



CANADA  
4-H Ontario

# Annual Report 2023

# 4-H ONTARIO 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## WHAT IS 4-H?

Founded in 1915, 4-H Ontario is a non-profit positive youth development organization. Here, 4-H youth aged 9-21, Cloverbud participants aged 6-8 and volunteers come together to learn about selected topics through hands-on activities and mentorship. There are also a variety of provincial camps, conferences and competitions which build skills in leadership, communication and more. 4-H provides youth with a place they can be involved, accepted, valued and heard while developing valuable leadership and life skills.

4-H emphasizes the importance of looking at the big picture, encouraging youth to see beyond themselves and focus on how their actions affect their relationships, their community, the environment and society as a whole.

4-H activities and clubs are structured to develop leadership skills including public speaking, communication, decision making, parliamentary procedure, meeting management and networking, while also educating youth about the project subject matter.

4-H clubs offer a safe environment that fosters personal growth and development. 4-H encourages team collaboration, peer-to-peer support and independent learning. Through 4-H, youth “Learn To Do By Doing” and develop their abilities in order to reach their full potential, becoming conscientious, contributing community leaders.



**CANADA**  
4-H Ontario

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## THE 4-H PLEDGE:

I pledge my **Head** to clearer thinking,  
My **Heart** to greater loyalty,  
My **Hands** to larger service,  
My **Health** to better living,  
For my club, my community, my country,  
and my world.

## THE 4-H MOTTO:

# Learn To Do By Doing

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We accomplished a lot in 2023. Over the year, we have grown tremendously in participant enrolment, new volunteers and within the provincial programming attendance, remarkably, some of which were even sold out. In 2023, we saw our collective efforts in recruiting and engaging youth and volunteers start to come to fruition, and we gained new insight as we went through a strategic planning process wherein we solicited feedback from a wide audience, including youth, association volunteers, board members, sponsors and community members. One thing is clear - we have a great program that achieves our vision of building youth into leaders in their communities and positive contributors to the world. We want to capitalize on the strength of the program to engage more youth and families, spread awareness about agriculture and where our food comes from and explore new projects that will interest youth from all walks of life. We don't want 4-H to be a best-kept secret.

I had the opportunity at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (aka 'the Royal') to get a tour of the area where the beef clubs were preparing their heifers for the show. A very proud 4-H volunteer from Temiskaming introduced me to her team. There were smiles all around. The kids proudly showed me the calves they had raised, trained and groomed. The Royal is one of those quintessential experiences where one truly sees the impact of hard work, dedication and perseverance. It is a testament to the countless hours of work, problem-solving, decision-making and collaboration with peers and leaders, along with the inevitable setbacks and moments of learning. Those smiles that were all around were genuine and earned, and they were indeed about a child and an animal, but they were also about so much more.

I look forward to all of us working together to bring more smiles and feelings of hard-earned satisfaction to more kids all across this large province.

**Christine Oldfield**  
Executive Director, 4-H Ontario

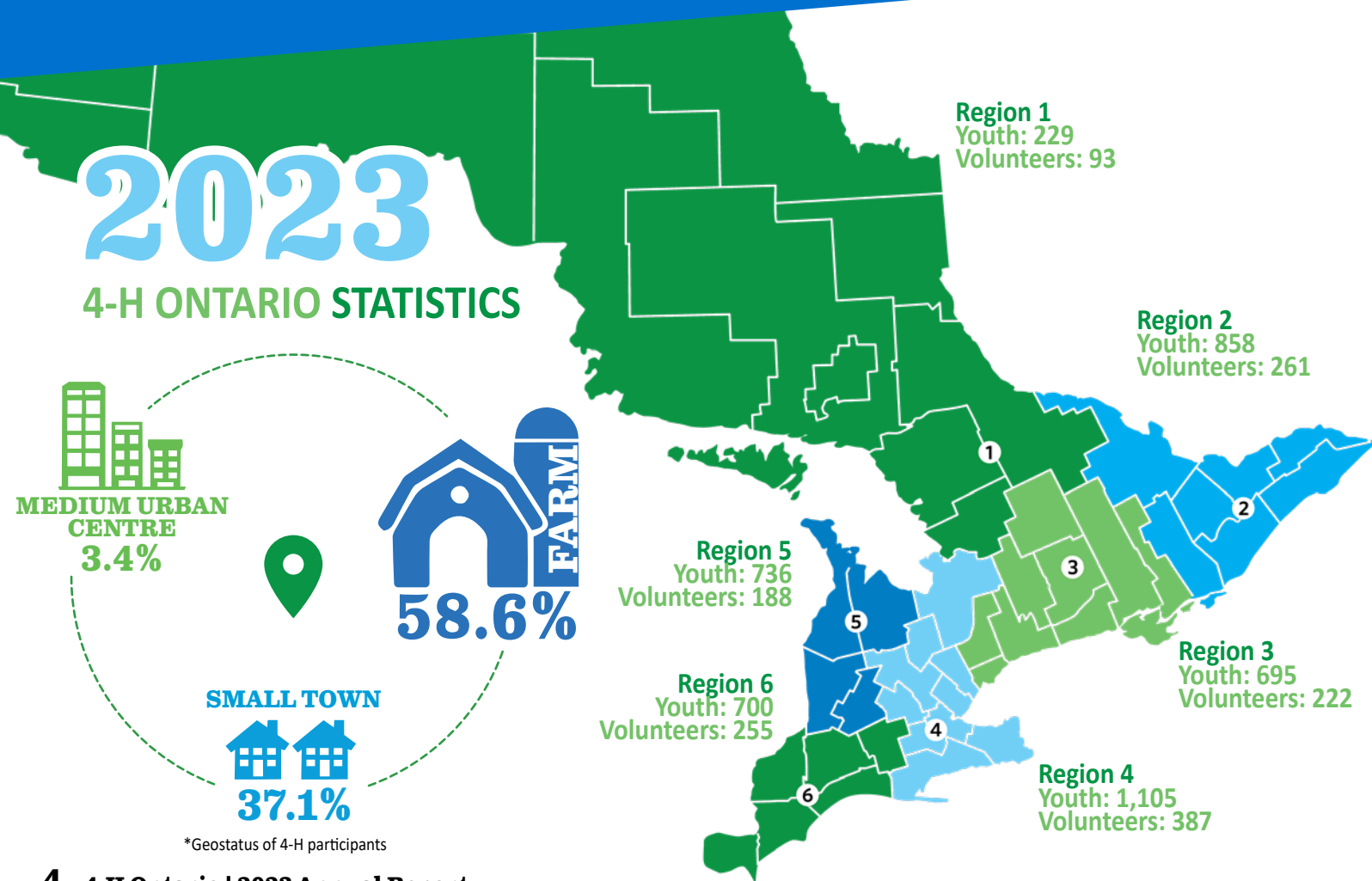


# 2023 Achievements and Highlights

4-H Ontario launched a new career and community-focused program: The Impact Conference.

