

The Elizabeth Kelly Foundation

Supporting literacy and learning across the community

Introducing our semi-annual newsletter

The Foundation has been busy supporting literacy and learning but hasn't been communicating the great results very well. Beginning with this release, we will strive to publish a semi-annual newsletter to share information on funding initiatives and other news about the Foundation.

The Elizabeth Kelly Foundation was created in 1984 when a few Almonte residents were concerned that funding was limiting library services and the introduction of new programs. The proponents sought donations and established itself as a Canadian Registered Charity "The Elizabeth Kelly Library Foundation". While the desire to provide annual grants, the donated funds, while generous, remained limited. Trustees determined that a strategic investment program could supplement donations. This proved successful, and they then determined that incorporation would provide protection for the investments and the Trustees. The new organization "The Elizabeth Kelly Library Foundation Inc." was approved in Ontario in 2013 and indeed the funding base grew, as conceived. Programs and services benefited and by the conclusion of 2022, in excess of \$400,000 to be granted to the Mississippi Mills Libraries, enhancing programs, facilities and services. But the Foundation's asset base remained at a significant level.

To achieve even more success the Directors decided to expand the support geography and invite libraries and other literacy and learning groups, across all of Lanark County, to submit request letters. The articles that follow in this inaugural Newsletter, point to some of these new successes.



**Summer
Literacy
Programs**



**Mississippi Valley
Field Naturalists
Bursary**



**Notre Dame
Catholic High
School Music
Program**

1

LEARNING FOR ALL

The Foundation supports literacy and learning for all ages.

2

WORKING TOGETHER

The Foundation works with literacy and learning organizations across Lanark.

3

MATCHING FUNDS

The Foundation provides matching funds for literacy and learning.

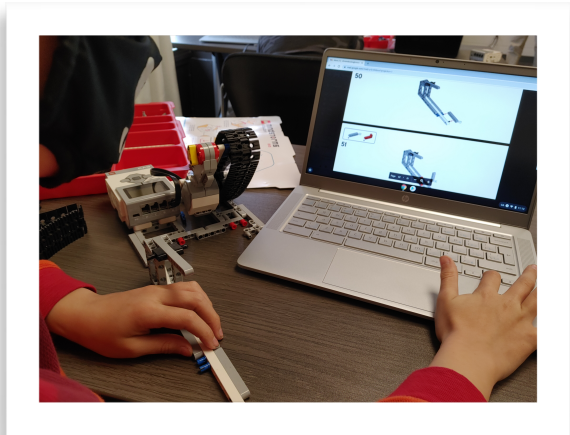
4

MATCHING FUNDS

The Foundation is always looking for opportunities to partner fund.

Summer 2023 - libraries across Lanark launch STEM robotics programs for youth

In 2020, the Foundation funded a pilot Robotics program to engage and inspire youth to pursue STEM knowledge. It was offered at the Mississippi Mills Public Library (Almonte). Thanks to the diligence, skills and energy of everyone involved, the program was a great success!



Summer 2023 - the Foundation is funding a first ever county-wide STEM Robotics Program, Libraries across Lanark will be able to provide these exciting programs for youth in their own community to encourage development of comfort, interests and skills in STEM.

Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists Bursary

The Foundation provides funds to enhance their annual Bursary program.

To encourage youth to study and work with nature and enhance conservation, the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists provides an annual bursary to graduating high school students residing in Lanark and West Carleton and enrolled in post-secondary studies at college and university level. Commencing in 2023, a new award has been created for successful students entering the second year of their studies, funded by the Foundation and to be known as the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists/Elizabeth Kelly Foundation (MVFN/EKF) Award.

Previously, the Foundation funded audio/video equipment to assist remote lectures. More information can be found at www.mvfn.ca

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire”

W.B. Yeats

Children's Summer Literacy Program

The Foundation provides funds for summer literacy programs



For several years, the Foundation has been supporting a summer literacy program in Mississippi Mills. In 2022, support for a summer literacy program was extended to the Lanark Highlands public library. With Foundation support, both library systems will be offering a 2023 summer literacy program. For more information go to www.missmillslibrary.com and www.lanarklibrary.ca.



