

Frontier College is the national registered charity dedicated to improving the lives of children, youth, and adults through literacy. With over 120 years of experience, we work with volunteers, partners, and communities to ensure that everyone has access to effective, literacy-based learning that empowers them with the capability and confidence they need to realize their goals.



Literacy: Learning for Life.

L'alphabétisation, Une leçon pour la vie.

OUR MISSION

We believe literacy is a right. We work with volunteers and community partners to give people the skills and confidence they need to reach their potential.

YOU CAN REACH FRONTIER COLLEGE AT:

35 Jackes Avenue Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4T 1E2 1-800-555-6523 information@frontiercollege.ca frontiercollege.ca











@frontiercollege

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NUMBER

10740 8445 RR0001



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Message from

THE PRESIDENT

Giving is the heartbeat of Frontier College.

We have so much to be proud of this year. Under the steadfast guidance of former President Stephen Faul, our passionate staff and volunteers went above and beyond to respond to the needs of learners across the country. Stephen retired earlier this year. We thank him for his impassioned leadership, and we wish him the best in his exciting next chapter.

From a community centre opening its doors and offering free space to run our tutoring sessions; to a funder providing computers for families to access learning online; to our staff assembling hundreds of personalized learning kits with new books and crafts, I'm so inspired by how a simple, thoughtful act of giving can make a lasting difference in the lives of others.

Today, we live in a world where everything is connected. The pandemic has created lasting effects on many people's social and emotional well-being and their engagement in learning. Yet during this difficult time, the generosity of our donors, volunteers, funders, and partners seemed to grow wings.

Close to 25,000 learners gave of their attention, curiosity, and courage to make their learning a priority, even after the school day—or workday—was officially over. That they put their trust in Frontier College is something we will never take for granted.

Over 1,900 volunteers gave of their time to bring learning to life in creative ways. We continue to expand our geographic reach by pairing volunteer tutors and learners across distances online.

We are grateful for our many supporters and donors who recognize the importance of literacy and want everyone, whoever and wherever they are, to feel supported, valued, and encouraged. We thank them for helping so many deserving individuals through much-needed funding to realize the promise of a brighter future.

Our goal is to support more people. The generosity, kindness, and commitment we see each day gives us hope that we can continue to do that. On behalf of all of us at Frontier College, thank you for your gifts of support.



President and CEO, Interim Frontier College

Message from

THE CHAIR

It is a pleasure to announce that Frontier College is now in every Canadian province and territory. Our programs range from the high Arctic to the heart of the inner city, as we seek out places where the need is greatest and find local partners to work with.

Yet there remains a worrying literacy divide, with people and communities across Canada lacking adequate literacy support. The pandemic has exacerbated the divide due to disruptions to education—particularly for young children and people who were struggling already. We expect to see a tremendous demand for our services over the next decade and are constantly working to ensure that we will be well-resourced to support the growth that will follow.

The Frontier College Board of Directors is privileged to serve alongside such a dedicated and passionate group of employees. The staff embodies our mission of service, and they have safely delivered some of the most creative and engaging programs, activities, workshops, and resources in the organization's 123-year history.

As has been the case throughout our history, we have a strong and dedicated corps of volunteers who continued throughout the challenge of the last two years to help Canadians in their literacy.

We measure our success and are pleased to report that this year 97% of children and youth and 92% of adults improved their reading and felt more confident after attending a Frontier College program.

We could not have accomplished what we have this year without the trust and support of our funders and donors, community partners, and volunteers. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your commitment and resilience this year.

I would also like to thank all my Board colleagues for their ongoing dedication to the organization. I am proud to work alongside these individuals, whose unique experience, expertise, and background bring important contributions. Additionally, I would like to thank Stephen Faul for his thoughtful leadership and remarkable care for the employees and volunteers since 2016.

My two-year term as Chair ends in September. It has been a period of extraordinary disruption and change in our country. I am immensely proud of how Frontier College has come through stronger and more relevant than ever.

On behalf of the Board, our deepest appreciation to you for supporting Canadians in achieving their unique potential through literacy.



Suzanne Anton QC Chair, Frontier College

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HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL FORUM ON LITERACY AND THE ECONOMY

COVID-19 and lockdowns have had an impact both on the Canadian economy and on individuals' economic status. People who were already struggling before the pandemic have been affected the most by unemployment, unstable employment, and lower wages. As Canadians look to re-enter the COVID recovery workforce or transition to new, post-pandemic careers, we hosted a national forum to discuss how literacy skills will play an important role. Panelists included Craig Alexander, Chief Economist and Executive Advisor at Deloitte LLP, Annie Montague, Community Coordinator, and Melanie Valcin, Vice-President of Programs and Impact at Frontier College.