There was a 14 per cent participant registration increase in 2023.

The 2023 Virtual Provincial 4-H Judging Competition had 171 registrations!



## Dear Friends,

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ONTARIO 4-H COUNCIL PRESIDENT



What makes a youth organization successful? Participants, volunteers and supporters... 4-H in Ontario has all of these in excess. I have been very honoured to represent 4-H Ontario as your president for the past two years. 4-H in Ontario is really a diamond in the rough! We have so many outstanding participants and volunteers who do so many amazing things; it can't be beat!

This year's big agenda item was to create a strategic plan for the next three years - not an easy task. Led by a well-known consulting firm that specializes in not-for-profits, we were able to come up with a plan to expand the impact 4-H has in Ontario. Through this process, we have spent a lot of time gathering information from our participants, volunteers, county boards, local associations, sponsors, community partners and alumni. We THANK all of you for being open and honest and responding to the call.

Many of us know that 4-H is valuable! Youth participants have said their involvement provided them with community, connections, relationships, mentorships, new knowledge, fun, variety, careers, leadership and other skill building not found in other organizations. Alumni believe that 4-H helped them develop public speaking

skills, leadership, teamwork, self-confidence, meeting skills, decision-making skills, self-esteem, a sense of positive values, responsibility and interpersonal skills. Many of our partners see the value that 4-H participants provide to our workplaces and community organizations. As much as we would like to keep this amazing program under wraps, we need to expand beyond our local communities and reach out to newer audiences, even within our cities. We have the unique ability to teach young people so many of these skills. We also have a niche market when it comes to teaching young people about agriculture and food. It is the roots of our organization that the rest of the world needs to learn more about.

We will continue to "Learn To Do By Doing" by involving more youth and more volunteers in more settings. We hope you will assist us in recruiting more volunteers and more participants as we grow and share our program into the future to meet the ever-changing needs of our youth.

Laurie Farquharson  
President, Ontario 4-H Council

## Ontario 4-H Council 2023 Board of Directors

**President**  
Laurie Farquharson

**Past President**  
Cheryl Sullivan

**Vice President**  
Elaine Bowman

**Director at Large**  
Erica Murray

**Board Members**  
Penny Anger  
Debbie Coke  
Lesleigh Elgie  
Joanne Hewitson  
Fred Sharpe  
Jennifer Waldroff  
Edna White

**Director, Youth**  
Alice Van Vugt

## Ontario 4-H Foundation 2023 Board of Trustees

**Chair**  
Naomi Lutes

**Past Chair**  
Kim Turnbull

**Vice Chair**  
Theresa Wever

**Secretary**  
Stuart Budd

**Treasurer**  
Tayler Black

**Trustees**  
Valerie Allen  
Beverly Agar  
Patty Lasby  
Bill Zwambag  
Ingrid Larmer  
Lois James  
Norman McNaughton  
Colin Pool

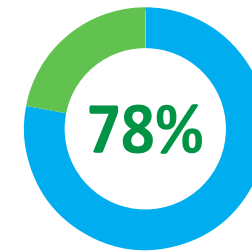
# 2023 4-H ASSOCIATION STATISTICS

	Association	Youth Members	Cloverbud Participants	Total Youth Involved	Volunteers	Association Representative
Region 1	Algoma	31	20	51	14	Neirdre Powis-Clement
	Cochrane	-	-	-	-	-
	Kenora	17	-	17	11	Linda Debney
	Manitoulin	10	3	13	16	Whitney Prose Bruno
	Muskoka	-	-	-	-	-
	Nipissing	-	-	-	-	-
	Parry Sound	-	-	-	-	-
	Rainy River	43	13	56	17	Krista Olson
	Sudbury	45	8	53	16	Paulette Macdonald
	Temiskaming	26	-	26	26	Elaine Bowman
Region 2	Thunder Bay	12	1	13	5	Ashley Cadeau
	Carleton	146	8	154	48	Cheryl Sullivan
	Dundas	34	-	34	22	Chloe Hart
	Frontenac	80	23	103	31	Sonia Nuttall
	Glengarry	44	-	44	5	Douglas Kivits
	Grenville	82	11	93	23	Sharon Halpenny
	Lanark	91	20	111	21	Melissa Renaud
	Leeds	35	6	41	13	Denise Kelly
	Prescott	24	1	25	10	Kelley Allen
	Renfrew	81	20	101	26	Campbell Crogie
	Russell	33	1	34	14	Wanda Williams
	Stormont	68	27	95	40	Jennifer Waldroff
	Durham East	86	15	101	39	Angela Fairfield
	Durham West	100	17	117	38	Robert Ashton
Region 3	Hastings	26	-	26	15	Rebecca Posthumus
	Kawartha Lakes Haliburton	87	30	117	38	Edna White
	Lennox & Addington	36	11	47	14	-
	Northumberland	84	2	86	28	Fred Sharpe
	Peterborough	30	6	36	18	Jennifer Barton
	Prince Edward	62	29	91	22	Lynn Ward
	York	59	15	74	19	Carrie Purcell
	Brant	95	7	102	40	Lesleigh Elgie
	Dufferin	27	3	30	11	Brenda Lothmann
	Haldimand	72	26	98	47	Isabel Miller
Region 4	Halton	23	1	24	12	Joanne Hewitson
	Hamilton-Wentworth	54	28	82	32	Douglas Melia
	Niagara	84	-	84	35	Mike Chechalk
	Norfolk	64	27	91	20	Anna Van der Steege
	North Simcoe	71	2	73	17	Donna Van Der Heyden
	Peel	25	23	45	40	Heather French
	South Simcoe	113	18	131	49	Tamara Fisher-Cullen
	Waterloo	99	8	107	36	John Drummond
	Wellington	203	35	238	48	Jennifer Pollock
	Region 5	Bruce	120	1	121	31
Grey		211	1	212	61	Brian O'Neill
Huron		175	23	198	39	Darrell Bergsma
Perth		156	49	205	57	Erica Murray
Region 6	Chatham-Kent	60	22	82	50	Kris McNaughton
	Elgin	50	1	51	24	Amy Reymer
	Essex	86	7	93	24	Penny Anger
	Lambton	84	21	105	33	Debbie Coke
	Middlesex	180	22	202	72	Laurie Farquharson
	Oxford	147	20	167	52	Kirsten Dill
<b>Total:</b>		<b>3,693</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>4,323</b>	<b>1,416</b>	

