



Impact Report 2021

As Albertans continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, we know that the communities of central and northern Alberta need the YMCA now more than ever. We all need to feel well in spirit, mind and body, and we desperately need to connect again and experience a sense of belonging.

Over the last 19 months, we have seen our share of challenges. However, we are pleased to report that YMCA of Northern Alberta has weathered the storm of 2021.

This was only possible because of the tremendous support from our ambassadors and contributors. As committed members, donors and devoted friends, you continue to make our YMCA a community.

We also want to extend thanks and appreciation to all our employees and volunteers. Their tireless dedication and commitment to making a difference for all those we serve is truly inspiring.

Our YMCA has a 114-year history of resiliency and commitment to the community, we have supported the community through major global events such as world wars and the great depression, and, in more recent years, wildfires, floods and now a pandemic.

We believe that in times of crisis and challenge, our YMCA steps up; we don't step back. Over this past year we have stepped up. We continue to look through the challenges for opportunities. Opportunities to serve the communities of central and northern Alberta in new ways, and opportunities to be a leader in helping our communities to thrive, stay healthy and recover.

On behalf of the YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation volunteers, our deepest thanks to all Y members, participants, volunteers, Heritage Club members and all donors for your tremendous, ongoing and unwavering support.

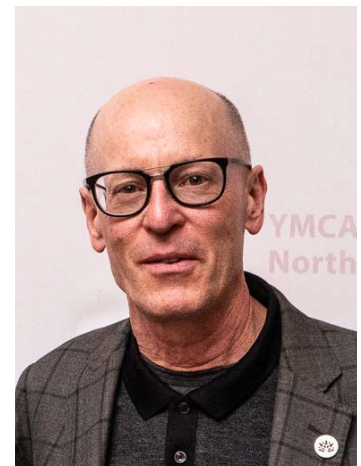
Thank you and stay well,



Nick Parkinson

President & CEO

YMCA of Northern Alberta



John Lilley

Chair

YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation



FROM KENYA TO FORT MCMURRAY: FINDING COMMUNITY AT THE Y

JANE NJOROGE'S STORY

In 2013, Jane Njoroge had made the life-changing decision to move from her hometown in Kenya, East Africa and migrate to Canada to start a new chapter. Just seven months after moving from Kenya to Calgary, her interest was sparked about an unfamiliar city in northern Alberta through an unexpected encounter with a customer she served at a local clothing store.

"The customer told me about a community she was from called Fort McMurray. I did not know anything about the region, but she told me all about the community, and how it's a great place to work and live." Three months following the encounter, Jane decided to take the leap of faith and move to Fort McMurray, determined to find her place. But before she left, a friend of Jane's told her she needed to find a YMCA as soon as she got there, and that's exactly what she did.

When Jane stepped into the downtown YMCA Hardin Street location, she was immediately connected to the YMCA's Employment Link program. While searching for a job, Jane became a Y volunteer as a front desk receptionist, for which Jane was awarded for outstanding work at the 2015 YMCA Volunteer Awards.

Jane eventually found a job at a local pet store. Soon after being hired, Jane got a call from the store's District Manager, who told her the Manager position was open, and that Jane should apply. Unsure of what to do and not feeling confident about being promoted as a newcomer, Jane went back to the YMCA where she met Karenina Huerta, a consultant with YMCA Employment Link, and told her about the recent job offer. Karenina immediately said, "why not? I know you can do it." Together with Karenina, Jane filled out the application form in the Y computer room and was hired as a Store Manager soon after.

Three years later, shortly after the 2016 wildfires, Jane felt inspired to pursue a new career. Having already received an education degree in Kenya, she wanted to work towards a degree in social work. When it came time for her first practicum placement, Jane was adamant that she be placed at the YMCA. "I had a special request. I desperately wanted my placement to be at the YMCA. I wanted to give back and work with the team that helped me get on my feet when I first moved here." Jane's request was granted, and she joined the YMCA's Support for Wellness team, helping the community with relief from the wildfire devastation. Soon after graduation, she joined the Y team full-time as a Wellness Worker.

"I don't even want to imagine where I would have ended up without the Y. The Y provided me with all the tools that enabled me to build success in this community. I had told myself I had three months to find a job, otherwise I would leave, and here I am seven years later, thriving in a community I love. All because the Y invested their time and knowledge in me."

"I am really grateful for the Y because they have allowed me to give back to the community and help others, while also thriving and growing personally."