KEEPING YOUNG MINDS ACTIVE OVER THE SUMMER

Our popular summer literacy camps, now in their sixteenth year, help to boost literacy skills for kids aged 5-12 while providing the fun of camp. In partnership with Indigenous communities, we offered a combination of in-person and at-home learning activities, including delivering 31,990 free, high-quality books and over 6,600 learning kits—designed by our staff with learners' specific needs in mind. Across Canada, campers were happy to report that camp had a positive impact.

- 95% of campers said that attending camp increased or maintained their interest in reading and learning
- 88% of campers felt more confident in their reading skills after attending camp

The camps have become fixtures in the communities and receive broad support from parents, community members, leaders, and educators.

SCRABBLE FOR LITERACY

On March 10, Scrabble enthusiasts from across the country participated in our 18th annual Scrabble for Literacy fundraiser. After a week-long round-robin online tournament, two finalists competed in a live championship event alongside comedians Colin Mochrie and Debra McGrath and Scrabble ringers Joshua Sokol-Rubenstein and Chloe Fatsis. Congratulations to the winner, Natalyn, with a final score of 380 points! Thank you to the sponsors, participants, and guests for helping raise \$84,000 for our literacy programs.





Nature walk in Waskaganish, Quebec

NEW FINANCIAL LITERACY RESOURCES

People think about—and use—money every day, but many of us struggle with some of the more complex aspects of finances. In partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Education, we developed new financial literacy guides and resources to help kids and families to make sense of money and boost overall literacy competency. For parents and community organizers, and students and teachers in grades 4 to 8, these free resources follow Ontario Ministry of Education guidelines and cover everything from currency exchange to calculating interest and creating a budget. Financial literacy resources for high school students are in development and will be available in 2023.



PLANT THE SEEDS OF LEARNING IN PRESTON TOWNSHIP

Located just outside of Halifax, the towns of North Preston, East Preston, Cherry Brook, and Lake Loon that comprise the township of Preston have been home to African Nova Scotians since the 18th century. It's a strong community that faces many barriers yet has shown a great deal of resiliency and determination to build a brighter future. Over the past two years, community involvement in the Frontier College programs has grown tremendously. Last year, we offered a variety of programs for all ages, including the Literacy Garden Program, Tales and Trails, and Literacy Day Camps.

A 14-year-old resident explains: "Before coming to the program I stayed in the house a fair bit, not really getting out with other kids my age. With the help of Frontier College, I learned that part of the reason I was shy was because my communication skills were not good. I didn't know how to get my conversations going. I started the garden program and we read every week. I made some cool friends. My confidence got better, and I was able to get more involved with people talking. I am learning that without reading on a regular basis, it changes how I interact with people."



Outdoor learning in the garden



69,991free, new books

distributed to children and families. The value of these books is \$699,910



4,224 children participated in literacy camps in 137 Indigenous communities last summer





149 people employed through our Summer Literacy Camps
100% hired from Indigenous host communities



volunteers gave 41,969 hours of service to Frontier College. The value of their time is \$755,442



We collaborated with

community partners

to deliver quality literacy support in their neighbourhoods. Our partner organizations contributed space, staff time, snacks, and supplies, valued at \$964,000



13,084

custom activity kits were sent to children, youth, and families to support at-home learning



We hosted

10 literacy workshops

and conferences, attended by 1,935 parents, educators, literacy practitioners, social service workers, and community members

PROGRAMS

NATIONAL



SERVING AGE GROUP

- 60% Children
- 16% Youth
- 12% Families
- 12% Adults



PROGRAM TYPE

- 40% Large Group
- 38% Tutoring
- 22% Summer Camp

Tutoring includes:

- Direct One-to-One or **Small Group Instruction** and Support
- After-school Literacy and **Numeracy Programs**
- Reading Circles

Large Group includes:

- Training and Workshops
- Presentation and Speeches
- **Awareness Events**
- Family Learning Activities
- **Reading Tents**
- Conferences

Summer Camp includes:

· Literacy Programming and Materials for Children Aged 5-12

GROWTH IN THE NORTH

This year, we were thrilled to grow our support for adult learning across the North, including a new Instructor-Coordinator in Yellowknife. Working with the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, and a network of community partners and employers, we expanded our pre-trades, essential skills, and employability support to a greater number of communities through in-person, online, and mobile program delivery. These supports complement existing training and education infrastructure in northern BC, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut, resulting in more residents feeling prepared to complete training or education, to seek new or better employment, or to write Trades Entrance and Red Seal exams. Our trained instructors are creative and resourceful: for example, using pictures of buildings and sites around the community for a more visual approach to learning geometry, fractions, and other topics.

