

# 2025

YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation

**IMPACT REPORT** 



Tim Haak
Board Chair
YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation





Nick Parkinson
President & CEO
YMCA of Northern Alberta

Much Parkinson

### A message from the President & CEO and Board Chair

This fall, YMCA Canada published research into the critical role the Y plays in building a sense of community to address the growing issue of loneliness among people of all ages.

The results revealed that 3 in 4 young Canadians ages 18–34 say they lack a sense of community and belonging, which negatively impacts their well-being. And 75% of those surveyed believe that common spaces outside of home, work or school where they can gather and connect are the key to building the community they desperately need.

For over 118 years our Y has been providing those safe spaces for people of all ages to connect and belong regardless of their income or identity.

From swimming and summer camps to fitness and recreation, our 4 Health, Fitness & Aquatics centres are vibrant hubs of connection where more than 17,000 members can pursue lifelong well-being. Thousands more participate in life-enhancing programs at our 3 community centres.

Every day, more than 2,800 children and youth attend 61 YMCA Child Care programs across northern Alberta. They're learning skills for the future in an environment that sparks imagination and encourages their healthy development.

Our 36 YMCA Community outreach programs help children, youth, adults and families overcome barriers in the areas of mental health, employment, wellness, housing and newcomer settlement. These programs are a critical lifeline when people need it most.

This year, we not only delivered on our promise to be a place where everyone belongs, but because of our community's support we're able to make plans for a strong and sustainable future.

Our Foundation Board, volunteers and Heritage Club members (past, present and future donors), are proud to support the great work of the Y, which helps thousands of Albertans on their journey toward vibrant, resilient and connected lives.

Thanks to you, the Y can equip children and youth for a bright future, help newcomers and vulnerable people find belonging and create spaces that ignite potential.

Thanks to you, the Y can reach those who need connection, spark positive change in their well-being and the health of their community.

This year, we have helped thousands of children, youth, families and community members shine at the YMCA.

Thank you.

### 2025 Impact at a Glance

Operating in 4 regions:

**Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Red Deer and Wood Buffalo** 





### **Everyone deserves the opportunity to shine**













### All made possible by







# Kylee's Story

# A gift for the future of her community

Like so many young people, Kylee Schmitt grew up at the Y. From taking swimming lessons to attending summer camp, Kylee spent a lot of time at the YMCA from a very young age. She continues to be a YMCA member as a young adult, staying active by taking group fitness classes.

"I've always had the Y behind me in some way, shape or form," she explains.

Kylee feels connected to the principal of accessibility that the Y holds dear — the fact that everyone can have a YMCA experience, regardless of income or identity resonates with her. As a kid, she and her best friend would make beaded keychains to sell and donate the proceeds to the YMCA, her first experience with philanthropy.

"Everyone deserves to have someone there for them. Everyone deserves to have access to the facility, to work out, to talk to people. Whether you need child care or just a safe space," Kylee says. "Growing up and being in that environment, I was so fortunate that I could go and do those activities. And now

