

HISTORY OF PRAIRIEACTION FOUNDATION

Introduction

In 1992 the federal government established a network of five research centres in Canada to conduct research into the causes of family violence and violence against women. The impetus for this family violence initiative was the murder of 14 women at Ecolé Polytechnique in Montreal. The Manitoba Research Centre on Family Violence and Violence Against Women was one of the originally funded Centers. It was made clear at the outset that it would be necessary to seek other funding sources after five years. In 1996 Jane Ursel, the Director of the Manitoba Centre, met with Senator Sharon Carstairs to discuss planning for long-term funding. After some research into possible funding sources it became clear to Jane and Sharon that in order to leverage the impact of the Manitoba Centre and expand its opportunities, a partnership among the Prairie Provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba) was vital.

Prairieaction Foundation exists today as a result of a milestone meeting held in Calgary in February 1997. The purpose of the meeting was to determine if there was sufficient interest and commitment from the three provinces to establish a tri-provincial research network on family violence. The participants included representatives from Prairie universities; aboriginal peoples; community workers in the field of family violence; police forces; three provincial governments; federal government and the corporate community. The meeting resulted in the creation of a Development Committee who recommended that:

- the Manitoba Centre broaden its mandate to include the three Prairie Provinces
- the administration remain at the University of Manitoba with research projects - subject to peer review - to be conducted with universities across the Prairies
- criteria for all research projects be action-oriented and community-based, with the impetus for the projects coming from the community
- a formal communication system be established in order to facilitate the dissemination of research results across the three provinces and beyond
- a public foundation (later called *Prairieaction* Foundation) be established to raise and manage a \$3 million endowment fund
- the interest income be used to provide stable funding for a new Prairie research network, RESOLVE - Research and Education For Solutions to Violence and Abuse and to grant future support for Canadian charities involved in violence research, service delivery and education

As a result of the dedicated efforts of the Development Committee and later, the founding board directors of *Prairieaction* Foundation and RESOLVE's Regional Councils, all these recommendations were adopted as goals for RESOLVE in partnership with *Prairieaction* Foundation

Development of a New Foundation

The early success of *Prairieaction* Foundation is the result of the extraordinary volunteer efforts of Margaret Newall, Sheila O'Brien, Carolynne Boivin, Ora Zabloski and Sharon Carstairs who are the founding members of the Foundation. Without the generous gift of time, talent and treasure by these exceptional women, *Prairieaction* Foundation would still be at the idea stage. Michelle MacDonald, who worked for Sharon Carstairs as Policy Advisor, was instrumental in taking charge of the administrative processes necessary to move the Foundation forward. In the fall, 1997, thanks to a grant from the Kahanoff Foundation, two consultants were hired to help develop the administrative structure and test the feasibility of an endowment campaign. Barbara Burggraf was one of the consultants and after working with the founders opted to continue in the role of Executive Director. In December 1997 the *Prairieaction* Foundation was finally granted charitable status. As a newly registered public foundation it was now possible to raise funds for an endowment.

On February 13, 1998 *Prairieaction* Foundation held its first board meeting under the Chairmanship of Margaret Newall. Carolynne Boivin agreed to be President, Sharon Carstairs agreed to Chair the Manitoba Campaign and serve as a Director, and Ora committed to be the Chair of Communications and a Director. Thirteen honorary directors were invited by the founders to lend their names to the Foundation to help create an image of credibility and support. A total of nine board members, representing the three Prairie Provinces, attended the first meeting to approve the new slate of board directors and the Foundation by-laws. Nova Corporation (now known as Nova Chemical) made a donation of \$80,000 to *Prairieaction* Foundation's endowment fund and \$80,000 to help build the infrastructure of *Prairieaction* Foundation. University of Calgary and the Canadian Institute for Law and the Family generously donated office space for one year in the Law Building.