We continue to deliver our highly successful workplace learning programs in Whitehorse with support from the Government of Yukon and private sector partners.

DIGITAL LITERACY LEARNING

Burnaby, British Columbia

New technology is emerging daily and learning to use and understand it is important. We launched a new Digital Literacy Catalyst project in partnership with Burnaby Neighbourhood House, which provides support to adults and seniors who are facing barriers to digital literacy. Many program participants were parents of children attending Frontier College's Homework Club at nearby S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Hillside Gardens.

In addition to providing support to the existing digital literacy programs, such as the computer drop-in and mobile "tech café," Ivana, the Digital Literacy Instructor, delivered customized workshops to individual learning requests and levels, ranging from learning how to use a mouse to creating email accounts to accessing online banking information.



Like many others attending the workshops, Nebasheke had never taken a computer class before. She is now proud that she can open, read, and send emails and communicate with her children's teachers and schools. Her growing computer skills and independence allow her to be more involved with her family's education. Nabasheke now teaches her children computer skills; they are happy about her growing skills and that they can now learn from her.

"Now I know. I can do many things. This is very good!" she says, excited about her digital literacy journey.



PREPARING FOR LIFE AND CAREER

Winnipeg, Manitoba

In February, Frontier College opened the doors of our new General Education Diploma (GED) program in Winnipeg. Preparing for and earning a high school equivalency diploma is often challenging for out-of-school youth and adults due to financial constraints, time commitments, and access to support. However, a GED is often required to apply to college or university, or advance in a career.

Funded by Scotiabank, our program's trained instructors have supported 25 people so far. We also cover the cost of registering for the GED exam and provide transportation to and from the exam centre.

A parent came to ask the GED instructors about options for her 17-year-old. He has autism and had been successful in school until Grade 8. However, during the pandemic he felt he hadn't received the support he needed. He is now looking for alternatives for graduating high school. When the instructor described the GED program, the mother was delighted. "I'm so excited about this opportunity," she said.

BOOSTING BILINGUAL SERVICES

Greenstone Triangle, Ontario

We expanded our services in Northern Ontario to the Greenstone Triangle, which is comprised of three municipalities and three First Nations communities. Offered in both French and English and in-person and online, children, youth, and families are benefiting from a variety of programs and activities, such as a community StoryWalk® and having free new books and learning kits in their homes.





THE POWER OF GIVING: CHEERS TO VOLUNTEER

The Chain Reaction of Giving: Volunteer Power

Volunteers are the heartbeat of our services. Each year, our volunteers give thousands of hours to tutoring math, reading, and writing; reading stories; helping with special events; and supporting our book donation program. Volunteers play important roles in the planning, coordination, delivery, and evaluation of our programs. From helping children read a favourite book to supporting adults as they work to improve their skills, volunteers are key to creating a culture of literacy in Canada.

WHAT WE HEARD FROM **OUR VOLUNTEERS**



rated Frontier College programs as excellent, very good or good



said their tutoring skills improved



said their communication skills improved



noted their self-confidence improved



said their leadership skills improved



Giving back to the community through volunteering has always been important to Arianne. She really wanted to interact more with people in her community, and reading has always been a big passion of hers, so she decided to volunteer at Frontier College.

I am currently a first-year pharmacy student at the University of Manitoba. Pharmacists interact with people of different ages and walks of life. It is especially important that pharmacists know how to effectively communicate with young children to ensure that they understand their medication and have positive health outcomes. I was able to develop these skills at Frontier College because I often had to come up with simple ways to teach the learners a difficult concept. It has been a rewarding experience seeing readers improve and develop a love for reading!

Our volunteers often tell us that tutoring is one of the most rewarding and life-changing things they've ever done. They gain valuable personal and professional development from working so closely with program participants.

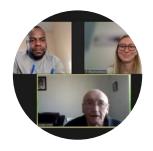
The volunteers highlighted in this report are prime examples of how the act of giving inspires others and turns a short-term act of kindness into a positive influence on someone's future.