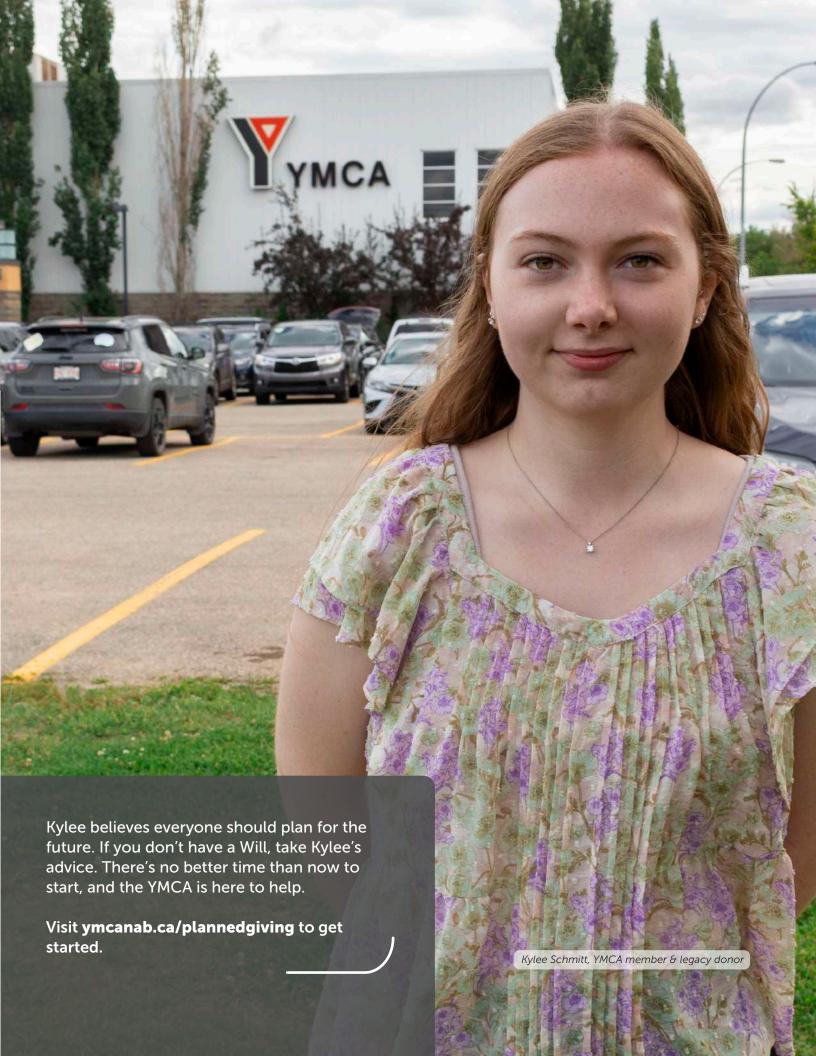
I'm able to give back and let other people have what I had."

After losing a close friend unexpectedly, Kylee began reflecting on the precariousness of life and decided to look into getting her Will done. YMCA of Northern Alberta has partnered with Willfora to offer free, legal Wills to anyone over 18, which Kylee used to make her arrangements.

"It doesn't have to be scary," Kylee says. "It did a really good job of making it not as gloomy as people probably think it is."

Kylee's Will includes a gift to the YMCA, something very important to her. By giving this way, Kylee has the power to create a lasting impact on her community, while still taking care of her loved ones.

"Just being able to know that when that time comes, I helped in any way I could," she says. "If you are in a position where you can give back to your community in the future, I think it's one of the best things you can do."







When we ignite the potential in our youth, the whole community shines.

When there's a need in our community, the YMCA steps up to help. Recently, national YMCA research has confirmed what we've already seen in our communities: that more than any other group, young people aged 18–34 lack a sense of community and belonging. More than ever, they're feeling lonely and isolated, feelings that negatively impact their mental and physical well-being.

But we're the Y — providing community and belonging to young people is the foundation of our mission.

R, Ben, program participant, Aaron, rogram Manager, at Kickstand Edmonton

It's why we were so proud to open the city's first integrated youth services hub in West Edmonton Mall in January of 2025 in partnership with Kickstand and the Mental Health Foundation.

Kickstand Edmonton is a one-stop shop for youth to find free mental health resources, including counselling, primary health care, Indigenous wellness services, peer support and social services. YMCA of Northern Alberta is proud to be the lead agency here, operating the day-to-day and bringing more than 20 service-providers together under one roof for youth to find what they need.

When Ben, a Kickstand participant, first came into the centre, he was apprehensive. "It was one of those things that seemed too good to be true," he remembers, thinking of how friendly the Kickstand team was when they welcomed him in. And while traditional clinical settings can be intimidating or expensive, the process of getting support at Kickstand was as easy and walking in the door.

