

Frontier College | Frontier College Foundation

2006



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FOUNDATION  FONDATION
DE COLLÈGE
FRONTIÈRE



Literacy. Learning for Life.

annual report

Letter from the Chairs



Christina Tari

Chair, Frontier College



Nora Farrell

Chair, Frontier College Foundation

This report will provide you with some examples of how Frontier College and the Frontier College Foundation are working together to provide as many opportunities as possible for Canadians to improve their literacy skills.

The Frontier College Board has overseen a change in the organizational structure of the College during this past year. Literacy training throughout Canada is now delivered through “hubs” in the west, Ontario, Québec and the east. This has allowed us to maintain our national presence, while decreasing operational expenses. Significant new funding was obtained from the Ontario government which will allow us to expand our services further. We are very proud, as well, to have built upon our partnership with The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, James K. Bartleman, through the delivery of Aboriginal Summer Literacy Camps in Northern Ontario. This initiative represents a new community of Canadian children and youth to whom the College delivers literacy programs.

The Frontier College Foundation complements and supports the work of the College by raising funds within the corporate sector, from individuals and foundations and via special events. The funds raised are used to support the programs developed and carried out by College staff and volunteers. The Foundation Board is also responsible for ensuring that the financial assets of the Foundation are invested and disbursed wisely for the short and long term benefit of the College. The Foundation exceeded many of its fundraising targets this year and at the same time, reduced expenses. We are continually expanding our fundraising initiatives and are particularly proud of the success of Frontier College’s SCRABBLE® Night in Canada.

We thank you for your interest in the work of Frontier College and the Frontier College Foundation and are especially thankful for the support of those who made a contribution this year. We pledge to continue to make every effort to ensure that the valuable assistance that you provide as donors, sponsors, volunteers, staff, and friends is used to the greatest advantage to achieve a fully literate Canada.

Frontier College

35 Jackes Avenue
Toronto, ON M4T 1E2
1-800-555-6523

www.frontiercollege.ca

Frontier College charitable number:

10740 8445 RR0001

Frontier College Foundation charitable number:

89254 9965 RR0001

Under the distinguished patronage of Her Excellency the
Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M.,
C.D., Governor General of Canada.



Frontier College volunteers spent over 107,600 hours tutoring. If an hour of tutoring is valued at \$18.10¹, the value of tutoring by Frontier College volunteers is over \$2,022,000.

1. \$18.80/hour of literacy tutoring,
from Community Literacy of Ontario

This year, our 107th, has been a time of action and accomplishment for everyone at Frontier College. We completed our strategic planning process, undertook an organizational review to prepare us for future challenges, held an exciting national conference for our staff and volunteers and taught and supported more than 50,000 children, teens and adults through our programs.

Frontier College is also working to have Canada implement a national literacy action plan. We were part of a Canada-wide group of educators that the federal government organized to prepare such a plan. The group devised an exciting ten-year plan to teach up to one million adults and to reduce the high school drop out rate by half over the next decade. The task now is to have the plan implemented and we are working hard to achieve this. There have been enough conferences, reports and workshops about literacy. The goal now is to scale up the programs already in place so that, as Stephen Lewis has said, there are fewer people doing studies and more people studying.

I wish to thank all of our staff, volunteers and students for accomplishments you have made this year. Working for literacy is rewarding but it is often difficult and I appreciate all the work you do to strengthen your community through literacy action.

I also want to acknowledge and thank our many donors – individuals, foundations, corporations and government partners. Your support and your confidence in us is greatly appreciated by all Frontier College members

Letter from the President



John O'Leary

*President, Frontier College
and Frontier College Foundation*



More than 80 community workshops and conferences were held across the country, involving over 2,800 people.

“The learner I work with was a really shy new girl at the school when I first met her. After a few weeks in the Frontier College homework club, she’s really come out of her shell. It made my day when her teacher told me that she brags about her tutor!”