- Jane Njoroge



When reflecting on her journey, Jane is so thankful for the connections she has built through the YMCA. She recently shifted into the Coordinator role with the YMCA's Foreign Worker Program, where she helps newcomers get connected in Fort McMurray. "I am really grateful for the Y because they have allowed me to give back to the community and help others, while also thriving and growing personally," Jane said. "I am here because someone gave me information about the YMCA many years ago. I believe when you arm someone with information, you have helped not just them, but also the community. Now I can tell everyone about the Y and help others with the services we provide."

Having been one of many people whose lives have been impacted by the YMCA, Jane is now a proud Y donor, knowing first-hand what her gift means to the community. "I give to the Y through my time and service, but also through my funds. I give without reservation. You never know how much your dollars will mean to someone in need, and when I give to the Y, I know that I am helping the community thrive and building strong families," Jane added.

In closing, Jane explains she will never forget how the YMCA made her feel, from the very moment she stepped foot into the building.

"When you are a newcomer, even a smile can change your day. I felt anxious about being in a new community and new country, and the second I stepped into the Y, I felt settled. I was received just as I was. I have built a connection with the Y that goes beyond feeling like home," Jane smiled.

"To me, the YMCA is my family. And I am proud to tell my story."

THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY

REMEMBERING GRANT & IRENE DUNCAN



**MANY TIMES, ALL THAT'S NEEDED TO CHANGE A LIFE
FOR THE BETTER IS AN OPPORTUNITY**

The legacy of Grant and Irene Duncan is a demonstration of how opportunity can change everything, and how leaving a gift to a charity such as the YMCA impacts the lives of others for years to come.

Grant Duncan is remembered for being many things: a hard, but humble worker; a leader who believed in providing opportunity and, most importantly, a caring husband and father.

For two of Grant and Irene's sons, Bruce and Brent, the YMCA has always played a big part in the lives of their parents, even when they were just boys.

"I remember following Dad around the jogging track when I was young," Brent says. **"The Y was always a very welcoming place."**

His brother, Bruce, remembers his time at the Y with their father. "Dad and I would go to the Y on the weekend occasionally. I'd go in, throw some weights around, and Dad would make sure that I didn't hurt myself."

Grant joined the YMCA for the same reason as many others do: to get in better shape. But after joining the Y, he discovered more than just a gym. Grant was a member of the morning coffee club, meeting with other Y members in friendship and community. There, Grant formed many friendships with fellow Y members, taking on a mentorship role, and forming connections that lasted a lifetime.

"The original motivator to join the Y was his health," Brent notes. "He needed to get into shape, and that paid off in spades later in life."

A few years ago, while on a family trip to Mexico, Grant suffered a heart attack on the day the family was set to come home. Thankfully, Grant survived the heart attack, something his sons say was thanks to Grant's dedication to staying physically active. "The cardiologist commented on how strong he was and what a difference being in shape made for his recovery. He came through because of his dedication to working out at the Y," Brent says.

"After his heart attack, Dad wrote a letter to us," Brent recalls. "He started to realize his mortality, I think. He explained what his wishes were."

In 2020, Grant fell ill with cancer. Both he and Irene passed away that same year. It was a difficult time for the Duncan family. Grant and Irene Duncan left a gift to the YMCA in the form of a Community Endowment Fund. The fund supports YMCA leadership development in communities across northern and central Alberta, giving vital opportunities to those in need. Bruce and Brent learned of the endowment fund after their parents' passing.

"I wasn't surprised when I discovered that the funds my parents had set up were supporting leadership development," Brent says. "It was something that was critically important to Dad."

"I had no idea that they had donated that much at that point," Bruce says of the endowment fund. "I was pleased! I thought that it was a good thing to do."

Brent agrees. “We fully supported it. Dad was such a generous, give-back kind of guy. He was a self-made man who worked hard to get to where he was, but he gave back to the community as much as he could.

“We’re proud that our parents put themselves in the position to be able to give to the Y and other charities. I’m proud that they gave their money where they wanted and that they could do that,” Bruce says.

“There’s a lot of pride that our parents chose to make a gift to a place like the Y,” Brent agrees. “I feel proud that they’ve done it and I’m happy to continue to contribute to their legacy on an ongoing basis.”

He continues: “To me, a legacy gift to a valued charity such as the Y doesn’t just benefit the community; it also benefits our family.”