Now Ben comes to Kickstand three times a week — for weekly therapy, games with friends and to socialize and help out where he can. The community he has found extends beyond Kickstand's doors as Ben and the people he has met there connect outside of the space and have developed true, meaningful friendships.

"These are connections that I wouldn't have had if I went any other place," Ben says. "[We] accept and validate each other's experiences and know that we're not alone."

Feeling alone in their mental health is a common challenge for youth, as the YMCA's Program Manager for Mental Health, Aaron Teel explains. "They feel like nobody thinks the way I do. Nobody feels that way. And that's challenging, to seek help if you think you're locked in," he says.

Kickstand was built in consultation with youth, ensuring they feel at home in a space that was purpose-built to help them thrive. Youth have had a voice in every aspect of the space, whether that was design, amenities or even how they access services.

The space features a large mural, which was developed by a local artist who worked with the youth and even involved them in painting it. It reflects youth coming together through community, belonging and creativity to shape a brighter path for mental health across Alberta

At the YMCA, we know that youth are the future of our community. Accepting youth for who they are, helping them explore a positive path and supporting them where they need it has ripple effects through the entire community. Future-ready youth build bright futures for us all.

Kickstand Edmonton is a testament to what we can accomplish when we rally together around a big idea. When you give to the YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation, support for vital initiatives like this one can grow year after year. Thanks to donors, supporters and partners, Kickstand has changed the lives of hundreds of youth this year — and we're ready to ignite the potential in thousands more in the future.



## **Volunteer Leadership YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation**

### YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation – Governance

Tim Haak, Chair Jeremy Herbert Megan Normandeau Rahim Adatia Michael Donlevy\* Emmanuel Nzeyimana

Joan Baker Robyn Eeson<sup>1</sup> Nick Parkinson

Rajan Bhatti\* Alexandria Fisher\* Jean-Jacques Tremblay

Holli Bjerland\* Deborah McKinnon

Brent Buchanan Darryl McGavigan \*Resigned since last publication

<sup>1</sup>Term ended late 2024

### YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation — Investment Committee

Brent Buchanan, Chair Bob McColl

Doug Cronk Kent Winterfield

Nick Parkinson

### Thank you, Volunteers

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

We appreciate all the dedicated members of the YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation and the Investment Advisory Committee who steward the funds entrusted to our care, helping to grow the endowment through new, current and future gifts.

### **The Power of Endowment**

Endowment giving has the power to inspire and create transformational change. It will make an impact for generations to come... into perpetuity. In just 16 years, a fund that started with a gift of \$21,500 has now disbursed \$20,366 to support YMCA of Northern Alberta programs and has a current balance of \$34,802.

### **Heritage Club Members**

The Heritage Club was established to honour and celebrate the generous individuals who are currently supporting or have pledged future gifts to the YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation.

All contributions to the Foundation are directed into an endowment fund, where the principal is invested. A portion of the annual investment income supports YMCA of Northern Alberta activities, while the remaining income is reinvested to ensure sustained growth. This ongoing growth allows the fund to expand over time, leading

to increased disbursements each year, indefinitely.

This year we are delighted to welcome the following to our growing list of Heritage Club Members: The Cassidy Family, Kurt Robak, The Neff Family, Amber Niemeier, Kylee Schmitt, Ashton & Siahra Raeyr and Derek Bleackley & Laura Svajlenko.

We also celebrate and recognize the life and legacy of Jim Hardy. The Jim Hardy Memorial Fund was created this year with his generous planned estate gift.

### Give the give of a lifetime by planning today!

A YMCA planned giving donor incorporates a provision in their estate plan to benefit the mission and activities of the Y. This ensures the impact that echoes their personal values today can continue on. Planning today keeps your generosity of spirit alive in the community you love forever. Planned gifts come to us in the way that best suits the donor and their estate, most commonly a gift in a Will, cash, life insurance, RRSP/RRIFs or securities.

