**Catherine Wilson Foundation**

 **Annual Report**

**2016**

The Catherine Wilson Foundation was established in 1998 (incorporation date of Dec. 11 1998) by Catherine Wilson and associates. Ms. Wilson was a high school teacher for over 35 years at Sarnia Collegiate Institute & Technical School (S.C.I.T.S.) located in Sarnia, Ontario. She was one of the first financial sponsors in support of the recruitment of doctors to the Sarnia area. She supported vision care in Sarnia as a result of her own experience with vision issues. Upon her death the balance of her estate was donated to her Foundation with the board of directors acting as the trustees of her estate.

**Vision Statement**

The Catherine Wilson Foundation will promote a sense of community by being a champion to both individuals and organizations in reaching their full potential.

**Mission Statement**

The Catherine Wilson Foundation is committed to improving the quality of life of the citizens of Sarnia Lambton by providing scholarships and agency grants.

**Values**

* Integrity and accountability
* Caring and compassion
* Responsiveness to the community
* Empowerment of others

**Fields of Interest**

* Education, particularly Sarnia Collegiate Institute & Technical School
* Children, Youth and Family
* Health, Social and Community Services

**Presidents Message**

*Again, as Board President, it is my distinct honour and privilege to report to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of The Catherine Wilson Foundation on the work undertaken by the Board this past year.*

*The Board continues to ascribe to its primary function, to assist organizations within our community in the delivery of service to youth and education by providing grants to social service agencies, church organizations and educational facilities. These programs are so crucial to our community and were such a primary consideration for Catherine Wilson as an educator and member of the Sarnia community during her lifetime.*

*The Board continued to focus on Great Lakes Secondary School (combined schools of S.C.I.T.S. and St. Clair Secondary) for example, as a recipient by providing funding for Scholarships, for Library books and programs, and for Athletics and after School Activities. All of these areas enhance the educational experience at the high school that Catherine Wilson taught at for decades.*

*Other recipients such as Rebound, CNIB and St. Andrews Church all provide service to the community in such a fashion that would please Catherine Wilson if she was here today, and they are agencies and institutions that she supported in her lifetime. The Foundation is and should continue to a reflection of her ideals.*

*The Board has retained the services of Mary Ellen Warren to assist in the administrative side of the function of the Foundation. Mary Ellen has developed a Web Site for the Foundation and implemented a method of accepting applications for grants through that site.*

*Mary Ellen also assisted in a review of the Foundation’s governance documents and as a result, an update of the governance documents and procedures was completed in the past year.*

*The Board has also added a fourth member, Scott McKelvie, who has many years of experience in the education sector and has participated in charitable work in the community throughout his career. His insight and connections have already proven invaluable.*

*The Board continues to develop strategies for satisfying grant requests that best suit the purpose of the Foundation and with the assistance of Mary Ellen and Scott McKelvie, we look forward to expanding the impact this Foundation will have in our community.*

*My thanks to the Board Members, Executive Director Mary Ellen Warren, and all those associated with the Foundation this past year and in the future*

*June 19th 2017*

*John Ruffilli*

*Board President.*

**Members of the Board of Directors 2016**

**William Chong** is President and owner of Haines Printing in Sarnia.

**John Ruffilli** is a practicing Sarnia Lawyer and Partner at George Murray Shipley Bell LLP.

**Dr. Gordon Warren** is a practicing Optometrist and owner of Sarnia Optometric and Sarnia Vision Centre.

**Scott McKelvie** is a retired principal from the Lambton-Kent District School Board. Being a life-long resident of Sarnia, Scott is committed to enhancing the lives of its residents.

**Grant Recipients 2016**

Sarnia Lambton Rebound: rlounge $30,000

Huron House Boys Home Psychological Services $12,000

Community Concerns for the Medically Fragile Interactive Programs $10,000

Organization for Literacy Brigden Skill + Drill and Cyber Seniors $ 3,000

Inn of Good Shepherd Backpack Program $ 4,000

St. Andrews Church Steeple Repair $10,000

Great Lakes Secondary School Athletic Program $ 9,000

Great Lakes Secondary School Scholarships $21,000

Catherine Wilson Library $ 5,000

 **TOTAL $104.000**

**Financial Statements 2016**

See attached statements as prepared by Hazlitt Steeves Harris Dunn LLP