



ANNUAL REPORT 2018/2019



Our Mission

HIV is now a preventable infection, yet the number of new cases only continues to climb with over 63,000 people living with HIV in Canada. It's estimated that six people newly acquire HIV each day - that's nearly one person affected every four hours.

The Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (CANFAR) aims to end Canada's HIV epidemic by leading national strategies to increase prevention, testing and linkage to care and to end HIV stigma. Fueled by fundraising, CANFAR supports research, builds awareness and cultivates partnerships.



RESEARCH



AWARENESS



PARTNERSHIPS





A Message from Our Board Chair

The Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (CANFAR) has been a trailblazer in its mission to eradicate HIV/AIDS in Canada since its inception in 1987. Thanks to the generous and dedicated support received from our donors, CANFAR has invested more than **\$22 million in close to 500 research projects across Canada**. We have had many successes to date – HIV is now a widely treatable infection and people with HIV are living long and healthy lives. However, unlike other developed nations where HIV is on the wane, the number of new infections continues to increase year over year in Canada. Addressing this reality is now central to CANFAR's strategy and focus.

For more than 30 years research has been at the core of CANFAR's focus, and remains the important component of everything we do. However with the publication 18 months ago of our white paper, *Ending Canada's HIV Epidemic in Five Years: It's Time to Act*, we have decided to focus not solely on research but also on the implementation of research. CANFAR has made this decision because Canada remains alone among G7 countries with infection rates that are up – not down. For the immediate future CANFAR's primary focus is on the implementation of the white paper which recognizes the need for increasing 1) prevention, 2) testing, 3) linkage to care and 4) ending stigma.

Over the past year, we have grown our footprint nationally through several awareness campaigns and programs. We reached over **450,000 Canadian youth** with HIV education and evolved these resources digitally to further expand our reach. By launching innovative campaigns and new partnerships, we also initiated

conversations about HIV stigma on the national stage that led to unprecedented levels of awareness and engagement.

In 2018, we welcomed our new Chief Executive Officer, Alex Filiatrault, who is already doing an outstanding job of continuing to build on the strong foundation set by his predecessors in expanding our organizations impact. Translating our vision of ending the HIV epidemic in Canada into a reality cannot happen without the support of our dedicated employees and engaged Board and Committee leadership, working together with our supporters and partners. We are extremely fortunate to have the calibre of leadership at CANFAR that we do, and I extend my thanks to the team for their countless contributions.

Most important, we also give our heartfelt thanks to our donor community without which none of this would happen. Your ongoing support and generosity allows us to put our HIV population first and work towards our vision of ending the HIV epidemic in Canada.

This has been another rewarding year of exciting initiatives that are yielding significant results. As you flip through the pages of this Annual Report, we hope you will be as inspired and proud of our many accomplishments as we are. And if you haven't already, please consider joining the movement to eradicate HIV from this country and our world. Simply put, that is our task.



Andrew Pringle, CM
Chair, CANFAR Board of Directors



Board of Directors

Some of Canada's foremost leaders in the financial, legal, and philanthropic sectors sit on CANFAR's Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing the mission, vision and direction of CANFAR, while representing the interests of the organization.

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“Thanks in large part to CANFAR’s support, the strides the research community has made in the areas of HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and cure are nothing short of inspiring. I firmly believe we can put this knowledge into action and eliminate Canada’s HIV epidemic in five years.”

- DR. STANLEY READ,
CHAIR, CANFAR SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HIV Research Funding

CANFAR 2018/19 Funding

In 2018/19, CANFAR funded a total of **\$255,000** in funding to further research studies in the areas of prevention, treatment, care and cure.

Current Research

Understanding the Effects of HIV on the Brain

Dr. Christopher Power’s research seeks to investigate HIV expression in the brain and how HIV reservoirs in the brain can be reduced using current and new therapies.

