



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2022-2023**

**together  
in the World**



We are committed to the dignity of each person.

From the Charter of the Communities of L'Arche

## Dear friends,

The cover of this Annual Report features Nick Herd from L'Arche Toronto's Sol Express. You may recognize the backdrop as the United Nations—and it's the real thing! In June of this year, Nick was part of a small delegation from L'Arche Canada, L'Arche USA, and L'Arche International who participated in the annual conference about the Convention on the Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. This image, and many others in this report, are vibrant signs that L'Arche is committed to the work of human rights—and the empowerment of people with intellectual disabilities as advocates for social change.

### Belonging

For over 60 years, L'Arche has been building a world where everyone belongs. L'Arche Canada, with 30 communities across the country, continues to carry that vision with passion, creativity, and a spirit of celebration. You will find stories and pictures from our communities throughout this report. You will also see how L'Arche Canada is contributing to advocacy, working with national partners and the Government of Canada to achieve the goals of Canada's Disability Action Plan—with impressive impact.

### Collaborating

Throughout 2022-2023, we have continued to practice new ways of working collaboratively at all levels of L'Arche Canada so that we can build a vision together. Whether it's facilitating inclusive housing, developing our Mission-in-Action Plan, or drafting our membership agreement, collaboration is at the heart of how we work. This empowers each one of us to become a leader in the L'Arche mission. L'Arche Canada is committed to collaborating with people with intellectual disabilities, their families, and a large group of stakeholders to build a more human society.

### Learning

*Leading Change* has been a three-year-long deep dive into leadership development for a diverse group of young adults with intellectual disabilities. It has been a remarkable adventure in co-learning and co-leading for everyone who has been part of it. It is also a challenging reminder that L'Arche Canada is called to be a learning organization. When each one of us leads at the place of our gift, we all thrive.

Each of you—those of you who are part of the everyday life of L'Arche, our Board members, our partners, our friends and donors—you are all leading with great strength and compassion. Together we are building the global community we are called to become.

**Thank you to each one of you for your commitment and leadership in L'Arche!**

Sincerely,



**Louis Pilotte**

National Executive Director,  
L'Arche Canada & L'Arche  
Canada Foundation



**Joseph Reynaud**

Board Chair,  
L'Arche Canada



**Terry Downey**

Board Chair,  
L'Arche Canada Foundation

# L'Arche in Canada Today

**We believe in the transformational power of relationships between people with and without intellectual disabilities. Today our shared life is more relevant and challenging than ever before.**

*From the 2023-2028 Mandate of the International Federation of L'Arche Communities*

**L'Arche Canada** is a national leader in building communities of inclusion and belonging. With a presence in Canada since 1969, L'Arche Canada is recognized as one of the few national bilingual organizations committed to fostering the social inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities. The impact of L'Arche is personal, local, regional, national, and global.

## OUR IMPACT ACROSS CANADA



### 30 communities

in nine provinces  
from coast to coast.



### Over 900 participants

in a wide range of programs—visual  
and performing arts, crafts, music,  
supported employment, social enterprise  
initiatives and recreational activities.



### 110 homes and apartments

providing accessible and  
inclusive housing  
for over 500 people  
with intellectual disabilities.



### Ongoing learning and leadership development

for people with and without  
intellectual disabilities.



### Advocacy

with national partners to promote  
the inclusion of people with  
intellectual disabilities  
as valued citizens and leaders.



L'Arche Avalon  
(Newfoundland and  
Labrador)



# Belonging

## Canada Disability Benefit Act Becomes Law

L'Arche Canada has become a leader in the disability inclusion movement in Canada. In November of 2022, John Guido, Nicholas Herd and Lori Vaanholt attended a meeting in preparation for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities where they met Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Meetings like this are an important way to work together with our partners to achieve the goals of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan created by the Government of Canada. After years of focused advocacy, the Canada Disability Benefit Act received royal assent on June 22, 2023 and became law. This ground-breaking legislation establishes the framework for the Canada Disability Benefit. It enables the Government of Canada to create a new benefit to lift working-age persons with disabilities in Canada out of poverty.

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(From left to right) Minister Carla Qualtrough, Lori Vaanholt, Nicholas Herd, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, John Guido, and Stephanie Cadieux, Canada's First Chief Accessibility Officer.