Brent and Bruce agree that leaving a legacy gift to a charity like the YMCA is important and worthwhile, especially as the family of someone who donated. “Basically, you’re taking the life you’ve lived and the opportunities you’ve had, and you’re given a chance to give forward,” Brent explains. “It honours your entire family when you do that, when you provide opportunities to others to better themselves.

If you’re on the fence about it, it’s a no-brainer! That’s money well spent!”

Bruce believes that part of the Duncan family’s ongoing legacy will be to give others the gift of opportunity that they need. “My dad didn’t grow up wealthy—he worked his way up. For him to help someone else, to maybe soften their path to help them achieve their own greatness...that’s awesome.”

Brent agrees with his brother. “I think that supporting something that makes healthier and stronger communities is a win. To be able to contribute to the development of a community you live in and to provide opportunities for others to better themselves. That’s exactly what Dad wanted.”

To learn more about how you can leave a legacy at the YMCA, please contact:

Laura Svajlenko, Planned Giving Specialist
E. Laura.Svajlenko@northernalberta.ymca.ca
P. 780.499.3627

YMCA OF NORTHERN ALBERTA FOUNDATION

The YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation is governed by its members acting collectively in the manner of the Board. The dedicated members are responsible for ensuring the long-term growth of the YMCA's endowment funds. We work with donors to realize their vision for the future and encourage new endowment gifts. With the support from our experienced Investment Advisory Committee, we also oversee the prudent investment of the portfolio of funds.

Thank you to all the dedicated members of the YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation who work to steward the funds entrusted to our care, and help to grow the endowment through new, current and future gifts.

YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation – Governance

John Lilley, Chair	John Corlett	Bob McColl	Kirby O'Connor
Rahim Adatia	Doug Cronk	Deborah McKinnon	Nick Parkinson
Rajan Bhatti	Alexandria Fisher	Scot McLeod	Jean-Jacques Tremblay
Brent Buchanan	Tim Haak	Tim Melton	

Investment Advisory Committee

Brent Buchanan, Chair	Bob McColl
Doug Cronk	Kent Winterfield
Ron Liteplo	
Nick Parkinson	

HERITAGE CLUB

The Heritage Club recognizes individuals who have contributed to the YMCA's endowment funds and/or made provisions for a gift to YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation through an annual gift or their will, life insurance or other future gift.

All contributions to the Foundation are endowed, meaning the principal of the gift is invested and a portion of the annual investment income supports YMCA of Northern Alberta programs and initiatives. Any remaining income is re-invested to help the fund continue to grow.

We would like to formally thank the following seven donors for establishing emerging endowment funds:

- Asim & Tori Chin
- Jean-Jacque & Mary-Anne Tremblay
- Patrick Dinneen
- Joleen & Allen Schmitt

HOW DO I MAKE A LEGACY GIFT?

A legacy gift enables you to dream big!

During your lifetime, you make charitable gifts from the assets you have at your disposal. Legacy giving allows you to share your wealth not only with your family, but also with your community. There are several options available, with the most common being a gift made through your will. You can also start today with a gift of cash or publicly traded securities.

We would be pleased to provide information to assist in your planning. For more information, please contact:

Laura Svajlenko, Planned Giving Specialist
E. Laura.Svajlenko@northernalberta.ymca.ca
P. 780.499.3627

