



2019 ANNUAL REPORT



CELEBRATING **10** YEARS

This 2014 photo captures the spirit of Green Wood Coalition over 10 years of advocacy and community building. "Homeless Happens Here" was a three-day encampment in Port Hope bringing together people with lived/living experience with homelessness, Green Wood members and allies in health care and housing.

Message from Green Wood Coalition



Chair
Caleb Carisse

Community Members, Families, and Friends:

Green Wood Coalition has officially marked 10 years as a registered charity: 10 years of enriching community life for all through community dinners (500+), art projects (1,000+) and human-to-human connections (10,000+). Starting as a small grassroots organization, we have grown to fulfill the critical role of community builder, working daily to remove stigma through radical inclusion.

I have been lucky to be part of Green Wood Coalition's board for the past four years and am so proud of what we have accomplished. This past year, with the addition of four new board members, we focused on the future and re-defining our strategic objectives, while remaining true to our founding values. At our core, we care about people and their stories. We value each individual and our connections with one another.

Our staff is the backbone of the organization. Every operational report, staff story and interaction deepens my appreciation, gratitude and confidence in our work.

If you are reading this report, you have made a commitment to our organization and our community as a financial contributor, volunteer or partner. Without your tireless and selfless support, we could not provide the programming that supports our vulnerable population.

What does the future hold? We will continue to strengthen our community identity, partnerships and relationships with all levels of government. We are on a growth trajectory. People understand the importance of building strong, healthy communities that break down systemic barriers and enable everyone to achieve their potential.

Our future as a non-profit organization is fiscally strong, organizationally sound and fundamentally critical to a more hopeful tomorrow for all.



Community Director
David Sheffield

Green Wood: A Bold Adventure

One decade in, I'm proud to be associated with the bold adventure of Green Wood Coalition. I don't think I'm the only one who has found this experience transformational. I'm incredibly thankful for each of you who has been part of this story, faithfully supporting Green Wood in so many ways.

From our earliest days as an ad hoc collective of ordinary people who cared about their neighbours, Green Wood has been part of a movement for healing and social change. The women who first reached out to Greenwood Tower Inn residents - buried under layers of poverty - drew us in by showing up with hope that a different tomorrow was possible for people who had been pushed to the margins and made vulnerable.

Green Wood Coalition is an amazing collection of members who are fully engaged in keeping alive the

passion of the grassroots initiative that birthed this organization. We are inspired by those visionaries we follow but recognize there's a lot of work left to do. Every week we meet a new person who is feeling hopeless and alone in their struggle. We're here for the long game.

We live in disruptive times, from a global pandemic to a fight for justice among failing institutions. But I hold onto a belief that this upheaval will lead to something better - more listening, more understanding, more equitable systems and more action on things we can change.

Let's hope, together, these difficult times will remind us that wisdom, justice and love are within our reach, embodied in community.

"Everything that happens to us in the world passes into us. It all becomes part of the inner temple of the soul and it can never be lost. This is the art of the soul: to harvest your deeper life from all the seasons of your experience."

John O'Donohue



Over the years, through the arts, Community Dinners and celebrating together, Green Wood has offered many a sense of connection, safety and self-worth

Celebrating 10 years

When we received our charitable status in 2009, none of us could have imagined where we would be today. Looking back at how far Green Wood Coalition has come in 10 years, we are humbled by what we have achieved and hopeful for what lies ahead.

In a perfect world, we would not exist. Everyone would have what they need. But our world is imperfect. And through this imperfection we, at Green Wood Coalition, have found our space. We are here because government systems continue to struggle to meet the social and health care needs of our most vulnerable neighbours. Whether through a smile, a chat, an art session, a meal or just sharing a cup of coffee, we connect with individuals struggling with trauma, hunger, housing insecurity and loneliness, people aching for a sense of community and belonging. These connections give our work meaning. These connections enrich our lives.

As we share our stories, offer help and bear witness to these struggles, the role we can play in strengthening individuals and our community is shaped. Our mantra, Everyone Has a Story, is truly part of our core. Stories connect us, bind us and motivate us to find solutions to lift up one human being at a time.

At this 10-year milestone, we ask ourselves, what will the world look like 10 years from now? Will we be more caring and compassionate? Will we have learned that only by looking after one another can we live as a truly inclusive community where no one is left behind?

Our fervent hope is that the answer is yes, but should we fall short, Green Wood Coalition will still be here.

