

# ANNUAL REPORT



# 2023-2024



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Mikinakoos Children's Fund continued to impact young lives through the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024, providing food and opportunities to experience sports and the arts.

Through the generous support of grants from Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities and The Canada Post Community Foundation, we were able to distribute recreation equipment to hundreds of children. Our Jumpstart Grant supported two basketball camps and one volleyball camp, led by talented coaches who traveled to remote communities to share their expertise. These camps didn't just focus on skill development for youth—they included training for interested adults to learn coaching techniques and drills. This "train-the-trainer" approach ensures that the benefits of organized sports can continue long after our visits to hopefully support future access to organized sports in isolated First Nations.

With the support and contributions of our donors, we were able to send a large much-needed food shipment to Slate Falls First Nation that supported over 150 youth. In a small, isolated community, where access to basic necessities can be a daily challenge, initiatives like this can help alleviate some of the burden and ensure children have access to nourishing meals.

In November of 2023, Mikinakoos once again launched its winter clothing campaign through the end of December, with a significant boost on Giving Tuesday. With a \$25,000 contribution from the TD Ready Commitment Fund and the generosity of our caring community, we shipped hundreds of jackets, hats, mitts, and boots to 18 First Nations.

As I review all these efforts to support First Nation children's improved quality of life, I recognize there is still so much to do. Let's pause to celebrate the wonderful accomplishments of the past year, yet at the same time, gather our energy to do even more in the coming year.

Thank you to each and every member of our community who continues to give back year after year, helping to change lives one shipment at a time! You are an integral part of Mikinakoos Children's Fund, and we couldn't do this without you. Kitchi Meegwetch!

Colleen Martin  
Board Chair



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The data presented pertains to the period  
from April 1st, 2023 to March 31st, 2024



# CHARITY OVERVIEW

## VISION

A world where every First Nations child is lifted from poverty and lives the good life as described by First Nations teachings.

## MISSION

To improve the quality of life for First Nations Children in remote northwestern Ontario, while meeting their immediate physical needs for food, clothing and basic amenities.

# MEET OUR TEAM



**COLLEEN MARTIN**  
Chair of Board



**JAMES MORRIS**  
Past Chair



**BRIAN CALLEJA**  
Treasurer



**CORINNE FOX**  
Director

# MEET OUR TEAM



**JEFF STOUT**  
Director



**JESSICA MCLAUGHLIN**  
Director



**TYRA OHMAN**  
Director



**TEAK FAVEL**  
Director

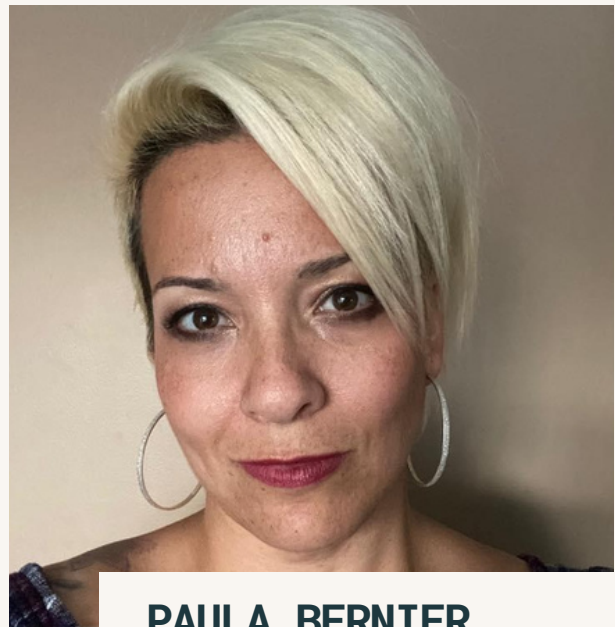
# MEET OUR TEAM



**EMILY SHANDRUK**  
Executive Director



**KIELLY MCDONOUGH**  
Marketing & Database  
Manager



**PAULA BERNIER**  
Supply Chain Manager

For full biographies visit our website  
[www.mikinakoos.com](http://www.mikinakoos.com)

# HIGHLIGHTS



**TD READY  
COMMITMENT**

## **TD READY COMMITMENT GRANT AND WARM CLOTHING PROGRAM SUPPORTS 500 CHILDREN**

For Giving Tuesday, we set a goal of raising \$15,000 to provide winter jackets and other essential winter wear for First Nations children in Northern Ontario. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we're thrilled to report that we met our goal, allowing us to make an impact for nearly 500 children.