"L'Arche has been an important contributor to the Pan-Canadian Disability Collective Impact Project. In both the steering committee and gatherings, L'Arche members have provided incredible insight around building our community in a healthy, relational way. Nick and Lori are forward thinking on ways to transform the systems and structures which we exist in. The collaborative spirit and impact of L'Arche's contribution is well recognized by others on this project."

**Dr. Jonathan Lai**

Executive Director,  
Autism Alliance of Canada



## Independence Summer Camp

L'Arche London, in Western Ontario, launched the inaugural season of Independence Summer Camp in 2022. The four two-week camp sessions welcomed twenty campers, all high school graduates from 18 to 35 years old. In doing this, L'Arche London recognized the underserved needs of "transitional aged youth"—young adults with special needs making the transition from high school to the adult world.

Independence Summer Camp is a captivating mix of life skills learning and fun recreational activities. The camp is grounded in a lived experience of interdependence. Campers learn what it means to depend on each other—a critical life skill. The commitment to the empowerment of each person—whatever that means for him or her—gives each camper opportunities to grow and shine. Independence Summer Camp is a stellar example of how L'Arche is making an impact in communities across Canada.

## L'Arche Edmonton Celebrates 50 Years



L'Arche Edmonton, the second L'Arche community in Canada, celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on November 4, 2022. In the above photo, Bob Stutter, the first person to be welcomed to the community, shares a story at the anniversary event.

L'Arche Edmonton's Board of Directors and Community Leader are featured in the photo below.

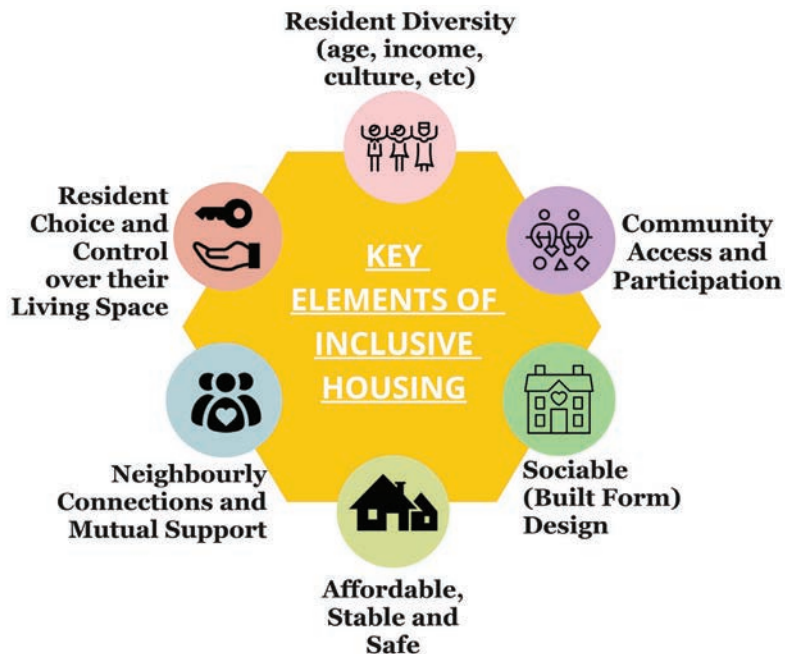


# Collaborating

## L'Arche Canada Fosters Inclusive Housing

People from L'Arche Saint John and L'Arche Fredericton were part of a local Stewardship Team that guided the work of the Inclusive Housing Solutions Lab convened by L'Arche Canada in New Brunswick. The Team was composed of representatives from a broad cross-section of community groups with diverse expertise—in housing, food security, community development, and disability services—as well as people with intellectual disabilities and their families. L'Arche Canada also linked national partners to this work as various solutions were developed and tested. The Solutions Lab defined six key elements of inclusive housing. These are featured in the graphic presentation below. The Solutions Labs also developed an Action Plan for supporting inclusive housing projects. Many of these projects are now being piloted in New Brunswick.

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HOUSING SOLUTIONS LAB FINAL REPORT



"I appreciated learning about the aspects of inclusive housing with regard to community connections and the diversity of neighbours. I never realized the barriers that persons with intellectual disabilities face in terms of housing and making social connections. It is important to have persons with intellectual disabilities as part of our neighbourhood. This wouldn't have happened without L'Arche inviting me to be part of this work."

**Narinder Singh**

Executive Director of Saint John Non-Profit Housing Inc.