Choosing to give this way creates a lasting legacy while considering your family's needs. It's a gift that spans generations.

We are here to answer your questions, offer suggestions and support you as you explore whether this kind of giving might be right for you, now or in the future.

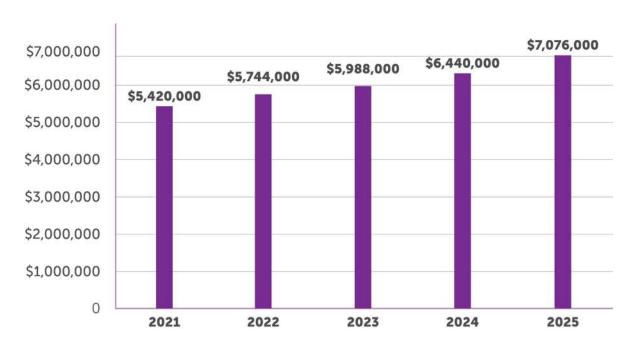


**Laura Svajlenko Planned Giving Specialist**e: Laura.Svajlenko@ymcanab.ca
p: 780.499.3627

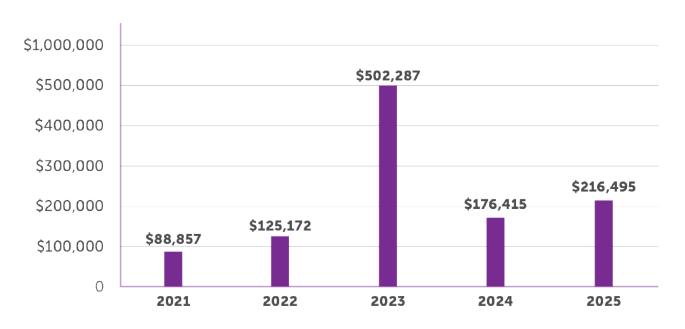
You are under no obligation to disclose your plans for a future gift; however, letting us know you've chosen to leave a gift to the YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation allows us to celebrate you and your generosity while ensuring we can capture and can fulfill your vision for this support. Donors are encouraged to consider the needs of their family first and to consider consulting their professional advisors to be sure a legacy gift to the YMCA fits with their overall estate and tax planning goals.

# Financial Highlights For the year ended March 31, 2025

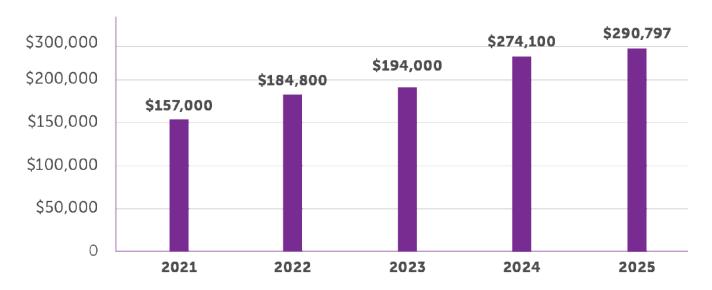
#### **INVESTMENT ASSETS**



#### **DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS**



#### PROGRAM FUNDING DISTRIBUTION



### **Return on Investment**

1-year rate of return on pooled investments 11.4% (2024 – 8.8%)



For a copy of the audited financial statements, visit ymcanab.ca/publications. If you have questions or comments about any of the information provided in the 2025 Impact Report, please contact the Fund Development team by emailing Laura.Svajlenko@ymcanab.ca.

## YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation Grants

YMCA staff and volunteers are true leaders, making a positive difference in their communities every single day. Through YMCA of Northern Alberta Foundation grants, they have the chance to enhance their skills, grow personally and professionally, and amplify their impact at the Y. These grants, starting at \$1,000, are designed to support these dedicated individuals on their journey, empowering them to help our community shine.