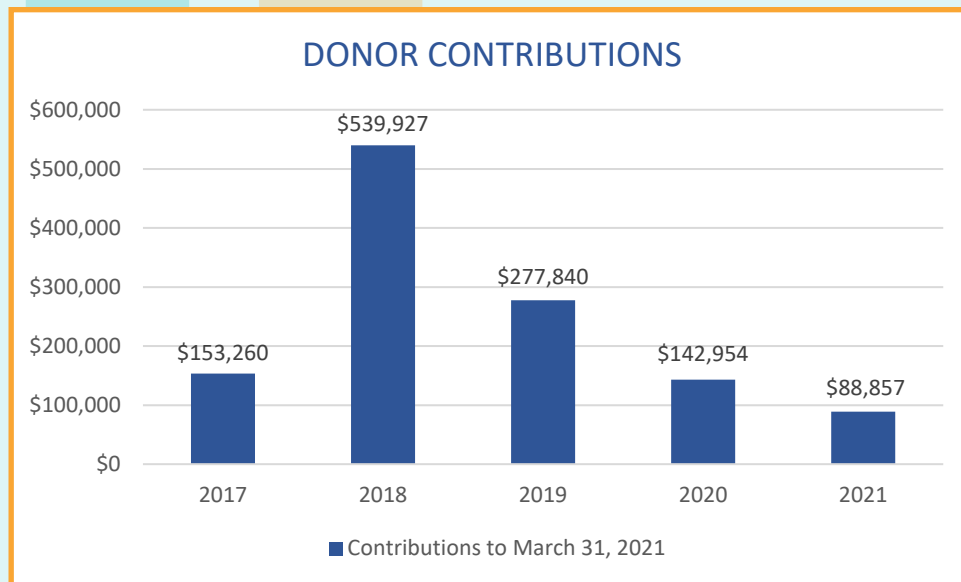
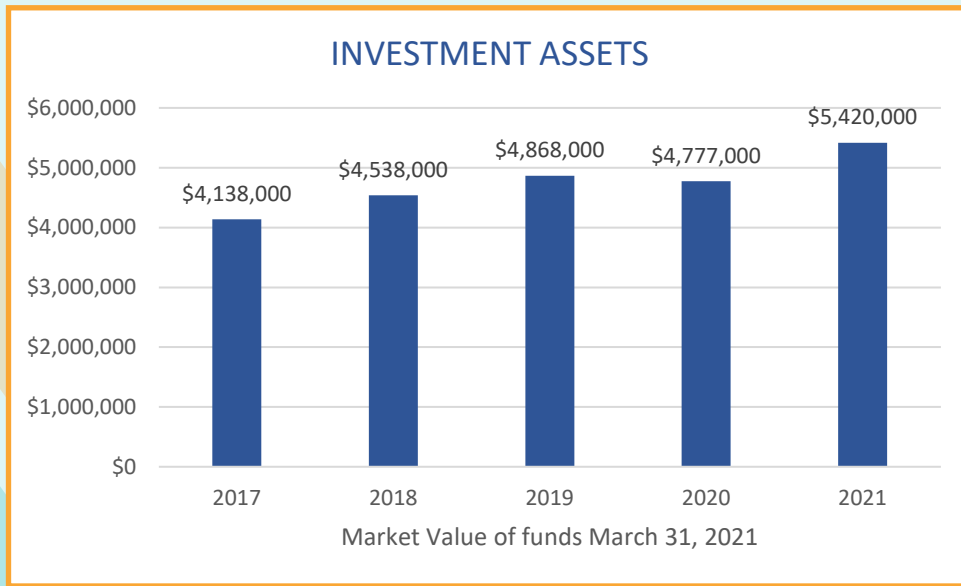
THE POWER OF ENDOWMENT

Endowment giving inspires and transforms; it makes an impact for generations to come in perpetuity. In just 12 years, a fund that started with a gift of \$21,500 has now disbursed \$14,990 to support YMCA of Northern Alberta programs and has a current balance of close to \$32,100.

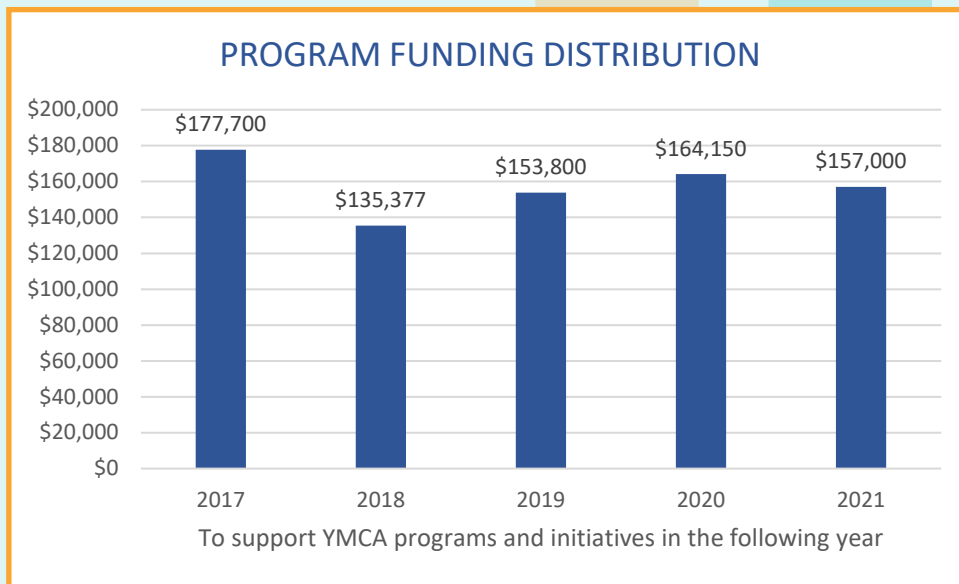
This fund will continue to grow and support the community over the years ahead.