In March 1998, Barbara Burggraf signed a short-term contract with the Foundation to continue developing the endowment campaign. She turned her attention to creating a case for support, preparing a recruitment package for volunteer fundraisers, identifying donor prospects and looking for more permanent infrastructure funding. As the case for support evolved it was agreed that \$3 million would be raised to support the infrastructure of RESOLVE and that \$2 million would be raised to support a national community grants program to be administered by the Foundation. This decision, although one of hundreds that were made in 1998, did the most to set the future direction of the Foundation. By establishing a national community grants program to be administered by the Foundation, the board had in effect decided that *Prairieaction* would do much more than support the infrastructure of RESOLVE. *Prairieaction* would now support Canadian charities seeking solutions to violence and abuse.

The fundraising campaigns in Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan and nationally were activated in May. Early results indicated that the Foundation would do well nationally. The Royal Bank and RBC Dominion Securities donated \$150,000. The Bank of Montreal donated \$100,000. The Bank of Nova Scotia gave \$75,000 and CIBC gave \$50,000. In Saskatchewan IPSCO pledged a lead gift of \$100,000 over 5 years. The first government gift of \$250,000 over 5 years came from the Manitoba Government. Margaret and Ted Newall made a substantial lead gift of \$100,000 to spark the Individual Campaign. By the end of the year the fund raising campaign had real momentum.

In November 1998 Barbara Burggraf signed a two-year contract with the Foundation to act as the Executive Director. Canadian Pacific generously agreed to fund the position for two years. With funding through Nova's employee placement program a Development Assistant was hired to help manage the campaign details and improve office efficiency.

1998-1999 in Review

The year 1999 was a very busy one for the Foundation. The emphasis was clearly on fund raising and building the infrastructure of *Prairieaction* Foundation and the board. By the end of the year, under the chairmanship of Margaret Newall, more than 75% of the endowment fund had been raised in cash and pledges from corporations, individuals, foundations and governments. The Campaign Committee set a target date of December 2000 to complete the fund raising goal of \$5 million.

Besides continuing to work towards the goal of raising the endowment fund, another major challenge facing *Prairieaction* Foundation board and staff was to evolve a new public foundation that was a respected, ethical, and financially sound organization – one in which our donors and partners could have full confidence. A Grants Task Force was struck in 1999 and the board to support the development of an accountable, responsive and professional foundation ready to support solutions to violence and abuse approved a final report.

In March 1999 the Foundation moved from the law faculty to the Social Sciences building within the Department of Anthropology and next door to the RESOLVE Alberta office. Due to the generosity of the Dean of Social Sciences, RESOLVE received a grant of \$25,000 pledged over five years to hire a student researcher.

Under the leadership of Foundation board member Dr. Raymond Currie, (Dean Emeritus of Arts, University of Manitoba) and with generous assistance from Dr. Jerry Gray, Dean, Faculty of Business Administration, University of Manitoba, the board attended a Strategic Planning session in Winnipeg to clarify the goals of the Foundation over the next three years.

In December 1999 *Prairieaction* Foundation launched its web site at www.prairieactionfoundation.ca. The site theme was fund raising but as the Foundation evolves it will become an important site for the community-granting program.

1999-2000 in Review

The target set by the Campaign Committee of raising \$5 million by December 31, 2000 was not met. The Manitoba and Saskatchewan Campaign target of \$250,000 each for individual, foundation and corporate gifts for the year 2000 was not met. Unfortunately the Saskatchewan government was not able to commit to making a pledge of \$250,000. The Alberta Campaign met its target and the Chair; Gord Tallman stepped down in December. The National Campaign exceeded its target, as did the Individual Campaign.

In May 2000 Canadian Pacific Charitable Foundation made a new funding commitment to the Foundation of \$75,000 per year for 2 years to fund the Executive Director position until September 1, 2002. In October, the Foundation held a successful panel discussion in the Calgary community with the title, "Un-gendering Violence." In December Air Canada pledged \$30,000 per year for 5 years in airfares for *Prairieaction* Foundation and RESOLVE to travel across the Prairies and within Canada.

2000-2001 in Review

In January 2001 Fairmont Hotels and Resorts committed to an in-kind donation of accommodations for *Prairieaction* Foundation and RESOLVE for one year. Also in January of 2001, Barbara Burggraf stepped down as Executive Director of the Foundation, and Dr. Lee Tunstall took over in that position in mid-March. Since then, the Foundation has grappled with a number of strategic planning issues. We now have a comprehensive communications plan that will be implemented in the near future. The Board has also set an ambitious new fund raising goal of \$2.5 million, designed to increase the endowment fund to a total of \$7.5 million.