We proudly recognize the contributions of our dedicated and valued volunteers and interns.



Sandy was a learner in our Independent Studies program in Toronto before she started stickering books for our book donation program in 2005. Today, she is our most enthusiastic Book Room volunteer.

I love volunteering; it makes me happy!



Joseph is an exceptional volunteer. He is a retired teacher of 23 years and his love of teaching and helping others shines in his tutoring sessions.

My experience with Frontier College has been excellent. The staff and interns follow great fundamental teaching practices. I love all of the people I have met through Frontier College, and it feels good to give back to my community. I feel really good after I volunteer and chat with people; it is a great way for me to interact and meet people. I am 75 years old, and I live alone, and the pandemic has been especially hard for me. Since I am not overly familiar with technology, it was challenging for me to stay in touch with family and friends. Volunteering with Frontier College has allowed me to have meaningful and impactful conversations with young children and adults via Zoom!

The Chain Reaction of Giving: Internship to leadership

Through the support of McBall MacBain Foundation and RBC, our youth internship program has helped us reach thousands of learners, train hundreds of volunteers, and connect with many community partners. We train interns to develop or strengthen management skills and become role models for future youth volunteers; following their internships, they can transition into further leadership roles in their communities or into staff roles within Frontier College. Over the last five years, 15% of interns have gone on to be rehired at Frontier College, as both contract and permanent staff.



Annika

I'm a 2nd-year Animal Health student at the University of Alberta. Growing up, I've always harboured a love for literature and read voraciously in all my spare time. It was braving adventures with my favourite book characters that instilled in me the courage to tackle many of my most exciting (albeit daunting!) experiences. I wouldn't be who I am today without books, so, I'm honoured to be part of Frontier College; working alongside others in spreading the importance and joy of reading and writing!

I help facilitate the literacy programs and handle volunteer operations. Social media is also something I've been increasingly involved in lately. There, I make posts that aim to promote literacy and garner more public attention for the programs we offer!

The experience working with the team at Frontier College has been invaluable, and I look forward to continuing working with these wonderful individuals!



Natalie

I am pursuing my Master of Teaching at Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. From day one, Frontier College revealed a welcoming and positive environment that allowed me to learn and grow in my role. My experience has been enriching and rewarding. Some of the skills that I gained include critical thinking, problem-solving, communication and organization. One of the most rewarding aspects of my internship was planning a five-week literacy program to help Grade 8 students transition to the new destreamed math curriculum in Ontario. I helped students build foundational math skills as well as build confidence in themselves. It was incredibly rewarding to see how far the learners progressed during the short time and their readiness to take on high school math class.

My time with Frontier College has been extremely rewarding and has strengthened numerous skills that I will take with me in my future career as a teacher.

WE HEAR THEIR WORK **EXPERIENCE WITH** FRONTIER COLLEGE HAS **BEEN TRANSFORMATIVE** AND A MEANINGFUL STEP IN THEIR CAREERS.



of interns rated their overall experience at Frontier College as very good or excellent



of interns shared that their internship at Frontier College had an impact on their time management, critical thinking, complex problem solving, creativity, innovation, flexibility, and adaptability



of interns shared that their internship at Frontier College had an impact on their planning, organization, teamwork, evaluation, communication, leadership skills, and taking initiative

AWARDS



FITZPATRICK AWARD RECIPIENT —

The Morton Family Foundation

Founded by David and Patricia Morton, the Morton Family Foundation exemplifies the spirit of Frontier College founder Alfred Fitzpatrick's vision for Frontier College through their patronage of the Lieutenant Governor's Summer Reading Camps in Ontario. With their focus on empowerment and employment for Indigenous youth, they became the first and only funder dedicated to supporting our camp counsellor training each spring. Many youths who have worked with us share that their lives are transformed by the skills they gain and the experiences they take away from their time as camp counsellors—which all begins with an intensive training experience that ensures a safe, cohesive, and results-driven program for thousands of children across Ontario.

COMPANION AWARD RECIPIENT -

Louise Hayes

Louise was a member of the Frontier College Board of Directors for nine years, serving as Secretary and on the Executive Committee. Louise's trusted guidance and inspiring passion helped shape the organization into what it is today. Louise has an uncanny—and unmatched—ability to connect the dots, where the "dots" are people, programs, plans, and funding that benefits Frontier College. She cares deeply about the needs of others and works for the good of all. A friend for life, Louise, we thank you for your commitment and support.