Winnipeg

The Frontier College Junior Chefs cooking program is the result of a regular homework club gone wrong. The kids weren't bringing their homework with them and they were trying to discourage the volunteers from coming back. The volunteers tried everything they could think of – they brought in activity sheets, math problems and books, but to no avail.

Despite the bad start, our staff person was determined to make this homework club work as she knew that the kids would benefit greatly from enrichment that they enjoyed. After some trial and error with science activities and experiments, she landed on the idea of a cooking club. The kids would have to read recipes, write out ingredients lists and do math to double or triple the recipes so there was enough to go around at the end of the session. Needless to say, this approach proved successful.

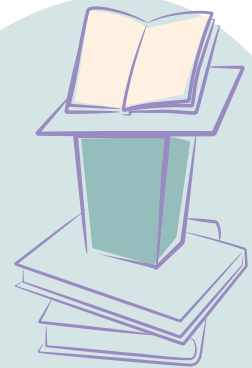
The program is still running three years later and has been a huge success! During that first year, 43 kids attended once a week for 17 weeks and more than half of them were boys!

West

"I am working with an adult who is struggling with math. I have been able to show her that although the concepts may seem abstract, they have very useful applications in real life."



Frontier College presentations and awareness events were attended by over 19,000 Canadians.



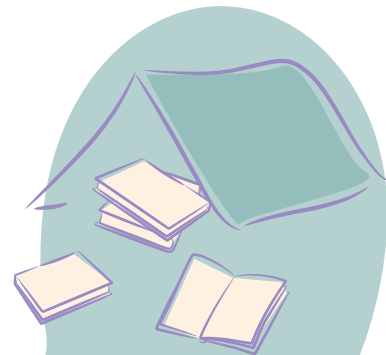
Our coordinator in Hamilton first met Sufia at a Frontier College homework club in the Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre. The club was started in response to a request from the local Somali community, many of whom had spent more than ten years in Kenyan refugee camps before getting to Canada. The children of these families had little or no schooling at all and many of the adults had no literacy skills in their own language. When Frontier College was asked to provide assistance to some of the elementary school children, Sufia came along as a volunteer and interpreter.

“When I first came to Canada, I couldn’t understand what people were trying to tell me. I have now been studying English for over one year and I go to school every day to get my high school diploma. When I was in the refugee camp, I didn’t have the chance to go to school because I am the only girl in my family so they depended on me to cook and clean.”

Sufia’s determination since she arrived in Canada, along with her joy at being in school, mean that she now speaks and writes English with enough fluency to volunteer at the homework club where she helps the kids and volunteers work together. As one way to thank Sufia, Frontier College has given her books to help her pursue her dream of literacy in English.

“I really can’t express my appreciation for giving me this dictionary. I didn’t have one in my home and didn’t know where to find one as I didn’t have any books at all in the refugee camp.”

Hamilton



More than 6,700 children participated in Frontier College summer programs and reading tents.

Ontario



“I could not be happier about having this opportunity to be a tutor. It’s so rewarding to see the children’s reading skills improve and continue to improve with each session.”



Montreal

Last summer, our coordinator in Montreal received a call from a social worker who was looking for a tutor for a 10 year old boy. The boy had a developmental disability and the tutoring would focus on practical life skills like learning the names of streets in his neighbourhood so he wouldn't get lost. The social worker set up a meeting for the Frontier College staff person and the mother of this boy so they could get more information from each other to better suit the volunteer to the child. In advance, the social worker had informed our coordinator that the mother had been improving her literacy skills and was hoping some day to be able help her son more herself. However, during the meeting the boy's mother declared that she had a diploma from university! This puzzled the coordinator until she realized that the mother had been working with a Frontier College tutor through our program at Université du Québec à Montréal for years and had received a certificate of accomplishment which she had proudly displayed on her wall.

This courageous mother is now working on writing an autobiography with one Frontier College tutor and her son is being helped by another!



Over 280 community partners received the benefit of free Frontier College services, like tutor training and program set-up and support valued at over \$350,900².

