niagara \$2,000
Carousel Players \$750
City of Welland \$2,000
Community Living - Fort Erie \$750
Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet \$750
Community Living - Welland Pelham \$750
Fort Erie Public Library \$3,000
Horse Alternative Therapeutic Services \$900
I.C.A.N.T.E.R. \$625
Jubilee Fellowship Christian Reformed Church \$500
Niagara Support Services \$750

2008 GRANTS AWARDED

Niagara Symphony Association \$700
Thorold Community Activities Group \$550
YMCA Fort Erie \$1,000
YMCA of Niagara \$3,000
YMCA Niagara with FACS \$2,000
YWCA of Niagara Region \$880

GRANTS FROM CASINO NIAGARA CARES FUND

Niagara Falls Art Gallery \$1,902
Niagara Peninsula Community Resource Centre \$7,200
Norval Johnson Heritage Centre \$5,000
Pelham Public Library \$3,115
St. Catharines Museum \$4,000
Wainfleet Township Public Library \$2,500

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES GRANTS

Brock University \$1,500
Niagara College Foundation \$1,500
Niagara College - Leadership Niagara \$5,000

NIAGARA WEST COMMUNITY FUND GRANTS

Big Brothers Big Sisters Grimsby / West Lincoln \$1,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters Grimsby / West Lincoln \$1,000
Child Advocacy Centre Niagara \$1,000
Grimsby Affordable Housing \$1,500
Lincoln Community Against Violence \$1,000
Lincoln Garden Club & Horticultural Society \$450

McNally House \$11,400
Niagara West Community Hospice-McNally H \$8,600
Niagara Youth Orchestra \$300
Town of Grimsby - Recreation Services \$600
Town of Grimsby - Recreation Services \$400
Town of Lincoln \$1,900
Town of Lincoln \$1,400
Township of West Lincoln \$2,900
West Niagara Second Stage Housing \$1,000

ST. CATHARINES COMMUNITY FUND GRANTS

Community Care St. Catharines & Thorold \$6,000
YMCA of St. Catharines \$14,000

WELLAND COMMUNITY FUND GRANTS

Niagara Falls Art Gallery for Welland Art Gallery \$1,548

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROUS DONORS

KEEPING THE SPIRIT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Donations were received in 2008 for the Gene Luczkiw Spirit of Enterprise Fund, created in memory of this dynamic individual.

Gene taught entrepreneurship to business students and enterprise education to aspiring teachers at Brock University. He also founded the Institute for Enterprise Education, located in St. Catharines, which delivered numerous programs to help individuals discover their unique abilities, and the Centre for Global Innovation and Leadership where he conducted valuable research and consulted to some of the world's largest organizations.

Gene was an acknowledged global thought leader and practitioner in entrepreneurship and enterprise education whose influence was felt throughout Niagara and beyond. The fund will be managed by the Niagara Community Foundation to ensure that his legacy will live on, with proceeds supporting an annual award for Niagara students who best demonstrate the spirit of enterprise. *





Earth
1st

AN ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY ACCOMPLISHED

In 2005 we launched a campaign to create an Environmental Legacy Fund designed to support water quality improvement, shoreline restoration and land stewardship and to ultimately improve Niagara's entire ecosystem. Four years later, it is through the generosity of individuals, groups and businesses that helped us to achieve success.

The support of Walker Industries was instrumental in making this campaign a success, with the creation of the Walker Industries Earth 1st Fund. Employees of the company, under the leadership of Alison Braithwaite, Director of Environmental Performance, led the way by both reaching out to partners and giving individually, raising over \$200,000.

Projects that restore and protect the environment need funds to realize their full potential. This Legacy Fund will provide the resources to make ongoing investments on a regular basis to contribute to a healthy natural environment for future generations. ✨

MAYORS' SUPPORT CONTINUES TO GROW

The Mayors of Niagara continue to support our community funds through both new and established events. For the first time, the Welland Fund was the recipient of proceeds from the annual Mayor's Charity Ball. Mayor Damian Goulbourne's event contributed the \$6,500 raised to support the Fund, which has assisted local organizations such as the Welland Historical Museum and Rose City Seniors Centre Foundation.

St. Catharines' Mayor Brian McMullan's annual Au Marché event continues to support the Investing in St. Catharines Youth Fund, providing financial assistance for children to participate in camp, sport, arts and music programs. In its sixth year, the 2008 event raised \$25,000.

