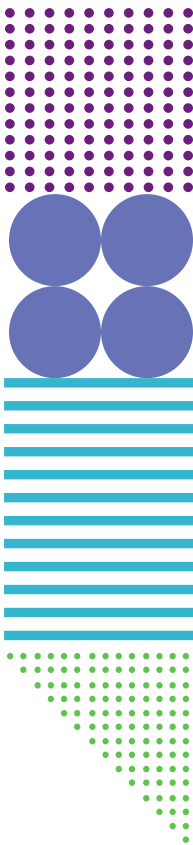




2019 - 2020

ANNUAL REPORT

Fuel Kids - Ignite Learning



OTTAWA
NETWORK FOR
EDUCATION

RÉSEAU
D'OTTAWA POUR
L'ÉDUCATION

Letter from the CEO

| **Heather Norris**

This year has truly been like no other. 'In these unprecedented times' became a rote phrase for all of us. We started the school year in September with roving school strikes across all four public school boards, and in March we were thrown into a new reality and had to find safe and virtual ways to support students while all of us – students included – worked from home.

Thankfully, our incredible staff and amazing community stepped up to the plate. ONFE is uniquely positioned; we are agile, creative, and innovative with passionate staff focused on our mantra to Fuel Kids and Ignite Learning. Coordinated efforts with our community partners identified opportunities for ONFE to step up and step in. We were positioned to respond strategically and intentionally, and this is what will successfully move us forward. We are stronger together.

One of the most outstanding parts of this year was how so many of our existing donors gave more to help us meet the needs of children and youth in Ottawa – and how many new people joined us as donors because of their concern for kids in their community. There are too many people to name in this report, and many don't wish to be named – but I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the generosity we have witnessed this year.

Though pandemic school closures brought many of our programs to a temporary halt at the end of this last fiscal year, we are happy to report that ONFE had 1 or more programs in 81% of schools for 2019-2020. Our program accomplishments and pandemic pivots are contained in this report. If you don't already follow us on social media or through our newsletter, I encourage you to sign up so that we can share up-to-date program news with you all year.

On behalf of our entire ONFE team, staff, and Board, thank you again to our individual donors, and to our educational partners, program partners, foundations, sponsors, corporate donors, and volunteers. Though the year has been one of the greatest challenges many of us will face, together we have endured, learned, experienced, and grown to appreciate the power of community, collaboration, and partnership. Together we have succeeded in executing our mission: connecting community resources to help K-12 students succeed.

Sincerely,

Heather Norris





Learning

ONFE's Volunteers in Education

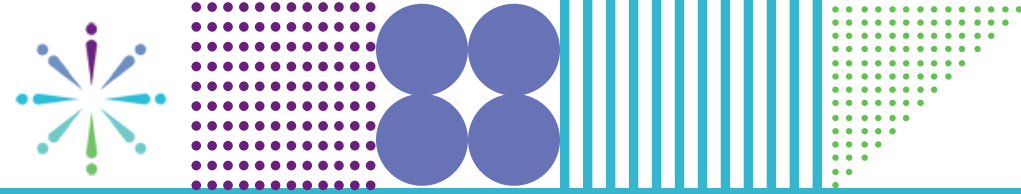
- Volunteers in Education supports student learning through recruiting, screening, and training volunteers to help in the classroom. Before school closures, Volunteers in Education placed 1,259 volunteers in 149 schools.
- We worked closely with teachers to provide approximately 200 volunteers with specialized training to support Syrian refugees and other English Language Learners. First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students were also supported by suitable volunteers, who were selected by an Indigenous Student Support and Re-engagement Coordinator.
- Now that volunteers are not allowed to be physically present in schools, Volunteers in Education has adapted to provide virtual tutoring in classrooms, which began in September 2020.
- Over the past 3 years, we increased volunteer retention from 65% to 89%. Before schools closed, 483 volunteers attended in-person training sessions and 202 volunteers completed online training courses – resulting in 685 volunteers with specialized training!