# Empowering The Future

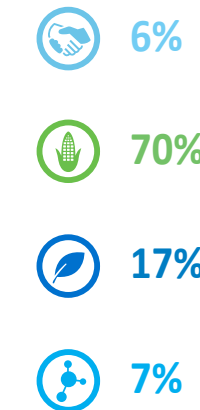


NEARLY  
**6K** PARTICIPANTS & VOLUNTEERS

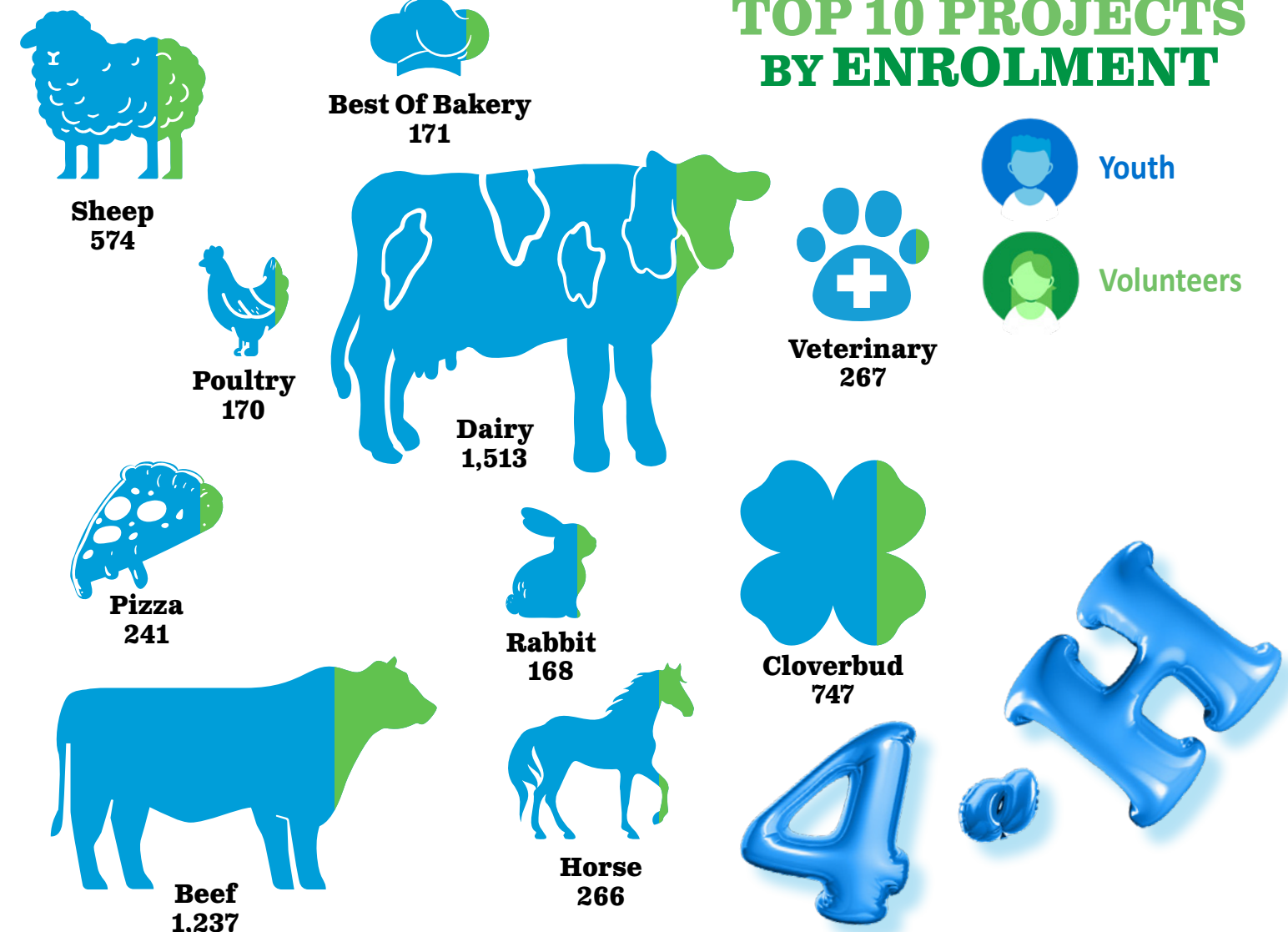


youth indicated they intend on pursuing a career in a field related to agriculture.  
- 2023 Youth Participant Survey

## PROJECT PARTICIPATION BREAKDOWN By Leadership Development Pillar



## TOP 10 PROJECTS BY ENROLMENT



**LEADERSHIP SUPPORT**

**Executive Director**  
Christine Oldfield

**Director, Professional Practice**  
Evelyn Chambers

**CORPORATE GIVING AND PHILANTHROPY**

**Director, Philanthropy**  
Karyn Racher

**Officer, Development**  
Amma Nyarko

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Manager, Communications (Interim)**  
Mary Haurilak

**Manager, Communications (On leave)**  
Laura Goulding

**Coordinator, Communications**  
Taryn Barnard

**PROGRAMMING**

**Manager, Youth Experience**  
Andrea Halse

**Coordinator, Programming & Resources**  
Elizabeth Johnston

**Coordinator, Programming**  
Nicole French

**Coordinator, Events**  
Kathryn Lambert

**Coordinator, Digital Programming and Design**  
Autumn Unwin

**Coordinator, Indigenous Community Programs**  
Barb Scott Cole

**VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**Manager, Volunteer and Database**  
Megan Burnside-Poitras

**Specialist, Database**  
Kelly Clarke

**Advisor, Recruitment and Retention**  
Faith Kirk

**Coordinators, Volunteer Support:**  
**Region 1 North-Central**  
Hope Anselmo

**Region 1 North-Western**  
Kaitlyn Hay

**Region 2**  
Lyndsay Berry

**Region 3**  
Brianna Troup

**Region 4**  
Vivian Adam-De Voogdt

**Regions 5 & 6**  
Melinda Scott

**FINANCE**

**Manager, Finance**  
Patricia Hornyak

**Coordinator, Finance**  
Gaby Echeverria

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US ENSURE 4-H IS FOREVER**

The Ontario 4-H Foundation Endowment Fund Portfolio includes a General Endowment Fund, 51 Local 4-H Association Endowment Funds and Named Endowment Funds that benefit 4-H youth programming across the province.