The fourth annual Mayors' Golf Tournament saw the Mayors of West Lincoln, Lincoln and Grimsby raised by crane sixty feet into the air to attempt a closest to the hole putt. The tournament which raised almost \$40,000, enabled the Mayors to complete a \$20,000 commitment to McNally House Hospice. *

The DiCienzos established a named family fund within the Niagara Falls Fund. "Our contributions will stay right here in Niagara," says Dino DiCienzo, "which is very important to me."

In 2006, Dino's Canadian Niagara Hotels (the Sheraton on the Falls, Crowne Plaza and Skyline) were involved in the first annual "Sleep Cheap Charities Reap" event, where Niagara residents stay at Niagara Falls hotels for a discounted rate with significant proceeds to the Foundation.

After that initial experience, the relationship with the Foundation extended from corporate giving to a personal family commitment. "The Foundation was very helpful in making suggestions as to how we could achieve our giving goals," explains Dino. "I was attracted to working with an established entity, and one that provides an easy mechanism to manage our donations." *



Mayor Damian Goulbourne chats with Mel Groom, vice chair of the Niagara Community Foundation. Photo credit: Wayne Campell, The Welland Tribune.

NEW NAMED FAMILY FUND FOR THE FALLS



FOR THE GOOD OF PORT COLBORNE

Gary Talosi got involved with the Port Colborne Fund when he was asked to serve on the Advisory Board. As an appropriate way to thank the citizens of Port Colborne for supporting the financial planning practice he established in the city in 1994, he set up the aptly named Gary Talosi Thanks Port Colborne Fund.

“My wife Angie and I make a regular monthly contribution to the fund - the same way I recommend that clients contribute to their investments,” says Gary. “We also trust that a group of people can best decide how to use the funds for the general good of the citizens of Port Colborne, combining it with other donations to help fulfill the most urgent needs.”

VOLUNTEERS ARE KEY TO OUR SUCCESS

CLAUDIA WALKER

Claudia Walker, the new chair of the Port Colborne Fund, has always contributed to her hometown, being employed at the Port Colborne General Hospital and participating on various boards such as Port Cares, Port Community Health Centres, Canal Days, and Port Colborne Lioness, to name only a few.

When she read about the Foundation in the local newspaper she recognized yet another way to give back. “I come from a very rooted family in Port Colborne, so giving to the Foundation was a good fit,” explains Claudia. “You can direct your dollars to various causes right in your own backyard.” *

JANIE PALMER

Janie Palmer’s involvement stretches back to the steering committee meeting that first explored the idea of a Community Foundation in Niagara.

A former Executive Director of the United Way, she has served the Foundation in many capacities – on the Executive Director hiring committee, marketing committee, and now, as an important champion for the Niagara Falls Community Fund.

“I really like the regional aspect of the Foundation and I’m looking forward to increasing the support from donors in Niagara Falls,” says Janie. “I want everyone to learn how the Foundation flexibly tailors the giving opportunity to a donor’s needs and desires.” *

ENDOWMENT FUNDS CONTINUE TO GROW

The Foundation has a different face to each of our donors. We find that their gifts support a particular cause or fund or is given in honour or memory of an individual. Our role is to work with donors to ensure that their charitable intent is achieved through their gift. Thank you to those who chose to leave their legacy to the community through the Niagara Community Foundation.

There are many ways to make a gift to the foundation including cash, bequests, insurance policies, securities or property. However, with increasing demands for support, it is important to take the time to determine how to make “the best gift”, a gift that provides maximum benefit to the community that is within one’s capacity to give. In order to determine how to make “the best gift” consider these factors:

- Financial circumstances (i.e. financial resources and obligations)
- Personal circumstances
- Philanthropic objectives, such as:
 - Interest in a particular field of interest (i.e. arts, education, children and youth, seniors, the environment);
 - Provision of immediate or ongoing support;
 - Assurance of wise investment of your gift (regarding both investments and grants).

We strongly advise that you speak with your lawyer, accountant or estate planner to determine the best way to make a gift that maximizes your tax and estate goals. We also suggest that you speak to your family should you decide to leave a bequest. The foundation provides a variety of endowment fund options for donors to consider. Funds can be created during your lifetime or through your estate. Donations to create named funds can be gifted over a ten-year period. As you imagine the possibilities for leaving your legacy, read through the options available to our donors. The foundation staff would be pleased to meet with you to help explore how best to fulfill your charitable intentions.

THE NIAGARA FUND

A donation to the Niagara Fund gives the foundation the greatest flexibility. The earnings on this fund enable our board of directors to respond to current community needs through the provision of grants to charities throughout Niagara. Donors interested in supporting future community needs are able to make a contribution of any size to the Niagara Fund. Donors can establish a named fund within our Niagara Fund with a \$5,000 gift.

