



2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

AFC

ARCTIC FUNDERS
COLLABORATIVE

A group of people are sitting on the floor in a room, looking towards a screen displaying a presentation. The room has a high ceiling with exposed pipes and a large window with white curtains. The people are dressed in casual to business-casual attire. The overall atmosphere is professional and collaborative.

AFC

ARCTIC FUNDERS
COLLABORATIVE

AFC IS A PROJECT ON
MAKEWAY'S SHARED
PLATFORM, WHICH
PROVIDES GOVERNANCE,
HUMAN RESOURCES,
FINANCIAL, AND GRANT
MANAGEMENT FOR
LEADING ENVIRONMENTAL
AND SOCIAL PROJECTS
ACROSS CANADA,
ALLOWING PROJECTS TO
MORE EFFECTIVELY
ACHIEVE THEIR MISSION.

A background image showing a group of people in a meeting or workshop setting, with some individuals standing and others seated, all appearing to be engaged in a collaborative activity. The image is partially obscured by a green overlay on the left side.

ARCTIC FUNDERS COLLABORATIVE

MISSION STATEMENT

The Arctic Funders Collaborative promotes more informed and effective grantmaking to support healthy Arctic communities and ecosystems. We leverage support for opportunities across the Arctic that advance land and water stewardship, capacity building for Indigenous peoples, and community and cultural well-being.

VISION

To facilitate continued growth in Arctic philanthropy by building capacity within the philanthropic sector to support Arctic initiatives, and strengthening connections among philanthropic institutions and Northern, especially Indigenous communities.

OUR KEY OBJECTIVES

- Encourage, inform, and grow philanthropic investment in the Arctic by serving as a resource and support network for new and established Arctic Funders
- Work as a collective to advance and create awareness about environment and social issues impacting the North and its sub-regions
- Lead and share best practices that strengthen relationship building and collaborative actions among philanthropic, Indigenous and Northern Communities
- Maximize the impact of our collective resources by collaborating and developing strategic partnerships that advance priorities led by the people of the North

OUR COMMUNITY

2021 Members

444S Foundation
Alaska Conservation Fund
Climate Justice Resilience Fund
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
Makeway
Lush
NoVo Foundation
Oak Foundation
Oceankind
Pew Charitable Trust U.S.
Talmapias Trust
Trust for Mutual Understanding
Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation
Windrose Foundation

AFC Staff

Elizabeth Liske, Director
Shene Catholique-Valpy, AIF Manager

AFC Support

Lila Erasmus, Cultural Advisor



Message from AFC Cultural Advisor

LILA ERASMUS

Mahsi for the chance to speak to the AFC team. During this significant time in our history, I feel honored to be having this experience with everyone. I am confident that in 10 years we will all be marvelling at the change that has occurred and I am proud to be a part of the team that seeks to make that change.

We are in an era of reconciliation, and with that we all have responsibility to make change that will support strong indigenous identities, peoples, communities, nations. It is important we all understand that fundamentally we all carry that responsibility: as Indigenous peoples, to re/learn our culture, language, stories, history; and, as non-Indigenous peoples to acknowledge your own roots, lands, territories, and the space you hold within Indigenous lands and how that has allowed you to acquire knowledge, experiences and prosperity. In Canada, we talk about honoring and implementing the Treaties and understand us all to be Treaty people, Indigenous or not. I love this, as it takes the burden of change off of just me and puts it onto all of us, that is beautiful.

As Dene, we understand that we are connected spiritually to our lands, waters, air, environment. We do not separate ourselves, but we have been separated, against our will. We struggle today to return to those teachings, to the land and long to feel those connections again. It is at our fingertip's and all we have to do is make an offering and ask the Ancestors to return us to those teachings: our requests will be honored. They will shift the whole universe in order to make it happen for us, they will put the guiding spirits, people, teacher's in our path for us to learn...that is the power of the Ancestors and all we have to do is ask!

So, as we look to support Indigenous peoples in their quest to return to their lands, relations, spirit and teachings, remember to trust the process, and in 10 years we will marvel in knowing that the AFC provided the agency and forum to allow for the Ancestors to teach.

Mahsi for allowing me to share in this time with you.

