



# Linking Generations

## 2017-2018 Annual Report

**Building Caring Communities Through Intergenerational Programs**



***Vision: Where seniors and youth build relationships that enrich their lives, and enhance their communities.***

***Mission: Linking Generations creates connections that foster caring and sharing between seniors and youth through mentorship and volunteerism.***

## Message from the Board

The participants and programs have flourished this year as we continue to build and strengthen relationships that have a lasting and positive impact for all of our program participants and community.

Families continue to praise how the Linking Generations Program has such an amazing effect on the quality of life of our seniors and how incredible it is to witness first-hand the development of the program's youth's leadership skills. The meaningful dialogue that occurs with our seniors and youth inspires the heart.

The talent and experience of the teams we have in place across the organization, coupled with the vision of our Board, support our success of being a responsible organization. Strong and effective governance had led to better business decisions and effective Board oversight has been vital to the success of Linking Generations.

Linking Generation's Board of Directors maintain their commitment to best governance practices and ensuring that we operate transparently and we are continuously making improvements to the how we operate. Several factors contributed to our success last year. The Board focus has been in developing longer term strategies for future program operating stability, we continued to diligently control expenses, improve operating practices and effectively fund raised to ensure programs will continue to run within the community for future years.

We are extremely proud to be part of the Sherwood Park community and for being recognized as a valuable program for our seniors, our youth and the families. Being part of a strong community network positions us to continue to deliver quality programs. We firmly believe our success is the community's success and we are humbled with the accolades and support of the work we do in the community.

The achievements of the last year would not have been possible without the remarkable support of our donors, partners, volunteers, staff and board. We celebrate our shared results and look forward to what the next year holds. Linking Generations is ready for the challenges and achievements ahead!

With much gratitude,

Wendy Hoffmann

Chair, Board of Directors

## Executive Director Report

Where has the 2017-2018 program year gone? Like Carol Burnett says, “Seems like we just get started and before you know it, comes the time we have to say so long”. Part of that song also said “I’m so glad we had this time together”, which I am sure is what our seniors and students are feeling. Linking Generations is so privileged to offer Intergenerational Programs to our community. Over the past 14 years, we have seen so many wonderful connections and relationships develop between the generations that are years apart. Its especially rewarding when we witness students that connected years ago still continuing to visit their “linked” senior.

There continues to be such interest in Linking Generations that many more student and senior applications are continually received than volunteer positions. This program year we had 245 seniors and youth connecting each week or bi-weekly for visits – year after year we see an increase in both student and senior participation!

This past year, we partnered with Strathcona Museum to create a very special visit between our youth and our seniors. As both generations studied items used in the household or the on farms, discussions could be overheard from the seniors explaining to the students what each item would have been used for. We even had some seniors bring a unique heritage item to this visit, so as to share their own personal past and heritage with their ‘linked’ partner. A very special thank you to Strathcona Museum for allowing Linking Generations to use these precious heritage items.



Linking Generations was nominated for the 2017 Ministers Seniors Service Award and the prestigious 2017 Laurel Award, recognizing noteworthy charitable organizations for their commitment to volunteerism and working with seniors. Linking Generations was also honored to be recognized and nominated for the 2018 Sherwood Park Chamber of Commerce Business Awards, in the Community Service & Involvement category.

Debbie Sinclair  
*Executive Director*  
*Linking Generations Society of Alberta*

## 2017-2018 Student and Senior Participation

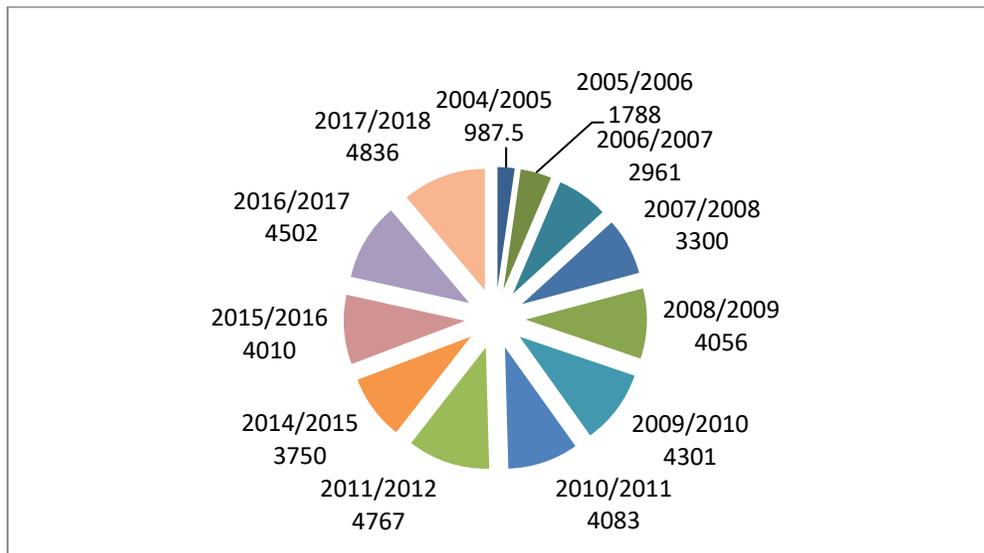


Our Intergeneration Programs are offered to four local Junior High Schools and two local Senior High Schools. All schools are partnered with a Senior Care Facility/Residence, and our partnerships continue to be very strong.

