

# 2021 Annual Report

### Empowering our children to change the world

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343 York Lanes, York University 4700 Keele Street, North York, ON • M3J 1P3 1.877.250.8202

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### **ABOUT LSF**

Learning for a Sustainable Future® (LSF) is a Canadian charity founded in 1991. Working with businesses, governments, school boards, universities, communities, educators, and youth across Canada, LSF's programs and partnerships are helping students learn to address the increasingly difficult economic, social, and environmental challenges of the 21st century.

### **OUR TEAM**

LSF's team is comprised of a strong national board of directors, experienced staff and consultants from across the country, and graduate researchers from leading Canadian universities.

### **OUR MISSION**

LSF's mission is to promote, through education, the knowledge, skills, values, perspectives, and practices essential to a sustainable future.

### **OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

- Advancing Education Policy, Standards and Good Practice
- Supporting Educators
- Empowering Youth
- Supporting Bright Spots of Innovation



LSF supports the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals through our programs and partnerships.

### SUSTAINABLE GOALS

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND PRESIDENT/CEO**

2021 marked LSF's 30th anniversary. It was another challenging year with education systems across Canada in constant flux grappling with ever changing COVID-19 impacts. LSF continuously adapted to these challenges, significantly growing both our offerings and our reach!

In 2021, LSF was thrilled to be awarded \$3.778 million over 5 years as one of 10 organizations selected by the Government of Canada's Environmental Damages Fund to receive support under its Climate Action and Awareness Fund. Our project, Empowering Youth for Climate Action, will increase climate change knowledge, understanding, and action for approximately 1,125,600 students and teachers across Canada through Youth Forums, Action Projects and professional development and resources for teachers. As well, LSF, with support from Leger and the Canadian Teachers' Federation has launched our second climate change education survey. The results are expected in the spring of 2022.

Through our research, websites, webinars, Youth Forums and Action Projects we supported 217,000 educators, 2,000 schools representing 700,000 students, 53 Faculties of Education and 100 policy leaders in 2021.

As we start a new year, we are optimistic that our schools will continue to be safe places to learn. We are grateful to our Board of Directors, staff, consultants and our funders who maintained their support for us during these challenging times. We feel privileged to be able to support the incredible work that is happening across Canada to empower our children to change the world!



Queen Largely

Susan Langley Chair

Pamela Schwartzberg President & CEO



# ADVANCING EDUCATION POLICY STANDARDS AND GOOD PRACTICE



# **OUR GOAL**

Education policy, regulations, and operational frameworks that support Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

# OUR STATS2653100MINISTRIESFACULTIES OFPOLICYENGAGEDEDUCATIONLEADERS

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Hosted the 2021 Dr. David V.J. Bell Memorial Lecture in February featuring 4 experts on the topic: Perspectives on climate change, the role of education, and the implications of COVID-19
- Launched a follow up survey to the 2019 Canada, Climate Change and Education Survey in partnership with Leger and the Canadian Teachers' Federation



# **DR. DAVID V.J. BELL MEMORIAL LECTURE**

### What people are saying...

"I found it quite inspiring and am always amazed at the great work leaders are doing with respect to sustainability. The panelists were fantastic and presented a well rounded view of how different groups can engage in sustainability initiatives and become educated on sustainability in general"

- Roxanne Chartrand, CHRL | EVP, Strategy and Administration, Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan



"It was a pleasure to participate in the dialogue. My congratulations and thanks to you for the work that you do for climate change education."

- Patricia Fuller, Canada's Ambassador for Climate Change



"I found all the speakers to be very knowledgeable and inspiring! I really appreciated the work that went into organizing such a diverse panel; so important when the problem of climate change is so dynamic and broad."

- Lindsay Sargent, Let's Talk Science

# **SUPPORTING EDUCATORS**

# **OUR GOAL**

Educators with the tools and competencies to teach through an Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) lens.