**These 4-H Association Endowment Funds received memorial and tribute donations in 2023:**

- |                                           |                                      |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bruce 4-H Association                     | Lambton 4-H Association              |
| Carleton 4-H Association                  | Lennox and Addington 4-H Association |
| Chatham-Kent 4-H Association              | Middlesex 4-H Association            |
| Dundas 4-H Association                    | North Simcoe 4-H Association         |
| Durham East 4-H Association               | Perth 4-H Association                |
| Durham West 4-H Association               | Peterborough 4-H Association         |
| Elgin 4-H Association                     | Prince Edward County 4-H Association |
| Grey 4-H Association                      | Rainy River 4-H Association          |
| Huron 4-H Association                     | South Simcoe 4-H Association         |
| Kawartha Lakes Haliburton 4-H Association | Waterloo 4-H Association             |
|                                           | Wellington 4-H Association           |

**Donor Designated Funds**

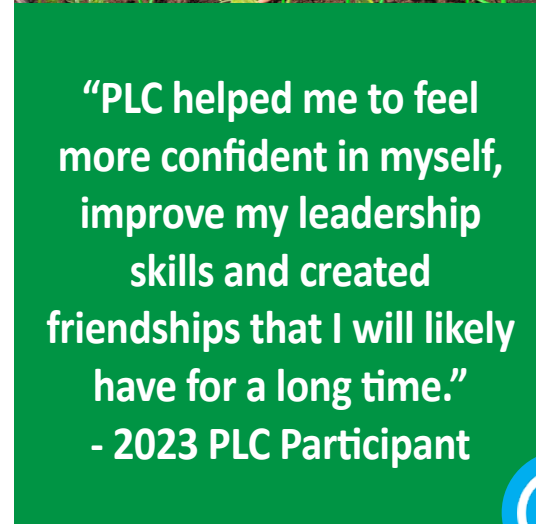
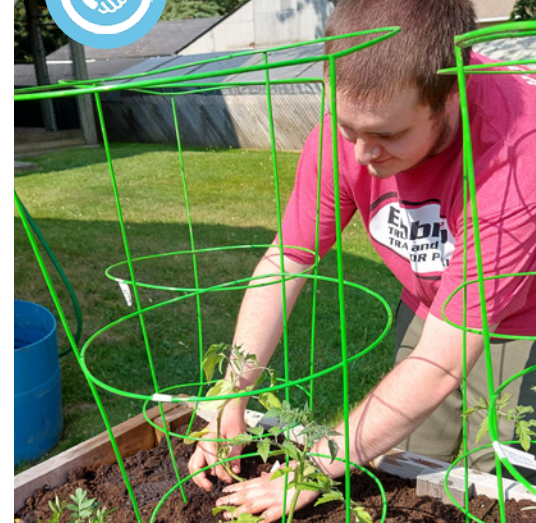
- Al & Pat Robson Family Fund
- Beeler Family 4-H Ontario Endowment Fund
- Benjamin Pfister Memorial Endowment Fund
- Bertram & Hazel Stewart 4-H Dairy Youth Education Award & Bursary
- Biermans Family Fund
- Brenair Farms Inc Endowment Fund
- Catherine Gilfillan Fund
- Central Canada Exhibition Legacy Fund
- David Perrin Memorial 4-H Farm Safety Award
- Doug & Susan Cameron Fund
- Elmwood Dunford Family Fund
- Francis & Jean McKinley Legacy Fund
- Hugh Mitchell/Western Fair Fund
- Justin Parish Memorial Award
- Kirkton Veterinary Clinic Fund
- Martens Family Fund
- O'Neill Farms Fund
- Ruby & Alvina Krall Fund
- Scott Van Kampen & Don McCutcheon Memorial Scholarship
- Stanley Knapp Resource Development Fund

**Future Donor Designated Funds Bequeathed to 4-H**

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Glenn Family Fund | David Larmer |
| Rob & Julie Black | John Larmer  |
| Sharon Goulding   | Paul Larmer  |

**The Ontario 4-H Foundation administers four historical funds. The following donors' legacy lives on through their support of positive youth leadership development:**

- Adam Lynch Memorial 4-H Award
- Amber Underwood Fund
- Jeff Atkinson Memorial Fund
- William Basil Kelly Dairy Club Bursary



**“Youth Adventure Camp has helped me have more confidence. Taught me to be a leader.”**  
- 2023 YAC Participant



**“I truly appreciate having the opportunity to learn more about various careers in agriculture that are not always considered.”**  
- 2023 Impact Conference Delegate



**“PLC helped me to feel more confident in myself, improve my leadership skills and created friendships that I will likely have for a long time.”**  
- 2023 PLC Participant



**“4-H has given me the Opportunity to connect With so many other young And eager members just like me who share my passion for agriculture.”**  
- Youth Participant



### A MESSAGE FROM

#### THE ONTARIO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS

When I was eleven years old, I joined my first 4-H calf club – and I can confidently say that it was one of the best experiences I have ever had and my appreciation for 4-H has continued to grow to this day!

My experiences in 4-H helped me develop into the person I am, from leadership skills through to nurturing a life-long love for agriculture and rural life that has shaped the trajectory of my life. Here, I learned to do by doing, gaining countless skills that positioned me for success throughout my career. And I know I'm not alone in that sentiment.

For generations, 4-H has been a beacon for young people, helping our youth to embrace crucial leadership skills, life skills and also cultivating a love for everything agriculture.

I have no doubt that many of today's 4-H members will one day assume leadership positions connected to community organizations and Ontario's agriculture industry, and I know they will be well-prepared to take on that responsibility. Every time I meet 4-H members I am struck anew by the level of intelligence, drive and passion that they show, and it gives me a distinct sense of pride.

It's for that reason that the Government of Ontario is pleased to support 4-H Ontario, including \$2.325 million in funding provided through Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership over the next three years. We are committed to ensuring your continued success in building young leaders across rural Ontario.

To all the staff, volunteers, members and partners who make 4-H Ontario possible, I appreciate everything you do to help youth reach their full potential and support vibrant rural communities across this province. You truly make a difference through your actions.

I congratulate you on another successful year, and I look forward to continuing Growing Ontario Together.

Yours in 4-H spirit,

**The Honourable Lisa M. Thompson**  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs



values that contribute to their growth as responsible and capable leaders.