This project wouldn't have been possible without the incredible partnership from TD Ready Commitment! Thanks to their generous support, we secured a two-year \$50,000 donation, covering a large portion of the jacket purchases. Additionally, through the Knights of Columbus, we acquired these new winter jackets at a highly discounted rate.

The donations from Giving Tuesday directly funded other essential winter items like hats, mitts, and snow pants. Partnering with Keewaytinook Okimakanak First Nations, Keewaytinook Internet High Schools, and Fort Hope First Nation, we were able to reach children in some of Ontario's most remote communities.

Each year, we aim to alleviate the hardship of harsh northern winters by ensuring children have proper winter wear. Thank you to our donors and partners for making this possible!



# HIGHLIGHTS

## SPORTS CAMPS POWERED BY JUMPSTART

Thanks to two generous grants totaling \$22,500 from Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities, Mikinakoos expanded its outreach this year by bringing three sports camps to First Nations communities.

The first two camps, focused on basketball, took place in Slate Falls and Wabigoon Lake First Nations, where three coaches led multi-day skill sessions, helping youth develop their techniques. Brand-new basketball equipment was also provided to each community to encourage continued play and practice.

Our third camp featured volleyball in Mishkeegogamang First Nation, led by an Indigenous female athlete who served as both coach and role model. These camps gave First Nations youth a chance to build confidence, develop new skills, and participate in healthy activities that strengthen both individual growth and community ties.



# HIGHLIGHTS

## \$7,000 RAISED FOR SLATE FALLS FIRST NATION

In March, we set a goal to raise \$7,000 to send a large shipment of essential food and supplies to Slate Falls First Nation, supported through our Backpack Program. Thanks to your generosity, we exceeded that goal and delivered three pallets of essential items for the youth in Slate Falls!



## THUNDER BAY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT

We were awarded a generous \$32,000 grant from the Thunder Bay Community Foundation. This funding enabled us to improve our digital marketing efforts to enhance our fundraising strategy. Thanks to this support, Mikinakoos has been able to increase our reach targeting new and lapsed donors.



Thunder Bay  
Community  
Foundation

# HIGHLIGHTS



## CANADA POST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT

This year, we were honoured to receive a generous grant of \$25,000 from the Canada Post Community Foundation. This support allowed us to deliver a variety of resources across five communities, including sporting equipment, art supplies, winter gear, and more! This partnership has been vital in expanding our reach and improving the lives of children in each of these communities.

### Deliveries Included:

- Bearskin Lake First Nation: Volleyball and softball equipment, including two volleyball poles
- Fort Hope First Nation: Art supplies, mitts, baby snowsuits, and toques
- St. James School: Hats and mitts
- Slate Falls First Nation: Shipping for used hockey equipment
- Kashechewan First Nation: Volleyball equipment



Canada Post  
**Community  
Foundation**

**Fondation  
communautaire**  
de Postes Canada

# YEAR IN REVIEW



**21**

Shipments



**22**

Communities Reached



**2,550**

Youth Supported

This year, despite fewer donations compared to previous years, we proudly supported over **2,550** First Nations children. Our success was supported by many of our invaluable partnerships that offered discounts, donated items, and hosted fundraisers on our behalf.

We also expanded our reach, working with a record 22 communities. Building strong, lasting relationships with First Nations communities remains a central focus of our mission.