### Bennett W. Clarke Memorial Scholarship Grant

This grant was established in 1987 by Muriel A. Clarke in memory of her brother, Flight Lieutenant Bennett Clarke. Bennett, a dedicated volunteer with the YMCA, served as a pilot during World War II and tragically lost his life in action in 1944.

### **Edwin S. Cook Leadership Grant**

Ed was deeply passionate about the YMCA, his local community, and especially about creating opportunities for youth to achieve their full potential. He served as the YMCA of Northern Alberta's Board Chair for many years and was one of the founding members of the Heritage Club, demonstrating his long-term commitment as a volunteer, member and donor. This grant was established and endowed by Ed's friends and family in honor of his dedication and legacy.

### Lynette Husum & Roger Delbaere Leadership Grant

Lynette and Roger are long-time YMCA members and generous supporters. They share a deep commitment to programs that positively impact youth, as well as to individuals who choose to pursue education or training to work with young people. Inspired by the meaningful difference

Leadership Grants can make for YMCA staff and volunteers, Lynette and Roger established this grant to help ease the rising financial barriers associated with education and professional development.

#### **Del Dilkie Leadership Grant**

This grant was established by Del Dilkie, a dedicated supporter and passionate ambassador of the YMCA. Del champions the principle of lifelong learning and firmly believes in continuous growth and development at any age. Del is particularly committed to nurturing leadership qualities, skills and competencies among children and youth in YMCA programs through arts and recreation.

### Grant & Irene Duncan Strong Kids Leadership Grant

Grant and Irene were dedicated supporters of the YMCA. They deeply understood that fostering leadership development within the YMCA aligns with its core vision of nurturing strong kids, healthy families and thriving communities. Sadly, both Grant and Irene passed away in 2020. They envisioned this grant to enhance individuals' leadership qualities and skills, furthering the YMCA's mission to empower strong kids.

### Ivor & Mieke Lammerink **Leadership Grant**

Ivor Lammerink has been a member of the YMCA for more than 35 years. His extensive involvement as a member, donor and volunteer reflects his deep appreciation for fostering and cultivating strong leaders within our YMCA communities. This leadership grant was established to foster strong leaders in the YMCA.

#### N. Allen Maydonik Leadership Grant

This grant was established in honor of N. Allen Maydonik, a former YMCA Board member deeply moved by his 1994 visit to YMCA Bogota, a partner of YMCA of Northern Alberta. Sadly, Allen passed away in 2010. In acknowledgment of the profound impact the trip had on Allen, his wife Bette-Anne established this leadership grant in his memory.

#### **Bonnie Mihalchan Fitness Leadership** Grant

Bonnie first became a member of the Y in 1981 and has been a devoted and active member ever since. In 2024, she established the Fitness Leadership Grant, inspired by her lifelong passion for health and fitness and her deep appreciation for the volunteer fitness instructors who help create a vibrant, engaging and supportive community at the Y. Note: This grant is not yet available for disbursement.

#### Cecil & Helen Paull Leadership Grant

As a deeply committed member of the YMCA family, Cecil had over 80 years of dedicated membership. He was also a donor, a volunteer fundraiser and fitness. instructor – the very embodiment of a YMCA ambassador. He and Helen, who served on the YMCA Board of Directors, established this grant to foster the development of YMCA staff and volunteers. Cecil and Helen's enduring affection and cherished memories of the Y are reflected in this initiative. honouring those who have made, and continue to make, a positive impact on our communities.