The events organized by 4-H Ontario, such as the Go for the Gold Competition, resonate strongly with our member mutuals. I had the chance to attend again this year and cheer on the participants (and I offer wholehearted congratulations to the small-but-mighty winning team from Sudbury). These activities not only provide unique opportunities for skill development but also foster a great sense of community and camaraderie.

Our sponsorship support is a testament to our commitment to building a brighter, more sustainable future. Our member companies, along with our friends at Farm Mutual Re, stand proudly alongside 4-H Ontario, confident in the knowledge that our partnership continues to contribute to positive development.

We wish everyone at 4-H another year of great success.

**John Taylor**  
President, Ontario Mutual Insurance Association

**"4-H Ontario helps equip our youth with essential life skills, instilling values that contribute to their growth as responsible and capable leaders."**

A MESSAGE FROM  **ontario mutuals™**  
We're in this together

Our commitment to supporting 4-H Ontario is deeply rooted in our belief in the transformative power of youth development and community engagement. In reflecting on the year, I'm always amazed by the role each dedicated staff member and volunteer plays in shaping the lives of young people. The programming at 4-H Ontario helps equip our youth with essential life skills, instilling

### A MESSAGE FROM

  
**GROWMARK FS**

For close to two decades, GROWMARK has been steadfastly championing the 4-H Ambassador Program. The cradle of our industry's future lies in the exceptional aptitude of numerous 4-H participants throughout Canada, notably the cohort of 4-H Ambassadors. We ardently maintain that our collaboration in this program plays a pivotal role in nurturing the education, expansion and maturation of these gifted and outgoing individuals.



## Regional Rewind

The year 2023 is in the books and what a year it was for all the associations, clubs and projects in 4-H Ontario's six regions.

With hundreds of clubs completed throughout our 50 active associations, explore some of the impactful and meaningful moments that were created in 2023.

### Region One North-West

The Rainy River Association had a great 4-H season hosting a Chocolate Club, Cloverbuds Club and four Beef Clubs! Youth from Rainy River joined together and created a Christmas float and entered it into all three of their district's parades! They also won the award for "Best Christmas Themed Float" for the second year in a row! The Kenora 4-H Beef Club also participated in many community activities including the Dryden Trunk-or-Treat event and the Dryden Trapper's Council with their annual dinner.

**Youth Highlight:** Levi Debney, member of the Kenora 4-H Beef Club, won several awards at the Dryden Fall Fair including grand champion steer, senior showperson award, the grand champion showperson award as well as the champion cow/calf pair. Levi sets a great example for other youth participants by spending a significant amount of time with his project animals and assisting other club participants in reaching their goals.



## Region One North-Central

In the North Central area of Region One, the Sudbury 4-H team brought home the Provincial “Go For The Gold” championship from the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Congratulations, team!

Participants from Region One supported the local agricultural society in Massey through the annual fall fair. The Massey Agricultural Society and the local 4-H club have worked together for several years to offer additional youth programming at the fair and to create additional opportunities for youth to share their knowledge. This partnership has increased youth participation in the area and 4-H’ers are looking forward to continuing to work together in the upcoming year.

**Youth Highlight:** One of the outstanding youth participants in Region 1 North Central is Adelyne H-P. According to 4-H Volunteer Dianne Emiry, in addition to her involvement in the Massey Agricultural Society as Junior Director, Adelyne has helped judge art for the cover contest and exhibited in all parts of the fair - school, 4-H, livestock, arts and crafts, Western Horse riding and horticulture.

Over the past two years, Adelyne has also helped with the “Grow a Chick” program where families receive chicks to raise. In addition to handing out all the chicks in 2023, she also helped over 200 chicks learn to drink water!

Adelyne has also brought her pet duck, Tsunami, to the fair and fair events to meet the public. Sudbury 4-H Association often refers to Adelyne as “the animal whisperer” due to her ability to train and work with all animals no matter the size, demeanour or situation!

Adelyne has also brought her pet duck, Tsunami, to the fair and fair events to meet the public. Sudbury 4-H Association often refers to Adelyne as “the animal whisperer” due to her ability to train and work with all animals no matter the size, demeanour or situation!



## Region Two

In April, 180 youth participants and leaders gathered for an exciting dairy workshop called “Ready...Set...Show,” organized by 4-H Ontario Volunteer Kelly Fawcett-Mathers and hosted at Fawcettview Farms. Due to the support of many incredible sponsors, the event was free to youth participants and featured guest speakers who focused on topics such as selection and judging, heifer care, clipping and showmanship. The event also featured live calves provided by the Velthuis and Enright families.

Kelly expressed, “it was rewarding to have helped play a small part in kicking off the 4-H season for dairy members in 2023, and I’m so thankful to those who contributed to the event. Our host provided a perfect venue, and the speakers were incredible. Furthermore, the support of the farms who brought calves, the many volunteers who pitched in on the day of, and the generosity of our sponsors were all key to the success of Ready...Set...Show!”

## Region Three

Heidi McFadden first started with 4-H at the age of nine when she got involved in her local dairy club. Over her time with 4-H, she has completed seven dairy clubs, numerous other livestock clubs as well as over 20 life skills clubs.

Heidi is currently a grade-eleven student at Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School in Peterborough, and runs a business called ProBot - Fun Coding for Kids - which she launched during the pandemic.

“I saw an opportunity to leverage the use of online platforms to teach the fundamentals of coding to youth and educators, in a fun way ... I created a free Friday night online coding club so youth could connect, have fun and learn about robots and coding. Mostly I saw the benefit of connecting kids to socialize.”

As her business grew, Heidi was asked by the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board to work with some of the secondary-school teachers to highlight the coding work she had been sharing with elementary-school students. Then, in summer 2023, she was hired by the Peterborough Library to teach a series of coding programs to students of varying ages and capabilities. This was also the year that Heidi was inducted into the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame for Business as the Student of the Year.

With the guidance of her parents and other mentors, Heidi’s business grew, and she used the proceeds to purchase a purebred Charolais heifer and created her own cattle company “Break Through Cattle.”

## Region Four

In 2023, the Peel 4-H Weekend Walkers set out to explore the Caledon Trail – rain or shine! Each week the group walked a different section of the trail, learned interesting historical facts and saw some unique wildlife all while exploring the beautiful Caledon landscape. The group also learned from guest speakers about birds, bees and ticks. 4-H’ers then had the opportunity to make their own oriole feeders to take home!