Thank you to our partnership schools and lodges, who help facilitate the success of our programs. Thank you to our students for your interest and dedication to come weekly and visit with seniors. Thank you to our seniors who open their hearts and take the time to mentor these students. This becomes such a life learning/changing experience for all of you.

## 2017-2018 Volunteer Component

Linking Generations is all about student and senior volunteers.



For students, this may be their first introduction to volunteering. Our seniors and students volunteer their lunch hours or after school hours for visits as well as time for initial information, training, and feedback sessions. In our 2017-2018 program year we recorded 4836 volunteer hours donated by students and seniors through our six programs. This number does not include our parent volunteers or our board of director's volunteer hours.

## Program Testimonials

### **SilverBirch Resident May 2018**

*Four years ago, when I Moved into SilverBirch Manor, I was asked to volunteer for Linking Generations. I had no idea what I was signing up for. But from the first meeting, I was hooked.*

*Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, we seniors gather in the auditorium. Then we wait!!!! One eye on the clock, the other on the door. The kids arrive, just as eager, looking from the door to locate their senior. We have ample time to talk and ask how things are going. Games and crafts are our favorites. But really, every visit with the students is special and fun.*

*We seniors were invited by the school to watch the students perform in their school play this year. And what an outstanding performance they all gave. The drama teachers and everyone in the play deserve to be mentioned. I personally look forward to next years invitation to attend the next performance. A few times this program year, the students treated us to an impromptu concert of one of the songs from the upcoming play. We all so enjoyed that. Linking Generations Family Meet and Greet was a highlight this year. Answering questions given to us and telling stories and anecdotes with our family and our students families. Lots of laughter I assure you that.*

### **High School Student Volunteer**

*I have been with the linking generations program for 5 years now. Five years is just about a third of the time I've lived. Through this program, I can recognize now that five years is not that long of a time. Some seniors in this program are over 100 years old! Despite being in the program for a large portion of my life, I really only feel I've experienced a fraction of what any of these seniors could impart on me. I could spend every day just talking with any senior in the*

*I was asked to share what this program means to seniors. Most seniors are repeaters, year after year. I think telling you that is enough.*

*To Linking Generations – Thank you! To the parent volunteers who assist at each visit—Thank You. To Lakeland Ridge School Principal, teachers – thank you! To the program funders and sponsors, who without them this program might not be possible – Thank You. And of course, not to forget—our students—Thank You for giving up your lunch hours and other activities, to come visit us seniors and brighten our days – Thank you so much! Hopefully there is a program like this when you are seniors, because it is special.*



*room and I would never hear all of their stories. I also feel that I've gained a greater depth about how they live. Sometimes, when I'd be in class at school, I would find myself thinking "I can't wait until Thursday!" and just a couple weeks ago it struck me: Some of our seniors feel like this all week, every week. Once I realized this, I finally fully realized this program's impact on both us students and our seniors: for us, it has increased our compassion and has also given us a greater understanding of other ways of life. For the seniors, it has given*

*them someone they see often, someone they can talk to and share experiences with. I could never give enough thanks to this program for helping me develop these skills that I will have for the rest of my life, and I think I speak for the seniors when I say they'd thank you for giving them a friend.*



## 2017-2018 Program Year Funding Partners

Each year we benefit from the generosity of our funding partners with whom we work collaboratively to achieve lasting impact in the lives of youth, seniors and society as a whole. Apart from the organizations listed below, we are also grateful to the individuals who continue to donate personally to the cause of connecting generations. *Linking Generations Society of Alberta is a registered charity. Our charitable number is 845667070 RR0001*

*Thank you to our generous funding partners!*

County of Strathcona County - Family  
Community Services  
Suncor Energy Foundation  
Imperial Oil  
FortisAlberta  
County Clothes-Line Foundation  
Sherwood Park Rotary Club  
Heartland Housing Foundation

Johnson's (Meyers) Insurance Ltd.  
Shell Scotford Community Funding  
Sherwood Care  
Chartwell Reit Seniors Residence  
Christensen Developments -Bedford Residence  
All Seniors Care-Summerwood Residence  
Elk Island Catholic School Board  
Elk Island Public-School Board

Linking Generations is continuing to make a difference in our community by providing Intergenerational Connections to our youth and seniors this program year 2017-2018. Intergenerational connections are proven to enrich the lives of both youth and seniors in long-lasting and meaningful ways. When youth find ways to engage and develop relationships with the elderly, these experiences can build self-esteem, develop leadership skills, and encourage a lifelong commitment to volunteering. For seniors, intergenerational connections provide the opportunity to transfer knowledge and wisdom, acknowledge self-worth, and feel they are contributing members of society.

