

Partners
for Youth



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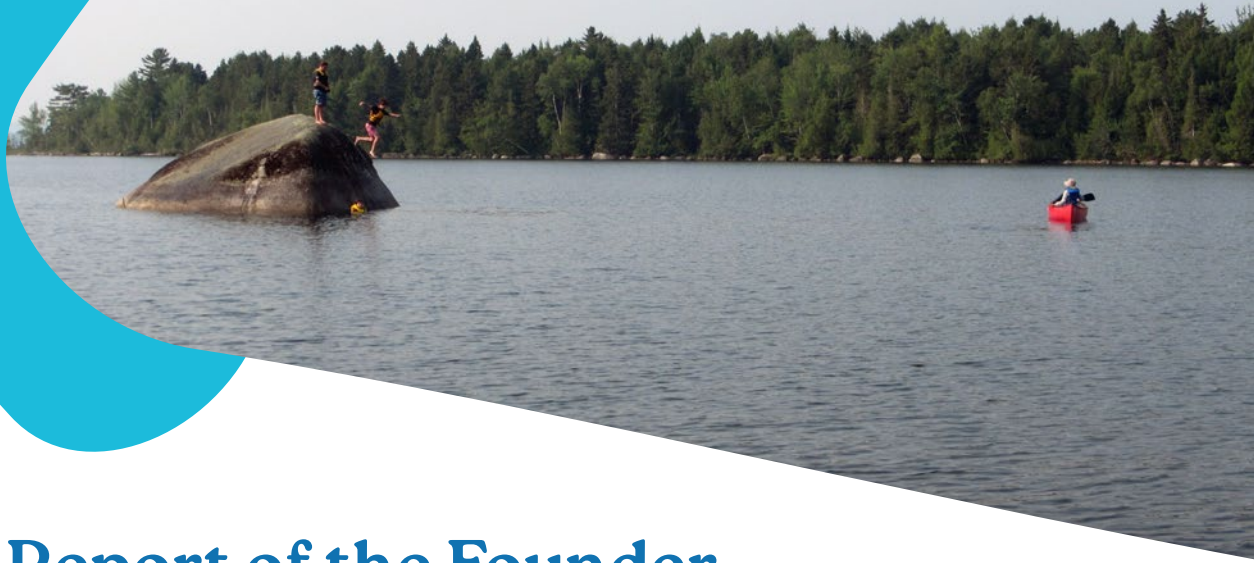


2024-2025 Annual Report

A Note About our Founder

Appointed to the Senate of Canada in 1990, Mr. Ross served almost three years before resigning his seat to begin the task of building Partners for Youth Inc.

A graduate of UNB law in 1965, Mr. Ross also received an honorary doctor of laws degree from UNB in 2007. In 2000, Mr. Ross was awarded the Order of Canada for his work with Partners For Youth where he continues to provide active support and holds the position of Founder and Chairperson Emeritus. In 2009, Mr. Ross was inducted in the New Brunswick Business Hall of Fame. A three-time Rotary Club Paul Harris Award recipient, Jim has always recognized the importance of community involvement. Mr. Ross was also inducted into the Champions of Public Education hall of fame in 2012.



Report of the Founder

Thank you all for your continued support of **Partners for Youth Inc.** 2024-25 marks our 31st year of operations. Our board of directors continues to be led by our President, Jessica Melanson. Jessica has done a wonderful job of supporting the mission of the organization and ensuring our success well into the future. Our other board members; Mike Joyce, Steve Holland, Lynne Lenihan, Bev Gaudet, Andrew Lockhart, Michel Landry, Pam Lynch, Folusho Iyaniwura and Amy Ross have continued to serve the organization with hard work and distinction. A special word of thanks to retiring board member, Pam Lynch. Pam has been a wonderful board member for many years and her continued public service is an example to all of us.