# YEAR IN REVIEW



**88**

New Followers



**950**

Total Gifts



**127**

Recurring Donors



**76**

New Donors



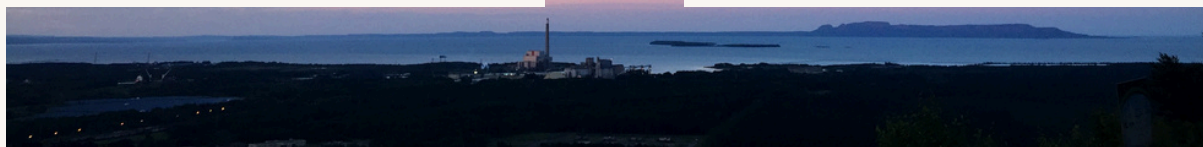
**52**

Monthly Donors



**4.42**

Gifts Per Donor



Our community continues to grow with new followers, donors, and supporters joining us each year. While we experienced a slight decline in new donor acquisitions and total gifts this year, our recurring donors remained strong. We are grateful for each individual and follower who has chosen to support our mission this year.

# DONOR LISTING

## Under \$100

## Monthly Donor\*

Nicholas Anderson  
Jacqueline Barry  
Alain Bartleman  
Barbara Behan  
Marilyn Belec Bittman  
Marika Bellerose  
Beth Bodkin  
Veronica Callaghan  
CanadaHelps  
Shelby Ch'ng  
Ellen Chambers  
Sheldon Cooper  
Kaitlyn Francisco  
Gina Grdovic  
Deanna Guernsey  
Sandra Hamp-Lane-Mortensen  
Rachel Hancock\*  
Matt Hildebrandt  
Jenna Hitchcox\*  
Jo-Anne Hogard  
Annette Hudson  
Megan Ireland  
Darlene Iwaszko  
Dilwinder Johal  
Anna K  
Soul Khan  
Bill Knight  
Kerry Kuluski  
Larissa Lechshinskaya  
Emily Lindsay  
Laura Lipton

Gaye Marshall  
Ashley McKinley  
Vince Mirabelli\*  
Lorraine Morin  
Anna Morrison  
Rachel Mulholland  
Kathy Mynahan  
Robert Pastre  
Ethan Postans  
Ellen Pratt-Vautour  
Shelley Rechner  
Natalie Richard  
Christine Rivard  
Abe Sanjakdar  
Rick Saunders  
Diane Saunders  
Victoria Schimpf-Kadziolka  
Eric Schranz  
Judy Tompkins  
Michael Torontow  
Ryan Tuomi  
Linda West  
Rick Wukasch  
Doris Wukasch

Period from April 1st, 2023 through March 31st, 2024

# DONOR LISTING

## \$100 to \$499

## Monthly Donor\*

Pamela Angees\*  
Carolyn Anger  
Elizabeth Ballantynejackson  
Bradley Banks\*  
Barbara Bergman  
Barbara Blanchard\*  
Katrina Brant  
Brad Buset  
Theresa Buset  
Nicole Buset  
Jeff Busset  
Tammy Busset  
Alannah Campbell Kearns  
Anthony Carfagnini  
Elizabeth Carmichael\*  
Jennifer Collard\*  
Denyse Contrasty  
Ursula Cote  
Linda Cray\*  
Terresa Helen Crudge  
Susan Daglish  
Caitlin Davidson\*  
Damon DeLong\*  
Lauren Denapoli  
Jennifer Derosier  
Sarah Dineen  
Mrs Linda Doubleday  
Thérèse Doyle  
Christian Dylla  
Candi Edwards  
Alexandra Muse Ehrlich