The total cash received, as of September 27, 2001 is \$3,891,613.51. The total cash and pledges received, as of September 27, 2001 is \$4,792,695.62. The \$3 million endowment fund designated to fund RESOLVE is complete. The Foundation is now focused on raising the balance of the Community Grants Fund, which is \$207,304.48. Once the foundation has raised the balance of the Community Grants fund the anonymous donor pledge of \$750,000 to the Community Grants Fund will be complete.

2001-2002 in Review

The year 2002 saw the Foundation reach a major milestone – completing the initial fundraising goal of \$5 million during the summer months. The fall was a time to celebrate this accomplishment with our donors and partners. Events were held in Calgary (October 23) and in Winnipeg (November 21). Preparations were also under way for a second campaign, called the Momentum Campaign, to complete The Legacy Fund's total goal of \$7.5 million. The Foundation also branched out in its fundraising approaches this year, completing a successful direct mail appeal to members of the Manitoba Dental Association. This contained an educational component too, as an article appeared in their newsletter regarding the role dentists can play detecting family violence. The Foundation also held its first ever fundraising event in Edmonton in August. The *Prairieaction* Foundation Golf Marathon raised an amazing \$60,000! It also brought in approximately 200 new donors to the Foundation, effectively doubling our donor base. Many more people will now be informed about the activities of *Prairieaction* Foundation and RESOLVE.

The Foundation has also been reaching out to other organizations to create strategic partnerships. A trip to our sister foundation, the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Foundation in New Brunswick in February allowed the two organizations to brainstorm around possible joint projects. Discussions have also been held with the Canadian Women's Foundation and the Women's Future Fund. We are also in communication with the Child Abuse Monument Project in Toronto, and may be involved in a joint project in the near future. Finally, the YWCA of Calgary and PAF have also been working together to increase donor investment to issues of family violence within the Calgary region. This is very exciting for us, as we have always valued a collaborative approach in all of our work.

2002-2003 in Review

The year 2002-2003 at *Prairieaction* Foundation was one of gratitude and moving forward. Having completed our first \$5 million Founders' Campaign in June of 2002, we took time this year to thank all of our many generous donors who helped make the Founders' Campaign such a success. We held donor recognition receptions across the Prairies, and in the spirit of collaboration that we hold so dear, in each of these receptions we partnered with other organizations.

In Calgary, we were pleased to celebrate with the YWCA Family Violence Prevention Centre and Sheriff King Home in October 2002. The YWCA were celebrating the launch of their Community Safe Visitation Program, designed to meet urgent needs for protected settings for the safe transfers and visitations of

children with non-custodial parents. RESOLVE Alberta will be evaluating this program, yet another example of the collaborative nature of our organizations.

In November of 2002 we helped celebrate RESOLVE's tenth anniversary with the University of Manitoba as our partner. Over the past ten years, RESOLVE has built up an impressive body of research, and what is more important, much of this research has led to important changes designed to help victims and perpetrators of violence and abuse. With PAF's continued support, we are sure that the next ten years will be equally productive.

In February of 2003, we moved to Regina where we partnered with the RCMP in thanking our Saskatchewan donors. We were fortunate that via our Board member, Deputy Commissioner Steve Duncan, we were able to use the Officers' Mess at the RCMP Training Academy. The RCMP has strongly supported our initiatives from day one, as they can see the value back to their officers of the practical research results.

Prairieaction Foundation's next challenge is the \$2.5 million Momentum Campaign. Violence and abuse, especially in the family, are still daily occurrences in our communities. We need to continue to build awareness and support across the Prairies for RESOLVE's important work.

Our goal is to complete this campaign by 2005, the centennial year for both the people of Alberta and Saskatchewan. What a wonderful investment in a violence-free future! We are confident that this campaign will be as successful as our first, and will result in enhanced support for RESOLVE, as well as sustaining the educational and awareness activities of the Foundation.