Developing a New Research Tool to Quantify Low Levels of HIV in the Body

Current medication can suppress HIV to low levels that are undetectable under the use of today’s blood testing instruments. **Dr. Marc-Andre Langlois’s** project is developing a new technique, called nanoscale flow cytometry, to detect and quantify rare markers of HIV.

Current Research Partnerships

Prevention and Cure Research

PrEP Implementation

In Canada, a prevention strategy called PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) continues to be prescribed for individuals at high risk, which calls for the daily use of HIV medication prior to a potential transmission. However, PrEP is controversial because there are gaps in research regarding its prevention potential that may be affected by risky behaviour, sexual transmission, patient adherence to medication, and stigma. There are also concerns regarding equitable access because many high-risk HIV individuals are also members of marginalized communities. **Dr. Darrell Tan** is investigating these concerns by studying **1,250 PrEP users** in Ontario through a cohort study over the course of three years. Results from this study will help inform future efforts to best roll-out PrEP programs and improve their access across Canada. CANFAR is partnering with the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) and REACH 2.0 for this three-year research partnership.

Engage

More than half of new HIV infections in Canada are contracted by gay men. This study works to understand the health needs and realities of this population in Vancouver, Toronto, and Montréal so that improved HIV prevention programs can be implemented to better serve this population. This community-based study is headed by **Dr. Trevor Hart** and will engage the gay community. The *Engage* project will establish committees in these three Canadian cities to create collaboration between communities and researchers. In each location, at least **700 qualifying men** will be surveyed and based on the data collected,

each committee will formulate an HIV prevention intervention in their respective cities. These interventions will target the health outcomes for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases in response to community prevention efforts. These will be studied and evaluated to determine best practices that can be replicated across the country to more effectively prevent new HIV infections. CANFAR is partnering with The Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) and the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) on this five-year research and implementation project.

Postdoctoral Fellowship

Now in our 16th year of supporting a new researcher who is breaking into the HIV field, CANFAR is proud to support postdoctoral fellowships in partnership with the Canadian HIV Trials Network (CTN). The 2018/19 recipient is **Dr. Kiffer Card**.

Gay and bisexual men who have sex with men (gbMSM), and who use drugs report reduced adherence to PrEP as well as to other antiretroviral therapies which could prevent transmission. Dr. Card will leverage data from the *Sex Now* survey to improve understanding of: which patterns of substance use contribute to poor adherence; how we can best address the factors that negatively impact this population; and what obstacles might limit successful intervention among this population. Working with community members and frontline service providers, Dr. Card will also participate in community consultations to develop a community-based intervention aimed at improving adherence among gbMSM who use drugs.

CAHR-CANFAR Excellence in Research Awards

The *CAHR-CANFAR Excellence in Research Awards* are bestowed annually to mid-career researchers who while at the prime of their careers have achieved a track record of excellence and demonstrated a commitment to improving the lives of those living with HIV with or at risk. Awarded since 2017, the recipients are honoured each year at the opening ceremony of the CAHR Conference to highlight the achievements of investigators in all pillars of HIV research.

2019 Winners

Basic Sciences: Blake Ball, Chief of the National Laboratory for HIV Immunology, National HIV and Retrovirology Laboratories at the Public Health Agency of Canada, and associate professor of medical microbiology at the University of Manitoba.

Clinical Science: Kelly O'Brien, Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Episodic Disability and Rehabilitation in the Department of Physical Therapy at University of Toronto.

Epidemiology-Public Health: Sharmistha Mishra, Clinician and Scientist at St. Michael's Hospital.

Social Sciences: Trevor Hart, Member of CANFA's Scientific Advisory Council, OHTN Chair in Gay and Bisexual Men's Health, Director of the HIV Prevention Lab and Professor in the Department of Psychology at Ryerson University.

Community-Based Research: Peer Research Associates (PRAs) for the Canadian HIV Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Cohort Study (CHIWOS).

