



It's been a very busy first year at the helm of Foothills Academy Society. This was a year of significant growth and development as we put systems in place to continue to serve students, adults and families with Learning Disabilities as best as we possibly can. While the downturn in the economy has negatively affected us through decreased fundraising and increased demand for bursary support, we are fortunate to be in a stable financial situation.

We continue to have great pride in our students graduating from the School Program. With a consistent graduation rate of close to 100%, we are seeing our students prepared to enter the world of post-secondary education and the workplace, with the academic, social and emotional skills to be successful young adults. Our school program currently has reached its maximum capacity with waiting lists for some grades.

Collaboration between the School Program and Community Services continues to strengthen our best practices for individuals with Learning Disabilities. We use this experience and knowledge to impact children, adults and families throughout the city, province and beyond, whether it be through children participating in tutoring or camp or an educator learning new techniques to use in their classroom. Our child and youth programs and parent workshops directly affected more than 1,130 individuals this year, and over 2,500 educators participated in our workshops, webinars and online learning; which had the potential to impact over 50,000 students locally and far beyond.

We also continue to collaborate with a wide variety of stakeholders as we are representatives on local, provincial and national committees focused on education, private schools, mental health, Learning Disabilities and ADHD. All of these endeavours support the depth and breadth of knowledge and connections that are crucial in order to steer Foothills Academy Society in the right direction.

Along with our parent community, we have sought to work with all political parties to champion the need for stable funding for our school program. We were honoured to be able to tour political figures around Foothills Academy and we were happy to hear them recognize the unique nature of our organization. They understand the essential services that we provide, not just in the school program, but to the wider community through Community Services.

In June, we celebrated the achievements of one of our Founders, with the retirement of Gordon Bullivant, whose 35 year tenure as Executive Director led Foothills Academy to become the centre of excellence that it is today. Acknowledging Gordon's incredible efforts and achievements in the world of Learning Disabilities was a highlight of the year as it became evident just how many students and families Gordon's work has impacted; a legacy that we strive to continue.

The need for our services is greater than ever. As the population of Calgary swells, it brings more people through our doors for schooling, tutoring, counselling, assessments, recreation and professional development. Such growth, in conjunction with the downturn in the economy, has placed an added strain upon the bursary fund as we strive to continue to serve all families in need regardless of financial circumstance. The management and board are working diligently to steward the funds that we have available to us to carry out our mission. We would like to give a sincerely warm and heartfelt thank you to all of our supporters, without whom Foothills Academy would not be able to provide the services that we do.