- Alice Downie-Bacon Com. Fund
- Marv & Andrea Kriluck Fund
- Branscombe Family Fund
- Casino Niagara Cares Fund
- Caughill Family Fund
- Crawford, Smith & Swallow Fund
- Elvi Vicary Fund
- George & Doris Shepherd Family Fund
- John & Jan Potts Fund
- Jack & Nora Walker Fund
- Niagara Credit Union Fund
- Niagara Fund
- Waters & Meredith Fund

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS

This type of fund gives donors the opportunity to specify, at the time the fund is established, which particular

charities they would like to support in perpetuity. The minimum donation to open a designated fund is \$10,000 per beneficiary.

- Alice Downie-Bacon Designated Fund
- Anonymous Donor Fund
- Art & Val Fleming Fund
- Audrey Shimizu Memorial Fund
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Endowment Fund
- Church of the Transfiguration Education Fund
- Colleen Kiers Memorial Fund
- *Hildebrand Lehn Family Fund
- Joan E. Marlow Memorial Fund
- Joan E. Marlow Salvation Army Endowment Fund
- John-Micheal Martin Memorial Fund
- Lincoln County Fair Fund
- Morabito Family Fund
- Schizophrenia Research Fund
- Stephen Souter Memorial Fund
- Wills Family Foundation
- Young Children Priority First - Kiwanis Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

This fund enables donors to have ongoing participation in the selection of charities that will benefit from their gift. The minimum donation to open a donor advised fund is \$25,000.

- Brunatti-Dyment Fund
- Cornelius & Helen Vanden Top Charity Fund
- Donald & Barbara Fraser Fund
- George Darte Funeral Chapel Fund
- Ida & Bob Gale Sr. Community Fund
- Grape & Wine Industry Education Research Fund
- Jordan Engineering Shared Blessing Fund
- Marchand Kruczynski Family Fund
- Mark Graham Memorial Fund
- Morgan Funeral Home Community Fund
- N & M Walker Foundation
- Niagara Engineering Week Scholarship Fund
- Niagara Road Supervisors Assoc. Fund
- Partridge Gilliam Family Fund
- Stewart Family Endowment Fund
- Sullivan Mahoney Endowment Fund

COMMUNITY IMPACT FUNDS

These funds work much like our Niagara Fund, except that donors identify an area of interest they would like to target with their support. The minimum donation to open a field of interest fund is \$25,000. However, once established, other donors with similar interests are able to make a contribution of any size to these funds.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS CONTINUE TO GROW

- Anna Angelone Endowment Fund (supports projects for homeless youth)
- Arts & Heritage Community Development Fund for the Old Town of Niagara on the Lake and the Village of Queenston
 - Arthur Dalfen Fund
 - Valentina McLeod Fund
- Cultural Endowment Fund for Niagara
- Niagara Children's Chorus Fund (for youth choral project)
- Ontario Endowment For Children and Youth in Recreation
- Sunday in the Parks (supports projects for the advancement of women and girls)
- Environmental Legacy Fund for Niagara
 - Enbridge Awaire Fund
 - Environment Endowment Fund
 - Fengate Realty Group Env. Fund
 - Harry Deline Fund
 - Nelson Aggregate Environmental Fund
 - Niagara CAER Group Fund
 - R. V. Anderson Assoc. Fund
 - Roll Surface Technologies Inc. Fund
 - RWDI Air Inc. Fund
 - Samuel L. Rudolph Memorial Fund
 - Urban & Environmental Mgmt Fund
 - W. S. Tyler Environment Fund
 - Walker Industries Earth 1st Fund
 - Walter & Sons Excavating Environment Fund

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION FUNDS

These funds are created and administered by the foundation on behalf of registered charities. This allows the organization freedom from investment responsibility and gives donors the confidence of knowing that a permanent foundation is in place to

professionally administer the charity's endowment. Once established, the charity can encourage its donors to contribute to its endowment fund. A donation of \$10,000 opens this fund.

- Community Care - St. Catharines Thorold Fund
- Community Living St. Catharines Endowment Fund
- Conservation Niagara Fund
- Fort Erie Conservation Club Fund
- Friends of Fort Erie's Creeks Fund
- Hospice Niagara Fund
- Joan Marlow YWCA Endowment Fund
- Land Care Niagara Fund
- Mayholme Foundation Fund
- Niagara Falls Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship Fund
- Niagara Falls Humane Society Shelter Enhancement Fund
- Niagara Survivor Services Fund (CARSA)
- Niagara on the Lake Library - Michael Dietsch Fund
- Upper Canada Lodge Aux.- Constable Family Fund
- *Women's Place of South Niagara Endowment Fund

LOCAL COMMUNITY FUNDS OR AFFILIATES

These funds support the work of charities operating within a particular Niagara municipality and operate much like our Niagara Fund identified earlier. The minimum donation to open this type of fund is \$25,000 and once opened, named funds can be created with gifts of \$5,000.

