



Shine On

**IMPACT  
REPORT**

**2023**

YMCAMONCTON.CA



# Message from Board Chair & CEO

Reflecting on the achievements of 2023, we recognize the potential that lies within each of us – a spark waiting to ignite. Yet, we acknowledge the journey is not always fair – isolation, fear, and doubt – these and many other obstacles hold people back. Nonetheless, we believe everyone has the innate potential to thrive. We stand ready to equip them with the tools, encouragement, and safe space needed to shine.

Our dedication to youth knows no bounds. Through tailored programs, we empower young minds with essentials skills for success in school, in the workforce, and life. Yet, beyond acquiring skills lies a deeper purpose—to cultivate a sense of belonging and community. It is within these connections that lifelong friendships form, and supportive adult allies emerge, providing a haven where all are truly welcomed.

From our summer day camps nurturing children's confidence and independence to our expert-led early learning and afterschool centers, we pave the way for lifelong achievements by nurturing curiosity and development through the most natural means: play.

For those facing homelessness, we extend a lifeline through essential services, from securing housing to mental health support. Our aim is not merely survival but to empower individuals to thrive.

Irrespective of age or ability, our members find solace in state-of-the-art facilities and a supportive community that fosters active lifestyles and enhances overall well-being. In the following pages, you'll discover how we empower individuals to overcome obstacles and realize their true potential through our spaces, people, and programs. With us by their side, they can shine brightly.

However, this journey is not one we embark on alone. We extend heartfelt gratitude to our staff, volunteers, members, donors, funders, and community partners. Your unwavering support is integral to our charitable endeavors, transforming the lives of thousands and creating positive change in our community. Together, we have much to be proud of – together we Shine On.



A stylized, handwritten signature of Michael Mann in black ink.

Michael Mann  
Board Chair



A stylized, handwritten signature of Zane Korytko in black ink.

Zane Korytko  
CEO



# YMCA Leadership

## Board of Directors

It would be impossible to achieve our mission without the leadership, dedication and passion of our Board of Directors.



**Michael Mann**  
Chair



**Natasha Ostaff**  
Past Chair



**Edward McNally**  
Audit



**Marilou Savoie**  
Incoming Chair



**Darcy Doyle**  
Director



**Thomas George**  
Director



**Shawn Leger**  
Director



**Chad Peters**  
Director



**Enrico Scichilone**  
Director



**Beverly Somers**  
Director



**Lauren Trueman**  
Director



**Nathalie Wybouw**  
Director

# Community Impact



**151**

dedicated volunteers contributed **10,160** hours of service.



**1045**

members of all ages found their path illuminated by the YMCA Financial Assistance program, breaking down barriers to a brighter future.



**669**

youth ages 10 – 17 sparked with potential in our YMCA Tween & Youth Connections programs.



**12382**

members radiated vitality as they improved their health and remained active.



**1085**

members shine confidently with skills to keep themselves safe in and around the water.



**317**

families found peace of mind as their children thrived in safe, nurturing YMCA Early Learning or After School environments.





242

kids sparked with newfound knowledge and appreciation for the world around them through YMCA summer day camps.



57

students developed resilience and the ability to persevere at school through our Alternative Suspension program.



88

community gardeners connected with others, harvested fresh produce and shared knowledge and friendship.



71

YMCA Community Action Network (YCAN) participants committed **5,100** hours in service projects.



4342

community members joined our 13 Block Parties, spreading joy and connection.



162

youth shone as they found their way forward, supported in developing their strengths by the Youth Transitions team.



90

individuals secured safe and affordable housing through YMCA ReConnect and SUN Moncton.

# Equity

Lina Maria Grajales Moreno's story is one of personal growth, steadfast commitment, and a profound dedication to community advancement through education and leadership.

A native of Colombia, Lina initially embarked on a path towards a bachelor's degree in business administration. However, her trajectory underwent a transformative shift in 2012 when she engaged with the YMCA Youth Ambassadors Program. This pivotal experience ignited her passion for fostering cross-cultural connections.

Upon returning to her homeland, she wholeheartedly immersed herself in YMCA activities, assuming an active role as a volunteer at her local YMCA in Risaralda, Colombia. Lina's journey continued as she sought to deepen her engagement in community outreach and international relations. Over the past decade, she has helped YMCA Risaralda become autonomous and sustainable, a leader in



promoting a just and equitable society through volunteerism and supported the development of social and cultural programs.

Now, with a profound sense of pride and purpose, she serves as Board Chair, YMCA Risaralda continuing her inspiring journey of service and leadership.