The Peel 4-H Weekend Walkers’ club achievement day was an opportunity to give back to the community as all members participated in the “Hike for Bethell Hospice.” During the fundraising hike, family members and pets were encouraged to join, and participants wore their “Weekend Walker” green t-shirts! In total, the club raised \$2,975.63 for Bethell Hospice with a special thank you going to sponsor Equinix for donating \$1,000.



## Region Five

This year, more than 20 youth participants completed Perth 4-H Association’s ‘Careers in Agriculture’ project. The goal of the ‘Careers in Agriculture’ club was to introduce 4-H youth participants to the wide array of career opportunities within agriculture while equipping them with essential workforce preparation skills.

The club’s focus encompassed career-related activities such as resume building, interview skills, networking, crafting elevator pitches and more. Club meetings took place at various industry establishments including Nuhn Industries, Stonetown Cheese & Scenic Holsteins, Monteith Ritsma Phillips, Famme & Co, RBC Royal Bank, John Deere, Hoegy’s Farm Supply, Wallenstein Feed & Supply and Crawford Veterinary Services.

During these meetings, youth toured the facilities while learning about the many different jobs and skills involved in running these businesses. 4-H’ers involved in the club also stretched beyond their comfort zones and engaged in interviews with professionals selected by their club leaders which aligned with the participants’ desired career paths.

This year, Perth County 4-H Association also increased their community outreach by helping at the Mitchell Fall Fair serving breakfast to the public - who enjoyed many delicious pancakes - as well as serving ice cream at their 4-H booth!

## Region Six

One of the major events in Region Six was the first ever regional Pickle Club, organized and run by 4-H Elgin Association volunteer, Craig Steven, with help from other leaders such as Jeff McCallum and John Drummond. Held at the Gay Lea Dairy Museum and Co-operative Education Centre in Aylmer, 4-H’ers in attendance learned how to make several kinds of pickles using the old-fashioned glass jars and preserving methods.

4-H alumnus, Craig Steven, first learned to make pickles working with Debbie and Jeff McCallum at their preserve shop, ‘In a Jam.’ It was in their kitchen that Craig caught the ‘pickling bug’ and went on to begin making his own bread and butter pickles, relish and icicle pickles – a friend’s mom’s special recipe. Sadly, his friend’s mother passed, but Craig honoured her by entering her cherished pickle recipe in the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. The recipe won Top Heritage Pickles, and his own mother’s recipe - bread and butter pickles – was submitted in her memory and placed as well.

Craig always received compliments on his pickles and decided he would share this skill with 4-H youth participants – as pickling is one of those skills that not everyone has! He also noted that there weren’t many 4-H entries in the Royal from youth and wanted to change that.

“Holding the club at a heritage site seemed the right thing to do, and it was an awesome way to get our feet wet and run through things,” he says.

The youth participants had a great time making various types of pickles, and after the end of the weekend, they used their 4-H judging skills to send the best jars to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, with several of the jars winning awards in the amateur and youth classes at the annual prestigious fair. Craig said that he was so proud of the club attendees and their achievements, and he is looking forward to holding the club again next August, so stay tuned for more details!



ONTARIO 4-H COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 142,149	\$ 137,598
Short-term investments (\$825,779 internally restricted) (note 3)	854,763	875,015
Accounts receivable	242,776	232,664
Prepaid expenses	101,723	90,919
	<u>1,341,411</u>	<u>1,336,196</u>
<b>INVESTMENTS, internally restricted (note 4)</b>	143,022	280,190
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS (note 5)</b>	-	2,266
<b>INTANGIBLE ASSETS (note 6)</b>	<u>85,638</u>	<u>69,626</u>
	<u>\$ 1,570,071</u>	<u>\$ 1,688,278</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 7)	\$ 60,583	\$ 52,578
Deferred contributions (note 8)	108,734	134,885
Deferred revenue	34,100	18,125
Current portion of obligations under capital lease	-	850
	<u>203,417</u>	<u>206,438</u>
<b>LONG-TERM DEBT</b>	-	1,194
<b>OBLIGATION UNDER CAPITAL LEASE</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>785</u>
	<u>203,417</u>	<u>208,417</u>
<b>Unrestricted operating fund</b>	397,853	539,998
<b>Internally restricted strategic initiative fund</b>	133,938	105,000
<b>Internally restricted technology maintenance fund</b>	38,363	38,363
<b>Internally restricted contingency fund</b>	<u>796,500</u>	<u>796,500</u>
	<u>1,366,654</u>	<u>1,479,861</u>
	<u>\$ 1,570,071</u>	<u>\$ 1,688,278</u>

COMMITMENTS (note 10)

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



President



Executive Director

ONTARIO 4-H COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Grants (note 12)	\$ 993,908	\$ 834,928
Sponsorships and donations	437,194	583,148
4-H Memberships	409,417	356,377
Program revenue	59,180	64,341
Contributions from 4-H Foundation (note 9)	45,000	42,500
Interest income	37,097	17,217
Other income	4,732	12,703
Volunteer support services	19,021	11,677
	<u>2,005,549</u>	<u>1,922,891</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Administration	492,110	415,575
Amortization	2,070	14,516
Amortization of capital lease	196	3,324
Amortization of intangible assets	8,142	8,142
Buildings and facility costs	9,537	35,853
Funding management	159,875	146,217
General operating expenses	292,859	216,964
Interest on capital lease	424	1,814
Program management	740,747	637,256
Volunteer support services	412,796	372,172
	<u>2,118,756</u>	<u>1,851,833</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES BEFORE OTHER INCOME</b>	(113,207)	71,058
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Gain on sale of capital assets	-	430,736
	<u>-</u>	<u>430,736</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$ (113,207)</u>	<u>\$ 501,794</u>



ONTARIO 4-H FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 43,873	\$ 178,803
Accounts receivable	500	500
HST recoverable	4,225	11,136
Prepaid expenses	1,401	-
Investments (Note 5)	3,200,716	2,774,265
	<u>3,250,715</u>	<u>2,964,704</u>
<b>RESTRICTED ASSETS</b>		
<b>FUNDS INVESTED FOR OTHERS (Note 8)</b>	<u>440,385</u>	<u>403,971</u>
	<u>\$ 3,691,100</u>	<u>\$ 3,368,675</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 7,349	\$ 50,502
Deferred revenue	-	1,000
	<u>7,349</u>	<u>51,502</u>
<b>FUNDS INVESTED FOR OTHERS (Note 8)</b>	<u>440,385</u>	<u>403,971</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>UNRESTRICTED OPERATING FUND</b>	167,368	135,926
<b>GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND</b>	1,198,551	1,108,564
<b>RESTRICTED ENDOWMENT FUND</b>	<u>1,877,447</u>	<u>1,668,712</u>
	<u>3,243,366</u>	<u>2,913,202</u>
	<u>\$ 3,691,100</u>	<u>\$ 3,368,675</u>