“The impossible that people always talk about is a fallacy. When we go out to constructively work to change things, it can happen.”

Mike Creek, Working for Change, Toronto



**2019:
Deepening
Community
Compassion**

*“Community is a feeling
of connection to other people,
a feeling of being involved in
something bigger than yourself.”*

Phil Redford, Green Wood community
and board member

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS



- ① WE CAME TOGETHER IN COMPASSION... Friends and strangers, standing up to embrace our diversity, reject discrimination, strengthen our connectedness and uphold the dignity of every human being through the *Unity Project*.
- ② WE CAME TOGETHER TO REMEMBER... Raising our voices on *Overdose Awareness Day* to reclaim dignity for the sons, daughters, sisters and brothers we love and lost.
- ③ WE CAME TOGETHER TO WORK FOR CHANGE... Inspired by thought leaders and change makers at *IMAGINATE* and *Community 101*, daring us to envision how to build a healthier and more equitable community.
- ④ WE CAME TOGETHER TO CREATE BELONGING... Sharing good food, celebrating our birthdays, grieving our losses and telling our stories at weekly *Community Dinners*, *Art Hive* and in our garden.
- ⑤ WE CAME TOGETHER IN SOLIDARITY... Hundreds walking as one to raise awareness and donations for our neighbours who are homeless, hungry and hurting on the *Coldest Night of the Year*.

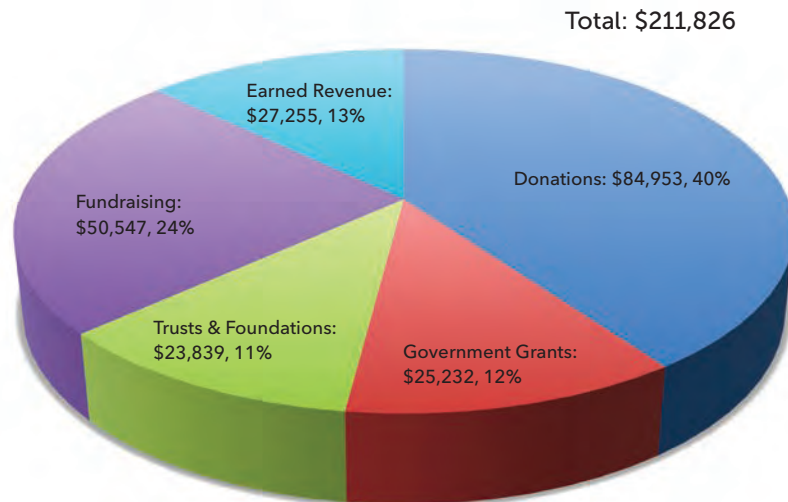


Green Wood Coalition Celebrates 10 Years, 10 Moments of Change

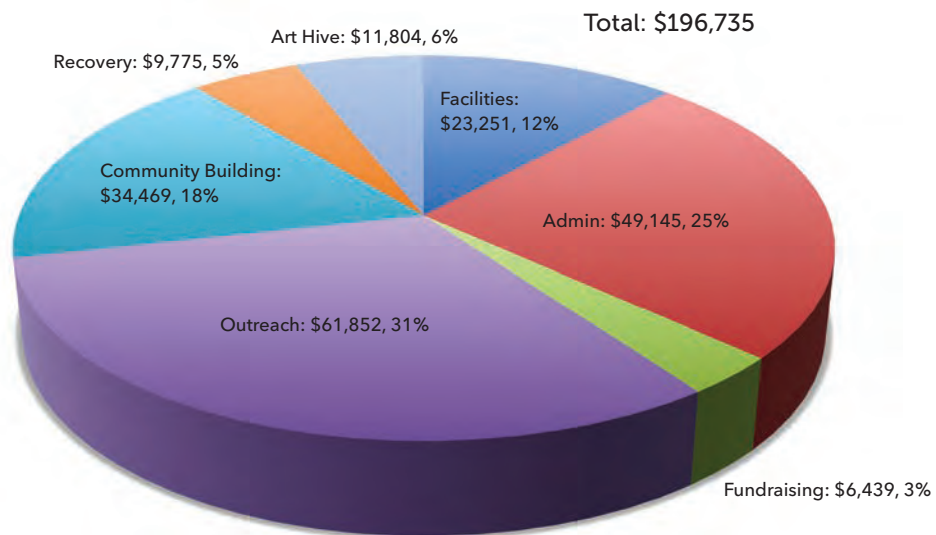
There are moments that define us. Moments that, had they passed unnoticed, we might have missed seeing, hearing, learning, sharing, or creating something amazing. In our 10 short years, we have had some pivotal moments. Our 10 major highlights demonstrate our impact in our community.