NIAGARA FALLS FUND

- *DiCienzo Family Fund
- Embassy Suites Hotel Fallsview Fund
- Hay Family Fund
- Hilton Niagara Falls Fallsview Fund
- Niagara Falls Fund
- Niagara Falls Marriott Hotels Fund

NIAGARA WEST FUND

- Environmental Legacy Fund for Niagara West
- *Ken & Jennifer Southward Fund
- Mathew Zimmerman Memorial Fund
- Niagara West Fund
- *M. K. Rittenhouse Family Fund

PORT COLBORNE FUND

- Gary Talosi Thanks Port Colborne Fund
- *Hartley & Florentine Wallace Fund
- Port Colborne Fund

ST. CATHARINES FUND

- Caplan Family Anniversary Legacy Fund
- Durward Jones Barkwell Fund
- Investing in St. Catharines Youth Fund
- St. Catharines Fund
- Whyte Family Endowment Fund

WELLAND FUND

- Angie & Gary Talosi Family Fund
- Groom Jensen Family Fund
- Kiers Family Fund
- Peter & Andrew Papp Family Fund
- Raymond & June Harper Fund
- Welland Fund

2008 DONORS

13th Street Wine Corp.
 Edward & Ana Abady
 Alyssa Adams
 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
 Alderson and Company
 Communications and Design Inc.
 Americana Conference Resort and Spa
 Philip & Margaret Andrewes
 Jennifer C. Andrews
 Angels Gate Winery
 Joanna Aquino
 Melanie Austin
 Auto Trim and Signs
 Roger Bain
 Marie Ball
 Frances & Bruce Ballett
 Allen & Elenor Ballett
 Joe & Marie Balsom
 Yvette Bartkiw
 James Bartkiw
 Jim Bartlett
 Joel and Elaine Beane
 Bell Canada
 David Bergen
 David Bergen and Ms. Deborah Kehler
 David Bergen Dentistry
 Karen Berti
 Best Western Cairn Croft
 Best Western Fireside Hotel
 (Niagara River Hotels Inc.)
 Big Brothers and Sisters
 of Greater Fort Erie
 Big Brothers/Sisters -
 Grimsby Lincoln, West Lincoln
 Birchwood Estate Wines
 Brian Bishop
 Chris Bittle
 Katie Blazak
 BMO Bank of Montreal
 BMO Harris Private Banking
 BMO Nesbitt Burns
 Rebecca Bodnar
 Chris Bodnar
 Stan & Katherine Bogdan
 Michael Bonomi
 Jordan Borowsky
 Bosch Rexroth Canada
 John & Wendy Bosela
 Daniel Boudin
 Jack and Lois Bowden
 Barbara and Geoff Bowen
 Ian Brunskill and Julie Bowen
 Sam Bowie
 Wendy Bowle-Evans
 Chris and Carmen Bowron
 Jim Bradley
 Meghan Brady
 Ann-Louise Branscombe
 Branscombe Family Foundation
 Brock Elevator
 Brock University
 Brock University - Centre For The Arts
 Brock University - Faculty of Business
 Joseph Brunatti
 Ruth Buchanan
 Candice Buetow
 Wayne Burdon
 Gary and Sarah Burroughs
 Erica Bush
 J. R. Bush
 Business Education Council of Niagara
 David Butler
 Steve Butz
 Steve Butz
 John Smit
 Scott Campbell
 Donna Campisano
 Canadian Niagara Hotels
 (Sheraton on the Falls & Skyline)
 Canadian Tire Financial Services Ltd.
 Paul and Karen Caplan
 Frank and Dina Caplan
 Bernice Caplan
 Shirley Caplan
 Paul and Karen Caplan
 Frederick and Marion Caplan
 Judi Caplan Zelikovitz
 Elena Carlomusto
 Pino and Helene Carriero
 Cattail Creek Estate Winery
 Bruce Caughill
 Lorne Caughill
 Cave Spring Cellars
 Central Fabricating & Welding
 Helen Chalcraft
 Church of the Transfiguration
 City of St. Catharines
 City of Welland
 Agnes Clark
 John & Dorothy Clark
 Agnes Clark
 William & Helen Clarke
 Shannan Clarkson
 Howard & Marlene Cohen
 Colio Estate Wines Inc.
 Colville Consulting Inc.
 Community Care of
 St. Catharines and Thorold
 Community Living St. Catharines
 Jan Cook
 Cooper Wealth Management
 Ken Corfield
 Norah Cowburn
 Creekside Estate Winery
 Jim Cringan
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 Days Inn & Suites by the Falls Hotel
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 Matthew Gemmill
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 Mary Ellen Groom
 Cathy Haggarty
 J. Mark & Norma Hand
 Bev Harvey
 Stephanie Hay
 Andrea Hay
 Leanna Hay
 Kim and Kevin Hay
 Robert Hecker
 Todd & Kathy Henderson
 Hernder Estate Wines