OttawaReads

- OttawaReads is an early literacy program that provides students with the opportunity to read one-on-one with a volunteer. OttawaReads has just finished its 17th year, in 18 schools, with 100 corporate volunteers and 11 partnerships with local companies and organizations.
- In 2019-20, before school closures, 58 volunteers read aloud to students in 34 schools. In this new school year, OttawaReads has adapted to provide virtual reading sessions.

Assistive Technology

- Our Assistive Technology program is simply a collection of resources on our website, to be accessed by students of all ages, teachers, and parents. These resources can help students with learning differences, and help teachers and parents better understand a student's way of learning.
- We were grateful to be able to offer this resource this year in particular, as parents searched for online learning tools. As in every year, it is free to access the resources and training videos on our website.



Health & Well-Being

School Breakfast Program

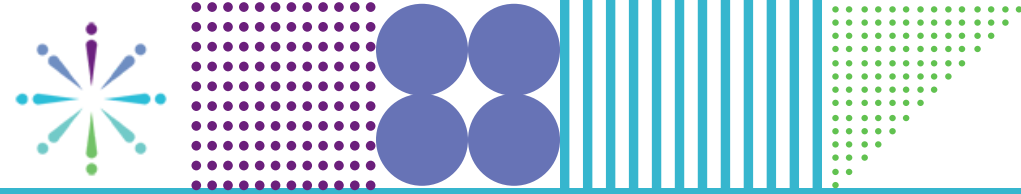
- Each school day, ONFE's School Breakfast Program serves 13,500 meals to children and youth who, through no fault of their own, show up to school hungry. Annually, we serve 2.5 million meals, which help these students start the day on equal footing with their peers.
- When schools closed on March 16th, we immediately began to look for ways to support these students at home. With the help of our partners, we created School Breakfast Replacement Kits. Delivery of these kits began on March 31st.
- Each School Breakfast Replacement Kit at first contained 18 school meals, which we eventually increased to 24 school meals. By August, we had delivered 710,436 meals to kids across the city of Ottawa.

Substance Abuse Support Program (project step)

- The Ottawa Network for Education collaborates with 22 community partners to address the support, treatment, education, and prevention education (step) needs of youth in grades 7 to 12. Collectively, with funding from the Province of Ontario, the City of Ottawa, the four local school boards, and United Way/Centraide Ottawa, we are improving access to substance abuse education, and providing critical school-based counselling to students and parents affected by drug and/or alcohol addiction.
- United Way plays a pivotal role in raising awareness and community funds for project step, and ONFE oversees the coordination and delivery of in-school programming in Ottawa's publicly funded high schools.
- During school closures, service providers have been able to pivot to a hybrid model of service to meet the needs of students either in-person or virtually.

Classroom Gardens

- Classroom Gardens provides a hands-on education in growing food, as well as lessons on nutrition. In 2019-2020 there were 101 garden units in 50 elementary schools and 19 secondary schools. Despite school closures, 59% of participants did between 1-5 harvest activities.
- From teacher surveys we found that most students interacted with their tower garden at least a few times a week - sometimes every day - and 78% of teachers said students were very or extremely interested in the Classroom Garden.
- The program also increased student knowledge of healthy eating. According to one teacher, "*students brought healthier food to school so they could feed the (healthy scraps) to the worms!*" and "*...the highlight was when our children had salad day and almost all of them wanted to try all the different greens in their salad. Because they grew them, they ate them!*"