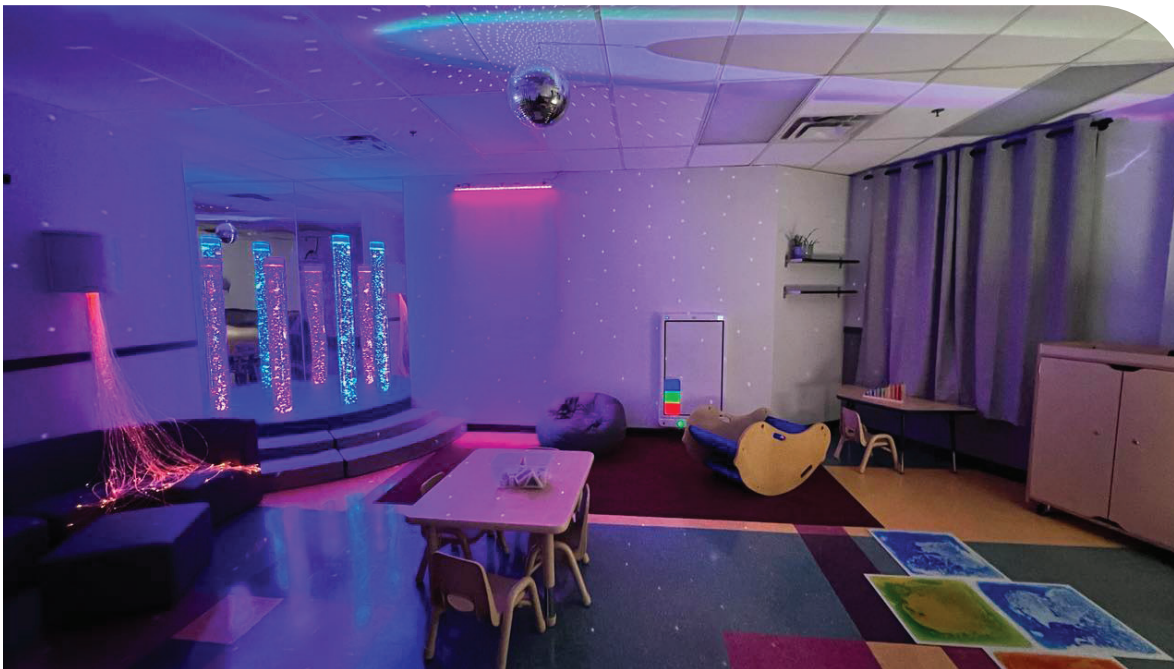
*August 2023, YMCA Moncton Staff and Board, joined by partners from Cumberland and Saint John, experienced the vibrant culture and programs of YMCA Risaralda, Colombia. Witnessing the dedication of frontline volunteers and impact on youth and community, we proudly renewed our 5-year partnership agreement.*

*Learn more from YMCA volunteer Fredy Garcia aka "Fonky" with the Desparpajo Clown School.*

# Inclusivity

Early childhood is a special time when the seeds of future success are planted. Research has shown that the growth and development of a child during the first six years of their life has more influence on their learning, behaviour, and health into adulthood than at any other time. Yet a traditional classroom environment, while effective for many little learners, may not always adequately address the diverse needs of every child.

The introduction of a multi-sensory room at our YMCA Early Learning Center marked a significant enhancement to our facilities. Since opening March 2023, this innovative space has provided a holistic approach to early childhood development by stimulating multiple senses simultaneously, fostering growth and well-being in a nurturing environment.



*"The sensory room has been a positive experience for my son. It is a great space where he can work one-on-one with his behavioral therapists or have a moment of comfort and calm. It's a perfect space to work on his self-regulation in a calm and quiet atmosphere that is not over-stimulating. During his therapy sessions, he loves interacting with the projectors, which helps create opportunities to develop his imagination, problem-solving, and communication skills. This is a fantastic resource for the children at the centre as well as the community. I know many children will benefit from it, as my son has."*

**- Leah M., YMCA Parent**

*"The sensory room has served as an engaging and calming space for several of the little learners I work with. I love that I can offer this room to them to meet their play and movement interests, as well as in moments when life feels tough and inspiring calmness is the goal. This space has sparked many inspiring, fun and memorable moments of learning. We love it!"*

**- Kasey F, Behaviour Interventionist**





# Belonging

Meet Bernard LaPointe, a resilient soul who has been a cherished member of the YMCA for the past decade. His journey with us began after a life-changing accident eleven years ago left him permanently injured. But instead of letting it define him, Bernard chose resilience and optimism.

After a year of rehabilitation, Bernard decided to focus on swimming and became a member of our YMCA community. As time went on, he ventured into other sports like badminton and engaged in various programs and personal training sessions. Although he explored other gyms due to sponsorships and curiosity, Bernard always found himself returning to the Y.

Reflecting on his experience, Bernard remarked, "I realize how much I like the people, the way I've been treated is different here. It's less pressured and people are super nice." He found the YMCA to be devoid of social pressures, with accessibility to equipment and the helpfulness of our staff.