Financial Highlights for the Year Ended

March 31, 2021



Financial Highlights for the Year Ended March 31, 2021



*Disbursements made at March 31, 2017 included \$47,000 allocated to 2017 programs and initiatives

Return on Investment

1-year rate of return (loss) on pooled investments 18.34% (2020: (-3.00%)), after custodial and management fees.

For a copy of the audited financial statements, contact:

The Fund Development Team
giving@northernalberta.ymca.ca

Or, visit:
northernalberta.ymca.ca/publications

YMCA OF NORTHERN ALBERTA FOUNDATION GRANTS

These grants, funded through donations and donor-directed endowment funds, were awarded in October 2021. Where appropriate, grants were spilt at the discretion of the Grants Committee.

“You are helping a student like me to pursue a dream.”

-Mary Ann Meru

Congratulations to this year's recipients

Al Maydonik Memorial Leadership Grant: **Mary Ann Meru**

Al Maydonik Memorial Leadership Grant: **Habeebah Mohammad**

Bennett Clarke Memorial Grant: **Kayla Kolosky**

Bennett Clarke Memorial Grant: **Dominique Maure**

Del Dilkie Leadership Grant: **Monique Hrushka**

Edwin S. Cook Leadership Award: **Kimberly Brenner**

Edwin S. Cook Leadership Award: **Anna Pilisko**

Franco & Barbara Savoia Star Builder Grant: **Erin Brann**

Franco & Barbara Savoia Star Builder Grant: **Prudence Musinguzi**

Grant & Irene Duncan Strong Kids Leadership Grant: **Manisha**

Iain Armstrong Memorial Leadership Grant: **Emily Neff**

Ivor & Meike Lammerink YMCA Leadership Grant: **Wendy McCormick**

Foundation Directed Funds Annual disbursements are determined by the members that govern the YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation following recommendations made by YMCA management.

1907-2007 Centennial Trust	Scot McLeod Family Fund
Archie M. Langille Trust Fund	Tim Melton Family Fund
Bill Rees Memorial Fund	William Lutsky Trust Fund Land Trust Fund
Healthy Communities Fund	William Weir Memorial Fund
Len Dolgoy and Catherine Miller Trust Fund	

Donor Directed Funds Annual disbursements are designated by donors to support YMCA programs.

Bull Family Fund	Patricia Ellen (Pattey) Ready Memorial Fund
Eldon & Phyllis Fowler Fund	Phyllis Amerongen Memorial Fund
International Development Fund	Rebecca Suen Fund for the Homeless
Jill Zimmerman Memorial Fund	Robert J. Turnbull Trust Fund
Lammerink Family Fund	Sam Gabriel Trust Fund
Larry Pollock Youth Recreation Fund	Wilfred Oliver (Mac) McLean Trust Fund
Literacy Endowment Fund	Winnie Kwok Memorial Fund
Matthew Peddle Memorial Fund for Children with Disabilities	Youth & Community Endowment Fund Jean-Louis Cloutier
Michael Zolf Trust Fund	Herbert Family Fund

2021 Grants

Al Maydonik Trust Fund	Franco & Barbara Savoia Star-Builder Scholarship Fund
Bennett Clarke Memorial Scholarship Fund	Grant & Irene Duncan Family Fund
Del Dilkie Leadership Fund	Iain Armstrong Memorial Leadership Grant
Edwin S. Cook Leadership Fund	Ivor & Mieke Lammerink YMCA Leadership Grant

Emerging Funds Funds are established with a cash gift and a commitment to grow the fund (minimum \$10,000) to support YMCA programs based on the donor's intentions.

Cecil & Helen Paull Scholarship Fund	Asim & Tori Chin Family Fund
David Nathan Kushner Memorial Fund	Investing in Youth Fund
PD Fund	Schmitt Family Fund

“Thank you!”

to our 255 Heritage Club members. With your support, the YMCA continues to meet the changing needs of all the regions we serve, developing stronger, healthier and more inclusive communities.