# OUR STATS

### 216,856

EDUCATORS SUPPORTED



SCHOOL BOARDS ENGAGED WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

105

1,393

CONNECTING THE DOTS RESOURCES DISTRIBUTED



# HIGHLIGHTS

- Engaged **3,598 educators** in webinars on outdoor learning, sustainability, and climate change
- Added **154 English** and **49 French** teaching resources to R4R.ca
- Launched Empowering Learners in a Warming World for grade 7-12 students with **2,682 visitors**
- Developed 8 Thinking Forward Toolkits for Building Classroom Communities in a Pandemic World
- Engaged **6,919 subscribers** with bi-weekly Step Outside nature guides
- Engaged **4,386 subscribers** with weekly Learning Inside Out activity guides

















# **LSF WORKSHOPS & RESOURCES**

### What teachers are saying about...



### EMPOWERING LEARNERS IN A WARMING WORLD (CLIMATELEARNING.CA)

"LSF has come up with a well-designed resource that teachers can use right away to explore the many dimensions of climate change with their students in a way that is engaging and respectful."

"I think you've made a science-backed vital resource that is ready for teachers to use."

### **RESOURCES FOR RETHINKING**

"This resource and all resources from LSF are relevant, easily adaptable, and fantastic."

### **OUR WEBINARS**

"This was the best use of my time in a long while – shared with all my peers and worthy of going to many times over as the people attending help make the difference. WELL DONE!"

"Thank you for an eye opening and 'outside the box' experience"



# **EMPOWERING YOUTH**



# **OUR GOAL**

Empower youth with the knowledge, skills, values, perspectives, and practices essential for a sustainable future.

### **OUR STATS**

283 CLASSES AND 7,863 STUDENTS ENGAGED IN YOUTH FORUMS 70 FUNDED ACTION PROJECTS IMPACTED 695 TEACHERS AND 14,425 STUDENTS

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Hosted 11 virtual Youth Forums on topics including climate change, water and the Sustainable Development Goals, increasing our reach and connecting students to experts from coast to coast to coast
- LSF's virtual Climate Change Youth Forums recognized as the 2022 Clean50 Top Project
- 1,003 Action Projects featured on Our Canada Project





# **YOUTH FORUMS & ACTION PROJECTS**

### What participants are saying...

"Last year when we started this project in our school, we started from nothing. And by June, we had gotten a major grant to build a greenhouse. Now we're selling our first harvest at the local store. We have an edible food forest, we have 2 pollinator gardens with an active beehive and one main vegetable garden going. Canning and preserving happened in the fall with the kids selling their creations at the local farmers market. We have vermicomposting and a 3-tiered compost system for the whole school... and all of this started from just signing up for the Youth Forum last year and supporting our students with environmental actions.

It's amazing how you can start from almost nothing and really not knowing where to begin, to it really taking off—if you just let the kids go with it. It's amazing what they come up with!"





# **ACTION PROJECT AWARDS**

### Duffins' Defenders: DDSB@Home Elementary - Ajax, ON

This all-virtual class wanted to protect their local wetland, Duffins Creek, from a proposed development. The students interviewed key stakeholders and became experts on the importance of the wetland, reviewed the Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) that was fast-tracking the development, and investigated the lack of consultation with the local First Nation. They wrote a petition that was read into the legislature. As a result, the MZO was revoked and the development halted! They chronicled their Project in a documentary film that won Best Project in the 2021 Water Docs at School film festival.





A Sustainable Future: Alvin A. McKay Elementary – Laxgalts'ap, BC This school in Northern BC wanted to promote healthy eating habits amongst their students, increase their interests in working outdoors, and connect students to their culture through food preservation. Students started a composting program and planted and harvested garlic, herbs and potatoes. Students used the dried herbs to make cold-pressed soap, and tomatoes and peppers to make spaghetti sauce for their student learning feast. Leftover produce was sent home to families.

### **#YKYOUTH4CLIMATE:** Sir John Franklin High - Yellowknife, NT

The SJF Green Team partnered with Ecology North to lead a social media fundraising campaign, raising \$1,382 for the Nature Conservancy of Canada. During Earth Week, they designed and delivered over 45 presentations (virtually and in-person, in French and English) at every elementary and middle school in their district! The plan to host a Walk for Climate outside the NWT Legislative Assembly, engaging the younger students, members of the NWT Legislative Assembly and the Mayor of Yellowknife was delayed due to COVID-19.



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# **SUPPORTING BRIGHT SPOTS OF INNOVATION**

### **OUR GOAL**

Stakeholders at all levels working together to support Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) innovation and advancement.