ONTARIO 4-H FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	UNRESTRICTED OPERATING FUND	GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND	RESTRICTED ENDOWMENT FUND	2023	2022
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Donations	\$ 28,951	\$ 33,203	\$ 109,534	\$ 171,688	\$ 191,410
Golf tournaments	97,859	-	-	97,859	95,762
Administrative fees	17,510	-	-	17,510	17,251
Investment income (loss)	-	112,870	178,808	291,678	(150,289)
Change in cash surrender value of life insurance	-	-	559	559	2,637
Life insurance premium	-	-	1,891	1,891	-
	<u>144,320</u>	<u>146,073</u>	<u>290,792</u>	<u>581,185</u>	<u>156,771</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Bad debts	-	-	-	-	1,500
Bank charges and interest	2,551	-	-	2,551	2,592
Computer expense	6,548	-	-	6,548	14,973
Golf tournaments	34,549	-	-	34,549	34,989
Insurance	-	-	1,891	1,891	1,980
Investment fees (Note 3)	-	13,698	20,746	34,444	35,133
Non-refundable HST	4,235	-	-	4,235	2,907
Office	1,652	-	-	1,652	385
Office and administration	33,693	-	-	33,693	30,020
Postage and courier	1,470	-	-	1,470	902
Professional fees	28,180	-	-	28,180	57,948
Program disbursements	-	42,388	59,420	101,808	83,086
	<u>112,878</u>	<u>56,086</u>	<u>82,057</u>	<u>251,021</u>	<u>266,415</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$ 31,442</u>	<u>\$ 89,987</u>	<u>\$ 208,735</u>	<u>\$ 330,164</u>	<u>\$ (109,644)</u>

# NATIONAL PARTNERS OF 4-H CANADA

That provided funding support to 4-H Ontario

BASF  
Canadian National Railway  
Cargill  
Corteva Agriscience  
Farm Credit Canada  
Government of Canada  
RBC (Royal Bank of Canada)  
Syngenta Canada Inc



## A MESSAGE FROM 4-H CANADA'S INTERIM CEO - HUGH MAYNARD

Impact. It's a small word with big meaning – particularly for 4-H in Canada. Since its beginnings as a grassroots idea in rural Manitoba over 110 years ago, the impact of the 4-H movement in Canada has stretched across generations, communities, the country and the world.

You can see the impact of 4-H in countless ways. It's visible every time a Cloverbud confidently tries something new, a club organizes an activity that gives back to their community and an alum achieves their dream – whether it involves stepping into a corporate boardroom, onto an Olympic podium, or along the path to Parliament Hill.

The impact 4-H has on youth lasts a lifetime. Data shows 95 per cent of alumni credit 4-H for instilling them with leadership and teamwork skills, responsibility and a strong sense of self. They also say their involvement with 4-H gave them the skills to succeed in today's career landscape, including public speaking, decision-making and record-keeping.

As the 4-H movement across Canada continues to gain momentum and approach pre-pandemic numbers, we look forward to seeing the impact of the 4-H program reach even more youth and communities from coast to coast. In Ontario, it's especially clear that the impact of 4-H is on the rise, after seeing the strongest post-pandemic growth of any province in 2022-2023. It's truly inspiring to see that 4-H Ontario gained over 1,000 members and 360 clubs over the past year.



Congratulations to 4-H Ontario on a year of remarkable growth and achievement. We can't wait to see what's in store for the year ahead.

Sincerely,

**Hugh Maynard**  
Interim Chief Executive Officer, 4-H Canada

To find out more about 4-H Canada, please visit our website at [4-h-canada.ca](http://4-h-canada.ca) and connect with us on social media @4hCanada.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ONTARIO 4-H FOUNDATION CHAIR

For 25 years, the Ontario 4-H Foundation has been raising and managing funds for the long-term benefit of the 4-H program in Ontario. In 2023, the Foundation celebrated its 25th anniversary. To mark that milestone, we focused our fundraising efforts on our general endowment fund – the fund which supports sustainable growth and the longevity of 4-H at a provincial level. A sincere thank you to all of the supporters who donated to the endowment fund this year!

The Foundation's golf tournaments in Ottawa and Guelph were a resounding (and sold out!) success in 2023 and provided an opportunity to raise funds for the benefit of 4-H. The online auctions, in conjunction with the golf registrations, helped to raise over \$85,000! Planning is already well underway for the 2024 golf tournaments. Please join us on May 23, 2024, in Guelph and June 6, 2024, in Ottawa for a day of golfing, friendship and fun. Please consider registering a foursome and participating as a bidder or donor for the online and silent auctions.

The Foundation does not rely solely on fundraising but works hard to put every donation to work through sound financial management. After several tumultuous years in the market, including recent years of negative returns, 2023 saw modest growth and provided cause for optimism for our investments in 2024 and beyond. Our total investments under management rose to \$3.6 million by the end of 2023, thanks to fundraising initiatives and a tight control on expenses.

Despite the investment market tumult, the Foundation was able to disburse over \$100,000 in 2023. These disbursements comprised over \$45,000 in direct support for Council initiatives, nearly \$40,000 in donor-directed giving (including scholarships, bursaries and awards for 4-H participants) plus over \$20,000 in direct transfers to local 4-H associations. I was pleased to be able to meet the recipients of two of our scholarships at the 2023 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and

encourage all eligible 4-H members to apply for scholarships and bursaries this coming year.

This past year marked our second year operating under a new Memorandum of Understanding with 4-H Council. In 2022, the Foundation assumed direct management of our finances and donation receipting in order to reduce the burden on 4-H Ontario staff. Our new MOU allowed both the Council and Foundation to work towards our common goals and unified vision. This year we built on these exciting and important changes as we continued to work collaboratively with Council to streamline operations and to fundraise effectively for the future.

Like many 4-H associations and clubs, the Ontario 4-H Foundation has continued to use virtual meetings to conduct the business of the organization. This allows members of the Board to participate in meetings while minimizing organizational expenses. We look forward to another virtual AGM in 2024 and to welcoming attendees from across the province.

