



# Annual Report 2019-2020

## The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada

### President's Report

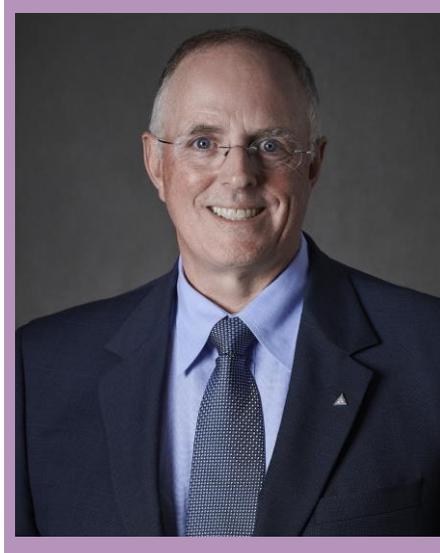
*The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

COVID-19, the infectious disease caused by a recently discovered coronavirus, has certainly changed the world that we live in and how we go about our daily lives. For us, the suspension of all activities of the Learning Centre Program is very tangible. Ill. Bro. Matthew F. Todd, Executive Director Learning Centres reported to the April Foundation Board meeting on the continued success of the Learning Centres. However, as noted in Ill. Bro. Todd's report on page 3, COVID-19 halted all activities associated with the Learning Centres. We look forward to the program being restarted when all appropriate safety measures can be put in place to allow the Learning Centres to continue to make a positive impact and difference in these communities and to the lives of the dyslexic children.

In March of this year, we were deeply saddened by the passing of our Past President and Grand Chancellor of Supreme Council, Ill. Bro. Allard B. Loopstra 33°. Allard served the Foundation for many years including as President from 2008 to 2012 and again in 2014 and 2015. We owe him a great debt of thanks for his leadership, inspiration, and commitment to our Foundation and our Fraternity.

While the downturn in the financial markets affected the Foundation's investment portfolio, careful management of our funds and the manner in which we fund our programs ensures that recent events will not affect our ongoing support of our programs. As seen in the Grants and Awards



Dr. Gareth R. Taylor

report from Ill. Bro. Loren Kline on page 3 we continue to fund 12 researchers across Canada and their quest into *Helping to Solve the Puzzles of the Mind*. These researchers are helping to unravel these mysteries and help with understanding the basic biology and the health challenges associated with dementia, Parkinson's and Autism Spectrum Disorder.

We would encourage you to visit the Foundation's website at [www.srcf.ca](http://www.srcf.ca) to find out more about the research that is being funded. A very interesting video of Dr. Pushpal Desarkar, Assistant Professor, University of Toronto, describes the research that the Foundation is funding in his lab on Autism Spectrum Disorder. The video of Dr. Desarkar's presentation and several other videos can be found at [www.srcf.ca/videos](http://www.srcf.ca/videos).

In September 2020, we will see two new Directors being elected. We thank Ill. Bro. James C. Sutherland who will be stepping

down as a Director in September for his service to the Foundation. Unfortunately, Ill. Bro. D. Garry Dowling had to step down from the Board just prior to the Foundation meetings last September. The Foundation Members approved a one-year reappointment of Ill. Bro. Ronald L. M. Findlater to fill this vacancy. Again, our thanks to Ill. Bro. Findlater for continued service to the Foundation and providing timely information to Valleys through the quarterly Valley Liaison information pieces. Last September, we welcomed Ill. Bro. Joseph F. Angel and Ill. Bro. Richard Jones as Foundation Directors.

This year also marked the twelfth edition of the *Clarion*, jointly published by the SRCF and Supreme Council and sent to all Scottish Rite members in Canada. Congratulations to our Editor in Chief, Ill. Bro. Darian Bacon 32° and his Editorial Board for another outstanding issue.

Special thanks goes to the Directors, Officers, Committee Chairman, Executive Director Learning Centres, Learning Centre Directors, Learning Centre Tutors and Volunteers, Valley Representatives and the Foundation office staff for all of your efforts on behalf of the Foundation to help us in our work to *Help Solve the Puzzles of the Mind*.

To our Scottish Rite members, thank you for your ongoing financial support of the Foundation during these difficult times.

