# TOGETHER, WE CAN DO MORE.

**RIDEAU HALL FOUNDATION** ANNUAL REPORT 2019



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The RHF would like to express its sincere condolences to the families and friends of former board members Thomas G. Heintzman (deceased 2019) and Jacques Ménard (deceased 2020). The RHF is ever grateful for their leadership and their outstanding contributions to Canada.

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



At the Rideau Hall Foundation we have the honour of spending our days working toward building a better country for all Canadians. We do this not on our own, but in the company of many partners, stakeholders, and supporters from across the country who share our commitment to nation building and trust. In 2019, the work that we entered into together had varied and far-reaching impact, something for which we should all be immensely proud.

Ultimately, this was a year about bringing this vast country of ours closer together. Our **Canadian Innovation Week** celebrations engaged thousands in communities across the country, and served to inspire a nation to think differently about innovation and our collective roles as innovators, both through the **Governor General's Innovation Awards** and the newly launched Innovation Index.

Through our work with the **Arctic Inspiration Prize**, for which the RHF serves as managing partner, we have helped to share the spirit and wisdom of the North with the entire country, recognizing

and celebrating innovative and creative Northern-led projects that are certain to have wide-reaching impacts on Northern communities.

Trust is the bedrock of democracy. Trust in each other as citizens, and a trust between citizens and the institutions that stand for and serve them. In 2019, we continued to focus on how to build trust through our work across our organization, and will continue to do so in the years to come.

Finally, our **Queen Elizabeth Scholars** program continued to introduce Canadian university students to invaluable international experiences, and to bring researchers from around the world to Canada. This program transcends classroom education, encouraging both leadership and community engagement from the scholars. In every sense, it is about practicing the diplomacy of knowledge and working together to create a smarter, more caring world.

In the following pages, I invite you to read more about what we've accomplished together. And in the message from our President and CEO, Teresa Marques, I invite you to envision all the wonderful things to come as we look forward to another year working collaboratively and imaginatively together.

The Right Honourable David Johnston 28<sup>th</sup> Governor General of Canada

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



When I reflect on the trajectory of the Rideau Hall Foundation, I am consistently proud and amazed at what we have been able to accomplish in so short a time. And, thanks to our outstanding network of partners, we are in the position to think even bigger, collaborate with even more people and organizations, and deliver even greater impact in the years to come.

We remain ever committed to our goals of promoting learning, giving, leadership and innovation. And, in the year ahead, we'll be focusing on deepening the roots of our signature programs so that more Canadians can benefit. As we continue to mature as an organization, we will also look for even more opportunities to encourage cross-pollination between our areas of focus. Demonstrating how the work in one program area can help feed and nurture other projects, as well as spur new ideas and new connections, will be critical to increasing our impact.

Over the past year, we've turned our attention towards civic engagement as a facet of leadership. I'm particularly excited

to continue this work and to better understand the strength of our public institutions as well as how Canadians engage with our institutions. Our vision for 2020 involves new partnerships and program delivery that emphasize the importance of our institutions, while developing a more positive, hopeful and shared narrative for the future of Canada. This will be especially important as we navigate the challenges the country and the world face as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Also top of mind is the importance of widening the circle of giving as core to Canada's national identity. The global pandemic will surely change the way we look at generosity, giving and community-building. We believe we can emerge from this situation with an even stronger connection to these core values. For the RHF, this will mean exploring areas of empathy and what it means to be both empathic individuals and an empathetic nation in today's complex world.

Of course, there is so much more that can and will be done. And it's thanks to everyone who works with us and supports us that we can continue to dream big and move ever closer to shaping a better, more equitable country for all. **Thank you for your ongoing support.** 

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Teresa Marques President and CEO

## IMPACT EQUATIONS

The Rideau Hall Foundation seeks to serve Canadians through a range of initiatives linked to **learning, leadership, giving and innovation**. The RHF is a nation-building charity: a catalytic platform to connect people, causes and organizations that share a common belief in and commitment to the potential of Canada.

Together, we can do more. +

### **INSPIRATION + IMPACT**

Sometimes the path to success is not always clear. For youth in marginalized communities, navigating those pathways can be especially challenging.

The 2019 Arctic Inspiration Prize (AIP) awarded more than \$2.6 million in funding to eight innovative teams from across Canada's North. The \$1-million prize winner – Northern Compass – will create culturally relevant pathways for youth in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, to help them navigate from high school to post-secondary education and on to fulfilling careers.

The AIP is owned and governed by the northern-led AIP Charitable Trust and supported by Indigenous organizations, governments, industry, philanthropy, and many other partners from the North and South, with management support provided by the Rideau Hall Foundation. This "by the North, for the North" commitment ensures that all prize funding stays in the North. Visit **www.arcticinspirationprize.ca** to learn more about this year's laureates.



### **INNOVATION + CONNECTION**



The second annual Canadian Innovation Week reached a record number of people and connected innovators across the nation. In 2019, in partnership with BMO and a series of regional partners, the RHF held pitch events for entrepreneurs at six events across Canada. Participants agreed that the greatest value came from the opportunity for each team to connect with local business leaders and mentors. Winners from each regional event participated in a final in Toronto, with two teams - O2 Canada and Proof - rose to the top. O2 Canada produces air pollution respirators offering an all-in-one solution to protect consumer health, and Proof empowers governments to go paperless by streamlining internal approvals, digitizing application forms and improving policy decisions with data. The events allowed these entrepreneurs to hone their pitch skills, and to connect with other innovators in their sectors, as well as with potential mentors and investors. In total, #CanadianInnovationWeek reached more than 12 million people online.

