

“What’s really important is not what’s wrong, but what is right...”

...No community was ever built on the needs and problems of its people. It has always been built on their gifts and capacities, and the use of the assets that are there.”

Professor John McKnight, Director of Community Studies,  
Northwestern University, Illinois

Since 1987, the Community Foundation of Ottawa has been focusing on what’s right in our community by connecting people who want to help with people who need help. Find out how the Community Foundation can help you be a part of the fastest growing trend in philanthropy today.



For Good. Forever. Le bien... toujours.



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**Community Foundation of Ottawa**  
**Suite 301, 75 Albert Street**  
**Ottawa, ON K1P 5E7**  
**Tel: 613-236-1616**  
**Fax: 613-236-1621**

**[info@communityfoundationottawa.ca](mailto:info@communityfoundationottawa.ca)**  
**[www.communityfoundationottawa.ca](http://www.communityfoundationottawa.ca)**

**BUILT TO  
LAST**

**How to lay the foundation for  
a stronger community while  
minimizing your taxes**



For Good. Forever. Le bien... toujours.

## WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF OTTAWA?

The Community Foundation of Ottawa (CFO) is a public, non-profit organization created by and for the people of Ottawa.

As an independent centre for community philanthropy, it connects donors who care with causes that matter and serves as a trusted resource for addressing issues in our community.

## WHAT DOES THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF OTTAWA DO?

The CFO pools the charitable gifts of many donors into a permanent, income-earning endowment that benefits the people of Ottawa and fulfills the philanthropic objectives of individual donors.

Grants are made from the earnings of these funds to seed, nurture and support initiatives that increase the capacity of organizations and individuals to develop local leadership, promote self-reliance and mobilize civic participation and resources.

The CFO provides leadership by bringing people together from all sectors to identify and address issues and opportunities in the region.

## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Through its grantmaking programs, the CFO supports a broad variety of initiatives from health, education, community economic development and social services to the environment, animal welfare, arts and culture.

Donors can choose to support projects such as summer camps for disabled children, animal shelters and soup kitchens, to name just a few.

## WHY USE THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF OTTAWA?

The CFO's investments are permanently endowed. Therefore they are always growing and the earnings will be available forever.

The CFO itself is not the object of anyone's philanthropy but provides the vehicle to fulfill their charitable objectives.

The CFO is very flexible and provides many services to help donors realize their charitable objectives. Donors can have as much or as little involvement as they want in how the money is disbursed.

## HOW TO USE THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF OTTAWA

Donors can give as much or as little as they want. Gifts can be of cash, publicly traded shares, real estate, bequests, life insurance, charitable remainder trusts, or transfers of an existing foundation, charitable trust or endowment.

For as little as \$5,000 (which can be contributed over several years), anyone can establish a fund. Establishing a fund is simple. There are many ways to do it, often with significant tax benefits.

By contributing to an existing fund, donors may make a contribution to the CFO without establishing a fund of their own. The CFO will work with you and your estate planning advisor to find the approach that works best.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The CFO assigns an administrative fee of 1.5 per cent for all endowed funds of \$5 million or less. The fee is reduced for larger funds. Scholarship funds are the only exception, with an administration fee of 2 per cent (as of January 1, 2004).

## TYPES OF FUNDS

**UNRESTRICTED FUNDS** constitute the core of the CFO's ability to strengthen our community. The CFO's Board of Governors, with recommendations from the Grants Committee, directs the income from the fund to address changing and emerging issues.

**FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS** allow the donor to specify a particular area of interest, such as children, the arts or environmental issues, towards which the grants will be directed. The CFO's Board of Governors will then approve specific grants based on advice from the Grants Committee.

**DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS** allow the donor to advise the CFO each year as to which charitable organizations are to receive grants. Donors have the option of selecting from a list of grantees recommended by the Grants Committee. This popular type of fund is often used by individuals, families or corporations as an alternative to establishing a separate foundation.

**DESIGNATED FUNDS** allow the donor to choose specific charitable organizations that will be the perpetual beneficiaries of the annual income.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**, awards and bursaries help students pursue academic goals. The donor may specify the criteria or the educational institution.

**ORGANIZATION ENDOWMENT FUNDS** can be established by registered charities in order to benefit from the CFO's professional investment management in ensuring their long-term financial stability.

**MEMORIAL FUNDS** are a lasting tribute for a loved one.

**FLOW-THROUGH FUNDS** are non-endowed and can work separately or with any of the other kinds of endowed funds, allowing a donor to give instructions on disbursements to charitable organizations or causes.