During the past year, all investments have suffered from a decrease in market returns. *Prairieaction* Foundation's Legacy Fund was no exception to that reality. We were, however, able to realize better than market average returns due to shrewd investment management. In spite of this, we did have to reduce our grant to RESOLVE this year to \$76,500. We have, however, been able to continue to support RESOLVE via flow-through grants from generous donors who stepped in to directly fund the network's activities this past year.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we have grown and evolved over our first five years, and we have granted over \$300,000 from Legacy Fund returns to RESOLVE. RESOLVE is making good use of these funds, and becoming a valued and integral partner in community responses to violence and abuse across the Prairies and beyond. From helping to streamline and expedite court processes, to helping women remove barriers to accessing the facilities and programs they need when leaving abusive situations, RESOLVE's research is making a difference in our communities.

Last year's RESOLVE Research Day, held in Winnipeg, was again a tremendous success, with over 400 participants. The fourth volume of the Hurting and Healing Series, *Being Heard: The Experiences of Young Women in Prostitution*, was launched in May and was on the Calgary bestseller list its first week of its availability. This clearly shows there is great community interest and appetite for such research.

Taking a look at our achievements over the past five years, it simply would not have been possible without an incredibly hard-working Board. We were sorry to lose two of our longer-serving Board members, Dr. Sharon Jamieson, our Vice-President and John Sokolowski, who had most recently stepped in as our Interim Treasurer. Both will be greatly missed. Also, Bev Brennan and Susan Hickey decided to leave the Board and we thank them both for their efforts while they were with us. We also shared the deep loss that all Canadians felt when two of our Honorary Board members, Ramon Hnatyshyn and Carol Shields, passed away after courageously battling cancer.

We were, however, happy to welcome some new faces to the Board. Peggy Gray (Calgary) took over as our Treasurer in the summer, and Cathy Auld (Winnipeg) has joined her on the Finance Committee. We also happily welcomed Gerda Hnatyshyn to our Honorary Board. And we welcomed a new friend to the cadre of supporters we depend upon to spread the word about *Prairieaction* Foundation. Distinguished Saskatchewan writer Sharon Butala has agreed to be a Special Ambassador for PAF.

When people work this hard it's easy to see they deserve recognition. Our Board Chair, Margaret Newall, was again singled out for recognition. She was awarded Rotary's highest honour, the Paul Harris Fellowship, and also was given an honorary doctorate from the University of Calgary. June convocation at the UofC included two further honorary doctorates, Ted Newall and Tom Jackson, both also members of our Honorary Board. Deputy Commissioner Steve Duncan of the North West region of the RCMP, based in Regina, received the Order of Merit of the Police Forces. Steve is currently on leave from our Board.

2003-2004 in Review

Working in partnership with our community neighbours and friends is a guiding principle for PAF. This past year, we again joined together with other community groups to raise awareness, and funds, for violence and abuse issues. On May 8, 2004, we partnered with the YWCA of Calgary, the Back Door and recyclers RWorld and Maxus to participate in E-Waste Round Up Day in Calgary. Thousands of Calgarians brought in their electronic equipment for recycling, including inkjet and toner cartridges. The partnering charities received contributions from this recycling effort. We also have an ongoing relationship with RWorld, and continue to collect inkjet and toner printer cartridges to raise funds.

On June 27, 2004, we partnered with the Calgary Multicultural Centre and the University of Calgary's International Centre for the first-ever Multicultural Foodfest. *Prairieaction* Foundation was thrilled with the success of this event, which brought over 50 cultural groups and restaurants together to promote their traditions through dancing, food, music and an outdoor market. People crowded the street to watch a variety of entertainers on the main stage, while cultural vendors showcased their traditional artifacts, clothing, jewellery and accessories. *Prairieaction* Foundation was proud to be a partner in this event. It was a wonderful opportunity to increase awareness of our work within all the communities of Calgary, as we know that violence and abuse knows no barriers and occurs with all races, ethnicities, and cultures.

The 2003 RESOLVE Research Day was held in Saskatoon in November and was again a tremendous success. Researchers from across the Prairies came together to discuss topics as varied as girls exploited through prostitution, evaluation of men's treatment programs and violence against immigrant women. Our Special Ambassador, Sharon Butala, was on hand to give a powerful reading that touched on intimate partner violence from one of her books, *Real Life*. Judge Mary-Ellen Turpel Lafond, the first Treaty Indian appointed as a judge in Saskatchewan, gave an equally powerful keynote speech.