2024-25 has been a year of continued growth and support for youth and youth at risk from across New Brunswick. Our programs are only successful because of the hard work and dedication of our staff. It is evident that we employ some of the best and brightest in the not for

profit sector and their commitment to youth at risk is simply astounding – thank you all for everything you do. Thousands of youth participate in our projects and programs each year. Youth from across the province and beyond find a safe and welcoming place to learn about themselves and one another. Our continued expansion and ongoing work would not be possible without the investment and the financial commitment of our many donors. With a budget of over 1.4 million dollars annually it takes many hands to ensure our success. This year, like many before, has made the task of raising investment that much more critical and we have been truly blessed with the generosity of our funders over the last 12 months.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hon. Jim Ross,
Founder and Chairperson Emeritus

Report of the Executive Director



I submit this, my 18th annual report as Executive Director of **Partners for Youth** and my 20th year being employed within the organization. A great deal has transpired over the last 20 years and 2024-2025 is not much different when it comes to continued work, success and challenges. In the 20 years I have been involved in PFY we have not been afraid to try new things, to venture into new program areas and to redesign and rethink what we do. There are times when I have failed at a direction I believed was the right one and there are times when we have been enormously successful. Change does not come easy and it often begins with taking a chance and daring to dream or be bold. Rarely do we move forward without risk. As I reflect on the last year I am immensely proud of the work we have done together, I truly believe and I am witness to many achievements and accomplishments. We don't only focus on high program numbers or the thousand plus youth involved in our programs and projects which is wonderful – we really try to focus on the individual youth and how we can help them. In this annual report you will find a lot of information on the programs and initiatives we deliver, the outcomes we achieved in the past year and the sheer volume of work that our staff has done over the last 365 days. We have a lot to be thankful for as we remain mission driven and dedicated to this work.

Thank you to the board of directors for your guidance and attention to the organization and special thanks to Jim Ross as he continues to provide me with mentorship and insight.

Thank you to our vast list of funding partners and investors, we simply could not do this without you.

Our staff team are to be commended for their quality work, they are a fantastic group of individuals coming together for the common good and they are a pleasure to work with every day.

There are a lot of hard days running a not for profit, a lot of complexity in managing staff, programs, dealing with government, finding funding and everything else that comes along on a regular basis. So much of my time is spent behind a desk or on a computer and the most enjoyable parts of my day are the times when I can connect with others and hear about how our work is making a difference. Other parts of my job could be simplified and as I age, I'm often reminded they should be....from climbing on a roof to chainsaw a fallen tree to vast administrative work or winterizing the camp plumbing, those times provide clarity, connection and grounding and I'll continue them as long as I am able. There are no lesser callings in life, just different ones

*“Will you gather daydreams or will you gather wealth?
How can you find your fortune when you cannot
find yourself?”*

Respectfully Submitted,

John Sharpe
Executive Director



Report of the President

I am pleased to write this report as President of the Board of Directors for Partners for Youth. I have been involved with Partners for Youth since 2014, and it is my pleasure to continue to serve this phenomenal organization that makes such an impact on the lives and wellbeing of youth in the province of New Brunswick.

This year has been one of meaningful progress. We have continued to develop and expand existing programs; we have completed new projects; and we have continued to build on our relationships within schools and communities. In this report, I would like to highlight a few examples of how Partners for Youth continues to grow and provide significant support to children and youth in our province.

At the last two annual reports, I highlighted a new program called PFY Connect. This program connects youth with mental health services and provides the additional support to ensure youth can access these services. For example, PFY provides transportation to appointments, reminders for appointments, and follow up in between appointments. This additional support is crucial to ensure that there are no barriers for youth in accessing mental health care. In 2025, PFY doubled the number of referrals and connections from 2024 for youth to access mental health services in the province. This program continues to grow exponentially to meet the demand for mental health services.

This year, PFY also completed the development of a child rights handbook for every child in the provincial care system. This handbook provides valuable information to children in care about their rights, and resources that are available to them. This project expands upon the ongoing work of PFY in supporting and empowering youth in the care system.

Partners for Youth also focused this year on ways to provide housing support for youth. This has long been an area identified by PFY where there are gaps in services and supports for youth. PFY was responsible this year for supporting the delivery of the NB Rent Bank for NB Youth. This program helps youth under the age of 29 seeking support for their rent. This program is important in supporting youth in obtaining and maintaining housing. In 2025, we served 150 youth in New Brunswick through this program.