# A Milestone Moment, Years in the Making

The Wellington, a new complex built by Saint John Non-Profit Housing, in the heart of uptown Saint John includes four apartments that are now home for four people from L'Arche Saint John. Over the past year, L'Arche Saint John collaborated with Saint John Non-Profit Housing, Inclusion NB, and the New Brunswick Department of Social Development to bring this pilot program, L'Arche Connects, to fruition.

Warren is thrilled that the new building is wheelchair accessible, so everyone is welcome, "And specifically my girlfriend!"



We are all people with and without intellectual disabilities, engaged in the work of partnership, advocacy, and social justice.

From the Charter of the Communities of L'Arche



Shawna Morgan, Warren Tompkins, Kathryn Titus and April Urquhart moved into their own apartments at The Wellington in Saint John in June. These new units of inclusive housing are part of the Saint John community's L'Arche Connects program.

# Learning

## Co-Learning and Co-Leading

The L'Arche Canada *Leading Change* project ended March 31, 2023, after three challenging yet rewarding years that contributed to shifting the narrative about the leadership capacities of youth with intellectual disabilities. At the same time, L'Arche and partners in the disability inclusion movement began to develop guidelines and resources for inclusive participation, so as to welcome the contributions of persons with disabilities as co-creators in building a more inclusive society.

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*Leading Change* was funded by a grant from Employment and Social Development Canada. The project aimed to develop "the next generation of youth disability leaders while also facilitating succession planning and sustainability in the disability sector."

“  
People with  
intellectual disabilities  
have insights, leadership  
abilities, and gifts that  
society needs.”

From the Charter of  
the Communities of L'Arche



“  
I would recommend  
(it to) youth leaders.  
I think they would learn  
a lot and have great  
experiences. I say this  
because I think it would  
really make a difference in  
the young person's life.”

**Jason Clinker**  
Ontario

## Making Art in Quebec City

L'Arche de la Capitale-Nationale in Quebec City has developed a unique and rewarding relationship with the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec. For five years, L'Arche visitors with and without intellectual disabilities have come to the museum ten times a year. Each visit begins with a guided tour in one of the galleries. The tour includes an in-depth look at a few works of art, followed by a hands-on workshop where the visitors create art to display, or give away as gifts!



L'Arche de la  
Capitale-Nationale

# L'Arche International

## The International Federation Assembly

The General Assembly Meeting of the International Federation of L'Arche took place from June 20-24, virtually and worldwide, with different times for some sessions to make the gathering accessible for communities around the globe. International Leaders Stephan Posner and Stacey Cates-Carney reported on the challenging journey of L'Arche over the past six years since the last International Assembly Meeting. We took time to thank Stephan and Stacey for their courageous and compassionate leadership. Delegates from all communities voted to adopt a new L'Arche Charter. All communities participated in the years-long process to update the Charter. Several excerpts from the Charter are sprinkled throughout this report. Delegates voted to approve members of the L'Arche International Stewardship Board, including its new Chair, Sylvain Brabant, who now serves as the Interim Leader of L'Arche International. The International Federation Assembly Meeting was an important time of unity and celebration for L'Arche around the world today.

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## The Study Commission Report

Troubling revelations about L'Arche founder Jean Vanier were first made public in early 2020 after an independent investigation commissioned by L'Arche International. Several years earlier, similar findings had been reported about L'Arche co-founder Father Thomas Philippe. In late 2020, L'Arche International set up a Study Commission to better understand the founders' life orientation, the founding history of L'Arche, and the institutional dynamics at work in the organization. The Study Commission, composed of an independent, interdisciplinary team, released its detailed report in January of 2023. The report confirms the findings of abuse by Jean Vanier and Father Thomas Philippe. The perpetrators of the abuse, all now deceased, were confined to a small sect. L'Arche International Leaders Stephan Posner and Stacey Cates-Carney, on behalf of L'Arche, asked for forgiveness from those who were victims of this abuse.

They pointed out, "What justifies L'Arche is not its founders but the life of its members with and without disabilities at the service of a more human society. This task of re-reading our past will help us to remain faithful to this commitment."



# Solidarity in L'Arche

Solidarity has long been an important way for people who care about L'Arche to gain a more global perspective regarding the gifts and needs of people in different places around the world. The L'Arche Canada Foundation and L'Arche communities across the country raise funds for Solidarity projects in L'Arche communities that face extraordinary challenges due to economic hardship, political instability, food insecurity, natural disasters, and war. Many of our friends and donors in Canada contribute to Solidarity campaigns.