I continue to believe that we can be truly proud of what The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation accomplishes for others through its Grants and Awards and the Learning Centre Programs.

**Dr. Gareth R. Taylor**  
*President*

## Treasurer's Report

Donations and bequests reflect the continued support from Scottish Rite members, families, friends and other organizations. The financial highlights of the year ended May 31, 2020 follow.<sup>1</sup>

Donations and bequests in the current year were \$192,991 compared to \$3,470,144 in the prior year. In 2019, one large bequest of \$3.2 million was received. Investment income of \$1,152,444 was higher than \$242,659 earned last year due to the sale of stocks and higher capital gains.

Interest rates have declined and this directly impacts 43% of the portfolio. Dividend income from the equity portion of the portfolio has been steady. Crude prices have been mixed which affects the value of our equity portfolio and the Canadian dollar. Since mid-February 2020, the equity markets have been volatile resulting in the unrealized loss of \$2,020,168 at year end. An unrealized gain of \$254,993 was recognized in 2019.

Expenses for the year of \$136,881 were similar to those of \$142,722 in the prior year. The Advanced Language training program planned for the spring was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Research grants and bursaries were \$461,900 in 2020 compared to \$440,580 in 2019. This is a result of the Foundation increasing new grants to \$120,000, payable over three years, from \$105,000 due the generous donations received from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fundraising campaign and recent major bequests.

Net deficiency of \$1,294,195 was lower than the excess in 2019 of \$3,349,929 mainly due to the unrealized loss recorded on the last trading day of May 2020 and no major bequests received in the year.

The portfolio had a market value of \$19.7 million on May 31, 2020 and \$20.5 million on May 31, 2019. Accounting standards require that we state the portfolio at market value, rather than at cost, and this creates unrealized gains or losses at each year end. Net assets were \$20 million in 2020 compared to \$21.3 million in 2019.

Commodity and equity markets have been at one moment very favourable and disappointing a few weeks later. The Foundation's spending plans are based on a very long-term view with respect to the earning potential of the portfolio. Since January 1, 2000, the portfolio has earned an annualized return of 4.52% which is less than 5.07% reported last year.

COVID-19 has affected the entire world and has depressed stock values. The Foundation has not identified any events related to COVID-19 which occurred during the Foundation's fiscal period, or subsequently, that adversely affected the financial results other than the temporary decline in stock values and deferral of certain expenses into the 2021 year. The Learning Centres had to curtail their tutoring and fund-raising activities during the past few months. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of COVID-19, or what the consequences will be on the financial results for the balance of 2020 and into 2021.

**Duncan S. Skinner**  
Treasurer

<sup>1</sup> The financial information presented in this report is a subset of the full 2020 audited financial statements due to available space. The full 2020 audited set of comparative financial statements is available by contacting the Foundation's office.

## 2019-2020 Financial Highlights

### Statement of Operations

May 31, 2020	2020	2019
Donations	107,991	135,441
Bequests	85,000	3,334,703
<b>Donations &amp; Bequests</b>	<b>192,991</b>	<b>3,470,144</b>
Investment income	812,984	753,047
Gain (Loss) on disposal	338,875	(511,062)
Other income	585	674
<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>1,152,444</b>	<b>242,659</b>
	<b>1,345,435</b>	<b>3,712,803</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration	53,775	51,893
Directors	6,250	0
Insurance	4,911	4,650
National Learning Centre	28,527	39,284
Professional fees	23,000	24,000
Promotion & Public Relations	12,423	16,089
IT	7,995	6,806
	<b>136,881</b>	<b>142,722</b>
Excess of revenue over expenses	1,208,554	3,570,081
<b>Distributions</b>		
Research grants	461,900	440,580
Bursaries	12,500	17,500
Donations to LCs	8,181	17,065
	<b>482,581</b>	<b>475,145</b>
Excess of revenue over expenses	725,973	3,094,936
Unrealized (loss) gain	(2,020,168)	254,993
<b>Net Deficiency or Excess</b>	<b>(1,294,195)</b>	<b>3,349,929</b>