Despite the challenges he faced, Bernard's positive attitude and determination propelled him forward. He described the Y as "authentic

and like a soft pillow" a place where he felt comfortable and accepted, unlike other gyms where curious eyes often lingered. Embracing his new reality, Bernard focused on his abilities rather than dwelling on what was lost.

Bernard's resilience and achievements have inspired many and have sparked motivational talks about his life and journey. He encourages others facing adversity to focus on self-improvement and positivity, urging them to "start focusing on yourself, practice self-help, and focus on the positive things."

Last year, Bernard's dedication and skill brought him home the Para Badminton WH2 Singles Bronze from the Parapan American Games in Santiago, Chile. His story serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration, showcasing the transformative power of determination and community support.

# Community

Phyllis isn't just a volunteer at the YMCA of Greater Moncton; she's a powerhouse of passion and community spirit.

From the moment you meet Phyllis, her enthusiasm is infectious. She's more than just a welcoming face; she's the embodiment of warmth and encouragement. Whether it's with a reassuring smile or a helping hand, Phyllis has a knack for making everyone feel valued and included.

Her journey with the YMCA began as a supporter and participant in our Annual Charity Golf Tournament. But it didn't take long for her to step up as she later served on the organizing committee, bringing her passion and organizational skills to the forefront.

When it came time for the Building What Matters capital campaign for the new Moncton North YMCA, Phyllis was the obvious choice for Campaign Chair. With her passion and determination, she led the charge from 2018 to 2021, navigating challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic with grace and resilience. Thanks to her leadership, the new YMCA Moncton North facility opened its doors in September 2020, providing a vital beacon of hope and opportunity for our community.

But Phyllis's dedication doesn't stop there. Her genuine concern for children, youth, and the community shines

through in everything she does. Whether it's supporting initiatives that promote inclusivity or championing young leaders, Phyllis is always at the forefront, leading by example.

And it's not just her volunteer work that sets her apart. Alongside her husband Darren and their team at Extreme Windows and Entrance Systems, Phyllis has become a driving force for positive change in our community. For the past six years, they've hosted their annual Customer Appreciation and Charity Golf Tournament. With proceeds benefiting the YMCA, they raised an incredible \$155,000. It's a testament to their values of family, community, hard work, integrity, and fun.

In Phyllis, we've found not just a volunteer, but a true champion of our cause. We're grateful for her unwavering dedication and the light she brings to everyone around her.

Learn more about Team  
Extreme In the Community





# Potential



Dave Ouellette, a dedicated volunteer at the local YMCA, is more than just a Group Fitness Instructor; he is a beacon of motivation and support for those on their journey to better health and wellness. Through his commitment to teaching Group Power and Group Fight classes, Dave has helped countless individuals discover their potential and achieve their fitness goals.

Dave's expertise is not stagnant. He continuously updates his skills by learning new releases, ensuring that his classes remain dynamic and relevant. This dedication reflects his passion for providing top-notch programming for his participants.

What truly sets Dave apart is his unwavering commitment to his role as a volunteer. Reliable, committed, and dedicated, Dave creates a welcoming environment where individuals of all backgrounds and fitness levels feel comfortable and motivated. He fosters a sense of community within his classes, where everyone feels supported and encouraged to push their limits. His genuine care and enthusiasm for helping others shine through in every class he teaches.

Through his passion for teaching and unwavering dedication, he continues to inspire individuals on their journey to better health and wellness. We are fortunate to have him as part of the YMCA team, and his impact will undoubtedly continue to be felt for years to come.



# Connections

In October 2023, the YMCA Community Action Network National Conference convened at the scenic YMCA Camp Pine Crest in Muskoka, Ontario, with a mission dedicated to unlocking potential and dismantling barriers for all. Themed “YouthxConnect,” the event served as a rallying call for YMCA youth participants from across Canada to gather, share experiences, and cultivate connections.

The YCAN Moncton chapter made a significant impact, with six vibrant young individuals participating in the conference. Accompanying them was a former youth alumni from 2022, whose input helped shape the weekend’s activities. Alongside our two YCAN staff members, a total of nine individuals embarked on this transformative journey.

Throughout the conference, youth engaged deeply with indigenous leaders, gaining insight into the importance of honoring traditional lands. They also acquired tools to forge authentic connections and championed support for their 2SLGBTQ+ peers while shining a spotlight on their local communities.

The youth from Moncton shone brightly, pushing beyond their comfort zones, embracing new experiences, honing invaluable leadership skills, and creating memories bound to last a lifetime!