**In the past year, L'Arche Canada donors provided over \$700,000 for international Solidarity initiatives in Ukraine, Poland, Haiti, Egypt, and Ivory Coast.**



## Haiti

Daily operations, renovations to the sanitation system, and earthquake protection for community buildings.



## Ukraine and Poland

Aid for **L'Arche Poland** and **L'Arche Ukraine** to help families who have had to flee their homes in war-torn Ukraine.



## Ivory Coast

Support for **daytime programs** for children with intellectual disabilities and farm tools for adults working in the garden.

# L'Arche Canada Foundation

The L'Arche Canada Foundation is the fundraising arm of L'Arche Canada. With the generosity of donors across Canada, the Foundation raises funds to support the mission of L'Arche Canada including Solidarity campaigns to support international L'Arche projects. The financial results for fundraising in the 2022-2023 fiscal year are summarized in the accompanying chart.

The L'Arche Canada Foundation is the major funding source for the national structure that supports all L'Arche communities across the country through human resource management systems, the recruitment of assistants, leadership development programs for people with and without disabilities, internal and external communications, collaboration with national partners, and advocacy at the national level.

On the facing page, we acknowledge our donors with gratitude. *L'Arche Legacy Leaders* are individuals who have included the L'Arche Canada Foundation in their wills or estate plans. Our *Endowment Funds* have been established by individuals or families to support the mission of L'Arche Canada for the long term. To learn more about endowment funds or making a planned gift through your will or estate plan, please visit our *Ways to Give* page at [www.larche.ca/foundation](http://www.larche.ca/foundation) or call us at 1-800-571-0212.

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***Thank you to all our donors for your generosity and kindness!***



L'Arche Montreal



## L'Arche Canada Foundation by the numbers

Donations made  
in 2022-2023

**\$2.1 million**

Direct Mail Campaigns

**3,602 gifts**

**\$554K**

Foundations & Corporations

**55 gifts**

**\$357K**

Planned Gifts

**10 gifts**

**\$215K**

Major Gifts from Individuals

**17 gifts**

**\$636K**

Gifts for International Projects

**349 gifts**

**\$220K**

Endowment Funds

**16 grants**

**\$105K**

# President's Circle of Donors

## Leaders \$100,000 +

- 2 Anonymous

## Partners \$50,000 +

- Estate of Rhéa Hould Archambault
- Arrell Family Foundation
- Estate of Penny Avery
- Power Corporation of Canada
- Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation

## Benefactors \$25,000 +

- Hortense De Villers
- Alvin and Geraldine Morris
- Estate of Nellie Evelene Roszel
- Unifor Social Justice
- 1 Anonymous

## Friends \$10,000 +

- Griggs Family Foundation
- Lamb Foundation
- Thomas R. Lane
- Geoff and Catherine McCulloch
- Dennis Murphy
- Harriet and John Paul
- The JBL Charitable Foundation

## Supporters \$5,000 +

- William E. Barnett
- Christopher Burton
- Michel de Salaberry
- Joan and Clifford Hatch Foundation
- Estate of Norbert L. Koch
- Erna Krische
- Estate of Anna Lapinska
- Love & Light Mercy Fund
- OMI Lacombe Canada Inc.
- Peterborough K M Hunter Charitable Foundation
- Philip Resnick
- Estate of Louis Trahan
- Neil Quinlan
- 4 Anonymous

## Patrons \$2,500 +

- William Ashwell
- Jerry Bliley
- Estate of Jeannine Dagenais
- Jean and Cathy Dansereau
- Fondation Denise et Robert Gibelleau
- Robert Green Equipment Sales Ltd.
- Estate of Frances Mary Grell
- David and Bev Hudy
- Janet Johnstone
- Gary and Eva Kuefler
- Michael Patullo
- Michael Reynen
- Sotto Sotto Ristorante Limited
- Tom Weir
- 4 Anonymous

## L'Arche Canada Foundation Endowment Funds

- Gerry Rocchi and Kathie Drummond Endowment Fund
- Flumerfelt Family Endowment Fund
- James Gaughan Endowment Fund
- Grant and Lynnette Kaminski Endowment Fund
- Kennedy Family Endowment Fund
- Kokocki Family Endowment Fund
- L'Arche Endowment Fund
- Germain Leclair Endowment Fund
- Marshall Family Endowment Fund
- Alvin and Geraldine Morris Endowment Fund
- John and Donna Rietschlin Endowment Fund
- Robert Sprachman and Marie-Josée Therrien Endowment Fund
- L and C Veeken Family Endowment Fund
- Bernie Vossman Endowment Fund
- 2 Anonymous Endowment Funds

