

Annual Report 2020-2021

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Chairman's Message

Heritage College Foundation Chairman's Report for 2020-2021

No one could have imagined that this year the world would be confronted with a global pandemic. Lives have been thrown into disarray, and careers and studies have been interrupted or cancelled altogether. We are forced to rethink how we conduct our business. One year into the pandemic and we are still living in times of great uncertainty. All our families are touched in some way. The stress on families and relationships is enormous. Despite all of this, the Heritage staff and students are coping as well as they can and are adapting to the fast-changing reality in which we find ourselves.

Through it all, the Heritage College Foundation has been there when it was most needed. Although young and managing with very limited resources, the Foundation has been able to help our college community manage the turbulent weeks and months. I extend my personal thanks to our General Manager, Nicole Lefebvre who devoted countless hours to support people in their time of need. Chris Shaler, our past Chairperson, also deserves recognition. During the past year, several individuals retired from their positions on the Board of Directors of the Foundation. Thanks are extended to each one for their devotion and leadership. On a personal note, I wish to acknowledge the devotion of Gordon McIvor, the College's Director General for his unwavering commitment to the students. Enrollment continues to grow at Heritage College and across the province. In the fall of 2020, a total of 174,503 students were enrolled in Quebec's CÉGEPs for the Fall semester — a three per cent increase from the previous year. Despite a general increase, the number of international students enrolled for the Fall of 2020 declined 2.2 per cent from the year before. New registrants among international students attending CEGEPs fell by 23.6 per cent. When the COVID-19 pandemic is finally over, Québec will need CEGEP graduates more than ever to kick start its economy and to respond to the shortage of skilled labor in the province.

Le Regroupement.

The Heritage College Foundation works in close collaboration with other community agencies and charities to fundraise and to deliver much-needed services. One example is the Regroupement des fondations collégiales which works on behalf of the 48 Foundations representing all Quebec CEGEPs. Launched in 2019, it is already providing a valuable support network to College Foundations. We are joining forces to raise monies to launch projects that could not be carried out on our own. CEGEP Foundations are working hard to achieve the CEGEP's mission and provide significant financial support for students. I am pleased to report that during this past year the Foundation's General Manager played an active leadership role in the development of the Foundation.

The Heritage College Foundation could not exist without its funding partners, both public and private. We wish to salute the generous support of Caisses Desjardins, the City of Gatineau, Brigil Construction and the Leacross Foundation, as well as the many individuals who have made personal donations. Through their generosity, they are enabling the Foundation to extend a helping hand to people in their time of need. Through their example, they are inspiring all of us to be more generous and to motivate future generations of donors. Together, WE ARE helping to create and sustain caring, supportive communities.

Thank you! Ivan Hale, C.M. Chair

Board Members 2020-2021

Ivan Hale Chairperson

Linton Garner Vice-Chair

Chris Schaler Treasurer

Marc Fricker Secretary

David Jacques Member-at-Large

Jerry Howard Governing Board

Nicole Lefebvre Staff



Director General's Message

The Heritage College Foundation (HCF) plays a vital role in helping our students. Families in our community have dealt with natural disasters (tornado, floods) and the global pandemic. These events have caused stress and disruptions at home: family finances, crowded spaces not ideal for studying, social isolation from friends, fear, fatigue, among other issues.

The transition to "distance learning" allowed students to continue with their studies. With only 8 'school days' lost throughout the entire pandemic, our students met their learning objectives and our enrollment and graduate rates at the College have been maintained. However, the financial and mental stress on students and their families has been heavy and growing.

The College wishes to thank supporters, donors, and volunteers of the CEGEP Heritage College Foundation for your help. Thanks to your efforts and contributions, students are struggling less than they would have without your help. I sincerely hope that you will continue to support HCF for the benefit of our students and our community. You ARE making a difference!

Salutations, Gordon McIvor



Bursary Committee Report

For the 2020-2021 academic year, most non-laboratory classes continued to be delivered online because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Losing the daily interaction and contact with the student's increased anxiety and mental wellness issues amongst staff and students alike.