Message from AFC Co-Chair

STEVE ELLIS

Dear friends:

During the tumult of the previous year, it has been important for me (as I suspect it has been for all of us) to seek out spaces and efforts that are at once grounding, but also have the promise of transformation and renewal.

For me that has meant time with family and being on the land. In the north, we are fortunate to have large landscapes that have been well cared for by the generations before us. Nature remains much as she was centuries ago. Time on this land has a simplicity for me and my family that has been an essential respite over the past year.

Time on this land has also reinforced for me what is important, and how we must emerge going forward. At the root, we need to renew our efforts to understand our belonging in this world, and to revitalize our connections amongst ourselves and all species.

This effort is increasingly what is at the core of the AFC. Together, we have taken a conscious step towards grounding ourselves in the ways of being of northern Indigenous peoples, towards better connecting with the people of the places where we seek to make impact. We understand that our work can only be meaningful and durable if it is guided by Indigenous worldviews and leadership. This journey can be uncomfortable at times, as it can be challenging to our perceptions of what is normal, effective, and efficient.

Yet we remain committed to this journey, to fostering the honest and open learning space that the AFC has become. A place where discomfort is OK, where no question is dumb, and where relationships are much deeper than the typical professional transactions. A place where we can deepen our connection.

Let us hope that we can gather again soon in the places of the Arctic that we love. It's been too long since we've been together.



Message from Director

ELIZABETH LISKE

A hunter goes hunting for a caribou. The caribou is kin, so when a hunter sets out on this journey, they do so with respect, good intentions and knowledge that has been passed down to them from generation to generation. The hunter finds themselves on the land where they trek with safety, care and honesty. When a hunt is successful, they return with the whole caribou and carefully handle it from beginning to end. Each and every part of the caribou is used. This is sustainability. The hunter shares the caribou with his family and the community or their clan. This is Indigenous philanthropy.

Settler philanthropy is similar but there are many ways in which it can learn from Indigenous Philanthropy. The AFC is exploring this and working towards weaving the two philanthropic ways together - this is the path I chose for the Arctic Funders Collaborative.

It is a new path for the collaborative but together we will survive and adapt. We embark on this challenge and it will further the difference we are trying to make in the Arctic.

Like the hunter, we will set good intentions and go out onto the land (our new path) with respect and welcome the knowledge that we are fortunate to receive through the AFC's Cultural Advisor(s).

It is my hope that the AFC's Cultural Advisor(s) will be the key to deepening the memberships relationship within the Arctic. To be the guiding light to more effective grantmaking to support healthy Arctic communities and ecosystems. It is a honour to have this Cultural support. Where will it take us? What will we learn? I am just as curious as you. I believe we will be leaders on a good path. This is trust-based philanthropy. And, like the hunter we may be successful.



Year In Review

AFC activities, engagements and more:

- Establishing and implementing the AFC Cultural Advisor role and responsibilities
- AFC Director becomes an Environment Funders Canada Board member
- The Circle: All my Relations panel on Real Truth about working in Settler Philanthropy
- 2nd World Conference of Indigenous Women panel on Transforming Philanthropy

AFC Film Event

In May 2021, the AFC hosted a film event and held an open discussion with guests. The film that was viewed was Nahanni: River of Forgiveness documentary. Our featured guests were Mr. Lawrence Nayally, Mr. Herb Norwegian and Ms. Rochelle Yendo, who shared their profound experience with building a moosehide canoe.

AFC Annual Meeting

The AFC Annual Meeting 2020 was held online due to the pandemic. The meeting covered COVID-19 ER response and more, where membership gathered online for a couple hours in September, October, November and December where quality time was spent virtually.

2021-2022 Looking Forward

At the AFC, we are currently still adapting because of the world-wide pandemic that continues to loom over us. However, that has not stopped us from developing innovative ways to connect and learn.