Michelle Elzby\*  
Laura Felstiner\*  
Delaine Fiddler  
Richard Firth\*  
Carol Foreman  
Kei Ganaha\*  
Laurence Gobeil  
Marcel Gort\*  
Susan Griffiths\*  
Laine Hellbling  
Dorothy derson\*  
Angie Heydon  
Roxanne Hibberd  
Allison Hill\*  
Elizabeth Houghton  
Justin Jagger  
Ann Jung  
Emma Kaltenecker  
Brian Kanakakeesic  
Tanya Koivusalo  
Pauline Krupa\*  
Paul Laing  
Katrina Langevin  
Miriam Lapp  
Alison Lavoie  
Terrence Levine\*  
Margaret Lockhart  
Emma Mackenzie  
Scott Magill\*  
Douglas Mark\*  
Tamara Martin\*

Period from April 1st, 2023 through March 31st, 2024

# DONOR LISTING

## \$100 to \$499

## Monthly Donor\*

Kielly McDonough\*  
Ashley McIver  
Wendy McKay  
Marilyn Meyers  
Gary F. Milton  
Cindy Moffatt  
Joanne Morgan\*  
Josie Morin  
Sharon Morin\*  
Jacqueline Myers\*  
Heather O'connor  
Scott Parker  
Kenny Pearl  
Sylvia Poetschke\*  
Mary Possmayer\*  
Maureen Reeves  
Jay Reid\*  
Ariel Root  
David Rousseau  
Christine Sawanis  
Brittany Scarfo  
Rosina Schnurr  
Adrienne Scott  
Elizabeth Shepherd  
Fiona Sillars\*  
Robert Smith  
David Spaulding  
Catherine Stratford  
Lisa Surgenor  
Louise Thomas  
Douglas Thomson\*

Anna Torontow  
Gord Tribe  
Wilma Vanderzwaag\*  
Jill Veenendaal  
Margaret Wanlin  
John Warkentin  
Ian White  
Mary Willmott  
Ian Willmott  
Lynn Wizniak  
Yew Keong Wong

Period from April 1st, 2023 through March 31st, 2024



# DONOR LISTING

**\$500 to \$999**

**Monthly Donor\***

Lucy Ainsworth\*  
Elaine Atkinson  
Julie Chivers\*  
Christina Chong  
Mark Clements\*  
Susan Cook  
Michael Cummine  
Janet DeMille  
Andrie Gedye\*  
Francois Goulay  
Georgina Hunter\*  
Kelsey Kemp  
Jeremy Kemp  
Colleen Martin\*  
Em McCourt\*  
Patrick McQuarrie\*  
Elizabeth Moffatt  
Dianne Murray\*  
Denise Ormerod\*  
Jill Pletsch\*  
Maija Robinson  
Emily Shandruk\*  
Leonard Shirchenko  
Bailey Symington  
John Walden\*  
Marlene Walden\*  
Jenny Wolever\*  
Anne-Marie Yaraskavitch

Period from April 1st, 2023 through March 31st, 2024

# DONOR LISTING

## Major Donors \$1,000+

## Monthly Donor\*

Carla Bellman  
Brian Calleja  
Sandra Green\*  
Sheila Shannon  
Barbara Thompson\*  
Janet Twomey  
Susan Vollmar\*  
David Watt