1. Wednesday nights we serve home cooked dinners, gathered collectively around the table. In 2006, we sat down to our first **Community Dinner**, served by a small group of citizens who saw the desperation of their neighbours. Today 80-100 people break bread together weekly, supported by over a dozen community partners providing beautiful meals.
2. The struggle of those living in makeshift tents, abandoned buildings or couch surfing drives our **Street Level Outreach**. We listen and form relationships. Over the years, we've made a difference in the lives of hundreds of individuals, helping them to navigate the system and forge connections to health services, income supports and a caring community.
3. The role of **Advocacy** follows naturally from the needs we witness in our community. We challenge local policy and thinking on issues such as homelessness and health care, seeking to influence broader local change. We focus on creating awareness, educating and standing up for equity and basic human dignity for all of our neighbours.
4. We have seen people emerge from years of darkness and move toward a healthier, more engaged way of life through our **RedPath Addiction Recovery Program**. Since 2017, partnering with PARN and others, Harm Reduction has been an important part of our work, saving lives while people consider alternative solutions.
5. **WrapAround** life planning forms a circle of support around those with complex needs. The individual is at the centre of decision-making about their life, supported by a team of community members they choose. Since 2013 we have trained 18 WrapAround facilitators in various local agencies and helped over 30 households move closer to the life they desire.
6. **Community Partnerships** are a vital part of our story. From the first gathering of friends, which launched our community dinners, to present, we've developed close to 50 working relationships with health and social service agencies, churches, service clubs and fellow non-profits. We continue to grow and remain relevant because of their continued support.
7. Since 2015 **Community 101** has provided a platform for ideas, education, and community building. With the help of partners like Northumberland United Way, we've hosted leaders in the fields of health, social justice and community development, stimulating inspiring and interactive discussions.
8. Making art and working in a garden help us to heal. Over the past 10 years, our **Art Hive** and **Community Garden** have offered safe spaces for creativity, contemplation and connection. Whether through planting seeds or exploring artistic expression, dozens have been nourished on many levels.
9. **Fundraising events** bring people together in meaningful ways, from film screenings and pie baking contests to the Walk the Line concerts. Since 2016, Coldest Night of the Year has become our most important fundraiser. The annual event has raised nearly \$200,000 to support those facing poverty, hunger and homelessness in Northumberland County.
10. **IMAGINATE** harnesses the power of the arts and advocacy to raise awareness of the most urgent social issues of our time. Prominent social justice advocates, artists and community leaders have taken to the podium at the annual conference and Evening of Possibility to inform, entertain and motivate more than 1,000 attendees over the years.

Green Wood Coalition 2019 Income



Green Wood Coalition 2019 Expenses



“The significant effort we invested in 2019 to improve our financial management and stabilize board processes has paid off, building a strong fiscal foundation for Green Wood’s future.”

Peter Nairn, Green Wood Coalition Treasurer

Our Board of Directors



Caleb Carisse – Board Chair, Executive Committee

Caleb brings to Green Wood a passion for people, advocacy, organizational structure and leadership. He believes the work Green Wood does to build community is unique, innovative and inspiring.



Kerri Kightley – Vice Chair, Executive Committee

Kerri contributes her professional experience with community development and systems change. She genuinely loves that the Green Wood community creates intentional spaces for people to connect and grow.



Phil Redford – Governance Committee

Phil offers years of lived experience in addition to his experience as a teacher, member of many boards and volunteer. He is a dedicated supporter of Green Wood's community building and healing efforts.



Jeff Caine – Secretary

Jeff contributes his local volunteer and business experience. He admires Green Wood's efforts to make Northumberland County a better place for everyone.



Jay Sherwin – Internal Affairs Committee

Jay has been a member of many community organizations in the Port Hope and Cobourg area. He strongly believes Green Wood's programs build community, strengthen souls and enrich the lives of all who are involved.



Peter Nairn – Treasurer & Chair, Internal Affairs Committee

Peter contributes his professional banking experience and knowledge. He truly respects how Green Wood advocates for and lifts people up in our community.



Patricia Sinnott – Chair, Governance Committee

As a retired hospital pharmacist aware of the negative impact of poverty on health, Patricia wants to help Green Wood build a caring, inclusive community.