### Statement of Financial Position

Year ended May 31	2020	2019
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	257,890	819,524
Receivables	70,385	
GST/HST receivable	2,069	2,592
Prepays	5,425	6,034
	<b>335,769</b>	<b>828,150</b>
Investments	19,688,173	20,482,160
	<b>20,023,942</b>	<b>21,310,310</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Payables & accruals	51,434	43,607
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>19,972,508</b>	<b>21,266,703</b>
	<b>20,023,942</b>	<b>21,310,310</b>

### Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended May 31	2020	2019
Net assets, beginning of year	21,266,703	17,916,774
Excess	(1,294,195)	3,349,929
Net assets, end of year	<b>19,972,508</b>	<b>21,266,703</b>

## Grants & Awards

The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada continues to support researchers who are seeking to “Help Solve the Puzzles of the Mind”. Success can be seen in new understandings of these diseases, which may lead to new and effective treatments and a better quality of life for those coping with the disease, along with family and caregivers.

The Awards Committee is committed to supporting promising researchers during the early years of their studies. Recipients tell us that it was only through early funding by the Foundation that they were able to conduct their research and develop a personal reputation that attracted funding from other agencies in later years. They credit the Foundation with being the spark plug in starting a successful career.

The Awards committee received 21 applications for Major Research Grants (\$40,000 per year for up to three years) and recommended funding 4 new Research Grants. In addition, the Foundation continues its support of 4 Major Grant recipients for a 2nd year and 4 recipients for a 3rd year. Total support for the Major Grants program for 2019-2020 was \$458,000.

This year Dr. Anurag Tandon stepped down as the Chair of the Grant Review Panel. We are fortunate that this responsibility was taken over by Dr. Joel Watts from the University of Toronto. Dr. Watts is a SRCF grantee and had previously served as a panel member. We are also very fortunate to receive the generous assistance from professional colleagues across Canada. In fact, all members of the review panel are or have been recipients of major grants from the Foundation. The enthusiastic support of Dr. Gareth Taylor, President of the Foundation, is also greatly appreciated.

The Provincial Deputy Bursary program funded a total of 17 bursaries totaling \$14,500 which were distributed across the county.

The SRCF receives many letters of thanks from recipients expressing appreciation for the support received. Scottish Rite members may learn more about the scope and results of the research funded through their donations through the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation website ([www.srcf.ca](http://www.srcf.ca)).

**Dr. Loren Kline**

*Chair, Awards Committee*

### **NEW MAJOR RESEARCH GRANTS**

(Amount shown is 3 year total funding)

<b>Dr. Simon Chen</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
<b>University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON</b> <i>Investigating circuit dysfunctions underlying delayed motor learning in the 16p11.2 deletion model of Autism</i>	
<b>Dr. David Gosselin</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
<b>Université Laval, Laval QC</b> <i>Aberrant microglial transcriptional regulation as an underlying core mechanism of disrupted brain development in autism spectrum disorder</i>	
<b>Dr. Jeehye Park</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
<b>Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto ON</b> <i>The Role of MATR3 in Cognition and Dementia</i>	
<b>Dr. Anne Wheeler</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
<b>Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON</b> <i>Promoting myelin repair for recovery from concussion in children</i>	

## Learning Centre Program

The Learning Centre Program operates with 9 Centres in Canada, and 1 satellite operation in Bracebridge, Ontario. Overall statistics as at June 30<sup>th</sup> show 146 volunteer Tutors tutoring 159 children and accumulating more than 6000 tutoring hours. During the past year, there have been 47 children who have completed the Orton-Gillingham program and have moved on in their educational journey.

COVID-19 has really had an impact on our Centres, as they did not re-open after the March school break. Naturally, this is of concern to us, any interruption in a child’s learning can be impactful and we are doing everything possible to re-open our Centres this fall. It also has had an impact on our volunteer tutors, many of whom were in the Orton-Gillingham training process, and the “hold” on their practicum will require refreshing when they resume tutoring. The statistic which was impacted, of course, was the volunteer tutoring hours, which was 3000 hours less than the previous year.

We are grateful to the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation for providing a one-time grant for the added expenses that Centres incurred to provide PPE and retrofit their Centres for a safe re-opening this fall. This will be a great boost to Centres where fund raising is on-going; it does not take a break because of COVID-19.