## L'Arche Legacy Leaders

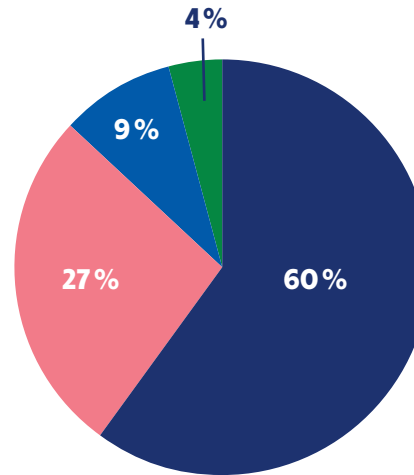
- Mary Bastedo
- Evan Ernest Bernacchia-Canton
- Anthony and Carole Boryski
- Wendy Bulloch
- L. Patrick Callaghan
- Hollee Card
- Neil and Anne Conway
- Barry M. Cromarty
- Michel de Salaberry
- Christopher English
- Don and Julia Flumerfelt
- Patricia Griffith
- Mary Lou Jorgensen-Bacher
- Germain Leclair
- Rev. Gerald Lajeunesse
- Dr. Laurie Lemieux
- Rev. Paul Lennon
- Dean and Ann Levitt
- Patricia MacDonald
- Michelle Michalak
- Louis Nauta
- Charlotte Prata
- John and Donna Rietschlin
- Gerry and Kathie Rocchi
- Rita Steele
- Stuart and Mary Swan
- Tom Thomas
- Peter Van Zyl

# Financials

## Consolidated L'Arche Canada and L'Arche Canada Foundation results

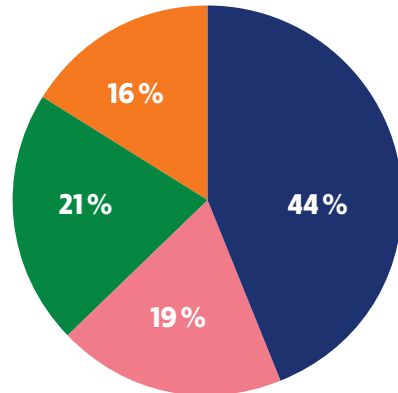
### Revenue

- Fundraising
- Communities (dues, events, solidarity)
- Government grants
- Other



### Expenses

- Support to communities
- Mission and public engagement
- International development
- Governance and administration



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The current consolidated financial situation of L'Arche Canada at the national level

Total Revenues	4,429,920
Total Expenses	5,146,564
Surplus (deficit)	(716,664)*

\* The operating deficit is largely due to lower revenues in the current year and greater investment in fundraising and international development. It was offset by surpluses accumulated by the Foundation in previous years.



Scan this QR code for financial statements.





# Boards of Directors

Our Board members give generously of their time, skills and expertise to steer and oversee L'Arche's operations.



(from left to right) Louis Pilotte, Agnes Thomas, Myron Rogal, Vince Kazmierski, Joseph Reynaud, Nancy Marenick, Donna Diskos, Paul Vogel, Sam Watts



L'Arche  
Greater  
Vancouver

## L'Arche Canada

**Joseph Reynaud**, Board Chair

**Donna Diskos**, Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair

**Vince Kazmierski**, Vice-Chair and Governance Committee Chair

**Sam Watts**

**Nancy Marenick**

**Paul Vogel**

**Myron Rogal**, Risk Management Committee Chair

**Agnes Thomas**

## L'Arche Canada Foundation

**Terrence Downey**, Board Chair

**John Rietschlin**

**Joseph Reynaud**

**Lauren Alexander**

**Paul Vogel**



We value our relationship with the whole of creation. Caring for the Earth is part of caring for each other.

From the Charter of the Communities of L'Arche



We believe that the world is more colourful,  
welcoming and compassionate—more human—  
when people of all abilities take their place  
at the table.

Because of your support, people with intellectual  
disabilities are sharing their gifts to create inclusive  
neighbourhoods, vibrant places of work and artistry,  
and communities of belonging that inspire and  
encourage social change.

Together, we can build a more  
compassionate society.

**Thank you for supporting  
the mission of L'Arche!**



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[larche.ca](http://larche.ca)



L'Arche  
Cape Breton