



Burns
Memorial Fund

A legacy for Calgary's children

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

ABOUT US

Burns Memorial Fund is the legacy of Senator Patrick Burns—a Calgary pioneer and philanthropist who passed away in 1937. Today, we carry on his work through three Funds:

The Police and Fire Funds support the educational achievements of the children of police officers and firefighters.

The Children's Fund focuses on the health, education and recreation needs of low-income children and youth.

In the spirit of respect and reconciliation, Burns Memorial Fund acknowledges that we are based in Treaty 7 territory, the ancestral and traditional territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Stoney Nakoda Nations, and Métis Nation, Region 3.



"She does though carry herself with the confidence and calm that a little financial stability can bring to a life of nervous uncertainty. From my perspective it is noticeable and very positive. At least for now, it seems to be life changing. The Burns' Funding is creating space for her to do better at school, plan for, and carry through on actions to prepare for her future, and provide relief from a constant concern that prevented her from experiencing life with a growth mindset. Where there was despair, there is hope. It is wonderful to see.

I don't know if other factors are also involved in this change, however I believe the Burns' Funding is the key factor."

-Partnering high school counsellor on the success of a BMF High School Bursary student

"The Burns Memorial Scholarship has undoubtedly increased my ability to successfully attend a post-secondary institution...With this scholarship, I now no longer have to worry about the financial aspect of attending university and can fully participate in all the opportunities that come my way."

-Senator Patrick Burns Legacy Scholarship recipient

REPORTS FROM THE CHILDREN'S, FIRE, AND POLICE FUNDS

Senator Patrick Burns was well-known during his lifetime for his thoughtful and caring response to crisis, reaching out to help Albertans whenever tragedy struck.

In 2020, we experienced a crisis like no other. Fortunately, we were able to use Senator Burns' legacy to support our community through the uncertainty and tumult of a global pandemic.

Our charitable foundation, the Children's Fund, augmented its usual grants for low-income children and youth with special funds to support remote learning, helping to purchase laptops, printers, study desks and course materials. Grants were also issued for books, crafts, toys and equipment to help children engage in meaningful activities at home. Although funds for basic needs are not within the usual scope of the Families Moving Forward program, we provided grants so that parents could buy groceries and other necessities, easing some anxiety for those who were unable to work. The Police and Fire Funds also continued to operate uninterrupted, awarding post-secondary scholarships and special needs grants to the children of police officers and firefighters.

We remain proud stewards of Senator Burns' legacy in Calgary. His foresight and commitment to generations of Calgarians proved more important than ever in 2020.



Steve Dongworth,
Fire Chief
Chair, Burns Memorial
Fund and Burns Fire Fund



Katie Black,
Acting General Manager
Community Services,
City of Calgary
Chair, Burns Children's Fund



Mark Neufeld,
Police Chief
Chair, Burns Police
Fund



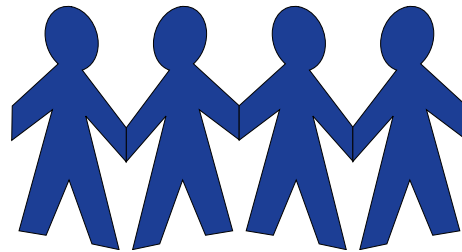
93 students, at risk of dropping out of grade 12 for financial reasons, received monthly living allowances. **7 students** in financial need were awarded post-secondary scholarships. **12 bursaries** helped youth transition into further education, training and employment.



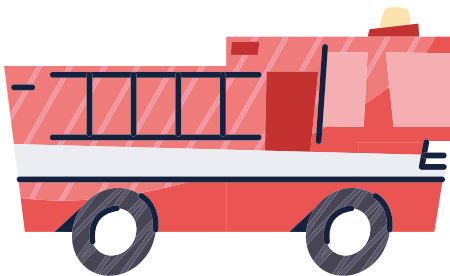
9 community agencies partnered with us in Families Moving Forward to meet the health, education and recreation needs of **206 low-income children and youth**.



25 children were assisted with orthodontic or oral health treatment costs.



13 charities, working with over **10,000 children and youth**, received Community Grants.