“

“I was moved by the power of the young people. [Your presentation] was very, very educational, and exceptionally positive. The topics that you presented on having to do with consent, mental wellness, sexually transmitted disease—they’re powerful topics and information is power. I believe this afternoon your presentation left our students with a lot more power at the end of their day.”

- PRINCIPAL,
DEH GÁH ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY SCHOOL,
FORT PROVIDENCE, NWT

National Youth Awareness Programs

Thanks to CANFAR’s Program Sponsors, the **Slaight Family Foundation, Great-West Life, London Life, and Canada Life, RBC, and M.A.C. AIDS Fund**, CANFAR’s national youth awareness program, *One and All*, continued building off its successes to date.

Outreach to Educators

In 2018/19, CANFAR leveraged its existing community partnerships and community-based initiatives and focused on the distribution of *One and All*’s educational resources for youth and educators. This year, CANFAR developed **four new Educator Guides** targeted at grades seven to 12 students, featuring **23 lesson plans** and **55 supplementary materials** addressing a wide range of

issues affecting HIV risk and prevention. These booklets are available to order on **CANFAR’s website** and topics include: identity and self-awareness; consent and healthy relationships; HIV basics; and HIV prevention.

In the past year alone, *One and All* reached over **450,000 youth** and a network of over **40,000 educators** directly through the distribution of our resources at teacher conferences, through CANFAR’s website, social media outreach and engagement, face-to-face workshops and performances, speaking engagements, and other direct visits to schools and communities across Canada.



CANFAR’s newly released set of Educator Guides with expanded content and activities addressing issues affecting HIV risk and prevention. These guides have been distributed to teachers, educators, community workers, and health workers across Canada.

CANFAR Clubs

This year, CANFAR had seven active CANFAR clubs across the country: Acadia University, Dalhousie University, McMaster University, University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, University of Toronto Scarborough, Western University.

Clubs held various educational, awareness and fundraising events on campus during Orientation Week, Halloween, World AIDS Day, Valentine’s Day, and more. Altogether, the Clubs raised over **\$4,000** for CANFAR and reached approximately **1,000 university and college students** across the country.



The cast of *SExT* & youth from Deninu School in Fort Resolution, NWT after a performance.

Partnership with SExT: Sex Education by Theatre

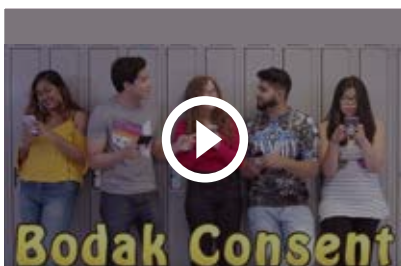
Reaching Indigenous Communities in the North

In 2019, CANFAR partnered with the Government of the Northwest Territories and Inuvialuit Regional Corporation to once again tour *SExT: Sex Education by Theatre* and their ten-person cast of peer educators to perform their interactive and comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention show to **16 school communities and Indigenous reserves** across the Greater Toronto Area and the Northwest Territories, where there was a recent outbreak of syphilis and gonorrhea among youth. Through this partnership, over **2,300 youth** (most of them Indigenous, newcomers, and/or from other priority groups) and over **100 educators**, youth workers and health promoters were reached.

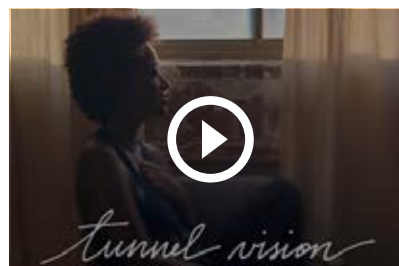
CANFAR's partnership with SExT and their innovative program was further amplified through the release of two original music videos in the fall of 2018.

In October 2018, CANFAR and SExT released a music video of one of the show's songs that is a teachable moment about consent (called "**Bodak Consent**"). The video was featured on **CTV National News**.

On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, CANFAR and SExT released a second music video of one of the show's songs that highlights domestic violence (called "**Tunnel Vision**") on November 25, 2018.