What AFC membership can look forward to:

- Bannock & Tea - quarterly on-line get togethers
- Culture Advisor - development of roles and responsibilities which will result in weaving Settler and Indigenous philanthropy
- Film Events - periodic on-line get togethers to have open discussions on Arctic films
- Communications - recreate/ redesign our internal communication tool (ie. Podcast)
- Programming - developing other innovative ways to make a difference in the Arctic



MakeWay Charitable Society

Arctic Funders' Collaborative Operating Budget

For the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021	TOTAL	AFC Core Operations	AFC Annual Meeting	AIF Activities (Rollup)
REVENUE				
Awards Revenue	154,000	20,000		134,000
Membership Fees	235,500	235,500		-
Other Revenue	-			-
Total Revenue	389,500	255,500	-	134,000
PROGRAM EXPENSES				
TCI Overhead Allocation	42,030	25,950		16,080
Staff Costs	188,200	124,000		64,200
Staff Professional Development	15,000	10,000		5,000
Consultants and Professional Services	35,000	5,000		30,000
Gifts and Honoraria [Note 1]	51,800		5,000	46,800
Office Expenses [Note 2]	20,700	17,900		2,800
Travel	10,000	-		10,000
Finance Expenses	500	100		400
Communication/Outreach [Note 3]	19,000	1,500		17,500
Events/Programming	12,500	2,500	5,000	5,000
Grants to Qualified Donees [Note 4]	45,000			45,000
Internal Transfers [Note 5]	-	60,000	(10,000)	(50,000)
Total Program Expenses	439,730	246,950	-	192,780
Revenue over Expenses	(50,230)	8,550	-	(58,780)
Opening Balance	262,817	48,771		214,046
Ending Balance	212,587	57,321	-	155,266

Notes:

[1] Gifts and honoraria under AIF are for AIF Advisor Stipends.

[2] Office expenses include: rent, computer and equipment, phones and conference call, meetings, subscriptions.

[3] Communications and outreach amounts under AIF are for Momentum Fellowship annual dues for two staff.

[4] Grants to qualified donees are for the McConnell-funded AIF grants within Canada.

[5] Internal transfers are to cover reduced AFC annual meeting costs, and for partial coverage of AIF Manager Position.

**MakeWay Charitable Society
Arctic Funders Collaborative
Statement of Financial Position
At March 31, 2021**

	Amount
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash	\$430,930.38
Accounts Receivable	\$53,257.83
GST/HST on Purchases	\$431.17
Total Assets	\$484,619.38
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	
Current Liabilities	
WCB Payable	\$2.64
Due to / from Accounts Payable	\$6,778.56
Total Current Liabilities	\$6,781.20
Fund Balance	
Fund Balance	
Opening Fund Balance	\$262,817.34
Net Income	\$215,020.84
Total Fund Balance	\$477,838.18
Total LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	\$484,619.38

**MakeWay Charitable Society
Arctic Funders Collaborative
Statement of Operations
For the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021**

	Actuals
Revenue	
Awards and Donations	\$275,148.65
Membership Fees	\$172,588.87
Other Income	\$55,169.02
Interest - Bank	\$1,626.52
Total Revenue	\$504,533.06
Expense	
Staff Expenses	\$150,601.50
Contractors and Temporary Staff	\$6,630.47
Honorariums	\$44,796.00
Office Expenses	\$25,493.97
Travel and Vehicle Expenses	\$1,997.62
Finance Expenses	\$875.00
Communications and Outreach	\$2,380.96
Events and Programming	\$2,846.95
Total Ordinary Expenses	\$235,622.47
Overhead - Project	\$48,889.75
Overhead - Salary Recovery	\$5,000.00
Total Other Income and Expenses	\$53,889.75
Total Expenses	\$289,512.22
Net Income	\$215,020.84



Arctic Indigenous Fund

The Arctic Indigenous Fund launched in 2018 is being led by young Indigenous leaders from across the Arctic. As the fund continues to learn and grow, they have recruited a new Canada Advisor, entered their second grant-cycle and gathered for their annual meeting hosted by the Sápmi Advisors in their home territory.

OUR PURPOSE

Indigenous-led philanthropy in the Arctic that is rooted in Indigenous cultures, traditions, and self-identified goals for the future

OUR VISION

Thriving Indigenous communities in the Arctic

OUR VALUES

The values that will inform the way we work include:

Acknowledge our communities make decisions for themselves on their own terms;

Help one another, because we are strong together;

Embrace the healing power of the lands and water;

Treat each other and our partners with respect, patience, and kindness;