132 scholarships and **6 special needs grants** were awarded to the children of firefighters.



185 scholarships and **15 special needs grants** were provided to the children of police officers.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By now, we've all run out of adjectives to describe the past year. It was unprecedented, stressful and frightening, and yet there were many moments of grace when we saw the best in our community.

Throughout this report, we describe the multiple ways that Burns Memorial Fund rose to the challenge of a global pandemic. Our staff worked hard to ensure that our programs adapted and innovated to support Calgary's children and youth.

We could not have accomplished this without the unflagging support of our community partners. Despite the myriad difficulties that confronted schools in 2020, high school counsellors and success coaches continued to identify grade 12 students at risk and refer them to our High School Bursaries program. Our Families Moving Forward partners, all community agencies coping with their own stressors and issues, kept sending families to our program. Dental offices and other health professionals maintained the referral process so that we could support the oral health treatment of low-income children and youth.

And our larger community collaborations adapted as well. The Collaborative Funders' Table sustained, and in fact strengthened, its commitment to addressing youth employment issues in Calgary. While some of the Table's funded projects had to pause temporarily because of public health orders, all are operational again. Our Natural Supports work gained momentum, as the pandemic made us all realize the importance of family and community supports in times of crisis.

Thank you to our many dedicated partners. It was a privilege to work by your side in this extraordinary year.



**Michelle Clarke,
Executive Director
Burns Memorial Fund**

STAFF



Michelle Clarke,
Executive Director



Jackie Davis,
Office Manager



Charlotte Chesnut,
Grants Administrator



Kendall Quantz,
Grants Manager



Sidrah Anees,
*Communications &
Grants Coordinator*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Chief Steve Dongworth
*Chair, Burns Memorial
Fund, Burns Fire Fund
Fire Chief, City of Calgary*



Jill S. Floen
*Vice-Chair, Burns
Memorial Fund,
City Solicitor and
General Counsel,
City of Calgary*



Katie Black
*Chair, Burns Children's Fund
Acting General Manager,
Community Services,
City of Calgary*



Chief Mark Neufeld
*Chair, Burns Police Fund
Police Chief, City of
Calgary*



Carla Male
*Chief Financial Officer,
Finance,
City of Calgary*



John Orr
*President, Calgary
Police Association*



Codey McIntyre
*President, Calgary
Firefighters Association*



His Worship Mayor
Naheed Nenshi
City of Calgary

"[This program] made us all feel a sense peace knowing we didn't need to stress about money for those extra things. My kids also seem to be [prouder] of Mom because she was able to give them something they wouldn't normally get."

-Families Moving Forward program participant

WHAT A YEAR IT'S BEEN

For the past ten years, Burns Memorial Fund has been engaged in natural supports work in one form or another. Whether it was helping to develop the Natural Supports Practice Framework, funding community grants to support the implementation of this framework in Calgary youth-serving agencies, or working with policy fellows to explore upstream approaches and applications of the concept, we have been consistently working towards a more naturally supportive Calgary.

This past year, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to live in a way that left many of us feeling isolated, disconnected, and unsupported. Throughout this difficult time, our community and natural supports acted as a lifeline. Our policy fellows, Nancy Reynolds and Dr. Suzanne Tough, define natural supports as "mutual relationships that include close connections, such as family and friends, and broader connections, such as neighbours and coaches. Natural supports can lessen the effects of stress and difficult experiences by providing opportunities for learning, as well as receiving encouragement and advice." (connectionsfirst.ca/what-are-natural-supports)

Today, we're highlighting how adopting a flexible approach through the pandemic allowed us to provide responsive programming that honours natural supports principles.



When schools moved online last spring, all students experienced the sudden shrinking of their worlds, but for those who lived alone – the impact was enormous. Students whose natural supports were all found at school experienced almost total isolation. Monthly check-ins have always been part of our High School Bursaries program, but these chats took on a much greater significance for many students in the pandemic. Through video and phone calls, students could ask questions, express their fears, and get access to supports they needed to be safe and successful.