Allard Foundation Ltd*
Margaret Allen*
Charles & Lara Amerongen
Martin* & Angela Anderson
Anonymous (12)
Dianne & Mike Assaly
Stan^o & Mary^o Asselstine*
Joan & Monty Baker
Shirley & Tim Barry
Ivan & Anita Beljan
Carol Benoit
Bob & Ruth Bentley
Dave & Nish Bentley
Brian Beresh
Lorna & Louis Berlinguette
Reg D.* & Glenys Berry
Marek & Jolanta Biel
Kent & Jane Bittorf
Laurie S. Boadway
Rick & Debbie Boyd
Brad & Michelle Brindza
Janet Brown
Ron Brown* & Judy Harcourt
Michael & Michele Bull
William K. Butler*
Jack & Sylvia^o Chetner
Jacqueline Chiasson &
Tammy Goodwin
Tori & Asim Chin
Roy Chobotuck^o
Murial Clarke^o
John-Louis & Vivian Cloutier
Ed^o & Pat^o Cook
John Corlett & Beverley Boudreau
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Dean Cross & Holly Lazar-Cross
Dennis & Wilma Crough
Jean Crozier & Ron McKague^o
Sandi Darrell

Fred Delay^o
Roger Delbaere & Lynette Husum
Jeff DiBattista
Del Dilkie
Patrick Dinneen
Edie Dixon
Fred^o & Norah Dobing*
Len Dolgoy & Catherine Miller
John & Una Doyle
Robert L. Duke & Charlotte Robb
Grant^o & Irene^o Duncan
Pat Eidem
Herb^o & Jeanette Ellis
Joan & Jim Fargey
Robert J.^o & Anna K. Fee
Gerry & Carol Feist
George^o & Louise^o Ford
Phyllis^o & Eldon^o Fowler
Sam Friedman^o
Janet Giles* & Paul Fry^{o*}
Jan & Tim Haak
Susan & Brian Hall
Colin & Betty Ann^o Hatcher
Gord & Joanne Hearn
Jeremy & Liz Herbert
Dr. Albert E. (Bert) Hohol^o
Ada Hole
Larry & Kathleen Johnston*
Terry & Karin Johnston
Doug Jones^o
Gary & Joanne Jones
Heather Kennedy-Peddle &
Jerry Peddle
Allan & Sharon Kerr*
Terry & Charlene Kilburn*
Gord & June^o King
Glenna & Quinn Klaver
Mitch Klimove^o
John & Valerie Kok

David Kushner Family*
Winnie Kwok^o
Philip Lachambre & Cathy MacDonald
Ivor & Mieke Lammerink
Archie^o & Heather^o Langille*
Joanne LaVergne
Harvey & Rose Anne Lawton
John Lilley & Eileen Guilfoyle*
Allan & Donna Little
Monica Lomeland
Aart & Judy Looye
Audrey Luft*
William Lutsky^{o*}
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Ansel^o & Ruth Mark*
Al Maydonik^o & Bette-Anne Edwards*
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Irvine & Faye McKee
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Scot McLeod
Frank^o & Gail McMillan*
Angel McVittie
Tim Melton*
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Greg Michetti
Bonnie Mihalchan
Shauna Miller
Kay Mulcaster
Jack & Marilyn Mulkins*
Mary Anne Murphy^o
Mike & Bernice Myshak
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Esther Ondrack*
Peter & Sieka Pardee*
Nick & Jodi Parkinson
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Helen^o & Cecil Paull^{o*}
Phil & Barb Payne
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Bill Rees^{o*}
Al Reynolds
Dwayne & Salwa Samyia
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Robert C. Schaller^o
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John & Jacqueline Scivoletto
Dan^o & Mary Slaght
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Eric & Aimee Van Meurs
Allan & Elizabeth Wachowich
Carol & Greg Wagar
Bill^o & Betty Lou Weir*
Wanda Wetterberg^o
Irene Wood
Donna & Ron Worthington
Leona & Don Yez
Harold^o & Betty Zimmerman
Michael Zolf^o

Every effort has been made to ensure the names listed are correct. If any mistakes have been made, please accept our sincere apologies and let us know at giving@northernalberta.ymca.ca so we can correct for future recognition.

^o DECEASED | * CHARTER MEMBERS

YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation
10315 109 Street NW, Edmonton, AB, T5J 1N3
Ph: 780.423.7506
Charitable Registration # 89061 5974 RR0001

In Memoriam

With heavy hearts, we acknowledge and send our gratitude to the Heritage Club members whom we have lost this year. While they may be gone from our sight, they are never gone from our hearts.





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DONATE NOW!