

# CFofM Newsletter

## A Very Canadian Story

It's easy to lose track of time talking with Peter and Barbara Wood. They have many interests, they have achieved so much and to top it off, when Barbara offers a fresh pot of coffee; the aroma beckons and asks for just ten minutes more of conversation.

Peter and Barbara are like many Canadians, they came as immigrants, built a life, raised children and give back to their community as much as possible. Peter was born in Birkenhead, England, a town known for ship building, the industry in which his father worked. Barbara was born in Stralsund, Germany but moved to Berlin at age four with her family. By age 17, Barbara was travelling the world and eventually settled in Canada working as a nanny. Peter who had become a chartered accountant also had a touch of wanderlust. Thanks to his father's work, he was able to secure a berth on a ship to Canada. "Lots of those boys from England ended up in the colonies." notes Barbara with a twinkle in her eye.

While vacationing in Collingwood with pals, Peter met Barbara who was summering with her young charge. Sparks flew and in 1961, they were married. In time, they had three young children of their own. Peter was working in Toronto and Barbara was kept busy with home and children. They started off in a basement apartment in Toronto, but knew they wanted a home. In 1967, they moved to Mississauga as it offered everything their young family could want; safe neighbourhoods with many amenities, schools nearby and a sense of community.

Mississauga has grown since the



Woods first arrived to find country lanes and apple orchards. It's a bustling, dynamic city. And even though their children have grown, moved away and have children of their own, Peter and Barbara still call Mississauga home.

Giving back to build community well-being has always been part of their lives. Both Peter and Barbara have volunteered with VON, both have been members of their local Probus Clubs where Peter is still an active member.

Theirs is a very Canadian story and more so, a very Mississauga story. Even today, Mississauga is home to many newcomers. People come to this community to build a life, make a home, and then so often, give back.

In 2014, the Woods made their first gift to establish the Peter and Barbara Wood Family Fund at the Foundation. They had heard about the work of community foundations and their estate planning lawyer from Pallett Valo helped to make the connection. Peter and Barbara talk about their interests in helping young people pursue an education and build healthier lives and how their fund can help. And they talk about how they might involve their children in the Fund in the future. Sharing with community.... how very Canadian!

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Inside this issue:

Donor Story 1
#DWMS2015 2
Farewell 2
Vital Signs 3
Giving Tuesday 4
Contact Information 4

#### **Red Hot Ballroom**

Two years ago when we started planning the Foundation's first Dancing with Mississauga Stars gala we had no idea it would become our most anticipated event every year. And now we are thrilled to report this year will be even bigger and better!

Mark November 6, 2015 on your calendars for this year's gala at the Mississauga Convention Centre, featuring six Stars who are fundraising while learning one ballroom style dance each to perform on event night.

The brave Stars accepting our challenge this year are: Tim Beckett, Fire Chief for the City of Mississauga; Lauren Bernardi, Principal at Bernardi Human Resource Law; Dorothy Guerra, Owner Birth Yoga Studio; Greg Marlo, President of Jet Solutions; Susanne Seelig-Mense Owner/Entrepreneur The Wine Ladies and Cliff Silveira, Director of Operations at the Mississauga Convention Centre. They have been paired up for 40 dance lessons each with Blueheel Dance Studio instructors. Their dances of choice range from the East Coast Swing, to the Rumba and even a Salsa!

If you thought the previous years were spectacularly fun, you'll be blown away this year! The Gala is quite a production and with a total of nine ballroom style dances in the course of the evening, it will be action packed. Beginning with a cocktail reception, guests can look forward to a glamourous evening, four course dinner, qualified judges, audience response keypads and a glittery mirrorball trophy. The Dancing with Mississauga Grand Champion is based on fundraising achieved, audience votes and judges' scores. Finally once the agenda part of the evening is over, our deejay will keep you grooving past midnight.

Tickets are \$200 each and are likely to sell out well ahead of November. So if you're looking for a fun night out while giving back to the community, we welcome you to the third Dancing with Mississauga Stars gala!

You can read more about participating Stars, donate towards their individual goals and print out your ticket purchase form on our website:

www.dancingwithmississaugastars.com. Dorothy Guerra









Susanne Seelig-Mense





Cliff Silveira



For the past six years, Afshaan Kohari has been a dedicated team member of the Community Foundation of Mississauga. As the Donor Development Manager, she is often the first smiling face that greeted our guests at the Foundation's fundraising events.

She was responsible for our Golf Tournament, Speaker's Lunch, Dancing with Mississauga's Stars Gala and our Partnership Program. Through the course of her time

with the Foundation, she made lots of friends. Afshaan often said that one of things that she most valued about her work here was the wonderful people associated with the Foundation.