Notre Dame Catholic High School Extracurricular Music Program

Helping to rebuild a music program

The Covid-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on Notre Dame Catholic High School's music program in Carleton Place - senior students involved in extracurricular music programs moved on, musical instruments were neglected and inventory stagnated. Today the music program is being rebuilt and reinvented. To help the rebuilding process, the Foundation is providing funds to enhance the current extracurricular band program. Funds will help cover costs of musical instrument repairs, replenish music supplies and purchase music subscriptions and books.

“If I had not studied music, there would be no Macintosh computers today”

J. Raskin

Notre Dame Catholic High School Design Program

Encouraging STEM participation across the broader school community through exciting technology

Notre Dame Catholic High School Carleton Place has a Design Technologies course to encourage students to explore the world of design, architecture, drafting and 3D modelling - 3D printers are essential to the program. 3D printers are a 'pull' technology as they can encourage students not typically engaged in technology programs to explore and learn the technology through the ability to 'make things'. The foundation is providing funds for the school to purchase a School Board approved

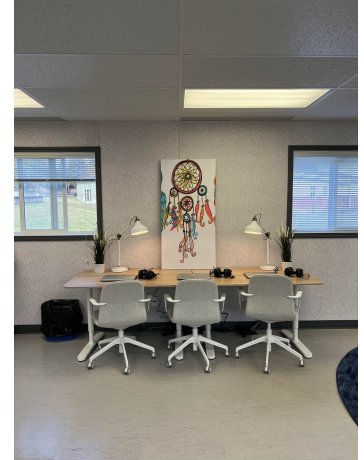
printer and supplies for the Design Technologies program and the printer will be made available to the wider student population to encourage comfort and learning with technology.

SchoolBox North

SchoolBox partners with Indigenous communities to 'make education possible'.



The Foundation provided funds to SchoolBox North in support of the Kiizhik Library Project. For more information go to <http://schoolbox.ca/north>.



Home Hospice

Books educate - books give comfort

The Foundation provided funds to Home Hospice North Lanark for the purchase of books for supportive information for clients, caregivers and the community at large for the Almonte and Pakenham libraries.

A little more information on the Foundation

Governance

The Foundation is managed by its five member voluntary Board, elected for two year terms by its members.

The mandate of the Foundation is to provide supplementary financial support for activities and projects of organizations and groups that contribute to the advancement of literacy, creativity, life-long learning, education and well-being of persons of all ages across Lanark. Organizations and groups such as libraries, schools and charities are invited to apply for grants. The Foundation typically provides grants on a matching funding basis.

Funding

Funding comes to the Foundation in the form of donations, endowments, membership fees and investment interest.

The Foundation encourages applicants to identify, within their proposed budget, matching funding opportunities. This approach brings benefits including:

- More funding for supported programs.
- Engagement of partners with common interests and goals.
- Encouragement of dialogue.
- Extending our network - moving forward together with community members.

Foundation funds are awarded to organizations and groups upon submission and approval by the Foundation Board. The Foundation funds programs and initiatives in support of literacy and learning. Our library network is a key vehicle for literacy and learning of a much larger and vibrant literate community across Lanark.

BECOME A MEMBER

If you have interests in literacy and learning and want to learn more about how the Foundation supports literacy and learning in Lanark - join us! Receive updates on funding activities of the Foundation. We welcome ideas on opportunities for Foundation matching funding for literacy and learning across Lanark. If you have any thoughts or ideas for a learning community project send them to us.

The Foundation is always seeking new members to help us expand our reach and impact. Be involved with supporting literacy and learning in your community! Consider becoming a member.

Learn more @ www.ekellylibraryfoundation.ca/.

