

NL Retired Teachers' Foundation Report

by Geraldine Wall

The Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation: What is it? What does it do? Are the Retired Teachers' Association (RTANL) and the Retired Teachers' Foundation (RTF) one group? Where do Foundation funds come from? These are all questions I have been asked in the recent past. New members and many long-time members are not fully aware of the goals of the Foundation and what it continues to do for the children of this province.

The Foundation is a Canada Revenue Agency regulated children's charity with two goals: to honour the life and work of former teachers for their dedication to the children of this province; and at the same time to operate exclusively as a charitable organization to assist institutions and groups that provide medical treatment and/or educational training for children who are incapacitated. Our recipients are registered charities, and the Foundation assists them in reaching their goals. This Foundation is unique in that:

- (a) No part of the principal fund is used except to produce interest;
- (b) The Board of Directors are volunteers and receive absolutely no remuneration from the Foundation;
- (c) The interest earned annually is disbursed by contributions to other charitable children's organizations;
- (d) Expenses incurred for postage, stationary and other office supplies are paid by the sponsoring group, which is the Retired Teachers' Association (RTANL).

Since 1987 the Foundation has donated approximately \$400,000 to children's charities in our province. The funds are generated by annual lump sum donations from our Provincial RTANL and its eight Divisions, individual donations from members and friends, and In Memoriam donations for deceased members. The Divisions support their Foundation by undertaking various fundraisers (i.e. bake-less bake sales, socials and ticket sales). A special thank you is extended to Hopedale member Henry Jensen and his wife Sarah for their donation of handcrafted slippers and mitts for our ongoing fundraiser. The draw will take place during RTANL BGM 2020 at Corner Brook on October 8. **We need your help in selling these tickets, please!**

On October 8, 2019 in Corner Brook, your Foundation presented \$30,000 to seven children's charities. Katarina Roxon accepted a donation of \$7,500 for the War Amps CHAMPS program. Robert Harvey and daughter Katy accepted \$3,000 for Downs Syndrome Society. Ava Fitzgerald and her Dad accepted \$3,000 for Canadian Diabetes Camp Douwanna. CNIB Youth Orientation Program was represented by Dinah Durnford and received a donation of \$3,000. Mazol Shriners was represented by Illustrious Sir Robert Barrett and received \$7,500 for the Patient Transportation Fund. Meaghan Penney represented Rainbow Riders and accepted a donation of \$3,000. Unfortunately, a representative for the Candlelighters Camp Delight was unable to attend. The cheque for \$3,000 has been forwarded to them.



It was both heartwarming and emotional to be part of the appreciation expressed on behalf of the recipient groups and their children. It indicates to all members the impact that their Foundation has on these children. To quote one of our recipients: **“I’m just like everyone else when I’m riding a horse, because it takes me places that my wheelchair could never do.”** Donations from our Foundation continue to help provide this type of experience.

Thank you to all members and friends for your continued support. We cannot do this without you. Thank you also to CBC Corner Brook's Bernice Hillier and Brian McHugh, and VOXM Corner Brook's Lenny Benoit for their fantastic coverage and promotion of the Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation.

Contributions to the Foundation may be made as follows: **Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation, 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL A1B 1W1.**