In May, we were delighted to celebrate with RESOLVE when they launched the fifth volume of their *Hurting and Healing* series, entitled 'Within our Reach: Preventing Abuse across the Lifespan'. As is the norm with this series, the book was co-edited by one academic, Dr. Christine Ateah, and one community practitioner, Janet Mirwaldt. *Within our Reach* addresses specific issues, highlighting the effects of violence associated within a certain age group.

We were also eager to share the news of RESOLVE's latest research success with our friends and supporters, when the network and its strong community partners were successful in their second Community-University Research Alliance grant competition. These are highly competitive grants, and to receive two in so short a time frame speaks to the strength of RESOLVE's network model. The successful \$1 million project is called *The Healing Journey* and will be a tri-provincial, longitudinal comparative look at women who have abused by intimate partners.

This past year saw a slight increase in market returns, and also saw PAF with almost \$5 million received in the Legacy Fund. We were delighted that the markets rebounded in a substantial manner, and returns on the Legacy Fund mirrored this upturn. As a result, we were able to grant RESOLVE not only the shortfall we could not grant last year, but also a normal grant for the year. Therefore a grant of \$193,500 was made to our research partner this past year. A formal evaluation of our fund manager showed that we had weathered the turbulent markets over the past few years quite well indeed, and the Legacy Fund has exceeded benchmark returns in three of the past four years.

Over the past seven years, PAF has been able to grant over \$500,000 to support community-based, results-oriented research into issues of violence and abuse. With our Legacy Fund generating strong returns, we will be able to continue and increase our funding in the future, ensuring that a continuous stream of research funding is available. We are extremely proud of our investment in RESOLVE – they have leveraged almost \$500,000 in PAF funding into over \$2 million in other research contracts and grants.

Equally exciting was the fact we were able to begin our National Community Grants program this summer. A total of \$23,500 was awarded to seven groups across the Prairies, each conducting important research on issues of violence and abuse. They ranged from reviews of existing research and protocols of elder abuse to helping to develop new tools to evaluate the effectiveness of a crisis nursery. We had an overwhelming response to our first call for proposals, receiving over 50 applications, requesting a total of over \$210,000. There is an obvious need for such research funding, and through the support of our donors and supporters, we hope to grow this granting program over the years.

One of the best indicators of the growing appreciation of the importance of the issue of family violence is the public acknowledgement of our activities in national awards. Again this year, we were delighted to celebrate with our Board Chair Margaret Newall, when she received the Arthur Kroeger Award in Citizenship and Community Affairs on behalf of PAF. There was more cause for celebration later in the year when Margaret and our former President, Senator Sharon Carstairs, jointly received the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Foundation Award. The fact that it came from our sister foundation in New Brunswick made the award all the more special. And we were equally delighted when the news came that Margaret will receive the Order of Canada for her pioneering work to support research into violence and abuse in the New Year. Congratulations!

2004-2005 in Review

During the 2004-2005 year, PAF actively worked in partnership with community groups to raise awareness, and funds, for violence and abuse issues.

The Foundation's annual grant supported RESOLVE by granting \$175,000 for administration and operational costs. With the guarantee of sustainable funding, RESOLVE has been able to retain its senior researchers and staff who provide valuable history, consistency and knowledge. As a result, RESOLVE has *leveraged* the Prairieaction Foundation's grants, totalling \$782,000 since 1998, to attain more than \$4.1 million in other grants.

In 2005 the Foundation's National Community Grants Program received 41 applications totalling \$230,314. Twenty-two applications were from Alberta, six from Manitoba, ten from British Columbia and one from Ontario. Eleven grants

were made, totalling \$70,175 to support research-based programs ranging from research on gang recruitment to needs assessments to program evaluations. Recipient organizations are located in urban and rural settings; five in Alberta, three in Saskatchewan, two in Manitoba and one in Ontario.

