

## Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my first report as chairperson of the Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children (ACFC) for the years 2015 and 2016.

I begin by thanking my predecessor, Mr Neil Jacobs who served faithfully on the Charity for twenty-five years. At our 2016 AGM, the Rev. Perry Cooper, on behalf of the Charity expressed his thanks and appreciation to Neil and highlighted some of the changes that had taken place under his twenty years as chairperson.

*"During his time, the initial charity of a company of 100 was downsized to 50 to 36, then 25 to our current membership; land was sold in Harbour Grace, Conception Bay South, St. John's (Livingstone Street and Georgetown areas) and the money reinvested into the Charity; the Board of Managers meetings were reduced to two annually with the fall meeting usually held in either Central or Western; saw many come and go on the Charity, and wrote numerous letters to families on the death of loved ones (Heber Walters, Richard Hounsell, Peter Godfrey, long serving treasurer Albert Chatwood to name but a few) and always provided great counsel, fairness and judgement as chairperson."*

(ACFC AGM minutes 2016)

In 1854, cholera swept through St. John's leaving many orphans. Bishop Edward Feild provided a house at the rear of the Cathedral Rectory and on Ash Wednesday 1855 seven boys and one girl from ages 4-8 were welcomed. By 1857, a building fund saw an enlarged building which housed a matron, 2 widows and 14 orphans. The numbers by 1868 had increased to 12 boys and 12 girls.



In 1917, the Job family presented the Orphanage Authority their summer home 'Exon', Long Pond which housed 48 girls. The following year Sir Edgar Bowring donated the Steers farm, Long Pond for a boys orphanage named the Shannon Munn Memorial. This property was sold in 1965 and the boys were housed



in Pleasantville. Following the destruction of the Girls orphanage, the 47 boys and 37 girls were housed in the new 'Exon House' incorporating the T.R. Job Memorial Wing for girls and the Shannon Munn Memorial Wing for boys. By 1971, Exon House was closed and the building sold to the provincial government. Under the vision of Archbishop Robert L. Seaborn, the Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children was incorporated with the mandate to administer the funds in accordance with the fundamental principles that guided the establishment of the original orphanages.



The Articles of Association provides three levels of administration:

1. The Charity is the body which draws membership from the three dioceses who each appoint six members and meets in the spring for the AGM. The bishops or delegates are ex-officio members.
2. The ten member Board of Managers is elected from the Charity and meets immediately following the AGM and again in the late fall. The Board of Managers implements policies and manages the financial resources of the Charity.
3. Each bishop appoints a diocesan Board of Trustees. This body meets regularly to review applications for assistance following the guidelines that have been set down by the Charity.

The Work of the Board of Managers:

The past two years saw a review of the mandate of the ACFC with the Venerable John Meade taking the leadership. This working group presented its report at the 2015 Fall meeting. The report was received at the AGM 2016. The highlights of the report included:

- How ACFC reflects the worldwide Marks of Mission of the worldwide Anglican communion;
- The number of children we assisted directly for Diocesan camps;
- Increased educational bursaries to \$500 twice annually; and
- As a result of the downturn in investment income the concern that we were spending more than the interest income by drawing down on the capital investment.

The 2016 Fall meeting saw the Board of Managers take steps to slow the eroding of the capital by maintaining our full grants to children as per the guidelines of the Charity and decreasing the Grants paid to each Diocesan Camp operations. The Charity will try to re-establish the custom of reinvesting 5% of the income back into capital. In an attempt to increase our visibility, we have approached Mr. Kevin Smith, the Planned Giving Consultant for Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador to write an article for Anglican Life on the work of the Charity and how people can make contributions through their estate planning.

#### The Work of the Trustees:

Each year the Board of Trustees of each diocese considers numerous applications, whether it is for camp, clothing, education bursaries, fire or medical assistance. Each Trustee committee is dependent on the local priest (or designate) to make applications. The knowledge that we are able to assist families in this way is truly a blessing to all who sit on each committee. The activity table shows the changing demographics within our province, both in rural areas where young families have moved away, and in larger centres where young families are not church connected.

2015	Families	Children	Bursaries	Camp	Medical
Central	42	93	5	34	3
Eastern	141	286	10	13	9
Western	107	210	4	52*	10
2016					
Central	56	94	5	28	4
Eastern	111	199	5	10	6
Western	88	165	5	13	5

\* includes 30 children assisted for a summer day camp sponsored by the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Corner Brook

I thank every member who sits on each level of administration, and especially to the executive members who help the ACFC run efficiently and within our guidelines. Over the years ACFC has benefited financially through memorial donations and endowments from estates. I ask you to consider the work of the ACFC and those we assist in your prayers and if possible in your own wills, estate planning and donations.

*Father John+*

The Rev. Canon John Courage  
ACFC Chairperson

Photographs from the Official Opening booklet of Exon House, June 8, 1967: Job family 'Exon Cottage' with extension; Bowring family 'Steers Farm' Shannon Munn Memorial (site of the present Arts and Culture Centre) and Exon House with T.R. Job Memorial Wing and the Shannon Munn Memorial Wing