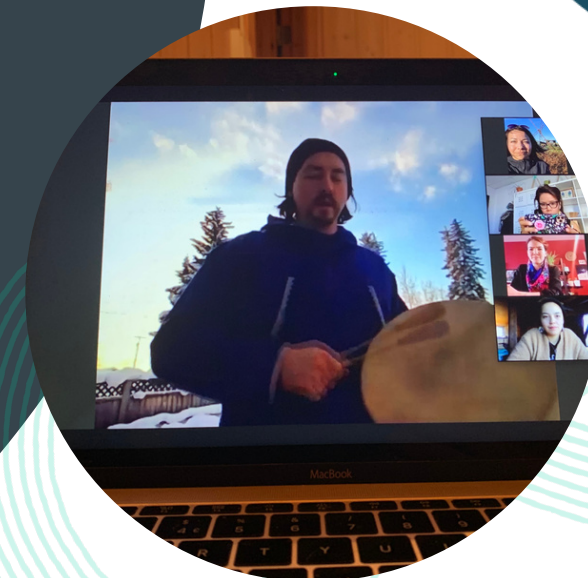
Carry out our responsibilities in a manner that is flexible, knowledgeable, transparent, accountable, and inclusive; and

Contribute to the strength of our communities, while maintaining a spirit of humility, humour, and generosity

Annual Meeting 2021

The Arctic Indigenous Fund (AIF), alongside their colleagues in the philanthropic sector, has been and continue to adapt during this world-wide pandemic we are all experiencing. There were transitions, changes and delays within the fund. It provided them with learning opportunities, specifically when they had to go virtual for their annual meeting. The advisors were meant to gather in Greenland but this was not possible as strict travel restrictions were still effect and although they tried to wait it out, they made the difficult decision to gather on-line instead. In February 2021, the AIF held four on-line Annual meeting sessions that encompassed team building, looking back on their past work together - Alaska, Canada, Greenland and Sapmí, region's advisor, together, communicated their strengths/weakness and together came up with solutions to improve their fund.

Although having a meeting virtually was not ideal that did not stop the 8 Indigenous Advisors from finding their focus on how they can further their work - making a difference and continuing to have positive impacts in the Arctic. A strategy was developed to increase the flow of philanthropic dollars to Indigenous initiatives. The fundraising stage in their fund-life has commenced and the goal is that they continue to support Indigenous communities in the Arctic and provide leadership opportunities to emerging Indigenous leaders.



Funding

Grant Cycle Two - Indigenous Youth

Applications Received:	25
Amount Requested:	\$612,714
Applications Approved:	20
Amount Granted:	\$454,841

Grant Cycle Three

The Arctic Indigenous Fund will launch grant cycle three in November 2021. The Advisors decided on a permanent theme: ***"Supporting Arctic Indigenous Communities"***



Follow us online to get updates about this work:

Facebook + Twitter: @FundArctic

Instagram: @ArcticIndigenousFund

Check out our NEW website: www.arcticindigenousfund.com

Looking Forward

The Advisors

The AIF is getting close to recruiting two Russian Advisors. As time passes their network grows and they are in touch with a trusted source who can introduce them to potential candidate.

The AIF is going through advisor transitions and are saying good-bye to Dewey Hoffman (Alaska) and Kuluk Lyberth (Greenland), they each served two years as Advisors and they made the decision to transition out, so new advisor will transition in. The AIF is very thankful for all their contribution and the knowledge the shared.

Fundraising

After two successful grant cycles the AIF is reaching the end of their multi-year financial support from their existing partners and are ready to expand their network, so they are strategically fundraising. Their plan is to reach out to their existing partners and actively participate in events in the philanthropic sector to share the AIF story.

The Split

The Arctic Indigenous Fund is going to move away from the AFC and become their own project on the Makeway platform. The plan was always to become independent, so they are on course when it comes to their overall fund-plan. However, the AFC will remain partners and continue to support the AIF.





Christina Henriksen
Sapmí Advisor



Marion Aslaksen Ravna
Sapmí Advisor



Chandre Iqugan Szafran
Alaska Advisor



Tukumminnguaq Nykjær Olsen
Greenland Advisor



Dewey Hoffman
Alaska Advisor



Jana Angulalik
Canada Advisor



Kuluk Lyberth
Greenland Advisor



Shayla "Gwikitch'ihkkeh" Snowshoe
Canada Advisor

Advisors

AFC

ARCTIC FUNDERS COLLABORATIVE

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