JOYCE MATTHEWS AWARD RECIPIENT •

Jean Barton

Since 2016, Jean has volunteered as a tutor working with adults in our Literacy and Basic Skills program. Jean, a retired teacher, seamlessly adapts her experience teaching young children to the challenge of meeting the needs of adults seeking to develop their education and life goals.

Jean has tutored people who began their Frontier College learning journey with no literacy skills in their first language or in English; or with undiagnosed learning challenges; or with a need to understand Canadian workplace idioms to find and maintain employment; or who want to enter an apprenticeship program; or with a desire to become a Canadian citizen. Moving from face-to-face learning to online, she went to great lengths to maintain a productive and engaging learning environment. She is a model for being flexible in a remote learning environment: Whether finding and adapting material for working online, adjusting meeting times, or facing any other challenge, we still hear Jean and her learners laughing together.

IMPACT AND GROWTH

STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Percentage of children and youth who improved their skills in:



of teachers and educators observed an improvement in reading and writing skills

of teachers and educators observed an improvement in math skills

of parents observed that their child's reading skills improved after participating in the Frontier College program

of parents observed that their child's math skills improved after participating in the Frontier College program

100%

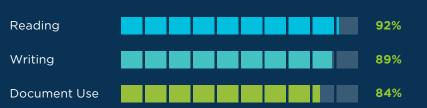
of locally hired camp counsellors said working at camp strengthened their employment skills

of parents said camp helps their child return to school more prepared and ready to learn

of campers felt that attending camp maintained or raised their interest in reading and learning

LIFE SUCCESS PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH

Percentage of adults and out-of-school youth who improved their skills in:



of volunteer tutors noticed that learners show increased confidence after attending a program at Frontier College

of volunteer tutors observed that their learners improved their reading skills after participating in the Frontier College program

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that they gained skills they need to achieve a life goal



OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you for giving the gift of literacy.

This list reflects gifts received between **April 1, 2021 and** March 31, 2022.

We would like to thank our community partners for providing space, staff, snacks, and supplies. We also wish to thank those donors who have chosen to remain anonymous. Although we have made every effort to ensure that donors have been correctly acknowledged, if we have erred, please accept our apologies and report the error or omission to 1-800-555-6523.

\$500,000+

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Melanie Valcin

Mei Wa Wong

Michele Wright





With over a century of frontline experience we know just how profoundly literacy changes everything.

FINANCIALS

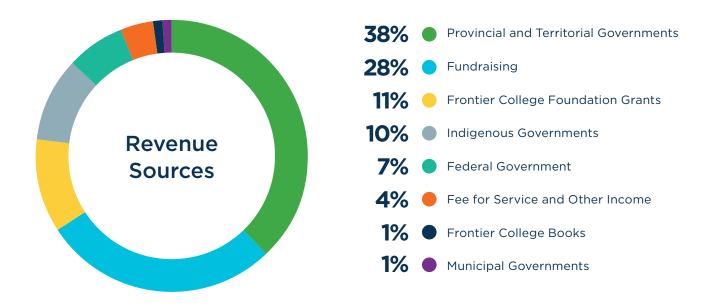
Summarized Statement of Operations

	2022	2021
Governments	5,928,166	4,972,122
Fundraising	2,971,636	2,103,808
Frontier College Foundation Grants	1,201,026	868,000
Frontier College Books	67,841	147,459
Fee for Service and Other Income	375,255	214,104
Total Operating Revenue	10,543,924	8,305,493
Salaries and Benefits	7,935,307	6,344,750
Program Materials & Delivery Costs	1,099,427	528,216
Operational Costs	967,086	1,000,379
Travel	136,032	54,740
Fundraising and Communications	218,636	126,033
Cost of Sales	44,571	116,030
Amortization and Interest on Capital Leases	142,865	135,345
Total Operating Expenses	10,543,924	8,305,493
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	0	0

Summarized Statement of Financial Position

	2022	2021
Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6,792,179	6,545,116
Accounts Receivable	826,960	577,537
Inventory & Prepaid Expenses	213,115	278,194
Capital Assets	552,420	582,300
	8,384,674	7,983,147
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	639,699	493,056
Deferred Contributions	6,896,537	6,616,275
Other Obligations	64,154	89,532
Net Assets	784,284	784,284
	8,384,674	7,983,147

Full audited financial statements and notes are available at frontiercollege.ca





Literacy is the foundation of all learning.

Everyone can learn, but not everyone can access the support they need. No other skill shapes the trajectory of a person's life more than the ability to read and write.

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