As of April 2019, *Bodak Consent* had received over 9,000 views on YouTube and there is over 13 days of watch time for *Bodak Consent*.



As of April 2019, *Tunnel Vision* had received over 3,200 views and over 2 days of watch time for *Tunnel Vision*.

National Campaigns

Voices for World AIDS Day

Thanks to returning sponsor **ViiV Healthcare**, in the two weeks leading up to **World AIDS Day**, CANFAR once again spearheaded the annual national, bilingual **Voices for World AIDS Day** social media campaign. The campaign featured over **30 social media posts** and **HIV awareness messages**, and **11 diverse and compelling stories** of people living with HIV across Canada. The campaign called on Canadians to challenge HIV stigma, promoted World AIDS Day events across the country, and encouraged the public to wear a red ribbon on December 1st to show their support.

In 2018, CANFAR more than **doubled the reach** of the campaign with over **1,090,550 impressions** across Canada.

We expanded our network to **22 partnering organizations**, spanning communities from coast to coast, and representing regions and territories where we were previously unable to reach.

We reached out to 70 government leaders across the country and received responses from several key individuals, including the Ministers of Health in the Northwest Territories and Saskatchewan, representing two regions with some of the highest rates of new HIV cases in Canada.



Voices for World AIDS Day campaign material that included 30 social media posts, HIV awareness messages, and diverse stories of 11 people living with HIV across Canada.



Canada's Federal Minister of Health, The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, endorsed the campaign by sharing a series of photographs and videos on social media and using the campaign hashtag #Voices4HIV.





CANFAR's CEO, Alex Filiatrault, and staff members, Roxanne Ma and Logan Thayalan, demonstrate an example of a #LoveIn with CANFAR's scarves on social media.

Lovely, Stigma Out

In February 2019, CANFAR launched a brand-new national awareness campaign on **Valentine's Day**, called "Love In, Stigma Out." The campaign featured **five video stories** of CANFAR's National Ambassadors, highlighting their stories of living with HIV, experiencing stigma, and where they turn to for love and support. The campaign centered on messages of love, community care and support, and called on Canadians to challenge HIV stigma and join the conversation by taking a photo of themselves wrapped in a red scarf with loved ones, using the hashtags **#LoveIn** **#Stigma Out**.

The campaign engaged over **20,000 people** across Canada and over **30 community partners** across Canada participated in the national campaign.



"This Valentine's Day, I want other people living with HIV to know that they are worthy of love. Having HIV doesn't make you less of a person. It means you've had different experiences. Know that you need to love yourself."

- ASHLEY ROSE MURPHY,
CANFAR NATIONAL YOUTH AMBASSADOR

National Ambassador Program

CANFAR engages a diverse group of Canadians living with and affected by HIV to speak publicly about issues related to HIV prevention, awareness, testing, and stigma reduction. Thank you to CANFAR's National Ambassadors in 2018/2019:

Ashley Rose Murphy

Christian Hui

Eugene Nam

Evana Ortigoza

Matt Hyams

Muluba Habanyama

Trevor Stratton

Signature Fundraising Events

Bloor Street Entertains

Date: Wednesday, November 28, 2018

Location: Bloor-Yorkville, After Party at the Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto

Attendance: Over 640 guests attended including over 80 generous sponsors, and over 200 In-Kind donors.

Gross: \$800,000 **Net:** \$555,000

The 22nd edition of *Bloor Street Entertains* brought together 18 of Toronto's finest culinary masters, 18 luxury retailers, and 16 creative florists to host a memorable evening for guests and raise money to end the HIV epidemic in Canada. The silent auction broke a record **raising over \$161,000**, while the **Bloor Street Entertains Raffle** raised **\$34,000**.



Generous CANFAR supporters at Harry Rosen.



Guests enjoying dinner at Dolce&Gabbana.