Arlene Howells – Board Member

Inspired by Green Wood's ability to do so much with so little, Arlene makes a difference in the life of her community by contributing her professional communications experience and her passion for volunteering.

Our Staff



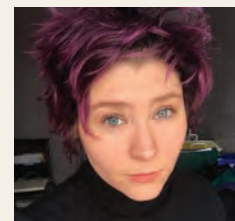
**David Sheffield
Community
Director**

Having helped to shape Green Wood Coalition from its inception, David leads through an unwavering commitment to the values that drive our work – honouring our common humanity by eating together, creating a safe place to share our stories and attending to one another without judgment. He is a friend, mentor and tireless advocate for those whose voices go unheard and presence unnoticed.



**Nicole Whitmore
Outreach and
Addictions
Worker**

"On the job" means fully sharing her heart, courage and wisdom with those who struggle. Nicole's personal lived experience of trauma and substance use motivated her transformation as a trained addictions worker and allows her to relate to those she helps in a unique way.



**Lana Missen
Capacity
Development
Co-ordinator
(part-time)**

Lana brings a background in non-profit donor engagement and fundraising along with artistic and administrative skills to her role of strengthening the organization. She believes Green Wood is a gift in her life, permitting her to do the work she was meant to do.

Our Community of Hope

We are humbled by the generosity of you, our donors. Every gift you make demonstrates the trust you place in Green Wood Coalition to make a difference in the lives of our neighbours who struggle with poverty, homelessness and mental and physical health challenges. As these pages show, we truly are a community of hope.

\$1-249 Community Builders

Anonymous (9)
Adam Gibson
Al Seymour
Alastair McKeating
Alexandra Kucharczyk
Alicia Ough
Alison Dodds
Allan Mackenzie
Alyson King
Amalia Hone
Andra Zondervan
Andrea Kalil
Anglican Diocese of Toronto
Anne Flindall-Cross
Arnold & Tracy Henkel
Bert & Janet Sedgwick
Blake & Eileen Holton
Brandy Samis-Moore
Brent Wilcox
Bruce Coleman
Bruce Williamson
C. Marilyn Willis
Cameron Christie
Carol Rolph
Carole Elliot
Carole Payne
Catherine Clough
Catherine Galbraith
Catholic Women's League -
Our Lady of Mercy
Chantal Pison
Charlie Foran
Christ the Holy Servant Church
Community Health Centres of Northumberland
Darlene & Gabe Denis
David Brister
David Lander
David Secord
Deborah Kimmett
Delta Lambda Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority
Dennis Keiser
Diane Froncz
Dianne Millington

Douglas Norton
Dr. Vernon Chase
Duff Sprague
Edward & Debra Walker
Elizabeth Sherwin
Ellen Armstrong
Elliott Insurance Services
Georgina Holton
Greg & Suzanne Burns
Holton Flowers
Huguette Keeler
Ian & Nola McDonald
Jamie Simmons
Jeff Wheeldon
Joan Gottschall
Joan Torrie
Joanne Bonebakker
John Connor
John Stubbs
Joyce Mitchell
Karen & Eric Roberts
Katie & Sandy Flindall
Kaye Jackson
Kelly Ambrose
Kevin Warner
Kim & Tom Rudd
Kim Shurman
Lana Missen
Laura Steen
Laurie Deviney
Linda Mackenzie-Nicholas
Linda Sturzenegger
Louise Aasen
Louise Whitney
Lyss Warmland
Madeleine Thibault-Smith
Margaret McAulay
Mark Finnan
Mark Vander Vennen
Marta Cooper Burt
Mary Gillis
Mary Surman
Mary-Jo Bathe
Maureen Pollard

Maureen Tambeau
Meaghan MacDonald
Megan Swaine
Merle Gingrich
Miles Bowman
Pam MacDougall
Pam Tate
Patrick Gray
Pearl Cann
Port Hope Agricultural Society
Port Hope Public Library
Rainbow Cinemas
Rebecca Baptista
Rhoda Bellamy
Rhonda Warner
Richard Shapcott
Robert Laycock
Roseglen Village for Seniors
Ruth & Bob Kerr
Sarah Bonnar
Sharyn Hessin
Sherry Dupuis
Shirley Robinson
Sophie Kneisel
St. Paul's Anglican Church Perrytown
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
Stephanie MacKenzie
Sue Jowstra
Sue West
Susan Main
Tammy & Paul Desbarbieux
Tom Lawson
Victoria Hepburn
Wendy Anderson
William & Shirley Moebus
Yvonne Lane
Yvonne Lush

