Although spring has barely started we’re well into the work of 2014. The annual financial audit is nearly complete and financial statements will be posted on our web site when it is. Needless to say, the past year was a good one.

Invitations will be out soon, but you can mark your calendar now for the annual meeting on June 12th at the Westin Hotel. It will be a luncheon, as usual, with an interesting keynote on “youth.” Dr. Paul Kershaw, from UBC, explores the challenges and emerging solutions for Canadians under 45. His topic, “Generation Squeeze”, has intrigued the nation as he describes being squeezed between lower incomes and higher costs for housing, tuition, childcare and saving for retirement. Kershaw is interested in Canadians taking action to “reduce the squeeze”. Watch for your invitation!

We have begun looking specifically at challenges relating to youth in connection with Vital Signs® 2014. Vital Signs® is as a national initiative, with community foundations across Canada reporting simultaneously on key community indicators - this year on October 7th. We’re pleased to be working with Edmonton Social Planning Council on this project and, as usual, the work is guided by an expert volunteer advisory committee.

Twenty-five years ago Edmonton philanthropists Bob and Shirley Stollery, George and Rae Poole, and John and Barbara Poole made the initial donations to activate Edmonton Community Foundation. They would be so pleased to see that since 1989 our asset base has passed $400 million and we have disbursed more than $150 million to charities. This is all thanks to the generosity of Edmontonians who have a passion for charitable organizations and who care about the city we live in. Please check our newly launched website for information and opportunities related to our 25th Anniversary at www.ecfoundation.org.

In this issue you’ll find an exciting report on Jowi Taylor & Six String Nation. We celebrated with donors Gurvinder Bhatia and Aimee Hill, and their fund “The Grateful Palate”, for this first gathering as part of ECF’s 25th.

Continuing our anniversary celebrations in March, ECF was extremely pleased to host the Right Honorable Governor General David Johnston. We have pictures of that event for you, too. Our most congenial Governor General shared his mission to make Canada a smart and more caring nation. To that end, ECF has answered the call by establishing a Smart & Caring Community Fund.

We invite you to participate with us as we celebrate our 25th throughout the year. Look for the next issue of Legacy In Action in the June issue of Avenue Magazine or in your mailbox. In the mean time, please share this issue with your friends, colleagues or neighbors, and give us a call if you would like extra copies.

All the best, MGC

For change of address please advise:
Edmonton Community Foundation
9910-103 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2V7

Governor General Visit

On March 27th at The Fairmont Hotel Macdonald, ECF was pleased to host the Governor General, His Excellency The Right Honourable David Johnston at a light reception for donors, volunteers, and guests. His Excellency spoke passionately about smart and caring communities. Below are a few of the highlights of the evening.

CEO Message

Martin Garber-Conrad

Spring 2014
Tiger Family Fund

With children of vastly different ages, Shannon Zwicker and Josh Ramsbottom set up the Tiger Family Fund 10 years ago to instill philanthropy and cooperation in their children. Now it has also become a way to bring the family together.

Laura Kiraki, age 15, was the one who came up with the name for the fund. She was four at the time, suggesting “The Tiger Family” after a favourite game where she associated a tiger family with her own. This solution worked well for the family as they were not looking for recognition with a named fund, explained Josh. “And with so many last names to choose from, how do you decide which names to choose?”

This work solved well for the family because they were not looking for recognition with a named fund, explained Josh. “And with so many last names to choose from, how do you decide which names to choose?” Shannon explains that the fund brings the family together. “We hold a family meeting and require everyone to be there. In fact, it was Morgan, who wanted the flexibility to let them change as they grow older and we decided which names to choose?”

Laura has since decided to volunteer with NASAP to complement her work and her educational pursuits. Laura Kiriak, age 15, was the one who came up with the name for the fund. She was four at the time, suggesting “The Tiger Family” after a favourite game where she associated a tiger family with her own. This solution worked well for the family as they were not looking for recognition with a named fund, explained Josh. “And with so many last names to choose from, how do you decide which names to choose?”

The family’s fund emerged last year, the family is glad they will have something that will bring them together. Recently the family agreed to pose for ECF’s new ad campaign. “We were glad not only to have the family photo, but it was a time for the family to reflect on what we want the fund to accomplish,” Shannon says.

With Darien now away in Germany and Laura heading to Denmark next year, the family is glad they will have something that will bring them together. With Darien Zwicker, age 17, wanted to also support humans. “Alex was very helpful in showing us iHuman and what they do,” Shannon says. Alex Draper is a member of ECF’s granting staff.

“We are hoping the fund decisions will foster a healthy debate among the kids where they all bring forward ideas,” Josh says. “Their interests will change as they grow older and we wanted the flexibility to let them decide where the funds should go based on where they are in life.” Laura has since decided to volunteer with NASAP to complement her funding decision.

ECF invites you and your family to join us at the newly remodelled Edmonton Valley Zoo on Tuesday, May 13th from 5:30 to 8 p.m. This fun, all-access evening is our 25th anniversary gift to you!

Meet the animals up-close, enjoy a BBQ dinner, and learn about what is next for the Valley Zoo!

Email RSVP@ecfoundation.org or call 780-423-4956 let us know you are coming and how many family members will be joining you!

It is sure to be a WILD time!

Jowi Taylor & Six String Nation

On February 6th guests of ECF were treated to Jowi Taylor’s Six String Nation at Metro Cinema. One part history lesson and one part concert, Six String Nation delighted the crowd as Taylor, a Peabody Award-winning broadcaster, recounted the incredible journey it took to construct Voyageur, the Six String Nation guitar. From pieces of Wayne Gretzky’s hockey stick to Pierre Trudeau’s canoe paddle, Voyageur is built with more than 60 distinct Canadian artifacts making it a treasure of Canadian history. In true community fashion, Jowi was joined by local musicians Bobby Cameron, Mike McDonald and The Command Sisters to round the evening off with some of the best music Edmonton has to offer. We would like to thank ECF Board Member Gurvinder Bhatia and his wife Aimee Hill for organizing this truly fabulous evening on behalf of their fund “The Grateful Palate”.

What is CASL?

On July 1, 2014 Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) comes into effect. This new law requires businesses and charities to obtain permission to send electronic messages to stakeholders. This means that even if we already communicate with you over email, we will be contacting you to ask you if it is okay to continue to do so. By allowing us to email you can help us reduce costs and save the environment. It also means that you will receive invitations and newsletters faster than if sent by Canada Post.

You will receive an email asking you to “consent” to email messages. Please take the time to say “yes” and help us stay in touch with you in an environmentally friendly and timely way.

Who is new in Donor Services...

ECF is pleased to announce two new members to the Donor Services staff: Jane Frances Asaba Kanunyu, joins the team as the new Donor Services Assistant - Receipting, and Kerri Deluca will be returning to Donor Services as the new Stewardship Associate.