Bloor Street Entertains Co-Chairs, Bernadette Morra Editor in Chief, FASHION magazine, and Jimmy Molloy at the Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto.



CANFAR Board of Directors, Chair, Andrew Pringle, CM, addressing guests at Holt Renfrew.

Can You Do Lunch?

Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Location: Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto

Attendees: Over 380 guests attended including over 50 generous partners, corporate donors and in-kind sponsors.

Gross: \$114,000 **Net:** \$90,328

CANFAR once again united business and philanthropic leaders at a luncheon in support of ending HIV in Canada. The theme was stamping out HIV stigma and featured a panel discussion between CANFAR National Ambassadors. The event was co-chaired by Jean-Christophe Bédos of Birks Group Inc., and Suzanne Boyd of Zoomer Magazine.



Can You Do Lunch? Co-Chair, Jean-Christophe Bédos, President and Chief Executive Officer of Birks Group Inc. addressing the guests of Can You Do Lunch?.

Our CANFAR Ambassadors: Christian Hui, Trevor Stratton, Ashley Rose Murphy, Matt Hyams and Evana Ortigoza.





Kayla Diamond, a Toronto-based singer-songwriter, giving a special performance.



Can You Do Lunch? Co-Chairs, Suzanne Boyd, Editor-In-Chief of Zoomer Magazine and Jean-Christophe Bédos, President and Chief Executive Officer of Birks Group Inc.

AIDSbeat “Back to the Movies”

Date: Friday, June 7, 2019

Location: 1871 Berkeley Church

Attendees: Over 600 guests, over 100 generous partners, corporate donors and in-kind sponsors.

Gross: \$122,800 **Net:** \$61,000

The Toronto’s top law firms competed on-stage at the 2018/19 rock-and-roll battle of the legal community in support of ending HIV in Canada. *AIDSbeat Back to the Movies* was a blockbuster event, competing bands added their own unique twists to some of Hollywood’s most iconic movie soundtracks and guests had the chance to bid on luxurious items in the silent auction.



Andrea Bongers of Force Majeure.



Christopher Robertson of Blind Trust.

AIDSbeat Back to the Movies Co-Chairs, Nicole Sigouin, Partner at Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP, and David Palumbo, Partner at Baker McKenzie.





*Patricia McKenzie of Call to the Bar,
2019 Lexpert Cup Winners.*



Barry N. Segal of Notorious Road.



Jen Siemon of the Screaming Legals.



Guests of AIDSbeat Back to the Movies hearing from Blind Trust.

Legacy 2.0

In 2018/19, CANFAR refreshed its Legacy network, now called *Legacy 2.0*. This new social network exists as a social network for encouraging and supporting community, information, initiatives and fundraising which helps to foster the awareness and prevention of HIV for young men aged 16 to 29. This network is made possible through a \$25,000 grant from **ViiV Healthcare** and annual fees paid by its members.

With nearly 200 members, *Legacy 2.0* facilitates sharing the CANFAR narrative to a shifting and diverse demographic of both traditional and upcoming donors and amplifies impact through use of social media to convey CANFAR key messages. In turn, members are invited to attend a minimum of four themed events per year, and is a networking opportunity. Looking forward, we will continue to grow and invest in this important group.



Guest speaker, Dr. Darrell Tan of St. Michaels Hospital, speaking at the Legacy 2.0 fall networking event at the St. Regis Toronto.

Legacy 2.0 members at the Legacy 2.0 Pride Garden Party.





CANFAR Ambassador, Trevor Stratton at the Legacy 2.0 Pride Garden Party.



Legacy 2.0 members at the Legacy 2.0 Pride Garden Party.



Christopher Bunting at the Legacy 2.0 World AIDS Day event. He received the Bluma Appel Award for his contributions to CANFAR and Legacy.



Special guest speaker, CANFAR Ambassador, Eugene Nam at the Legacy 2.0 Pride Garden Party.