\$250-\$999 Advocates

Anonymous (3)
Anna Hasek
Anne O'Regan
Amelia & Jeff Bray
Brenda Clark
Brian Gates
Brian Oliver
Brigitte Martin
Cameco
Carol Hasek
Carole Stirling
Celia McBride
Christina Hubicki
Christine Flindall



Cobourg Collegiate Institute
 Community Power Northumberland
 David Francis
 David Hasek
 David & Beth Sheffield
 David Walsh
 Dr. Shari Kirsh
 Emily Taylor
 ESCO (a division of Weir)
 Eternal Hope Spiritualist Centre
 Fran Campbell
 Gail Neibergall
 Grant & Jeanine Carson
 Highland Shores Children's Aid
 Jasper Hoogendam
 Jean Bryson
 Jennifer Ito
 Joanne Allen
 Judita Pamfil
 Karen Bellamy
 Karyn Kennedy
 Kaye & Neil Torrie
 Kim & Jason Orchard
 Kristina Nairn
 Laura Pineau
 Marci & James Edwards
 Missy McLean
 Nora Camps
 Pamela Christie
 Peter Hasek

Peter Magdett
 Port Hope United Church
 Rebecca Crilly
 Rodger Cooper & Margaret Kelderman
 Rotary Club of Port Hope
 Ruth Redelmeier
 SABIC
 St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
 St. John's Anglican Church
 St. Mark's Anglican Church
 Trinity United Church
 Valerie Mancktelow

\$1000-\$4999 Innovators

Anonymous (2)
 ACME Electric
 Arlene & Robb Howells
 Beverley Jane Pinchin
 Boris Nikolovsky
 Caleb Carisse
 Erin Brown
 Ernest Rouse
 Gen-Mac Enterprises Inc.
 Herb's Plumbing & Heating
 Jay Sherwin
 Jill Lawrence
 Judy Herod
 Ken & Yvonne O'Neill
 Kerri Kightley
 Kingston Community Foundation

Knor Foundation - Local Food for Local Good
 Kristy MacDonald
 Mac & Sally Bradden Foundation
 Michael Duck
 Northumberland County - Social Services
 Ontario Realtors Care Foundation
 Ontario Street Theatre
 Patricia Sinnott
 Part-time CFO Services
 Robert Mosurinjohn
 Rotary Club of Cobourg
 Royal Canadian Legion - Port Hope
 Shane Watson
 Sue and Jeff Essig
 Ted & Hilda Van Netten
 Tony Pulla
 Trenholm Parker
 Watershed Magazine
 Wilma Van Barneveld

\$5000-\$9999 Change Makers

Barbara Bickell
 David & Kathy Richardson
 Harbourfront Advisors
 Municipality of Port Hope

\$10,000+ Impact Leaders

Northumberland United Way
 ESDC - Canada Summer Jobs
 PARN - Your Community AIDS Resource Network



"It's our obligation to support organizations like Green Wood because something has failed to create the problems they're trying to address. We all should be clamouring to ask, 'How can we help you continue the good work you're doing, because, obviously, you're onto something we haven't figured out ourselves.'"

Shane Watson answered his deacon's call to participate in Green Wood's first community dinner; he's been a supporter ever since.



"Green Wood finds people who are hurting and knows exactly how to help them. It may be a little bit of help, or it may be a lot of help, but listening to what people need - not telling them - is what makes the organization so special."

Supporting Green Wood is an ACME Electric family tradition, handed down by owner Petra Becker's late father



Help us to Make a Difference in a Life

Green Wood Coalition relies on the community's support to sustain our work.
You can support us in a number of ways:

Join the Change X 12 monthly donor program

Make a one-time donation through our website, by e-transfer or by mail

Give a gift of stocks or securities or make Green Wood
a part of your personal or family legacy in your will

"I feel like I belong here. Even when I don't know everyone's name, I know that because it's a Green Wood event I will be welcomed, and I won't be judged. I leave with a smile on my face, and I'll be smiling to others as opposed to being in not such a good place."

Jeff

Visit www.greenwoodcoalition.com
and click **DONATE NOW** to learn more.
Green Wood Coalition is a registered charity.
Charitable Registration: 835935263RR0001



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