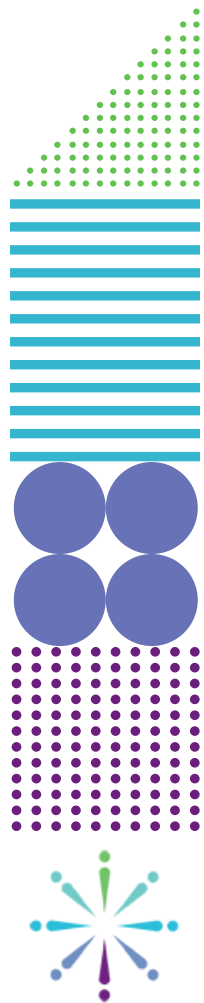
Career Readiness

JA Ottawa

- JA Ottawa recruits and trains volunteers from Ottawa's business community and post-secondary institutions to lead interactive learning activities for students in grades 5 to 12, teaching financial literacy, career readiness, and entrepreneurship. JA Ottawa is a member of JA Canada.
- Before school closures, JA Ottawa reached 3,060 students with Economics for Success and Personal Finance programs. Eleven student businesses were formed through JA Company, involving 222 students.
- During school closures, JA Canada created an online portal that can be used as a teaching tool by parents and teachers. The JA Digital Campus also contains self-directed modules for students.
- Now that volunteers are not allowed to be physically present in schools, JA Ottawa has adapted to provide its World of Choices and Economics for Success programs to classrooms virtually.

Employer Connections

This past year we sunset the 'Employer Connections' name; however, we have shifted resources to ensure this meaningful work continues. World of Choices and Coding programs once under our Employer Connections umbrella are now continuing with JA Ottawa and a Coding Instructor.



Finances

In 2019-2020 the Ottawa Network for Education invested over \$4 million in programs that provide targeted learning support, improve student well-being, and help prepare students for post-secondary studies and fulfilling careers.

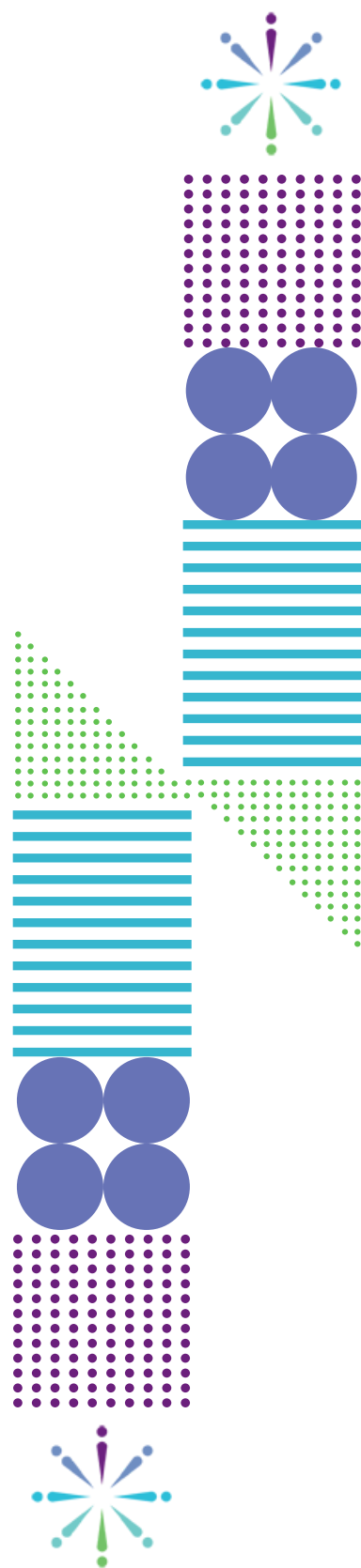
The Advancement Team's fundraising efforts resulted in a milestone year, with 45% growth in community fundraising and the highest amount of funds raised ever for ONFE. Donations from individuals, foundations, corporations, third party partners, and ONFE events all contributed to this success. Truly amazing in a challenging year!

In response to COVID-19, ONFE experienced both ends of the spectrum. Some of our programs started an early summer shutdown, while other programs ramped up to respond to pressing needs.