The programs highlighted above represent just a portion of the meaningful work that Partners for Youth delivers across our province. None of this work would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our Executive Director, John Sharpe, and the entire PFY staff. I have had an opportunity to observe first-hand the passion, compassion, and drive of the PFY staff during training, fundraising events, and advocacy meetings. I continue to be inspired with how John and the PFY staff identify



needs, develop innovative responses, and deliver impactful programming to support and empower children and youth in our province.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to my fellow board members. Each of you brings not only expertise, but genuine care for our communities. You volunteer your time to make this province a little warmer and brighter for New Brunswick's children and youth. Our board members can be found volunteering their time not just at meetings, but also scrubbing bathrooms as part of camp clean-up day, or participating in programs. To the

new members joining us this year: welcome. I look forward to working with you over the next year.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported and continues to support PFY. Your generosity never ceases to amaze me. Partners for Youth would not exist without your encouragement, trust, and financial support. From supporting our fundraisers, to supporting our projects, we could not do this important work without you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Melanson
President

Report of the Treasurer

Dear Community Partners, Financial Supporters, Friends and Staff of Partners for Youth.

I am once again pleased to be writing my report as Treasurer of Partners for Youth Inc. ("PFY"), as fiscal year 2024-2025 was another successful year for PFY. PFY's continued success is attributed to its extraordinary team and the support from funders, and I would like to thank all that help PFY be so successful each and every year!

Partners for Youth's programs continue to deliver concrete and measurable results, while fielding requests to expand their reach. For example, PFY has expanded the use of their summer camps facilities to host leadership programs following the end of the summer season, and they also continued to expand on their PFY Connect program defying mental health support norms in the province with little to no wait times.

At the time of this writing, the financial statements for the past year are being reviewed by the external accountants. Subject to the results of the review, the statement of operations reports a slight surplus again this year on revenues of approximately \$1.5 million.

As in past years, the predominant assets on the statement of financial position are the amounts of contributions received for future operations, temporary investments, real estate and cash totaling over \$2.1 million. The organization's current liabilities, including deferred revenue, are approximately \$1.2 million and are covered by current assets. The organization continues to hold cash and temporary investments in excess of the expected expenses over the next 12 months, which allows the team to focus on program delivery.

The full financial statements are available as an attachment to this annual report, providing information on the revenues and expenses of the last 12 months as well as the financial strength of Partners for Youth Inc.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michel Landry
Treasurer

PFY Connect

The PFY Connect program was launched in 2022 to address a significant gap in mental health services for youth in New Brunswick. While mental health care is a human right, children and youth continue to face barriers in accessing timely and accessible mental health care. Barriers include but are not limited to wait times, cost, transportation, location and specialized practitioners. Entering its fourth year, the PFY Connect program continues to expand and address this social justice issue by providing rapid access to licensed counselling therapy for youth aged 14 to 24 throughout the province.

PFY Connect staff use a person-centred and trauma-informed approach to engage with youth to discuss their mental health goals and specific needs. They collaborate to identify a licensed counselling therapist who best meets those needs. PFY offers support for up to eight sessions of licensed private counselling therapy, addressing barriers to attend. Throughout the program, PFY Connect staff provide continuous support, checking in between sessions and developing a personalized transition plan that works for each youth. Over the course of the past year, we have noticed new trends within youth mental health and access to services. For example, we have seen a rise in referrals from physicians for youth experiencing barriers to gender affirming care due to a shortage of WPATH certified counsellors. Additionally, youth and their advocates continue to struggle with accessing services in a timely manner due to long waitlists as well as navigating services in New Brunswick. Our team of social workers has also been working hard to continuously review program policies, procedures and delivery protocols to ensure that they align with person-centred and trauma-informed values.



Since the program launched in 2022, approximately 460 youth have accessed this program with referrals doubling each year. From September 2024 to August 2025, the program has provided hundreds of hours of mental health therapy across various regions of New Brunswick, including Bathurst, Campbellton, Miramichi, Shediac, Shippagan, Moncton, Dieppe, Riverview, Sackville, Quispamsis, Saint John, Gagetown, Oromocto, Fredericton, St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Campobello Island, Woodstock, and Perth-Andover. As part of the support structure of the program staff have connected with youth in the program a total of 1637 times. We have also engaged and partnered with over 100 different licensed counselling therapists.