### Franco & Barbara Savoia Star-Builder **Leadership Grant**

This leadership grant was established to celebrate and honour past President & CEO Franco Savoia and his late wife, Barbara. Franco devoted an exceptional 43 years of service to the YMCA, culminating in his role as President & CEO of YMCA of Northern Alberta



### Congratulations to this year's grant recipients!

Bennett W. Clarke Memorial Scholarship Grant

Sancho Gomez Jr, Javeria Waqar, Solaya Chan, Jaspreet Kaur

Edwin S. Cook Leadership Grant Aden Auger, Malak Trad

Lynette Husum & Roger Delbeare Leadership Grant Mariam Hassan

Del Dilkie Leadership Grant Harleen Munjal



Grant & Irene Duncan Strong Kids Leadership Grant

Kiratpal Kaur

Ivor & Mieke Lammerink Leadership Grant Karin Banasch Vail

N. Allen Maydonik Leadership Grant Alexandra Kondratyuk

Cecil & Helen Paull Leadership Grant Alexe Hill

Franco & Barbara Savoia Star-Builder Leadership Grant Victoria Jones

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

| 1907–2007 Centennial Trust                                 | Racheal Neff Memorial Fund            |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Archie M. Langille Trust Fund                              | Scot McLeod Family Fund               |
| Bill Rees Memorial Fund                                    | Tim Melton Family Fund                |
| Colin & Betty Ann Hatcher Fund                             | Tori & Asim Chin Family Fund          |
| Future Fund (previously known as Healthy Communities Fund) | Menegozzo Family Fund                 |
| Irwin Family Fund  | William Lutsky Trust Fund & Land Fund |
| J.J. & Mary-Anne Tremblay Family Fund                      | William Weir Memorial Fund            |

Len Dolgoy & Catherine Miller Trust Fund

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

| Amerongen Fund  | Michael Zolf Trust Fund                                 |
|---|---|
| Bull Family Fund  | Patricia Ellen (Pattey) Ready Memorial Fund             |
| Eldon & Phyllis Fowler Fund                                 | PD Fund   |
| Herbert Family Fund   | Phyllis Amerongen Memorial Fund                         |
| International Development Fund                              | Rebecca Suen Fund for the Homeless                      |
| Investing in Youth Fund                                     | Robert J. Turnbull Trust Fund                           |
| Jill Zimmerman Memorial Fund                                | Rod & Heleen McLeod Legacy 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<br>Jean-Louis Cloutier |

#### 2025 Grants

| Bennett W. Clarke Memorial Scholarship Fund     | Ivor & Mieke Lammerink YMCA Leadership Grant             |
|---|--|
| Edwin S. Cook Leadership Fund                   | N. Allen Maydonik Trust Fund                             |
| Lynette Husum & Roger Delbaere Leadership Grant | Bonnie Mihalchan Fitness Leadership Grant*               |
| Del Dilkie Leadership Fund                      | Cecil & Helen Paull Scholarship Fund                     |
| Grant & Irene Duncan Family Fund                | Franco & Barbara Savoia Star-Builder<br>Scholarship Fund |

<sup>\*</sup>This grant is not yet available for disbursment.

**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.

| John Corlett & Beverley Boudreau Fund | Schmitt Family Fund             |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| David Nathan Kushner Fund             | Svajlenko Bleackley Family Fund |
| Niemeier Family Fund                  |                                 |

# Thank you, Heritage Club Members!

Allard Foundation Ltd\* Margaret Allen\* Charles & Lara Amerongen Martin\* & Angela Anderson Dianne & Mike Assaly Stan° & Mary° Asselstine\* Joan & Monty® Baker Shirley & Tim Barry Ivan & Anita Belian Carol Benoit Dave & Nish Bentley Bob & Ruth Bentley Brian Beresh Lorna & Louis° Berlinguette Reg D.\* & Glenys Berry Marek & Jolanta Biel Kent & Jane Bittorf Laurie Boadway Rick & Debbie Boyd Brad & Michelle Brindza Janet Brown Ron Brown\* & Judy Harcourt Brent Buchanan Michael & Michelle Bull William K. Butler\* Cassidy Family Jack° & Sylvia° Chetner Asim & Tori Chin Roy Chobotuck° Muriel A. Clarke° John-Louis & Vivian Cloutier Ed° & Pat° Cook John Corlett & Beverley Boudreau Ron & Brenda Coulombe\* Douglas S. Cronk Jean Crozier & Ron McKaque° Sandi Darrell