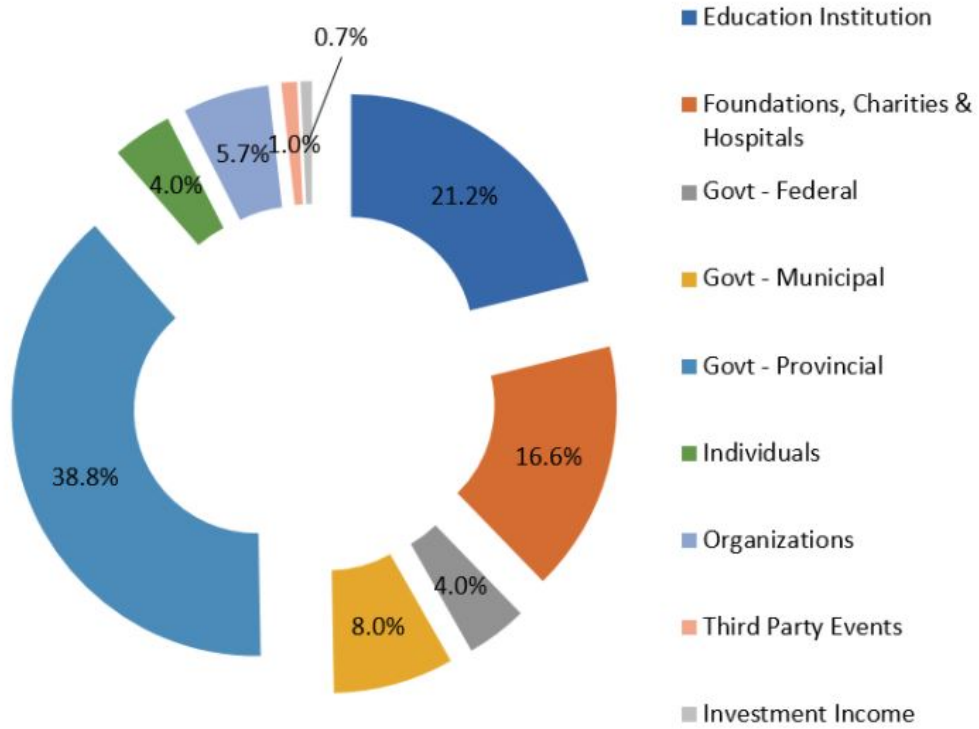
Thank you to our Finance and Audit Committee and staff for their guidance and support. Their contribution helps ONFE steward funds responsibly, while looking ahead at future trends and opportunities.

We are grateful for the financial and voluntary support that we receive from thousands of individuals, education partners, local community groups and organizations, granting foundations, and corporations. We're equally grateful for the invaluable funding by the City of Ottawa and the Province of Ontario. Their collective commitment is essential to our financial stability and our capacity to innovate, collaborate, remove barriers, and create opportunities for K-12 students to reach their full potential.

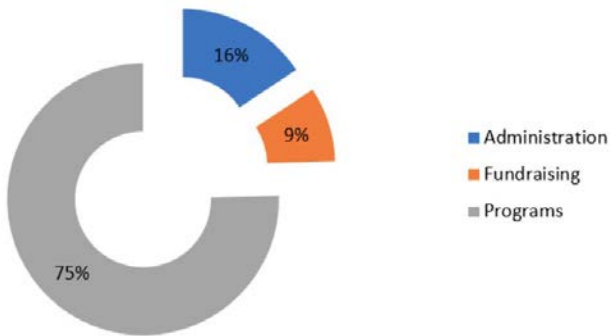
**In 2019 - 2020,
81% of Ottawa schools
were served with
1 or more ONFE programs.**