In the 2003-2004 year, the Foundation partnered with the YWCA of Calgary, The Back Door and the recycling businesses ®World and Maxus to encourage recycling of inkjet and toner cartridges. Each of our three charities receives a portion of profits gained through this initiative. The Senate of Canada was quick to commit to this initiative and other organizations and individuals regularly use the free-of-charge mailing slips to get rid of old cartridges rather than throwing them out. We are presently in the process of heightening this program among some Calgary-based companies. The best part of this project is its combination of raising awareness and action on recycling as well as providing some information on each of the three charities.

The 2004 RESOLVE Research Days was held in Calgary in November and was again deemed a successful opportunity to learn and share. Researchers from across the Prairies came together to present papers and discuss projects now being undertaken. It was generally acknowledged by a number of researchers that much of their work would not have been possible without PAF's annual grant to RESOLVE, which has been able to leverage this sustaining funding to raise more grants for specific projects.

Two events were hosted by the Foundation in the fall of 2004. The first was in partnership with the Calgary Counselling Centre and HomeFront. Our three organizations jointly hosted Denise Brown, the sister of Nicole Brown Simpson, on November 4th, 2004 for a presentation during Turn off the Violence Week in Calgary. Approximately 200 people attended. This event was intended to be more of an awareness-raiser than a fund-raiser and, therefore, was deemed a success soon after the occasion.

The second event was held on November 16, 2004. This was a fundraising event hosted by Masters Gallery, where Prairieaction Foundation supporter Teri Posyniak's art was being highlighted at that time. Teri donated two large pieces of her artwork, which were auctioned, and ten smaller pieces, which were sold. We raised \$10,500 from this event.

Teri also generously donated original artwork as a poster to the Foundation. All proceeds from the sale of these posters will be allocated to the Legacy Fund.

2005-06 in Review

In 2005-06, we granted the Research and Education for Solutions to Violence and Abuse (RESOLVE) \$200,000. RESOLVE participates in research, which will offer practical, action-oriented ways to help end family violence. From our

inception in 1998, we have granted almost 1 million dollars in funding To RESOLVE.

Formerly known as the National Community Grants Program, the Foundation's Community, Action, Research and Education Grant Program (CARE) granted \$59,920 in 2005-06. Our Foundation provides grassroots, community-based organizations and project funds for educational research to develop potential models and methods to ultimately eliminate the issues, impacts and outcomes of family violence and abuse.

We partnered with the Canadian Women's Foundation to fundraise and build awareness around violence prevention. We jointly coordinated a concert called *Songbirds* at the University of Calgary in November 2005. We also co-hosted a donor information session that was well attended by local corporate and private funders. Dr. Leslie Tutty spoke on behalf of RESOLVE and Margaret Newall spoke on behalf of the *Prairieaction* Foundation.

We hosted a Lieutenant Governor's event in Winnipeg, Manitoba. This event was attended by a very enthusiastic and high-calibre group of supporters. Senator Sharon Carstairs was awarded the Foundation's first *Prairieaction Foundation Visionary Leadership Award*. Deborah Thorlakson presented Senator Carstairs with a glass figure entitled the "Celebration Figure" by Alberta artist Susan Gottselig.

We supported the production *Bang Boy, Bang!* - an exploration of the consequences of date rape. This was a production of Montreal's Youth Theatre and was performed for public and school audiences at the Manitoba Theatre for Young People in Winnipeg from April 20 to 27, 2006.

In May 2006, we hosted a reception at the University of Regina to launch the book "Intimate Partner Violence: Reflections on Experience Theory, and Policy". This is RESOLVE's sixth publication.

In recent months, our efforts were enhanced as the new Governor General, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D., agreed to become our Patron. Her Excellency has a keen interest in issues related to violence and abuse. Needless to say we are delighted with this acknowledgement of support.

The RESOLVE Research Day continued to attract large numbers of community members, students and academics. The 2005 Research Day in Manitoba attracted 409 registrants representing 47 agencies throughout Manitoba and 10 universities across Canada. Senator Sharon Carstairs, a former *Prairieaction* Board member and past President, provided a moving and inspirational keynote address that ended in a standing ovation. The National Crime Prevention Centre provided funding that permitted RESOLVE to subsidize the costs of registration

for students, agency staff and clients.