The most common age of the youth we have supported this year is 15 to 17 year olds. Youth have been referred to the program by their peers, school guidance staff, teachers, the Department of Social Development, themselves, family, groups homes, transitional housing programs and the Child and Youth Teams through the Department of Education.

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*"My appointment went great!
Absolutely the services I was seeking."*



New Brunswick Youth Advisory Council

The New Brunswick Youth Advisory Council (NBAC), a partnership between Partners for Youth (PFY) and the Department of Health, amplifies youth voices on social issues, specifically youth mental health. The council is mandated to advise on key initiatives such as the Provincial Stepped Care Model, Integrated Youth Services, Integrated Service Delivery and the Provincial Youth Treatment Centre, helping shape policies that better reflect the lived experiences of New Brunswick's young people.

Over the past year, the NBAC has continued to strengthen its structure and impact. With clearly defined terms and conditions, well defined election procedures, routine monthly meetings, and expanding subcommittees, the council operates as a well-established and youth-driven organization. The council held 10 council-wide meetings, 2 in-person weekends, and over 70 additional subcommittee and special project meetings, engaging its 43 active members and hundreds of monthly visitors to its website. This structure allows members to collaborate efficiently, share diverse perspectives, and take real ownership of the council's initiatives.

This year, the council produced a report on suicide prevention in schools, collaborated on Vitalité's Body Equity Project, advised on Integrated Youth Services and Stepped Care Solutions, learned some Mi'Kmaq and

became an official partner of the New Brunswick Health Council. Additionally, members are given access to a variety of different opportunities from speaking on panel presentations, participating in podcasts with the NB Child and Youth Advocate's office, being a youth advisor for CBC Street Cents, taking part in research and much more.

NBAC's mission is simple but powerful: to put youth at the centre of projects that impact them. When the government truly engages with its communities, projects may take longer, but they are more effective, sustainable, and meaningful in how they serve their intended users. Youth leadership doesn't just inform policy; it transforms it. Each meeting, each project, and each conversation builds a generation of leaders equipped with empathy, insight, and the courage to make change. The New Brunswick Youth Advisory Council stands as a demonstration that when young people are given space to lead, they rise to the challenge, creating impact today and paving the way for a stronger, more inclusive tomorrow.

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"Being part of the council makes me feel like my opinions actually matter and can lead to real change."



"I've learned that even small actions can have a big impact."

"Sometimes change takes time, but seeing progress reminds us that it's worth it."

"This experience has made me want to stay involved in my community for the rest of my life."

"Every time we meet, I leave feeling inspired and hopeful about what we can achieve together."

"I'm excited for the future of the council and hope it can do great things"



Camp Tippy Canoe



Camp Tippy Canoe is located on beautiful North Lake. The camp is connected to a series of lakes, rivers and thoroughfares along the St. Croix International Waterway, shared with the border of Maine. With 25 acres of campground, our summer camp fosters an environment where campers learn to live outdoors through canoeing, camping and exploring the New Brunswick wilderness.

Camp recruitment and preparation begins in January each year. During one of last years' winter storms, we had a large tree fall on our cook house damaging the roof and we lost some of our canopies over our eating area. In the spring we repaired and rebuilt the roof and replaced the canopies. We had 9 full-time staff at camp this summer welcoming back 7 returning camp staff and hiring 2 new staff. They are prepared for camp through weeks of intensive training to ensure they are ready for a full summer of camp.

We delivered 7 weeks of camp, delivering 14 different camps. There were over 120 youth from grades 3 and up who attended our camp from 35 different schools across the province. We provide everything campers may need for a week at camp, including transportation to and from our site. During summer 2025 we canoed many kilometers across North Lake and East Grand Lake, visiting different campsites on the St Croix waterway.

Every summer at camp presents unique environmental challenges that we need to adjust to. This summer, we had to adapt to the new camping restrictions from the province. During our leadership camp, we were unable to camp on crown land because of the forest fire risk. Through hard-work and planning from our dedicated summer staff, we put on a week full of events and activities to foster team building, skill enhancement and fun! We explored North Lakes' wetland area, practiced kayaking and swam into the evening hours. We even were able to offer a Paddle Canada canoe course that the campers can add to their resume!