Afshaan was also a valued coworker... not to mention a great cook. Periodically, she would treat the staff to a home made lunch of her specialties. But she could also be counted on to fill up the chocolate jar too!

Afshaan is leaving the Foundation to pursue a new role in Toronto and we send with her, our very warm wishes for continued success in her career.

To Afshaan... we wish you the very the best. May the road rise up to meet you and the wind be always at your back.

### Mississauga's Vital Signs

In 2001, civic leaders in Toronto developed a new way of engaging their community in understanding the health and vitality of their community on an ongoing basis. This desire to build and share knowledge about the community came to be known as Vital Signs®. Like all elegant ideas, it didn't take too long before other community foundations across Canada could see the importance and value of this project. In 2006, Community Foundations of Canada developed it as a national initiative. Today, Vital Signs reports are being implemented by community foundations across Canada and now around the globe.

The beauty of Vital Signs lies in providing easy to read and understand data across ten key quality of life indicators. Locally, these reports help communities make connections between issues and trends in different areas. The findings are presented in a reader-friendly format that provides a snapshot of quality of life and community vitality. A national report is created each year by linking data, stories and expert insight from communities across the country. Each community can have

conversations locally about trends and issues but thanks to the national network, insights are offered that provide a forum for a deeper discussion about how each community fits within a national perspective.

The Community Foundation of Mississauga produced its first Mississauga's Vital Signs report in 2011. The second report was distributed in 2013 and on October 8, 2015, the third report will be provided free to Mississauga residents through an insert in Mississauga News and on the Foundation's website.

Certainly, the report matters to the Foundation's fundholders and donors. It helps develop a sense of where donors might want to target resources for greatest impact. But in a broader sense, all residents

can see where Mississauga is doing well and where they might want to get involved to create positive change. Residents can think about their own voluntarism, philanthropy or community action. And we can celebrate where Mississauga is doing well and the steps we can take to ensure Mississauga remains a vibrant, healthy community where people thrive.

Perhaps more importantly, Mississauga's Vital Signs is an opportunity to create conversations. The data offered in the Vital Signs report is just the beginning... a starting point for all residents to learn more and get involved in building their community.

Watch for your copy of Mississauga's Vital Signs coming in October!



Just about everyone is familiar with Black Friday or Cyber Monday; two major retail events prior to the holiday season. But not everyone is as familiar with Giving Tuesday.

This year, Giving Tuesday is being held on December 1st. It's a global movement to encourage

people everywhere to think about giving and volunteering. In early December, thousands of Canadians will flock to stores looking for something (anything) to buy for the people on their holiday list. A recent survey by Ipsos and GIV3 found that 25% of Canadians over the age of 35 would rather have a donation made in their honour

than receive a gift they don't need. But even better, giving feels good. Research has shown that giving back to your community creates a sense of well-being. Add December 1st to your calendar, and think about how you can be part of a global movement for good. Even better, give us a call. Include your community in your giving!



"What's a DAF? Why is there so much talk in the sector about DAFs?" While there are a wealth of on-line resources about DAFs or Donor Advised Funds, many people still have questions. Donor Advised Funds with a community foundation offer the same benefits as a private family foundation but alleviate the sometimes onerous administrative burden that comes from establishing a foundation. Community foundations were the first to offer Donor Advised Funds beginning as early as the 1930s.

The growth in Donor Advised funds, particularly at community foundations lies in the ability of a donor to quickly establish the fund (often in as little time as 24 hours), make the donation using cash, marketable securities, real estate or other assets, receive their tax receipt immediately, name their fund and be involved annually in the use of their gift. However, community foundations offer added benefits: administrative costs are reduced and donors can take advantage of the community knowledge that is gathered and shared by the community foundation. This can be so important to donors who are looking to ensure their philanthropy is efficiently and effectively directed to having the greatest impact. Donors also know grants will be made in the name of their fund if they choose, or they can elect to remain anonymous.

All of the benefits of a private family foundation, plus some important extras, but the administrative burden and costs are significantly reduced! Call us today to find out more or visit our website at www.CFofM.org.



#### COMMUNITY BUILDERS

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The Community Foundation of Mississauga respects and adheres to all legislative requirements and best practices regarding protecting your privacy. We use the information you provide to keep you informed of the activities of the Community Foundation of Mississauga and for tax receipt and donor recognition purposes. If at any time, you wish to be removed from our contact list or do not wish to be included in our mailings, please contact our office at 905-897-8880 or send an email to info@CFofM.org. This list provides recognition to donors whose receipted gift has been received between the last newsletter and this current newsletter in keeping with our policies for recognition. Please see our Annual Report and web site for annual listings.



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