# **OUR STATS**

\$8,000

AWARDED VIA EARTH STEWARD TEACHING AWARDS SUSTAINABLE FUTURE SCHOOLS ACROSS CANADA

6

### HIGHLIGHTS

\$7,500

**AWARDED TO OUTSTANDING** 

**ACTION PROJECTS** 

- Sustainable Future Schools initiative expanded to 5 additional schools
- Article in EdCan Magazine: A Whole School Approach to Teaching with the SDGs
- Earth Steward Teaching Awards recognized 4 teachers from Ontario and Alberta
- LSF-RCBC Our Canada Project Award recognized 6 outstanding student Action Projects
- Best Film and Best Project recognized through the Water Docs at School program

### **SUSTAINABLE FUTURE SCHOOL: BELFOUNTAIN P.S**

### What the teachers are saying ...

"The highlight is definitely the discoveries and connections. The learning is more meaningful and impactful. Students feel they have the ability to become problem solvers and make a difference. It's enriching and empowering."

"I have really enjoyed seeing the connections students are making to the SDGs. They have also asked how whatever we are learning about fits in with the SDGs. It has been exciting to see how easily the kindies have accepted the SDGs into their everyday learning, it actually seems really easy to be honest."



# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Susan Langley, LSF CHAIR, Former Secretary Treasurer Ontario Teachers' Federation | Bob Bernhardt, LSF VICE CHAIR, President & CEO Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine | Janet Bobechko, Partner, Certified Specialist Environmental Law, WeirFoulds LLP | Carolee Buckler, Manager Planning and Performance, Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning | Shirley Chan, Order of British Columbia | Paul Cuthbert, Cuthbert Consulting | Frances Edmonds, Head of Sustainable Impact, HP Canada | Judy Fantham, Executive Director, Newcomer Women's Services | Peter Fuchs, Vice President

Corporate Affairs, Glencore Nickel | **Brenda Green**, CEO and Director of Education, Ile-a-la-Crosse School Division | **Jessica Iida**, Senior Consultant, Sustainability and Climate Change, Deloitte | **Alex** 

Ikejiani, Lawyer Department of Justice Canada | Sheila Innes, former General Manager Indigenous & Community Relations, Suncor | Marilyn Lambert-Drache, Associate Professor, York University | Jean Piette, Lawyer | Carly Welham, Community Based Researcher

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As approved by the LSF Board of Directors on May 12, 2022

Balance	Sheet
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As of December 31, 2021

ASSETS	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	379,689	109,042
Short-term Investments	1,413,886	1,186,582
Accounts Receivable	164,401	34,325
Prepaid Expenses	3,063	3,063
HST Receivable	10,453	6,365
	1,971,492	1,339,377
EQUIPMENT	2,758	5,738
	1,974,250	1,345,115
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2021	2020
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	57,401	55,961
Deferred Contributions	738,529	375,592
	795,930	431,553
LONG-TERM	170,700	401,000
Long-Term Loan Payable	40,000	40, 000
	835,930	<b>4</b> 0, 000 <b>471,553</b>
	033,930	471,555
NET ASSETS		
Internally Restricted	300,000	300,000
Unrestricted	838,320	573,562
	1,138,320	873,562
	1,974,250	1,345,115
SURPLUS	2021	2020
Surplus at the Beginning of the Year	573,562	360,457
Excess Revenue over other Expenses	264,758	213, 105
SURPLUS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	838, 320	573,562
REVENUE	2021	2020
Grants, Contributions and Donations	973,978	706,720
In-kind Donations	78,727	75,881
Resource Revenue	2,710	1,266
Interest	7,449	9,283
Government Assistance	121,793	105,202
Forgiveness of Debt	-	20,000
	1,184,657	918,352
EXPENSES	2021	2020
Policies and Curricula	18,784	125,853
Teaching Resources and Workshops	95,093	123,503
Youth Engagement	412,548	426,453
Climate Change Initiative	343,068	_
Administrative	50,406	45,441
	919,899	705,247
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	264,758	213,105
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**Statement of Operations** For the year ended December 31, 2021

# **Partners**











Alberta Council for Environmental Education

RONMENTAL EDUCATION IN ALBERTA









ADVANCING



















NEW BRUNSWICK ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK RÉSEAU ENVIRONNEMENTAL DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK





# Funders

### Sustaining