*Youth Conference: Noor Fadhil, Julia Polak*



*Back row: Noor Fadhil, Jacob Ellao, Arianna Duval-Gough, Trevor Doucet, Hannah LaPointe, Brianna Roy.  
Front row: Julia Polak, Kyle Nerona, Soul Ribiero*



*Noor Fadhil, Jacob Ellao, Arianna Duval-Gough, Trevor Doucet, Hannah LaPointe, Brianna Roy, Julia Polak, Kyle Nerona, Soul Ribiero, Kilee Price*

# Hope

Everyone has a story. Working with those experiencing homelessness through our initiatives YMCA ReConnect, SUN Moncton and Downtown Ambassador Initiative, we've discovered this to be very true.

Some stories are about loss, misfortune, addiction, heartbreak, and injustice. Others of hope, courage, community, companionship, and kindness. All are about how life can change in the blink of an eye, and the incredible circumstances that need to be overcome in order to turn things around.

We hope that by listening to Louise and Victor's stories, their struggles, their hope for a better tomorrow, everyone can gain a better understanding of what it takes to reduce homelessness in Moncton, and appreciate that the reality of their situations is much different and much more complex than we ever could have imagined.

Listen to their stories



**Louise MacLeod**

*"My sense of hope comes from my clients. It comes from the little victories."*



**Victor Strang**

1967 - 2024

*"I've been homeless for four months. My assistance cheque was \$630 and my rent was \$620, so it was a struggle from word go."*



# Thank You!

It would be impossible to achieve our mission without the support of our donors, sponsors and funding partners. Thanks to you, our annual campaign raised over \$500,000 to help overcome obstacles and let everyone's potential shine by creating opportunities for better health & wellness and building a community where everyone belongs.





# Financial Statements

Statement of Operations		
Year ended December 31 (Audited)	2023	2022
Total revenue	11,057,601	7,606,129
Total expenses	10,261,202	7,322,587
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>796,399</b>	<b>283,542</b>

Statement of Financial Position		
December 31 (Audited)		
Current Assets	966,286	862,950
Capital and other Assets	18,731,546	18,680,183
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>19,697,832</b>	<b>19,543,133</b>
Current Liabilities	1,129,520	1,379,512
Deferred capital contributions	14,595,993	14,987,701
Investment in capital assets	3,897,374	3,126,070
Unrestricted	(199,065)	(65,180)
Internally restricted	274,010	115,030
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>19,697,832</b>	<b>19,542,133</b>

The information above for the year-end December 31, 2023 is derived from the financial statements for which were audited by Thiel Greene Chartered Professional Accountants. Our complete audited financial statements and T3010 Registered Charity Information Return, as filed with the Canada Revenue Agency, are available on our website at [moncton.ymca.ca/about-us/ymca-governance](https://moncton.ymca.ca/about-us/ymca-governance).

# Leave a Legacy that will help Your Community Shine!

We are grateful for members of the YMCA Heritage Club who have contributed to or made provisions to leave a gift for the Greater Moncton YMCA Foundation in their will, through a gift of life insurance or some other form of future gift. All contributions made to the Foundation are endowed, meaning the principal of the gift is invested and a portion of the annual investment income goes on to support YMCA of Greater Moncton programs and initiatives. Remaining income is re-invested to ensure the fund continues to grow.

The Greater Moncton YMCA Foundation is a registered charity, governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. These dedicated members are responsible for ensuring the long-term growth of the YMCA's endowment funds by working with donors to realize their vision for the future, encouraging new endowment gifts, and ensuring the prudent investment of the portfolio of funds. We appreciate all the dedicated members of Greater Moncton YMCA Foundation who steward the funds entrusted to our care, helping to grow the endowment through new, current and future gifts.


Special thanks to our Foundation Board Members for their volunteerism, hard work and dedication.

**Jordan Dugas** (Chair), **Alan Mongraw** (Past Chair)  
**Kent Ostridge** (Treasurer), **Anne Poirier-Basque** (Secretary),  
**James McKenna** (Director), **Paul Jewett** (Director),  
**Darsey Lavigne** (Director), **Nadine Leger** (Director),  
**Ryan MacDonald** (Director)



**Trudy Brydges**  
YMCA Heritage Club Member

*"I was very fortunate to experience many wonderful Y programs like swim team, leader corps, Hi-Y and director of camping. I now feel privileged to be able to pay it forward through my contributions. It is my sincere hope that future generations have similar life changing opportunities at the YMCA."*



# About the **YMCA of Greater Moncton**

Since 1870, the YMCA of Greater Moncton has been at the heart of our community. As a registered charity, we provide vital programs and services that have a positive impact on some of our community's most pressing health and social issues. For all ages and through all life stages, we are here to help overcome obstacles and let everyone's potential shine.

## **Our Mission**

A community where everyone belongs.

## **Our Vision**

We create opportunities for better health and well-being.

## **Our Values**

Integrity, Inclusiveness and Fun



YMCAMoncton



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Charitable Registration Number 119235877 RR0001