Mr. Simon Williams  
Co-Executive Director

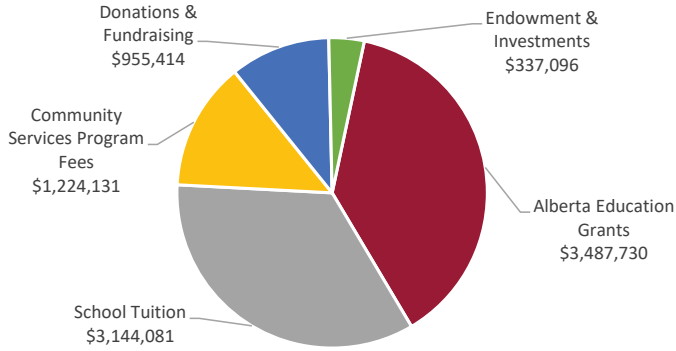


Dr. Karen MacMillan  
Co-Executive Director

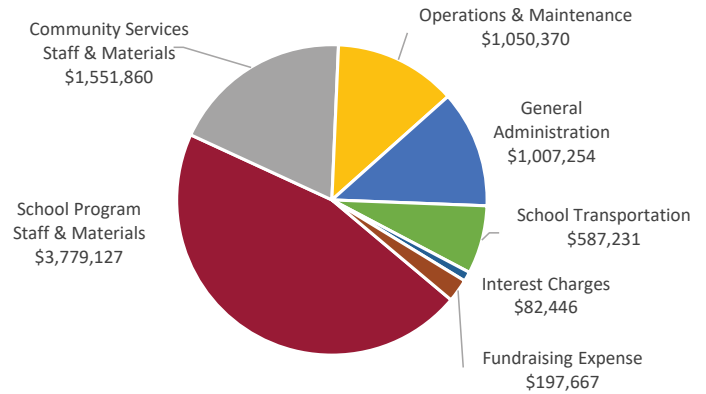
# 2015 - 16 Financial Summary

Note: Full Audited Financial Statements available

Sources of Income \$9,148,452



Cost of Services \$8,255,954



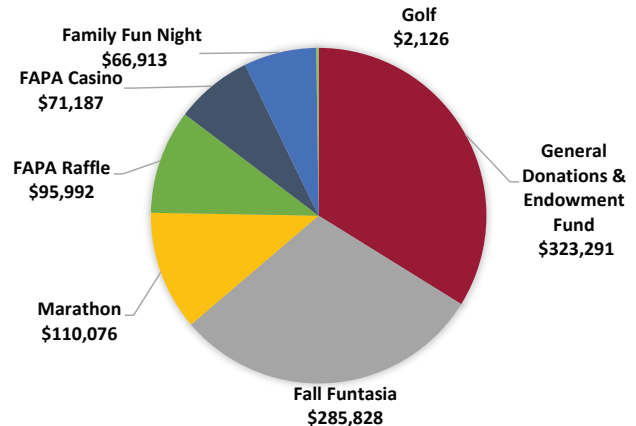
As a private school, Foothills Academy Society is completely financially responsible for all building repairs, upkeep and maintenance. Our original building is over 25 years old which is the expected lifespan of many mechanical and building envelope systems. In 2015 – 2016 we completed an extensive lifecycle assessment which has determined anticipated upcoming replacement costs for the next 25 years. Surplus funds from 2015 – 2016 will be used, in part, as the opening contribution to a maintenance reserve which will need additional yearly contributions to maintain the building in good condition.

It is a basic principle at Foothills to not turn a family away from programs and services because of their financial situation. In 2015 – 2016, this resulted in 123 families receiving some amount of bursary funding. Approximately 45% of the children attending the School Program received some amount of financial support. An additional 84 participants of Community Services programs and services received bursary assistance. In 2015-16, families receiving bursary support required larger amounts than in the past as the downturn in the economy affected more families. More bursary money was distributed in 2015-16 than has ever been distributed before..

## Fundraising and Donations



From a fundraising perspective, 2015 – 2016 was a difficult year. With the uncertainty in the economy, most charitable organizations in Calgary reported a decline in fundraising revenue and Foothills Academy was no exception, as we experienced a decrease of over 20% from the previous year. However, thanks to the generous sponsors, donors, parents and staff we were still able to raise \$955,414 for the Foothills Academy Society Bursary Fund. Nearly 250 participants attended our 31st Annual Fall Funtasia at Telus Spark and we debuted a new event, Family Fun Night, at the same venue with nearly 1400 students, parents and staff in attendance. Our golf revenue is lower than previous years as the timing of our Gordon Hoffman Charity Golf Classic fell into next fiscal year instead of this one. As a result, we only hosted one small golf tournament, the Friends of Foothills Golf Tournament, at Apple Creek Golf Course in June.



*“When we came to Foothills Academy, my grand-daughter could not read. She did not know what the term Math meant. She had been a social outcast at her public school. It was heartbreaking for me to observe and see the hurt every day she came home from school. She started Grade 3 at Foothills Academy. In December of that first year, she put her hand up in class so she could READ aloud to her classmates. Every day she came home happy. She is thriving and is very smart.”*



# Fulfilling our Mission in 2015 - 16

## SCHOOL PROGRAM

**285 students** were enrolled in our School Program (grades 3 to 12) receiving accommodations & supports according to individual need. We have reached the maximum number of students that our building will accommodate and have started a waiting list. A complete school performance report and three year plan submitted annually to Alberta Education is available on our website.

We continue to have great pride in our students graduating from the School Program. With a consistent graduation rate of close to 100%, we are seeing our students prepared to enter the world of post-secondary education and the workplace, with the academic, social and emotional skills to be successful young adults.