Karen Hett	Le Clos Jordanne	Lorraine Merola	Lesley Parsons
William Hett	Susan Lee	Beverly Merson	Kathleen Partington
Judy Hewko	Ken Lenchyshyn	Michael's Inn By The Falls	Peter W. Partridge &
Judith Hill	Arnie Lepp	Sophie Migus	Ms. Poppy Gilliam
Hillebrand Estates Winery	Marita Lescak	Fran Miller	Partridge Wealth Management
Laura Hills	Myra Lewis	Rachel Mines	Bob & Claudia Peacock
HOCO Limited	Roberta Librock	Anne Mirytech	Pearl Morissette Estate Winery
Holiday Inn by the Falls	Lincoln Fabrics Ltd.	Howard & Norma Mitchell	Pelee Island Winery
Carol Hopgood	Liquor Control Board of Ontario	Dan Mitchell & Liz Stewart	Peller Estates Winery
Hospitality Resorts Inc.	Patrick & Vicki Little	Joanne Monych	Pen Centre
Vija Howe	London Community Foundation	Patricia Moore	Peninsula Ridge Estates Winery
David Howes	Mike & Wendy Lostracco	Ralph Morana	Michael & Sheri Perelgut
Alice Howey	Eric & Erin Lotherington	Morgan Commemorative	Susan Pezzino
Hunter Bottling	Kenneth & Mary Jo Loucks	Services Limited	Cecile Philippe
Brad Hutchings	Gillian Love	Murray A. Morton	Susan Phillips
Robert & Nancy Iannizzi	Glen & Janet Lown	Mountain Road Wine Company	Joe Pillitteri
Darlene Inglis	David MacAlpine	Bill Mozina	Pillitteri Estates Winery
Inniskillin Wines Inc.	Diane MacDonald	Victor Muratori	Marc Pistor
Italian Bakery	Barbara MacDonald	Carol Myers	Margaret Platt
Jackson - Triggs Niagara Estate Winery	Bruce MacDonald	Rob & Pat Neill	Bonnie Polych
Jagger Hims Limited	MacGillivray Chartered Accountants	Lorraine Nemeth	John and Jan Potts
Barbara Johnson	& Business Advisors	Mary Newman	Sara Premi
Perry & Heidi Johnson	Albertina Maciukas	Niagara 21st Group	Lou Puglisi
Paul Jones	Sharon MacKay	(Marriott Niagara Falls Fallview)	Heather Pullen
Bev Jong	S. Allan Magnacca	Niagara 21st Group Inc.	Judy Quagliariello
Lorraine Joyner	Christine Malaguti	(Marriott Courtyard)	Quality Hotel Parkway
Justenvironment	Nicolas Malboeuf	Niagara CAER Group	Convention Centre
Kacaba Vineyards	Patrick Maloney	Niagara College	Quick Service Software
Deborah Kehler	Diane Marr	Niagara College Foundation	Radisson Hotel & Suites
Anne Kemp	Rosanne Marsh	Niagara College Teaching Winery	Pat Raimondo
John & Michelle Kerklaan	Don & Terry Martens	Niagara Engineering Week Committee	Joanne Ralph
Robert Kerr	John & Diane Martin	Niagara Infatables	Ken Ralph
Mike Kicul	Douglas & Donna Martin	Niagara Region Police Association	Greg Randall
Ronald Kitcher &	Suzanne Martin	Niagara Regional Police Service	Mary Ransom
Kirsten Draayer-Kitcher	John & Diane Martin	Niagara's Finest Inns	Arnold & Diane Rawsthorn
Kiwanis Club of St. Catharines	Martin Sheppard Fraser LLP	Robert Nichols & Bernadine Qua	RBC Asset Management
Mary Kline	Carmen Masi	Ray Niven	RBC Royal Bank
John Koldenhof	Matera Hotels (Hampton Inn)	Lloyd Niven	RBC Royal Bank, Commercial
Frank Krahn	Barry Maurice	Stephanie Niven	& Agricultural Business
Steve Krar	Glen McCann	Gary Niven	Susan Reid
Doug Krause	Joan E McClelland	J. Bradford Nixon	Reif Estate Winery
JoAnne Krick	George & Debbie McConnell	Vince Oakes Hotel	Mary Catherine Reynolds
Marv & Andrea Kriluck	McGregor-Miller Limited	Kevan O'Connor	Tom Richardson
Carol Kruczynski	Woody McKaig	OEB Enterprise Inc.	Rideau Hall
Roman & Lorna Kruczynski	Errol McKibbon	Old Stone Inn	Jim & Christine Ridsdale
L. Walter and Sons Excavating Ltd.	Gordon McKindsey	Muriel O'Mulvenny	Tim & Gini Rigby
Melissa Lacompte	Tamu McLean	Opportunities Niagara	Mark & Wendy Rittenhouse
Lafarge Canada Inc.	Donald McLeod	Stevan & Flavia Orvitz	Richard Rittenhouse
Lake Lodge Farms Limited	Barb McMullen	Sidney & Helen Orvitz	Christine Robertson
Lakeview Cellars Estate Winery	Johanna McNulty	Liz Palmieri	Ross and Anne Robinson
Susan Lampman	Elaine McWhirter & John O'Flaherty	Kerrie Palumbi	Rosa Rocca
Raymond & Ruth Larson	Maria Menechella	Mark Palumbi	Nancy Rodgers
Rose Lattanzi	Laura Menechella	Peter Papp	Roll Surface Technologies Inc.
Lauritzen Family Vineyard	Ken Menzies	Paradiso Restaurant	Rosewood Estates Winery
Susan Law	Meridian Credit Union	Jean-Pierre Paroyan	Michele Rouse