Despite, or perhaps because of the pandemic, the Funds and Bursaries Committee worked very hard to get some help to the students struggling with continuing their education during this past year. This effort was the continuation of the Heritage College Foundation's goal to improve access to post-secondary studies and student retention. Our inaugural major fundraising campaign launched in 2015 to raise \$1 Million for "Student Success" had 2 main objectives: Raising funds for urgent, immediate, and short-term needs, and building a "forever" safety net to help the College community. The remainder of this report speaks to the on-going effort of that first objective to supply funds for the urgent, and short-term needs of the students.

Since the tornado in 2018, the Foundation has remained agile, repeatedly shifting from fundraising efforts to delivery of urgent relief in support of our college's students facing significant challenges resulting from the tornado, the floods and now the COVID pandemic. Student perseverance has been truly tested with on-line learning since March 2019. It has brought to light augmented financial distress and increased mental wellness issues, exasperating the issues of social inequities: Thus, access, capacity, and perseverance of a growing number of individuals to attain their education goals has been threatened.

The Foundation Board of Directors accepted to "exceptionally" increase its disbursement plans for 2020-2021 to "maximize" its community influence and have a greater impact on student success. It was urgent to help support students, offering encouragement and financial support, allowing them to continue or finish their studies. Reducing financial distress improves overall mental wellness and helps students to stay engaged and focused on completing their post-secondary education.

MOVING BEYOND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Pandemic has clearly demonstrated essential role the College has in contributing to the economic development and recovery by offering youths the opportunity to get a well-rounded post-secondary education and graduating qualified skilled individuals that will contribute to the community's recovery and vitality by joining the active workforce.

To all volunteers, and donors, please know that you are touching lives and that, "together, WE ARE building our Heritage"

I also wish to take this opportunity to thank all College employees (faculty, professionals, support staff) that have gone out of their way to help students throughout this extraordinary year. We could not have extended our community reach without a collaborative effort and exceptional contributions of time, as well as in-kind financial support.

Financial Assistance

Holiday Assistance – \$3,850

For years, the Foundation has contributed to this College initiative in assistance resulting to a growing number of students receiving assistance. The Foundation also facilitates College employee's contribution by facilitating payroll deductions eligible for yearly charitable receipts. As the College closure reduced the possibility of staff members to deliver non-perishables and gifts, the College invited the Foundation to increase its annual contribution by matching all donations from our staff. The number of candidates had increased to eighteen (18) students demonstrating significant challenges over the Holidays.

The College asked the Foundation to assess the needs, and to make disbursements in amounts between \$150 to \$450 depending on the number of children and individuals in the household. For 2020-2021, the Foundation raised further support allowing it to match the generous \$800 staff contribution and by adding an extra \$2250.

Pontiac Grant - \$12,000

The Foundation applied for special COVID-19 assistance grants for all students from the Pontiac in financial need and was granted a one-time, Federal Government grant, in the amount of \$15,000. This sum was dedicated to the student population from the Pontiac and surrounding areas with the objective of providing recurring assistance to twenty-five (25) students. This number was reduced to 18 students as no training was offered in the College's Campbell's Bay Learning Centre during the reporting period. As such, the sum of \$3,000 was returned at the end of the year to the granting partner as per the agreement.

Spring Financial Assistance - \$17,500

To better identify those in need of assistance, the Foundation made an open call to all qualified students at the College to apply for assistance (Full and part-time, AEC and DEC). The Funds and Bursaries Committee assessed data provided in the application form, taking into consideration the following areas: Living situation, financial responsibilities (rent/utilities/groceries), number of children, and self-assessment of financial wellness. When possible, these funds were given in the form of grocery cards. While the average assistance is xx, the value of each assistance was determined by rating the student's particular circumstances. The range of assistance was between \$150 and \$450 per individual. In all, there were 69 students who benefited from this effort.



