

Fundy Community Foundation

Fundy Community Foundation was incorporated in 1993 and is located in the rural community of St. Andrews, New Brunswick, near the southwestern border of Maine. As of 2011, St. Andrews has a population of 1,889 as of 2011 (Statistics Canada, 2013). Since their establishment, Fundy Community Foundation has been dedicated to serving the people in the surrounding communities of Charlotte County. With a land area of 3,424 square kilometres, Charlotte County has a population of 26,549 (Statistics Canada, 2013).

In the past fifteen years, demographics have remained consistent throughout Charlotte County. The 1996 census stated the population of the region was 27,335, up 2.1% from the previous year. In five years, the county experienced a growth of 0.1%, as the population reached 27,366 in 2001. However, numbers began to decline in the new decade; by 2006, the number of residents declined by 1.7%, down to 26,898. Similarly, a decline in population was evident in 2011 as the number of residents decreased by 1.3%. Although there have been slight fluctuations of population during the past fifteen years, the overall population change in this period have been less than 1,000 (Statistics Canada, 2013).

Over the past number of years, Fundy Community Foundation has been a part of a variety of regional initiatives through their grant-making. In 2011, two new endowment funds were established, which include the Environmental Legacy Fund and the Smart and Caring Fund. The Environmental Legacy Fund was created in an effort to raise environmental issues within the county and to help prepare solutions to local problems. The Smart and Caring Fund was established in a response to the Governor General of Canada, David Johnston's challenge to the Community Foundations of Canada. The goal of this initiative is to ensure that every community has access to a community foundation by 2017, 150 years after the federation of Canada. By doing so, community foundations are able to build resilient communities across the nation by addressing the local needs of the region. While these new endowment funds



were highlights in 2011, Fundy Community Foundation is also involved in other activities such as dispersing funds to students as scholarships, donating to the food bank, as well as strengthening the local arts in the community (Fundy Community Foundation Annual Report, 2011).

It is also worth noting that, as of 2012, Fundy Community Foundation had \$3,889,995 in assets and distributed over \$100,000 in grants. The foundation stated in their 2011 annual report that they wish to have their total assets over the \$5,000,000 mark by 2016 (Fundy Community Foundation Annual Report, 2011). Fundy Community Foundation also has the only active Youth in Philanthropy group in Atlantic Canada, which distributed over \$51,000 in 37 grants during the same year. In a survey administered to Fundy Community Foundation during the summer of 2013, they stated they have committed 1.2 million dollars in bequests, which is expected to come into effect in the foreseeable future (Barrett and Gibson, 2014). Fundy Community Foundation is also registered with the Internal Revenue Service in the United States.

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References

- Barrett, J. and Gibson, R. (2014). *Examination of Community Foundations in Atlantic Canada*. Available online at <http://philanthropy.ruralresilience.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Working-Paper-3-3.pdf>.
- Fundy Community Foundation. (2011). *Annual Report*. Access 27 February 2014 from <http://www.fcf.nb.ca/Annual%20Report%202011.pdf>.
- Statistics Canada. (2013). *Fundy*. Accessed 27 February 2014 from <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>.

Further Information

- Fundy Community Foundation website: <http://www.fcf.nb.ca>.
- Fostering Sustainable Futures for Rural Regions through Philanthropy Initiative: <http://philanthropy.ruralresilience.ca>