Period from April 1st, 2023 through March 31st, 2024

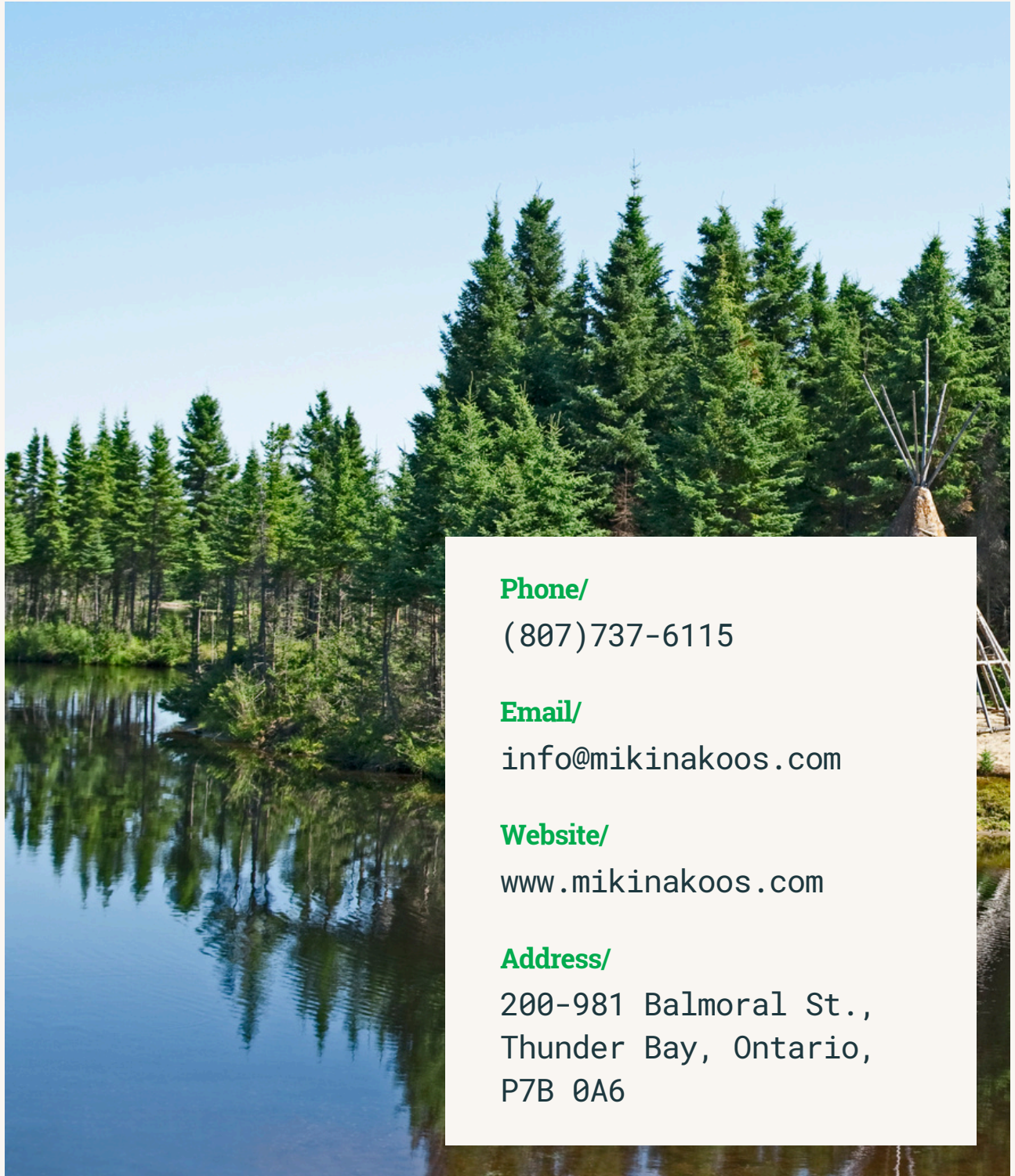
# DONOR LISTING

## Organizations & Foundations

BMO Bank of Montreal  
Canada Post Community Foundation  
Canadian Food Bank  
Canadian Online Giving Foundation  
Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Catholic Women's League of Canada Precious Blood Parish  
Charities Aid Foundation Canada  
Community Services Recovery Fund  
Concurrent Education Students Association  
Dexterra Group Inc.  
Guru Studio  
Herbaland Naturals, Inc  
Lewk Clothing  
St. Mark's Presbyterian Church  
Media Profile  
M.J. Fraser Electric LTD.  
North Star Air Ltd.  
Nor'wester View School  
Pediatric Interest Group - NOSM  
The Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie  
TD Bank  
Torkin Manes LLP  
Vacation Bible School Program  
Wintergreen

Period from April 1st, 2023 through March 31st, 2024

# CONTACT US



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