Québec

"I work with high school students who are at risk of dropping out. Sometimes it seems that they are never getting ahead with school work. And then, this year, one of the students I've been working with made the honour roll! It was amazing."

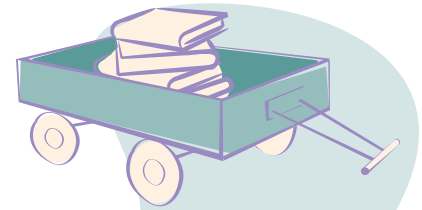


2. \$1,240/community partner, based on a formula developed by Frontier College which accounts for materials, staff time and expertise.

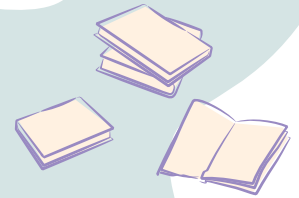


Fredericton

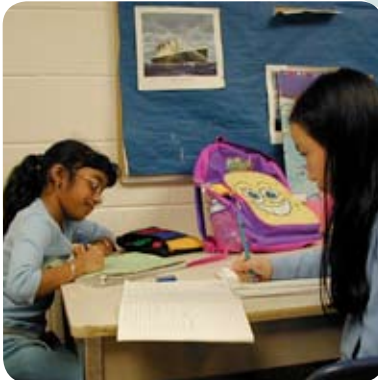
It is not uncommon to come across learners of all ages who have low self esteem because of low literacy skills. A tutor in Fredericton knows this too well. She was matched with a young man who was troubled and discouraged. Try as she might, she could not interest him in reading anything or in writing. As a journalism student, our tutor often carried a small video camera which one day caught the boy's eye. They started using the camera to learn. They read and followed instructions and eventually, made and edited short videos. The young man's interest in learning was piqued and he began pursuing a high school equivalency diploma. He even landed a work/study apprenticeship with a local business. When his teacher called to thank the volunteer, she remarked on how confident and happy he was and how other people in his life had noticed such a change. With tears in her eyes, she exclaimed that the tutor had saved the boy's life! It turns out that the young man had spent months in hospital and had attempted suicide before he was matched with the tutor. Unbeknownst to her, the Frontier College tutor had helped this young man change the way people saw him and how he saw himself.



Over 37,000 books were distributed free-of-charge to Canadian children and adults. If an average book is valued at \$4.00, Frontier College distributed books worth over \$148,500 for free.



East



"Although the learner I'm working with is still struggling at times, together we went from barely getting through a picture book to reading a novel! It has been a phenomenal experience for me to help this individual discover that she has talent and is unique."



Donors to the Annual Campaign

Our sincere thanks go to all of the individuals who support Frontier College through monthly giving, planned giving and annual donations. We are also grateful to the corporate and individual supporters who help to make our special events so successful. All donors' names are listed with their permission. Some donors have chosen to remain anonymous.

\$100,000 +

Ontario Trillium
Foundation
Starbucks Coffee Company

\$50,000-\$99,999

Bell Canada
Great-West Life, London
Life and Canada Life
MasterCard Canada
Morrison Foundation
TD Bank Financial Group

\$25,000-\$49,999

Bouchercon 2004
Citigroup Foundation
Manulife Financial
Molson Donations Fund
State Street Trust
Company Canada
Toronto Star

\$10,000-\$24,999

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Guardian Group of
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MTS Allstream Inc.
Poppy Fund
RBC Foundation
Tate & Lyle PLC
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\$5,000-\$9,999

J. P. Bickell Foundation
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Honda Canada
Joy Levine
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Meighen Foundation
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\$1,000-\$2,499

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Chris Thomlinson
Ralph Winship
Anonymous (6)

Legacy Gifts

Charitable bequests are personally significant gifts, demonstrating great faith in an institution, and a commitment to ensuring its successful future. Frontier College Foundation would like to recognize the following bequests:

Estate of Jean Caya
Estate of Florence Preston
Estate of Margery J. Warren

Special Events

Special Events raise hundreds of thousands of dollars every year for Frontier College. We are extremely grateful to our volunteers and our corporate partners. Their support makes these events possible. And thank you also to the participants who make these events such a great success year after year.