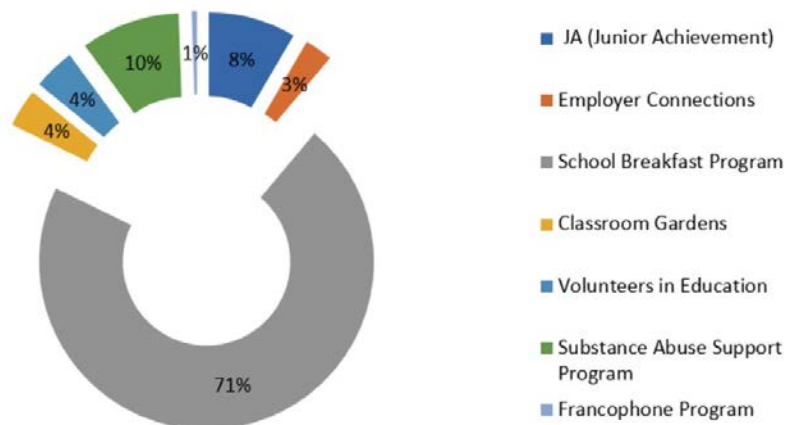
Revenue by source



Overall allocation



Program expenses



With deep gratitude to

Our Partners

Education Partners



Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario



Écoles catholiques Centre-Est



OTTAWA-CARLETON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



OTTAWA CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD

ALGONQUIN COLLEGE



Carleton UNIVERSITY

LA CITÉ

LE COLLÈGE D'ARTS APPLIQUÉS ET DE TECHNOLOGIE



uOttawa
L'Université canadienne
Canada's university

Partners in Excellence (\$20,000 and up)



24h
TREMBLANT



Breakfast CLUB of Canada



The Counselling Foundation of Canada



Education Foundation of Ottawa



THE GROCERY FOUNDATION
GETTING FOOD TO HUNGRY KIDS



Mercedes-Benz | Mercedes-Benz Ottawa Downtown
Member of the Mercedes-Benz Group



minto Foundation Inc.

Ontario

Ontario Trillium Foundation



Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario

Ottawa



Public Health
Santé publique

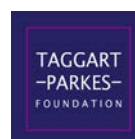


Foundation



United Way
East Ontario

Partners in Success (\$5,000 - \$19,999)



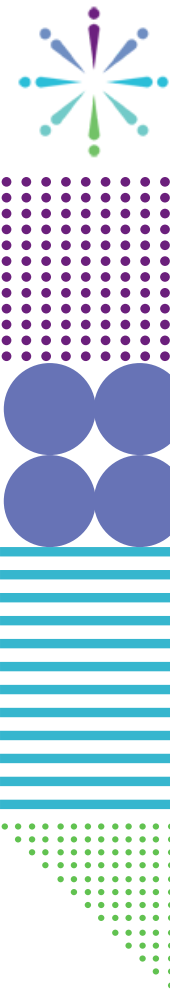
Partners in Growth (\$500 - \$4,999)

2Keys Corporation
 Apple Canada Inc.
 Banque Nationale du Canada
 Bell Canada
 Beyond Networking Ottawa
 Black & MacDonald
 Canada Post Community Foundation
 Canada Revenue Agency
 Carnivale dei Bambini
 Children's Aid Society of Ottawa
 Ciena Cares
 County of Carleton Law Association
 Design 1st
 Desjardins
 Duffey Financial Solutions Inc.
 Economical Insurance
 Edward J. Cuhaci & Associates Architects Inc.
 Egg Farmers
 Excellence in Literacy Foundation
 Fairstone (Citi)
 Fisher Park School Council
 Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Foci Solutions
 Giftfunds Canada
 Greco Contracting
 GVE Lawyers
 IBM
 Jarrod Goldsmith, eSAX (the Entrepreneur Social Advantage Experience)
 Kanata North BIA
 Kardish Health Food Centre
 Les Marmitons of Ottawa-Gatineau
 Marriott International
 Member365
 Ottawa Carleton Elementary Occasional Teachers' Association (OCEOTA)
 Place D'Orleans
 Properties Group Management Ltd.
 Realtors Care Foundation
 Shana Davis D.L. Building Materials Inc.
 Solicitor General
 United Way Greater Toronto
 Welch LLP

Thank You

for helping us to
fuel kids and ignite learning.



OTTAWA
NETWORK FOR
EDUCATION

RÉSEAU
D'OTTAWA POUR
L'ÉDUCATION

900 Morrison Drive, Suite 205
Ottawa, ON, K2H 8K7
(613) 366-3085

www.onfe-rope.ca