# Message from the Treasurer

In fiscal year 2018, Linking Generations continued working towards the strategic plan initiatives and was conservative with their cash resources to have the ability to increase the reserve fund to accommodate the 2019 annual program costs. This has created stability for the program which allowed the addition of a newly piloted Grandparent Program. The continued community and government support are an integral part of the organization, for our students and seniors.

Melanie Debman, *Board Treasurer*

## June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Financial Results

Linking Generations Statement of Financial Position As of 30 June 2018		
	30 Jun 18	30 Jun 17
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Chequing/Savings		
Linking Generations Society	63,671.94	44,528.38
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	<b>63,671.94</b>	<b>44,528.38</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>63,671.94</b>	<b>44,528.38</b>
Other Assets		
18300 - Other Investments	29,800.13	29,380.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>29,800.13</b>	<b>29,380.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>93,472.07</b>	<b>73,908.38</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
20000 - Accounts Payable	4,882.25	677.07
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>4,882.25</b>	<b>677.07</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>4,882.25</b>	<b>677.07</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,882.25</b>	<b>677.07</b>
Equity		
32000 - Unrestricted Net Assets	73,231.31	58,391.88
Net Income	15,358.51	14,839.43
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>88,589.82</b>	<b>73,231.31</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>93,472.07</b>	<b>73,908.38</b>

  
 Prepared By: Melanie Debman, Treasurer  
  
 Reviewed By: Ian McCormick, Chair  
  
 Reviewed By: Barb Berndt, Director

10/16/18  
 Date  
 Oct 16, 2018  
 Date  
 Oct 21, 2018  
 Date



9:17 PM  
09-05-18  
Accrual Basis

**Linking Generations**  
**Statement of Financial Income and Expense**  
July 2017 through June 2018

	Jul '17 - Jun 18	Jul '16 - Jun 17
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
43300 - Foundation Grants		
43330 - Foundation and Trust Grants	9,500.00	8,500.00
<b>Total 43300 - Foundation Grants</b>	<b>9,500.00</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>
43400 - Community/Business/Individual		
43450 - Community & Individual Contrib	12,084.50	12,590.00
<b>Total 43400 - Community/Business/Individual</b>	<b>12,084.50</b>	<b>12,590.00</b>
44500 - Government Grants		
44530 - Local Government Grants	25,600.00	22,400.00
44540 - Provincial Grants	0.00	5,000.00
<b>Total 44500 - Government Grants</b>	<b>25,600.00</b>	<b>27,400.00</b>
44800 - Indirect Public Support		
44820 - United Way, Changelit, Blue Sky	3,309.00	739.85
<b>Total 44800 - Indirect Public Support</b>	<b>3,309.00</b>	<b>739.85</b>
45000 - Investments		
45030 - Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	420.13	0.00
<b>Total 45000 - Investments</b>	<b>420.13</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>51,913.63</b>	<b>49,229.85</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
50900 - Program Expenses		
52100 - Program ED Fees	11,596.26	9,409.24
52110 - Grandparent	750.00	0.00
52130 - Program Delivery Fees	15,600.00	15,847.50
52150 - Program Transportation	2,181.48	2,509.64
58010 - Program Materials	3,517.49	2,921.19
58090 - Board Games- Restricted	0.00	1,253.12
55130 - Insurance - Student Liability	695.00	695.00
50900 - Program Expenses - Other	65.24	0.00
<b>Total 50900 - Program Expenses</b>	<b>34,405.47</b>	<b>32,635.69</b>
55000 - General & Admin		
55020 - Postage, Mailing Service	43.14	35.71
58030 - Printing and Copying	31.50	182.48
55040 - Office Supplies	339.39	104.05
55050 - Computer Software/Hardware	0.00	198.45
55060 - Website	17.00	17.00
55110 - Advertising Expenses	406.84	115.50
55120 - Insurance - D and O	555.00	555.00
55150 - Memberships and Dues	168.00	0.00
55000 - General & Admin - Other	0.00	37.50
<b>Total 55000 - General &amp; Admin</b>	<b>1,560.87</b>	<b>1,245.69</b>
57000 - Other Types of Expenses		
58170 - Staff Development	588.78	509.04
<b>Total 57000 - Other Types of Expenses</b>	<b>588.78</b>	<b>509.04</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>36,555.12</b>	<b>34,390.42</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>15,358.51</b>	<b>14,839.43</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>15,358.51</b>	<b>14,839.43</b>