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Mr. Gary Shieck
Ms. Simona Shnaider
Ms. Nicole Sigouin
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Silver Hotel Group
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The St. Regis Toronto
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³Sponsors are individuals or corporations that have made a non-philanthropic contribution to CANFAR between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.



Statement Of Financial Position

	2019	2018
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
CASH*	\$ 1,479,409	\$ 367,884
SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	102,165	5,461
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	39,175	80,203
HST RECOVERABLE	59,664	62,790
PREPAID EXPENSES	63,245	49,292
	1,743,658	565,630
CAPITAL ASSETS	30,511	42,650
INVESTMENTS	586,914	586,914
	2,361,083	\$ 1,195,194
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	\$ 104,529	\$ 44,135
GRANTS PAYABLE	180,001	260,001
	284,530	304,136
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS	1,164,668	261,000
	1,449,198	565,136
FUND BALANCES		
GENERAL	324,971	43,144
ENDOWMENT	586,914	586,914
	911,885	630,058
	\$ 2,361,083	\$ 1,195,194

*\$1 million allocation to the designated CANFAR Strategic Implementations Fund (anonymous donor).

To receive a copy of our full audited financial statements, please contact admin@CANFAR.com or call 416-361-6281.

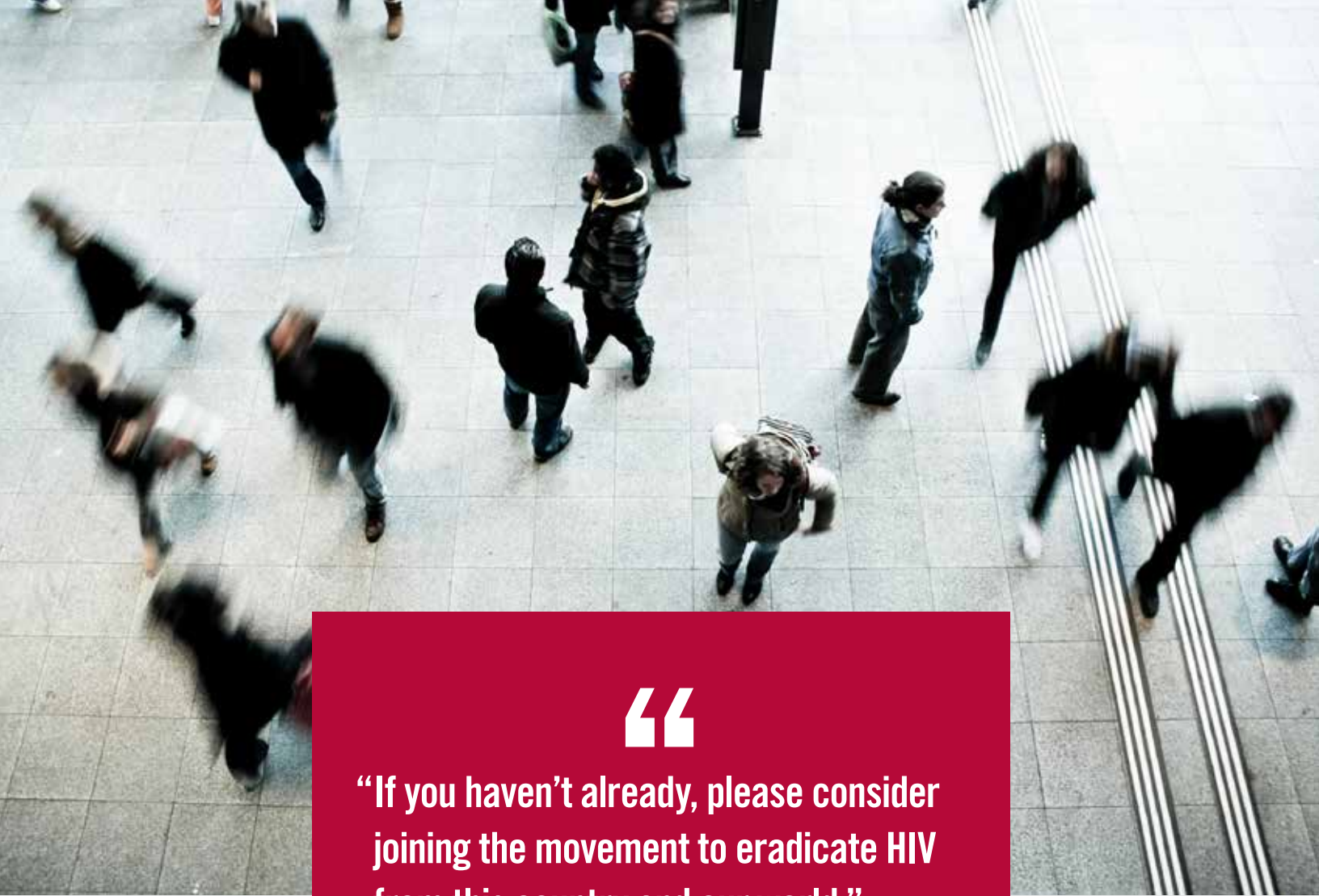
Statement Of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balances