"I've pitched at contests and won and lost, but honestly, I've never left a competition after not winning and felt so good about it. I feel like I already won. I have so many people to follow up with and I know that there is immense value in the connections I've made."

- Sarah Goodman of VitalSines, participant in 2019 pitch events hosted by the RHF and BMO

### **PEOPLE + IDEAS**



**The Governor General's Innovation Awards (GGIA)** recognize and celebrate exceptional Canadian individuals, teams and organizations for their excellence in innovation and their contributions to helping shape our future and positively impact our quality of life. In 2019, the RHF was pleased to announce six recipients whose work ranged from Artificial Intelligence and machine learning, to a social impact bond to help keep

Photo: MCpl Mathieu Gaudreault, Rideau Hall

families intact, to a project that combines cutting-edge technology with traditional Inuit knowledge to make ice travel safer. The RHF was honoured to work in partnership with the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General in delivering the 2019 GGIAs, and to help inspire Canadians to be entrepreneurial innovators. Visit **www.innovation.gg.ca** to learn more about this year's laureates.



Photo courtesy of the University of New Brunswick.

### SHARING + DISCOVERY

This fall, thanks to Scholastic Reading Club in partnership with the RHF and Canadian Innovation Space, 18,000 elementary schools across Canada received a copy of *Innovation Nation* in their Scholastic order, along with information about the RHF's Education for Innovation (E4I) resources.

These resources are free, bilingual lesson plans that can be used to keep kids engaged and innovating during this period of distance learning.

The stories of Canadian innovations from *Ingenious* and *Innovation Nation* inspired the creation of the E4I resources. Together with Nipissing University's Schulich School of Education's team of teachers and teacher candidates, the RHF released three bilingual lesson plans that teach innovation skills from kindergarten to grade 12. Using the stories of *Innovation Nation*, the E4I resource guides inspire creative thinking and student innovation projects.

### LEARNING + FOCUS

#### The Queen Elizabeth Scholars (QES) program is a

made-in-Canada global learning platform rooted in collaboration, excellence and academic diplomacy. This prestigious program celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2019 with a series of events hosted by members of the Vice-Regal community across Canada, from Halifax to Victoria. These gatherings served as an excellent opportunity to bring Queen Elizabeth Scholars together as a community, share their learnings and connect them with leaders from across the country.

#### QES marked another important milestone in 2019, having sent more than 2,000 scholars abroad.

The next round of program funding will support projects in Latin America and the Caribbean that focus on education, social services and health. It is made possible thanks to generous funding from the Waugh Family Foundation.

### GIVING + CAPACITY



In 2019, the RHF partnered with the Canadian Association of Gift Planners and a host of Canadian charities to develop a campaign to encourage planned giving among Canadians.

#### Currently, only 5% of Canadians leave gifts to charity in their wills, and this number has not changed in the last 10 years.

The *Will Power* campaign has the potential to raise billions in additional funds for Canadian charities. The RHF believes that generosity of spirit is a critical part of what it means to be Canadian. Bringing the charitable sector together to encourage leaving a gift in a will is an exciting and innovative approach to fostering Canada's culture of giving. Look for this innovative campaign later in 2020.

### LEADERSHIP + INSIGHT



The RHF partnered with the Mastercard Foundation in 2019 to engage Indigenous youth and cross-sectoral stakeholders to examine employment and community well-being. The result is a comprehensive report that clearly articulates youths' voices, including a series of important recommendations around what constitutes "a good life."

The RHF is committed to continuing its support for this vision for change going forward by mobilizing, networking, and activating solutions Indigenous youth want to see in their respective communities, organizations, and society.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS



#### REVENUE



#### ASSETS



#### **EXPENSES**



### WITH GRATITUDE

Beginning with his installation speech as the 28<sup>th</sup> Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable David Johnston has consistently challenged Canadians to imagine our country even better than it is today. His belief that all Canadians are capable of building a smarter, more caring Canada, and of contributing to a fairer, more just world is the spirit that drives the work of the Rideau Hall Foundation. We are deeply grateful to all the generous supporters who have contributed to the Legacy Campaign in honour of David Johnston.

#### Thank you. +

#### The following supporters made commitments of \$25,000 and above towards the RHF Endowment:

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#### Thank you to all our other supporters who have invested \$25,000 and above in the RHF's nation-building programming:

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to the visionary philanthropy of the Taylor Family Foundation for launching the Johnston Fund for Canada and for continuing to provide annual funding support to the RHF. Your support has been instrumental to the rise of the RHF and we share your enduring commitment to reinforcing pride in Canada. We are ever grateful for your partnership.

The Johnston Fund for Canada at the Rideau Hall Foundation was established by the Taylor Family Foundation. It is to advance pride in our country and to move the Canadian spirit forward by focusing on the future of our country, and responding to opportunities to extend philanthropy and giving; education and learning; innovation; and barn-raising approaches for Canadians to work together in the bettering of our country.