I would like to sincerely thank all the Foundation Trustees for volunteering countless hours of their time and expertise to ensure the Foundation succeeds in its mission to engage donors and raise funds for the long-term sustainability of 4-H in Ontario. Thank you as well to the Council Board of Directors and 4-H staff for all of their work to support the 4-H program. Special thanks to the volunteers from across the province, who deliver the program at the local level. Without you, there would not be the opportunity for youth to participate, learn and gain important life skills. Finally, thank you to our donors and supporters who give generously to support this wonderful 4-H program.

Yours in 4-H,

**Naomi Lutes**  
Chair, Ontario 4-H Foundation



**These amazing corporations and organizations partnered with 4-H to provide positive youth leadership development programming and for their contribution, we say “Thank You.”**

\*We appreciate all donations and have made a concerted effort to include every recognition and correct spelling as of the time of publishing.

#### 4-H Summit Club - \$500,000 +

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

#### Diamond - \$40,000 +

Central Canada Exhibition	Dairy Farmers of Ontario
Government of Canada - Community Services Recovery Fund	Kubota Canada
Government of Canada - Employment and Social Development Canada	Ontario Mutual Insurance Association
Government of Canada -Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Program	

#### Gold - \$25,000 +

Bayer Crop Science Inc	FS (Growmark)
Farm Mutual Re	RBC Foundation

#### Silver - \$10,000 +

Beef Farmers of Ontario	Grand River Raceway - The Grand River Agricultural Society	Ontario Trillium Foundation
EastGen	Grand Valley Fortifiers	Trouw Nutrition Canada Inc
Gay Lea Foods Co-operative Limited		Walker-Wood Foundation

#### Bronze - \$2,500 +

Anonymous (2)	Farm & Food Care Ontario	Ontario Sheep Farmers
Benevity Community Impact Fund	Heartland Veterinary Professional Corporation	Peavey Mart, TSC Stores & Mainstreet Hardware   Peavey Ind.
Corteva Agriscience	Masterfeeds	SeCan
Enterprise Holdings Foundation		

#### Emerald - \$1,000 +

Bluewater Piping	Grober Nutrition
Canadian Sheep Breeders Association	Hensall Co-op
DeLaval Inc	Valent Canada Inc

#### Tribute Gifts - In Honour, In Celebration and In Memory made in support of positive youth development!

\*We appreciate all donations and have made a concerted effort to include every recognition and correct spelling as of the time of printing.

#### Donations made in honour of:

Bob and Janet Baker	Robert Fera	Sheila Marie Phibbs	Sandy and Linda Yaw
Charles Bird	Henry Helder	Joseph Szentimry	
Ross Chambers	Ross Longyear	Doug Taylor	
Colton Devries	Lorna Mckercher	Bill and Marlene Topp	

#### Donations made in memory of:

Alan Maclean Ball	Allison Fawcett	Jacob Allan Martin	Ivan Schuknecht
Dean Beatty	Michael Haurilak	Alan McKinnon	Howard James Sikma
Stewart Bennett	Dr. Tim Henshaw	Kevin Metcalfe	Maurice and Phyliss Sisler
Charles Bird	David Holman	Ina Mills	John Skinner
Roland Bowman	Aiden Hulshof	Jim Needham	Cheryl Somerville
Cheryl Ann Brine	Ivan Gerald Hutchinson	Leonard Noel	Edith Unwin
Yvonne Chambers	Mary Lou Kellogg	Melissa O’Neill	Dorothy Watts
Catherine Chornoby (Gilfillan)	Kelly Langstaff	Gordon F. Ostrander	Ronald Werry
Mary Crogie-McNeely	Wayne Langstaff	Eileen Packet	Colton Windrem
Mary Cross	Morden Leeson	Art Robar	Dave Woodworth
	Linda Lemon	Dan Rose	

#### Thank you to our outstanding supporters for investing in 4-H young leaders.

\*We appreciate all donations and have made a concerted effort to include every recognition and correct spelling as of the time of publishing.

#### Invested \$5,000 +

Atlas Corporation	Harry & Jen Biermans (Biermans Farm)	Scott & Bonnie Wells
Terry Ballantyne	Gibson Patterson	Scott Werry

#### Invested \$1,000 +

Anonymous (2)	John den Haan	Laura Maybee
James & Dinnie Baker	Tonya Haverkamp	Peel Hardware
David Barrie	Elsie Herrle	Spin to Win Napanee
Benevity	Russel Hurst	Rod & Marlene Stork
Rob Black	David & Wendy Imrie	Cheryl Sullivan
Don & Lyn Brodhaecker	Junior Farmers	Kim Turnbull
Evelyn Chambers	Kindred Credit Union	Stacey Weagant
Dianne Emiry	Jerry & Joyce Martens	Leith Wheeler
Laurie Farquharson	Dennis & Helen Martin	Wilma & Henry Wydeven

#### Invested \$500 +

Canada Helps	Ralph & Judy Martin
David Clarke	Christine Oldfield
Bonnie den Haan	Pimco
Farm Credit Canada	Ron Schlegel
Sharon Goulding	Justin Sugawarar
KLT Farms Ltd	TD Canada Trust
Naomi Lutes	
Ralph Macartney	

Invested \$250+

Valerie Allen  
B & L Farm  
Taylor Black  
Elaine Bowman  
Nancy Brown  
Scott Buchan  
Paul Buchner  
Stuart Budd  
Megan Burnside-Poitras  
Canada Life  
Canadian Dairy Expo  
Ross Chambers  
John Core  
Cyber Grants  
Paul Downey  
EastGen  
Egg Farmers of Ontario  
Paul Erwin

John Fischer  
Further Franklin Funeral Home  
Daniel Ganesh  
Dianne Gracie  
Grand River AG  
Grand River Robotics  
Lorraine Holding  
Huron Commodities  
Invesco Canada Ltd  
Doug Jefferson Farm  
Peter Johnson  
Elizabeth Johnston  
Ketchum  
Kathryn Lambert  
John Langstaff  
Ingrid Larmer  
Patty Lasby  
Eric Lawlor

Brian Little  
Michael Machan  
Barry Malcolm  
John Mayes  
Norm McNaughton  
David Meek  
Josh Mills  
MNP  
Mosborough Country Market  
Enid Mountjoy  
Thom Mueller  
Patty Negrave  
Sandra Pitts  
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Stephen Roster  
Royal Bank of Canada  
John Scott

Semex  
Sheldon Creek Dairy  
Brenda Trask  
John Velthuis  
Doug Wagner  
Jennifer Waldroff  
Theresa Wever  
Bill Zwambag



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**CANADA**  
4-H Ontario

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Ontario 4-H Foundation Charitable #88888 0226 RR0001

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