When the first lockdown happened, a few students related in their regular check-in calls that they had little food in their homes but they were fearful to go out because they didn't have masks. BMF put out a call to the community and received several generous donations of masks, which we were then able to distribute to all our program participants (and their families). This seemingly small act of community generosity made a huge difference in alleviating the isolation of our students and families. With the removal of this barrier to connection, our program participants had more freedom to safely engage with their communities.

Over the past year, many of the families in our programs have had to deal with school closures and quarantines. During this time, it was difficult for families to find fun and engaging things for their children to do at home. Families who would normally turn to the library and other community programs for books, activities, and events for their children struggled when they were unable to access these supports. To help bridge the gap, BMF offered funds specifically for craft supplies and books. One of our families used this funding to purchase clay and paints, making clay discs (pictured right) which they hung up around their neighbourhood to cheer up other residents.



Continued on next page.

What started as funding for a fun at-home activity became a way for this family to engage with and uplift their own community. In our natural supports work, we often talk about fostering communities of kindness and support, and to be able to see this happen in real time was a great reminder of the impact that small actions (and small grants!) can have on whole neighbourhoods.

Approaching our work with kindness, understanding, and humanity allows us to support children, youth and families in an empathic and responsive manner. During the past year, this has often meant redirecting funding and resources to help reconnect individuals to their social networks and natural supports. The best part of our work is seeing the individuals in our programs go on to support their communities. We have witnessed this with our scholarship students, who year after year enter post-secondary institutions focused and eager to use what they learn to make the world a better place. We see this with our families, who look forward to giving back to the same programs that helped them through difficult times.

A similar commitment motivates our collaborative partners and agencies, who are able to transform ideas and funding into long-lasting community impact projects. We are truly honored to be able to work with the individuals in our programs, our community members, and our colleagues from across the city, and we look forward to continuing this work for years to come.



Image: [JMacPherson](#)

PARTNERS & FRIENDS

A sincere thank you to all of our partners and donors. Together, we build a strong community for children and youth in Calgary.

Funding Partners and Donors

- Calgary Foundation
- Calgary Neighbourhoods, City of Calgary
- Chris Good
- Integro Legacy Fund
- JPMorgan Chase Foundation
- Louise Roblin and Martin Campbell
- Max Bell Foundation
- Michelle Clarke and Chris Gadsby
- Pam Andrew Marks High School Bursary Fund
- RBC Foundation
- Ruth Ramsden-Wood Education Fund
- United Way of Calgary and Area
- United Way of Calgary, Donor Choice Program
- Watson Family Foundation at The Calgary Foundation

Grant Recipients

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Calgary and Area
- Brenda Strafford Society for the Prevention of Domestic Violence
- Calgary Interfaith Food Bank
- Calgary John Howard Society
- Calgary Reads
- CCVO
- Centre for Sexuality
- CUPS Calgary Society
- McMan Youth Family and Community Services - Calgary and Area
- Miskanawah
- Pacekids Society for Children with Special Needs
- Stephen's Backpacks Society
- Trellis

Families Moving Forward Partners

- Calgary Catholic Immigration Society
- Calgary Immigrant Women's Association
- Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society
- Enviros
- North East Family Connections Society
- Salvation Army
- South East Calgary Community Resource Centre
- Trellis
- YW Calgary



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Trustees of Burns Memorial Fund:

Opinion

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020 and the statement of operations are derived from the audited financial statements of the following individual funds (collectively referred to as the "Funds") of Burns Memorial Fund for the year ended 31 December 2020:

1. The Burns Memorial Fund for Children
2. The Burns Memorial Fire Fund
3. The Burns Memorial Police Fund

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are a fair summary of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit. However, we were not able to determine if any adjustments to the summary financial statements were necessary for the reasons described in *The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon* section of this audit report.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for Not-for-Profit. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the following audited individual fund financial statements and individual auditor's reports of Burns Memorial Fund:

1. The Burns Memorial Fund for Children
2. The Burns Memorial Fire Fund
3. The Burns Memorial Police Fund

The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements of the Funds do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements of the Funds.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary of the audited financial statements of the Funds in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for Not-for-Profit organizations.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements of the Funds based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS 810), *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Calgary, Alberta
March 12, 2021

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Burns Memorial Fund Summarized Statement of Financial Position As at December 31, 2020