Fred Delay°

Jeff DiBattista Del Dilkie Patrick Dinneen Edie Dixon Fred° & Norah° Dobing Len Dolgoy & Catherine Miller John° & Una° Doyle Robert L. Duke & Charlotte Robb Grant° & Irene° Duncan N. Allen Maydonik° & Bette-Anne (Maydonik) Edwards Pat Fidem<sup>o</sup> Herb° & Jeanette° Ellis Joan° & Jim° Fargey Robert J.º & Anna K.º Fee Gerry & Carol Feist Grant° & Irene° Ford Phyllis° & Eldon° Fowler Janet Giles\* & Paul Fry°\* Jan & Tim Haak Susan & Brian Hall Jim Hardy° Colin Hatcher® Gord° & Joanne Hearn Jeremy & Liz Herbert Dr. Albert E. (Bert) Hohol° Ada Hole° Lynette Husum & Roger Delbaere Jeremy & Willow Irwin Larry & Kathleen Johnston\* Terry & Karin Johnston Doug Jones<sup>o</sup> Gary & Joanne Jones Allan & Sharon Kerr\* Terry & Charlene Kilburn\* Gord° & June° King\* Glenna & Quinn Klaver

Mitch Klimove°

John & Valerie Kok David Kushner° Family\* Friends & Family of Winnie Philip Lachambre & Cathy MacDonald Ivor & Mieke Lammerink Archie° & Heather° Langille Joanne LaVergne Harvey & Rose Anne Dean Cross & Holly Lazar-Cross John Lilley & Eileen Guilfoyle\* Allan & Donna Little Aart & Judy Looye Audrey Luft\* William Lutsky°\* Pat MacDonald® Jan & David McAmmond Ruth & Grant McIntyre Irvine & Faye McKee Scot McLeod Rod° & Heleen McLeod Frank° & Gail McMillan\* Angel McVittie Tim Melton\* Ruth & Brian Menegozzo Greg Michetti Bonnie Mihalchan Shauna Miller Jack & Marilyn Mulkins\* Mary Anne Murphy° Mike & Bernice Myshak Neff Family Amber Niemeier Charlie & Sue Nunn Esther Ondrack\* Peter & Sieka Pardee\* Nick & Jodi Parkinson

Cecil° & Helen° Paull\* Phil & Barb Payne Larry & Joanne Pollock Ashton & Siahra Raeyr Helen Ready° Art° & Mildred° Reddon Bill Rees°\* Kurt Robak Dwayne & Salwa Samycia Franco & Barbara° Savoia Robert C. Schaller° **Kylee Schmitt** Joleen & Allen Schmitt Tanya Schulz White John & Jacqueline Scivoletto Dan° & Mary Slaght Donald R.° & Mona° Smith Court & Sandra Smith\* Wylie & Lesley Stafford\* Bill & Mary Jane<sup>o</sup> Stewart George W. Strange° Laura Svajlenko & Derek Bleackley **Bob Tatz** Mary Thomas Jean-Jacques & Mary Anne Tremblay Janet & Jerry Tryhuba Ron Tucker°\* Robert J. Turnbull° Robert J. & Donna Turner\* Eric & Aimee Van Meurs Allan & Flizabeth Wachowich Carol & Greg Wagar Bill° & Betty Lou Weir\* Wanda Wetterberg° Irene Wood Donna & Ron Worthington Leona & Don Yez Michael Zolf°

Toddy° & Anne Parkinson

### In Honour

We honour the memory of all Heritage Club members who have gone before us. Their legacy lights the way for our communities to continue moving forward. We are deeply grateful for these donors' unwavering dedication to and trust in the YMCA and its mission. Through their commitment to building a lasting endowment fund, they have ensured continued support for YMCA families—today and for generations to come.