We were also in the process of completing the last 10 hours of Advanced Language Training course. This was to have been completed in April, now we are in the process of completing it on several virtual sessions. Hopefully, some of the successful candidates will move on for Tutor Trainer status over the next two years. We are still in a Trainer shortage situation, which restricts us from the expansion of our Centres.

I repeat what I have said in my annual report for the last number of years, and that is, the Scottish Rite can be very proud of the success of the Learning Centre program, as it has become one of the leading programs in providing quality, state of the art, free remedial tutoring for children identified with dyslexia. The lifeblood of our Centres are our volunteer tutors who sacrifice many hours by tutoring children and are rewarded with personal satisfaction, and certification as an Orton-Gillingham tutor. Many of these tutors stay on at their Centre, after certification, and many will do private tutoring in their respective communities. My sincere thanks and appreciation go out to them for their dedication to this successful program.

To all the Centre Board Chairs and Centre Directors, who, in recent months, have had to re-fit their Centres for the new normal operation, and have put the health and safety as first-most in their planning, we offer our most sincere appreciation for your diligence and passion. You, and all the volunteers are the heroes of Scottish Rite.

**Matthew F. Todd**

*Executive Director Learning Centres.*

# Donating to the Foundation

There are a number of ways that you can support the work of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation

**1. Telephone:** Call the Foundation Office at 905-522-0033 during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST) and have your Visa or MasterCard ready.

**2. Printable Form:** (available on our website) If you would like to make a donation by mail or fax, please complete the form and return with your payment.

**3. On-line:** (available on our website) You will be directed to a secure online site hosted by [Canadahelps.org](http://Canadahelps.org) (third party donation). *If you wish to donate to a specific project or other Foundation initiative, please enter that information in the comments box on the donation page.*

**4. Blue Envelope:** Use your “blue envelope” that you periodically get in the mail or obtain one from your Valley Secretary.

**5. Estate Planning:** Include the Foundation in the planning of your Estate; naming the Foundation as a beneficiary of a new or existing life insurance policy; gifting stocks,

bonds, mutual funds or term deposits; or willing residual funds from a RRIF. Both the brochure and the form can be found on our website.

**6. Memorial Donation:** If you wish to make a donation in the name or memory of someone, you can do so by calling the office or fill out the memorial section of the “Printable Form” or “Blue Envelope”.

**7. Securities Transfer – A Win/Win Donation:** Did you know that you are able to make a gift to the Foundation by transferring Securities? This way you avoid paying capital gains on the Security (stock) being transferred, the SRCF would receive the full value of the stock being transferred, and you would receive a donation receipt for tax purposes for the full value of the stock on the day it is being transferred. Simply call the Office for the proper form and they will guide you through the process or download the form available on our website.

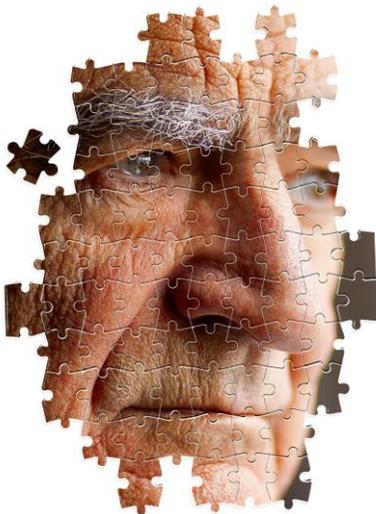
**8. Fund Raising:** Participate in fund raising events for the Foundation.

**Note:** You do not need to be a member of the Scottish Rite or be a Mason to make a donation to the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation. **Anyone** can make a donation using one of the options listed above.

**Income Tax** receipts will be issued annually for a *minimum donation of \$20* to the Foundation.

“**One time**” or specified “**monthly**” donations can be made using your Visa or MasterCard. See the Printable Form, Blue Envelope or Donation Card.

**Remember**, anyone who over a period not exceeding five years makes contributions that total at least \$500 is designated a Fellow of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada and is entitled to receive a silver plated lapel pin crafted in the shape of the Foundation Logo.



**Scottish Rite  
Charitable Foundation  
of Canada**

**Helping to Solve  
“Puzzles of the Mind”  
since 1964**