Fern Rudolph
 Mavis Saari
 Sheila Sable
 Ron and Norma Sautman
 SB Partners LLP
 Theoda Schaubel
 Ad Schoot Uiterkamp
 Dennis and Pilar Schrapp
 Ira Schwartz
 Scotia Capital
 Seaway Hose and Hydraulics Ltd.
 Luigi Setacci
 Kathy Seymour
 Lana Sgambelli
 Tamara Shanahan
 Gary Shay
 Philip Sheehan
 Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and
 Conference Centre
 Marc and Debbie Slade
 Marlene Smith
 Bob Smith
 Betty-Lou Souter
 Southbrook Vineyards
 Ken Southward
 St. Catharines Downtown Association
 Sue-Anne Staff

Karen Stearne
 Mark and Betty Stengel
 Sterling Inn & Spa
 Rob Steven
 Kathleen Stewart
 Neil Stickle
 Stoney Ridge Estate Winery
 Stratus Vineyards
 Strewn Winery
 Sullivan Mahoney
 Glenice Summers
 John Swallow
 Angie & Gary Talosi
 Pat and Greg Taras
 Corlene Taylor
 John Teibert
 Susan Tellier
 Rebecca Terreberry
 The Estate of Bill Ford
 The Estate of Florentine Wallace
 The Niagara Falls Review
 The St. Catharines Standard
 The Tribune
 The Walker Family
 The Wise Guys Charity Fund
 Wayne & Elizabeth Triano
 Barb Troup

Bradley Troup
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 Leo Turkell
 Mary Turner
 United Way of Niagara Falls
 and Greater Fort Erie
 Carl & Eileen Urben
 Rocky Vacca
 William & Diane Vail
 Donna Valikoff
 John & Nancy Vande Kraats
 Nora Vedress
 Mike Velemirovich
 Dave Vernon
 Vincor International Inc.
 Vineland Estates Winery
 Vineland Growers Co-Operative
 VinFirst Inc.
 Vinifera for Life
 Vintners Quality Alliance Ontario
 VQA Ontario
 Shirley Wakunick
 Daryl & Laurie Wakunick
 Walker Industries Holdings Ltd
 Tom Wall
 Kerrie Walsh
 Don Ward

Greg Washuta
 Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.
 Wayne Gretzky Estate Wines
 Dan, Maureen, Courtney,
 Brendan & Josh Weaver
 Rob Weier
 Stacey Wells
 Richard West
 White Oaks Conference
 Resort and Spa
 Wilkinson Heavy Precast Limited
 Lois Wills
 Wine Council of Ontario
 Winery To Home.com
 Hank Wissenz
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 Morton Yablo
 Frances Yalonetsky
 Clifford Yap
 YMCA of Niagara
 Chris Young
 H. Ziesmann
 Ron Zimmerman
 Anya and Donald Ziraldo
 Memorial and Tribute Gifts

MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE GIFTS

THIS YEAR WE RECEIVED DONATIONS IN MEMORY OR IN HONOUR OF

Advanced Technology Think
 Tank, Aliya Leah Orvitz, Ann
 Martin, Arianna Shoshana Hunter,
 Bella Green, Bernice Caplan,
 Betty Jackson, Betty-Lou Souter,
 Beverley Ballet, Bill Ford, Brian
 McMullan, Carolyn Fulton
 Waite, Christine Gadinger, Clark
 Wallace, Cosmo Menechella,
 Cynthia Sue Marchand, David
 Allan, Diana Delamere, Dr. Lee
 Handy, Edith Goldman Cullen,
 Edward D. Diamond, Edward
 Krebs, Elizabeth Enskat, Elizabeth
 Fisher, Ella Rose Caplan, Ella W.
 Grace, Emma Stasiak, Emmaleigh

Caplan - Walsh, Ephraim
 Diamond, Esther Adelstein,
 Every 3R participant from the
 IEE, Florence Beates' Mother,
 Francesca Garofalo, Frank &
 Mary Walker, Frank Caplan, Freda
 Goodwin, Gene Luczkiw, Glen
 Rittenhouse, Gordon Pomerantz,
 Gouana Gardine, Hedy Ziesmann,
 Helen Margolis, Henry Wissenz,
 Hugh Gayler, Ida Blum, Jack
 Green, Janine & Ian Fraser, Jean
 Frances Deumo, John-Micheal
 Martin, Karen Caplan, Len Fenig,
 Leo DeBon, Lou Cahill, Louis
 Stemeroff, Mair (Leigh) Mackey,
 Maria Menechella, Marilyn Barr,
 Marion Caplan, Nicholas Prestia,
 Norman Macdonald, Patricia

Anne Byrne, Paul Kent Sr., Peter
 Nitsopoulos, Phillip & Alexander
 Orvitz, Phillip Orvitz, Ray
 Palleschi, Roberta Hinton, Roman
 & Paraskewia Kuplowsky,

Ronald G. Hills, Ruth Caplan,
 Samuel & Antonina Luczkiw, Mr.
 & Mrs. Sheldon Caplan, Stephen
 Souter, Steve Yurcic, Wilfred
 Stemeroff

DEFERRED GIFTS

By including the Foundation in one's estate plan donors can make a real difference in our community's future. We would like to thank the following people who have named the Niagara Community Foundation in their will, donated a life insurance policy or will be donating the proceeds from their RRSPs:

anonymous donor, Norm Bradshaw, Elizabeth Connor-Elliott, Sandra Durward, Brad Hutchings, Anne Kemp, June Munro, Daryl Novak, Marc & Deb Slade, Chuck & Judy Smith, Liz Palmieri, Jessie Thompson and Carl & Eileen Urben.

SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FOR YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

BALANCE SHEET

Assets	2008	2007
Cash	\$ 340,268	\$ 155,291
Accounts receivable	18,142	116,637
Prepaid expenses	4,512	12,324
Investments	8,712,815	9,801,184
Fixed assets	7,889	4,789
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 9,083,626	\$ 10,090,225
Liabilities and Fund Balances		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 14,989	\$ 28,042
Grants payable	280,977	113,282
Deferred revenue	64,206	41,678
Total Liabilities	360,172	183,002
Fund Balances		
Operating fund	124,770	106,941
Endowment fund	8,598,684	9,800,282
Total Fund Balances	8,723,454	9,907,223
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	 \$ 9,083,626	 \$ 10,090,225

The summarized financial information presented here was extracted from the audited financial statements of the Niagara Community Foundation. The firm of Partridge Iggulden LLP performed the audit and issued an auditors' report on the financial statements. Complete audited financial statements, with accompanying notes, are available from the Foundation on the foundation's website.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Niagara Community Foundation is a public foundation under the Income Tax Act (Canada) and, as such, is exempt from income taxes and able to issue donation receipts for income tax purposes. The Foundation serves the Niagara Peninsula by building permanently endowed charitable funds for the changing needs and opportunities of the community.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND FUND BALANCES