In the last year, we have seen significant change in leadership at the Foundation. Our Executive Director, Lee Tunstall and Communications Director, Sheila Carruthers, have left the organization to pursue other opportunities. Doris Toy-Pries replaced Lee in late April. Jessica Bowen, our development coordinator, left the organization in February 2006 to pursue full time employment. We are pleased to welcome Jody Ziegler to this position.

Our website has been refreshed and continues to be a timely and helpful resource to our partners and stakeholders.

With the generous donations from our donors, the RBC Dominion Securities team has continued to achieve strong financial results indicative of both continued solid fiscal management and a vibrant economy. The total market value of our total investments at August 31, 2006 was \$6,790,458. Interest earned, along with all dividends, is re-invested to ensure that the fund continues to grow.

We have achieved high returns on our investments while keeping the operating budget to a minimum. The income of the endowment fund has continued to directly support solutions to violence and abuse. The Fund's goal is to ensure sustainability and support of solutions to violence and abuse both today and in the indefinite future.

2006-07 in Review

During the 2006-07 year, we continued to fund exceptional research that contributed to the prevention and eradication of violence by granting RESOLVE \$200,000. RESOLVE participates in research that offers practical, solution-based strategies to prevent and alleviate violence. RESOLVE works with community groups to identify areas where additional research needs to be done. RESOLVE also develops action-oriented research projects and works in interdisciplinary teams in partnership with community groups and other universities and centres in Canada. The Foundation's funding of RESOLVE enables it to continue having a significant impact on policy and programming in Canada.

The Foundation also granted \$75,927 through our Community, Action, Research and Education Grant Program (CARE). The CARE grant program furthers the Foundation's objectives of providing funds to registered charities for research in projects that are developing potential models and methods to ultimately eliminate the issues, impacts and outcomes of family violence and abuse.

We have committed to purchasing RESOLVE publications for distribution to participants in the annual RESOLVE Research Day. This grant allows the

Foundation and RESOLVE to create further awareness of RESOLVE's research activities.

We also supported another theatre production at the Manitoba Theatre for Young People in Winnipeg. The production "The Stones" explored the issue of teen violence and was viewed by approximately 4,500 young people in Manitoba. The Foundation believes that theatre productions are an innovative way to reach and then educate young people and help stop the cycle of violence and abuse.

RESOLVE's Research Day tradition is still going strong. In November 2006 it was hosted by RESOLVE Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. It attracted participation from service providers and researchers across the three Prairie Provinces.

In November 2006, six new members joined the Board; Mavis Clark, Mary Rose McGuire, Vic Huard, Rick Grosul, Pam Kendel-Goodale and John Duhault. These six talented and skilled individuals are, and will be, incredible assets to the Foundation as we continue to achieve our goals.

A reception to honour Margaret Newall's retirement as Chair of Prairieaction Foundation was held in December 2006. Joanne Cuthbertson, Chancellor of the University of Calgary and past Prairieaction Foundation board member, hosted the reception. The evening provided an opportunity to voice our appreciation of Margaret's extensive efforts to support research and solutions to violence and abuse. In 1997, Margaret was instrumental in bringing together people from across the Prairie Provinces to discuss the idea of establishing a foundation to fund a tri-provincial Prairie research network that would seek solutions to violence and abuse (RESOLVE). Margaret has made a significant contribution to raising Prairieaction Foundation's initial \$5 million endowment fund and has also made extensive effort to aid in the current \$2.5 million Momentum Fund.

In June 2006 we welcomed, Pat McInnis, as our new Executive Director to the Foundation team. Pat has joined us with over 25 years experience working in community development and women's equality, both within the non-profit sector and the federal government.

The endowment's portfolio managers at RBC Dominion Securities continued their hard work in ensuring that the financial investments in our Endowment Fund continue to perform well, reaching a value of \$7,223,537 at August 31, 2007.

The Foundation remains focused on raising the Momentum Campaign's target of \$2.5 million to fully capitalize the Legacy Fund at \$7.5 million. We continue to fundraise to access an anonymous donor's challenge of \$250,000.