Frontier College's SCRABBLE® Night in Canada Corporate Challenge – presented by
TSX Group Inc.
Frontier College's Bonspiel for Literacy – presented by Ridley Windows & Doors
PGIs Play the Red Barn – presented by Embassy of Hope Foundation
Peter Gzowski Invitational Golf Tournament – presented by Manulife Financial
Giller Light Bash Toronto
Giller Light Bash Winnipeg
CanWest Global Foundation's Raise-a-Reader Campaign – presented by The National Post

Donors to the Great Expectations Campaign

We thank the following individuals and organizations that have made pledges to Great Expectations: the Campaign for Frontier College. Their foresight and generosity will support the innovation and visionary thinking that is the foundation of Frontier College's 107 years of service to the community. Some donors have chosen to remain anonymous.

\$250,000 Plus

CIBC

\$100,000-\$249,999

ADP Brokerage Services Group

AIM Funds Management Inc.

Bank of Nova Scotia

McKinsey & Company

RBC Foundation

\$50,000-\$99,999

AGF Management Limited

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McLean Budden Limited

Morrison Williams Investment

Management Ltd.

Talvest Fund

Management Inc.

TSX Group Inc.

WB Family Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999

Altamira Investment Services Inc.

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Brompton Limited

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Marvin & Palmer Associates, Inc.

McMillan Binch Mendelsohn LLP

National Bank Financial Inc.

Publicis

Sanchez Computer Assoc.

Sun Life Financial Inc.

Thomson Financial

Wynford Group

\$10,000-\$24,999

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World Wide Meetings & Motivation

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Piller Sausages &

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\$1,000-\$2,499

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Our heartfelt thanks to the following levels and departments of government for their support in 2005-2006:

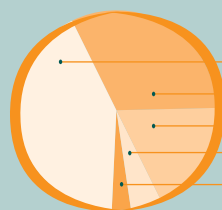
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Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Government of Canada
Ontario Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services
Ontario Ministry of Education
Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
City of Toronto

Frontier College – Summarized Statement of Financial Position

Full financial statements are available upon request.

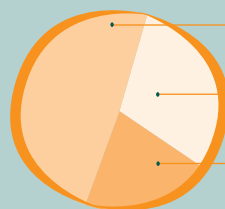
March 31, 2006,
with comparative
figures for 2005

ASSETS	2006	2005
Current Assets	476,539	477,804
Investments	0	383,539
Capital Assets	221,229	244,307
	\$ 697,768	\$ 1,105,650
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2006	2005
Current Liabilities	350,488	819,105
Other Obligations	166,664	184,006
Net Assets	180,616	102,539
	\$ 697,768	\$ 1,105,650



REVENUE \$3,608,689

42%	Government	1,499,480
32%	Frontier College Foundation – Annual	1,151,700
18%	Frontier College Foundation – Endowment	650,000
5%	Other	186,500
3%	Events	121,009



EXPENSES \$3,530,612

49%	Volunteer Management and Skills Development (tutoring, working with community partners)	1,707,266
30%	Program Innovation and Delivery (direct service to individuals)	1,081,918
21%	Community Capacity Building (conferences, workshops, resource development)	741,428

The Frontier College Foundation – Summarized Statement of Financial Position

Full financial statements are available upon request.

March 31, 2006,
with comparative
figures for 2005

ASSETS	2006	2005
Current Assets	1,560,569	748,302
Investments	12,875,227	12,972,361
	\$ 14,435,796	\$ 13,720,663
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2006	2005
Current Liabilities	16,379	20,085
Net Assets	14,419,417	13,700,578
	\$ 14,435,796	\$ 13,720,663