			2008	2007
	Operating Fund	Endowment Fund	Total	
Revenue				
Donations	\$ 23,079	\$ 806,636	\$ 829,715	\$ 4,918,615
Restricted donations	-	281,359	281,359	287,376
Investment income(loss)	7,191	(1,706,278)	(1,699,087)	87,740
Special events and sundry	221,675	100,776	322,451	266,612
Trillium grant	7,783	-	7,783	2,945
Other grants	3,548	-	3,548	3,523
TOTAL REVENUE	263,276	(517,507)	(254,231)	5,566,811
Expenses				
Advertising and promotion	6,518	-	6,518	6,498
Amortization	2,164	-	2,164	1,455
Grants	-	469,087	469,087	419,382
Investment counsel fees	-	74,195	74,195	60,009
Office and administration	58,968	6,206	65,174	58,525
Salaries and benefits	122,417	-	122,417	107,483
Special events and projects	154,780	35,203	189,983	175,578
TOTAL EXPENSES	344,847	584,691	929,538	828,930
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses before Fund transfer	(81,571)	(1,102,198)	(1,183,769)	4,737,881
Fund Transfer	99,400	(99,400)	-	-
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses for the Year	17,829	(1,201,598)	(1,183,769)	4,737,881
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	106,941	9,800,282	9,907,223	5,169,342
FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR	\$ 124,770	\$ 8,598,684	\$ 8,723,454	\$ 9,907,223

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have, in management's opinion, been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the accounting policies summarized below:

FUND ACCOUNTING – The operating fund reports resources available for the foundation's general operating activities including fixed assets. The endowment fund reports resources that are required to be maintained by the foundation on a permanent basis.

INVESTMENTS – Investments are classified as held for trading and reported at fair market value.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

THE CONTRIBUTION OF TIME AND TALENTS OF OUR VOLUNTEERS,
DONORS AND STAFF IS THE **'INTANGIBLE WEALTH'** OF THE FOUNDATION.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Armstrong, Steve Butz, Frank Caplan (representing St. Catharines Community Fund), John Fisher, Eric Gilbert, Mel Groom (Vice-President), Brad Hutchings (President), Paul Jones, Jodi Lycett (Treasurer), Maria Menechella (Secretary), Stan Pettit, Susan Reid, Betty-Lou Souter (Past-President), Wade Stayzer, Mary Turner, Christopher Wilson, Madeline Woodhead.

HONORARY PATRON

Debbie Zimmerman

AMBASSADORS

Brian Babcock, Ann-Louise Branscombe, Pat Darte, Sean Jackson, Paul Leon, Shirley Martin, Victor Murotori, Rob Neill, Eugene Oatley, John Palumbo, John Potts

NIAGARA WEST FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Margaret Andrewes, Wayne Fertich, Eric Gilbert (Chair), Don Knechtel, Jim Merritt, Wendy Rittenhouse

PORT COLBORNE FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Paul Leon, John Lopinski, Rosanne Marsh, Gary Talosi, Claudia Walker (Chair), Christopher Wilson

ST. CATHARINES COMMUNITY FUND ADVISORY BOARD

Rosemary Auld, Frank Caplan, David Howes, Peter Partridge Jr. (Chair), Anne Marie Palombo, Doug Whyte

STAFF

Liz Palmieri (Executive Director), Orla Fitzpatrick Newhouse (Administrative Assistant), JoAnne Krick, (Community Initiatives Manager), Judy Hill (Accountant)

VOLUNTEERS

Martha Abra, Frank Adamson, Tom Arkell, Bill Amadio, David Bergen, Chris Blake, Randy Boyce, Darlene Busch, Steve Butz, Greg de Prinse, Ken Douglas, Sande Farrauto, Manfred Fast, Derek Fretz, Richard Gark, Diane Garrington,

Sherri Haigh, Laura Hills, Steve Hudson, Gord Hunchak, Rob Hunt, Graham Keene, Anne Kemp, Gillian Kemp, Chris Kruczynski, Barry Matheson, Glen McCann, Dan McDonell, Terry McDougall, Greg Medulun, Jamie Miller, Catherine Mindorff, Dave Morgan, Ernie Morgan, Darrell Neufeld, Astrid Neuland, Angelo Nitsopolous, Janie Palmer, Dr. Andy Panko, Denise Papaiz, Peter Partington, Dr. Dan Patterson, Dr. Gary Pickering, Bonnie Polych, Jan Potts, Deborah Pratt, Deb Slade, Kelly Sodtka, Nicole Speranzini, Elizabeth Stark, Carol Stewart Kirkby, Laura Stones, Barb Tatarnic, Cindy Upshall, Madeline Woodhead

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NIAGARA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

IS A PROUD MEMBER OF



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FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA
all for community.

YOUR DONATION TODAY WILL BE YOUR GIFT FOR TOMORROW

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE.

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Telephone

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Please accept my donation of \$ _____ to the
_____ Fund to be held in perpetuity.

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Signature

Charitable Registration Number: 86710 5322 RR0001





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