	GENERAL FUND		ENDOWMENT FUND		TOTAL	
	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018
REVENUE						
DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS	\$ 964,694	\$ 881,318	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 964,694	\$ 881,318
FUNDRAISING AND AWARENESS EVENTS	1,133,272	1,025,259	–	–	1,133,272	1,025,259
INVESTMENT INCOME	34,209	33,867	–	–	34,209	33,867
	2,132,175	1,940,444	–	–	2,132,175	1,940,444
EXPENSES						
FUNDRAISING	456,529	500,117	–	–	456,529	500,117
GENERAL	964,834	653,817	–	–	964,834	653,817
GRANTS AWARDED	175,000	619,025	–	–	175,000	619,025
PROGRAM AND AWARENESS	201,511	283,011	–	–	201,511	283,011
RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION	52,474	73,880	–	–	52,474	73,880
	1,850,348	2,129,850	–	–	1,850,348	2,129,850
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	281,827	(189,406)	–	–	281,827	(189,406)
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	43,144	232,550	586,914	586,914	630,058	819,464
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	\$ 324,971	\$ 43,144	\$ 586,914	\$ 586,914	\$ 911,885	\$ 630,058



Statement Of Cash Flows

	2019	2018
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN)		
OPERATIONS		
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 281,827	\$ (189,406)
ITEMS NOT AFFECTING CASH		
AMORTIZATION	22,708	18,865
GRANTS APPROVED, NET OF GRANTS RESCINDED	-	619,025
LOSS (GAIN) ON SALE OF INVESTMENTS AND CHANGE IN UNREALIZED FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENT	(28,136)	(51,677)
RECOGNITION OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS (NOTE 5)	(442,532)	(308,152)
	(166,133)	88,655
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE OF EXPENDITURE (NOTE 5)	1,346,200	329,000
GRANTS PAID	(80,000)	(969,161)
NET CHANGES IN NON-CASH WORKING CAPITAL		
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	41,028	17,512
HST RECOVERABLE	3,126	(6,386)
PREPAID EXPENSES	(13,953)	(18,078)
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	60,394	(1,008)
	1,190,622	(559,466)
INVESTING		
PROCEEDS ON SALE OF SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	171,140	287,479
PURCHASE OF SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS	(239,708)	(139,976)
PURCHASE OF CAPITAL ASSETS	10,569	(37,377)
	(79,137)	110,126
NET CHANGE IN CASH	1,111,525	(449,340)
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	367,884	817,224
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,479,409	\$ 367,884



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“If you haven’t already, please consider joining the movement to eradicate HIV from this country and our world.”

- ANDREW PRINGLE, CM
CHAIR, CANFAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



THE CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH (CANFAR)
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