<u>Awards & Perseverance Bursaries – \$52,700</u>

In addition to the Spring Financial Assistance, part of the Call for Applications included categories for self-identified Perseverance and Resilience dealing with the pandemic and on-line learning. The Foundation, through the Funds and Bursaries Committee, orchestrated its largest ever contribution to student perseverance by recognizing students for their "Resilience" at the close of the 2020-2021 academic year.

Resilience was assessed by scoring the data provided in the application: consideration of one's obstacles and actions taken (overcoming challenges, seeking/providing help to others, acting on self-improvement, etc.), challenges of one's living situation (alone, children, single parent, distance, etc., perseverance and positive impact, attendance, and engagement in school (faculty contribution). Exceptionally this year, eligibility was extended to include graduating students and the Committee also sought additional input to validate claims of "resiliency" by reaching out to certain key College employees in Student Services as well as College Faculty Departments.

100 Heritage Students Awarded Resilience Bursaries



Press Release - Gatineau, July 9, 2021 — After a year filled with uncertainty and hurdles to overcome, there has never been a better time to recognize and reward outstanding student resilience and perseverance. Today, the Heritage College Foundation is delighted to announce that 100 Cégep Heritage College students have been selected to receive a Perseverance and Resilience Bursary valued between \$300 and \$1000.

The COVID-19 Pandemic and associated public health measures have impacted everyone in our communities in some manner. From students who were new to the College, to those who were embarking on their final year of studies; all were faced with the new realities of distance learning and many months of confinement.

After four significant student financial assistance initiatives over the past 15 months, the Foundation felt it was appropriate to focus this year's Perseverance Bursaries on "the path to resilience."

Disbursements Per Fund

	Grant Title	Amount	Total Recieved
2	Memorial Nursing Hanrahan	1000	2000
1	Memorial ECCE Calouche	750	750
1	Memorial Visual Arts McColl	750	750
1	Memorial Tolstoy	1000	1000
6	Leacross Nursing	1000	6000
1	Regional highest Desjardins	1000	1000
10	Leacross Nursing	750	7500
2	Leacross Nursing	500	1000
4	*Four star* rating of 40+	750	3000
19	*Four star* rating of 35-39	500	9500
37	*Three star* rating of 30-34	400	14800
18	*Three star* rating of 25-29	300	5400
102	Total Grants Received		\$52700

Thanks goes to all members of the Foundation's Funds and Bursaries Committee who committed countless hours and demonstrated exemplary engagement to this project. They are:

Jeremy Howard	Student Services
Carol Doody	Teacher
Josée Beaudry	Student Services
Deja Radojevic	Student Services
Marc Fricker	Teacher

The Foundation Manager Nicole Lefebvre also significantly aided the Committee's efforts. Future objectives for the Funds and Bursaries Committee include the synchronization of operations with the College and automating portions of the process.

The Foundation is both proud and grateful for the number of recurring donors who have continued to support students, particularly student perseverance and student success. The 2020-2021 effort and impact of the Funds and Bursaries Committee and the CEGEP Heritage College Foundation has been a grand success by any measure.

At a time when our community is in great need of skilled workers, Foundation financial assistance and perseverance bursaries help to lessen financial strain and encourage students to stay focused on their educational goals.

More than ever, solidarity and community engagement inspire resilience and contribute to a large extent, to our collective ability to overcome challenge and move forward in hopes of a brighter future.

We remain grateful to Foundation supporters who, by their actions, enable us to increase our ability to empower and encourage students to persevere.



Financial Report

Heritage College Foundation - Financial Position June 30, 2021

Assets	2021	2020
Current Cash	40,204	18,448
Low-interest cash	263,035	259,054
Trade and other receivables (Note 4)	13,501	18,821
Prepaid expenses	714	5,500
Total	317,454	259,054
Long-term Investments (Note 5)	236,207	143,171
Total	553,661	444,994

Liabilities	2021	2020
Current Bursaries Payable	57,429	1,571
Payable to Heritage College, without interest	115,528	76,851
Total	172,957	172,957
Unrestricted Net Assets	380,704	366,572
Total	553,661	444,994

The accompanying notes and schedules are an integral part of the financial statements.





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