	Children		Fire		Police	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
Assets						
Current						
Cash	\$ 151,696	\$ 212,004	\$ 96,743	\$ 50	\$ 11,085	\$ 50
Short term investments	-	67,023	-	75,069	-	55,901
Due from Fire Fund	219,000	148,207	-	-	-	-
Due from Police Fund	80,000	81,053	-	-	-	-
Interest receivable	3,018	3,760	4,468	5,189	3,355	3,895
Goods and service tax recoverable	1,177	930	-	-	-	-
Prepaid expenses	1,892	598	892	597	892	597
	456,783	513,575	102,103	80,905	15,332	60,443
Investments	1,701,257	1,716,032	1,774,811	1,771,980	1,319,552	1,300,368
Property and equipment	1,474	4,730	1,471	4,727	1,471	4,727
	\$ 2,159,514	\$ 2,234,337	\$ 1,878,385	\$ 1,857,612	\$ 1,336,355	\$ 1,365,538
Liabilities and Net Assets						
Current liabilities						
Due to Children Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 219,000	\$ 148,207	\$ 80,000	\$ 81,053
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	11,978	13,232	10,811	9,444	10,809	9,444
Grants payable	1,086,445	1,124,950	72,702	55,400	114,205	130,034
	1,098,423	1,138,182	302,513	213,051	205,014	220,531
Deferred contributions	23,707	32,136	-	-	-	-
	1,122,130	1,170,318	302,513	213,051	205,014	220,531
Net Assets						
Operating reserve	\$ 481,299	\$ 594,149	\$ 896,011	\$ 1,105,989	\$ 622,690	\$ 768,690
Opportunity reserve	554,611	465,140	678,390	533,845	507,180	371,590
Invested in property and equipment	1,474	4,730	1,471	4,727	1,471	4,727
	1,037,384	1,064,019	1,575,872	1,644,561	1,131,341	1,145,007
	\$ 2,159,514	\$ 2,234,337	\$ 1,878,385	\$ 1,857,612	\$ 1,336,355	\$ 1,365,538

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Burns Memorial Fund Summarized Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended December 31, 2020

	Children		Fire		Police	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
Revenue						
Income from Burns						
Memorial Trust	\$402,037	\$405,633	\$402,037	\$405,633	\$402,037	\$405,633
Donations and grants	210,876	221,676	-	-	-	-
Cost recovery (partnership)	35,000	40,000	-	-	-	-
Investment and other income	53,143	54,398	55,980	59,621	41,531	45,661
	701,056	721,707	458,017	465,254	443,568	451,294
Expenses						
Grants	549,009	584,385	353,850	412,700	277,200	383,819
Program and facility costs	167,456	212,315	160,661	176,170	161,117	171,170
Professional fee	27,307	26,671	25,985	26,000	25,426	25,743
Amortization	4,669	8,542	4,671	8,543	4,670	8,543
	748,441	831,913	545,167	623,413	468,413	589,275
Deficiency of revenue over expenses before other items	(47,385)	(110,206)	(87,150)	(158,159)	(24,845)	(137,981)
Other items						
Unrealized gain on investments	31,426	172,841	31,922	171,414	19,932	119,358
Realized gain (loss) on disposal of investments	(10,676)	24,052	(13,461)	43,064	(8,753)	44,442
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(26,635)	86,687	(68,689)	56,319	(13,666)	25,819
Net assets - beginning of year	1,064,019	977,332	1,644,561	1,588,242	1,145,007	1,119,188
Net assets - end of year	\$ 1,037,384	\$ 1,064,019	\$ 1,575,872	\$ 1,644,561	\$ 1,131,341	\$ 1,145,007



[Image: JMacPherson](#)

**Thank you for
your continued
support!**



Burns Memorial Fund
1120 - 105 12 Ave SE
Calgary, AB T2G 1A1

T: (403) 234-9396
E: info@burnsfund.com
www.burnsfund.com



[@BurnsFund](https://twitter.com/BurnsFund)



[/BurnsFund](https://facebook.com/BurnsFund)



[@BurnsFund](https://instagram.com/BurnsFund)