**Donations in Action:** 123 or 45% of our school families received financial assistance through the Foothills Academy Bursary Fund

*Camp Amicus gave my son the opportunity to be his authentic self and fit in with the other campers. He did not have to worry about not fitting in. It was such a relief for me to know that he was spending his time with qualified counselors who really "get" my son. Thank you so much!*

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**New in 2015-16**

<b>Read/Write &amp; Math</b>	317 participants = 11,802 hours of one-to-one instruction
<b>Assessment &amp; Intervention Services</b>	269 clients/participants
<b>Camp Amicus &amp; Amicus Recreation</b>	177 campers + 57 Rec participants

**Amicus Recreation:** Year-round recreation programs build upon the philosophy of the camp program and offer a wide variety of recreational opportunities throughout the year to children & youth.



**Donations in Action:** 84 people were able to participate in Community Services programs because of financial assistance through the Foothills Academy Bursary Fund

**Free Online Parent Workshops:** To spread of awareness with the latest, evidence-based research on Learning Disabilities and ADHD, we began to offer free online parent workshops.



310 parents attended Parent Workshops and online learning



2,531 educators participated in our Professional Development Workshops, webinars and Online Courses



Approximately 50,000 students benefited from their teachers participating in Foothills Academy Professional Development courses

## Our Mission

*The mission of Foothills Academy is to facilitate learning in persons, primarily youth and children, identified as having a Learning Disability by providing quality educational programs and a supportive environment for families and staff. We recognize that we are interdependent with our global community – by participating in research, public education, in-service and advocacy, through community service.*

### Board of Governors 2015-16

Jim Fries	Chair
Bob MacDonald	Vice-Chair
Harold Esche	Secretary
Leslie Archibald	Treasurer
Kathy Laycock	F.A.P.A. Rep.
Colleen Smereka	Governor
Christine Spring-Gifford	Governor
Penelope Hamilton	Governor
Simon Williams	Co-Executive Director
Karen MacMillan	Co-Executive Director

# Thank you to Our Generous Donors and Sponsors!



We sincerely appreciate each and every donation. Due to space limitations, we have had to limit this list to only include all contributions \$1,000 or more

## Parents and Staff

We'd like to say a special thank you to all our school parents and staff who contributed hundreds of items to, bought tickets for and purchased items at all our fundraising events and all the volunteers who donated their time to Foothills Academy Society this year!

## Individual Supporters

't Hart, John & Wilma  
Anderson, rent  
Anderson, Shelley  
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Boehringer, Tom & Sherri  
Bos, Cornelis & Josina  
Buckingham, Sally  
Burt, Laura  
Clark, Deborah Clark & Stephen Wood  
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Quintero, Orlando & Alicia  
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Sturko, Daniel  
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Thorarinson, Larus  
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Van Tuyl, Lianne & Stephen  
Van Winkoop, Tony  
Walkowiak, Marek & Brenda  
Wallace, Jamie & Kim  
Weston, Valerie  
Willis, Colleen & Ross  
Wyne, Brenda

## Corporate Donos

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## Corporate Sponsors

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Olympia Trust  
Parkland R.V. Resort Ltd.

## Community Groups, Foundations, Granting Agencies & Partners

B'nai Brith Calgary Lodge No. 816  
Calgary Mountainview Lions Club  
Children's Hospital Aid Society  
Nickle Family Foundation  
Pirie Foundation  
Raymond James Ltd.  
Samaritan Club of Calgary  
The Hotchkiss Family Foundation  
The Prosser Charitable Foundation  
Viewpoint Foundation  
WestJettters Caring For Our Community Program

*"For the first time in school he has found his confidence and believes he can succeed. He now has intrinsic motivation, and is happier. He believes he can go on to post secondary education and talks about a future. You need to know that the prognosis for children with DCD to fall victim to depression, addiction, and suicide is higher than average. He is very much an at-risk kid who has flourished because of the program Foothills Academy offers. He's becoming organized, and has a sense of pride in showing us his marks."*



**FOOTHILLS  
ACADEMY  
SOCIETY**

A Leader in Learning Disabilities since 1979

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