Camp Tippy Canoe provides a safe and inclusive space for our youth. Staff teams are mainly comprised of post-secondary school students and sometimes former campers join our staff. This summer they were a dedicated team making sure campers were supported and engaged, and providing a safe and fun environment where youth came to know themselves better and the world around them.







Making Waves

Making Waves is a relationship violence prevention program delivered with youth in schools and communities across New Brunswick. What makes Making Waves unique is its youth engagement model. The program is strengthened by the leadership, voice, and direction of young people, who help shape its content and activities, guide facilitation, and carry the message of healthy relationships and anti-violence forward through youth-led action plans.

Throughout the 2024–2025 fiscal year, Partners for Youth continued its partnership with Women and Gender Equality Canada to advance a Youth-Led Violence Prevention Initiative that supports Indigenous youth and communities. A major focus of this work has been the development of a new and improved curriculum that incorporates a Two-Eyed Seeing approach. This allows the program to combine Indigenous Ways of Knowing with core concepts such as self-esteem, self-identity, consent, boundaries, and recognizing the signs of unhealthy relationships.

Alongside curriculum development, the program was delivered in new schools and communities, and focus groups were held with Indigenous youth to better

understand their needs and perspectives. Staff also participated in events hosted by Indigenous communities across the province to learn about and strengthen relationships with Indigenous communities, gather more information on services for youth and build awareness about the Making Waves program.

This project will conclude in March 2026 with the release of a Program Facilitation Guide. This guide will share what we have learned and created, ensuring that communities and supporters have the tools they need to continue building capacity and supporting Indigenous youth well into the future.

Over the past year, Making Waves reached 96 youth participants in schools and communities across New Brunswick. We are grateful to the youth, school staff, community members, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers whose wisdom, encouragement, and partnership make this work possible.

Youth Works



Youth Works is a career development, education and employment program which is dynamic and youth-led. It empowers young people to take charge of their career pathway and life journey. Through hands-on workshops, mentoring, coaching, and peer-supported activities, we help youth build the skills, confidence, and connections they need to succeed in education, employment and more.

The program offers two exciting streams: Group Sessions: Interactive, module-based sessions held at schools, community centers, or group homes. Delivered over 2–3 days or once a week over multiple weeks, these sessions cover career exploration, workplace skills, and personal growth—all in a fun, supportive environment. This year we collaborated with multiple schools to provide sessions to 93 youth. Schools included were: Sussex Compass, Leo Hayes High School, Carlton North High School, Southern Victoria High School, Nackawic High School, Hartland Community School and Woodstock High School. Staff also gave a day presentation to current youth in care through the CYC (Center for Youth Care) in Saint John. Individual Sessions: One-on-one guidance with a Youth Works facilitator, tailored to each youth's goals and challenges. Participants receive mentorship, career exploration, workplace support, and help with education applications, all in spaces where they feel most comfortable. During the 2024-2025, we have received 52 new youth referrals.

Youth Works is designed for youth in care, at-risk youth, those facing mental health challenges, helping them unlock their potential and confidently step into their future.

Our Youth Works staff are always exploring new ways to support youth. They connect with local employers in communities across the province, collaborate closely with youth support networks, and continually seek new resources and learning opportunities to help youth thrive in school, work, and life.

In January 2025 staff presented 2 workshops at Cannexus, a national conference for career counselling practitioners and those involved in career development. This conference, held in Ottawa, is internationally recognized and the opportunity to present 2 sessions on our work was a valuable opportunity.

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OUR GOAL - 75% OF YOUTH REPORTING INCREASED LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL AROUND FINANCIAL ISSUES

Post project surveys - 87% of youth reported increased knowledge and skills around financial issues

OUR GOAL - 75% OF YOUTH REPORTING INCREASED LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

Post project surveys - 91% of youth reported increased level of knowledge about career development options

OUR GOAL - 75% OF YOUTH REPORTING INCREASED EMPLOYMENT SKILLS TO MAINTAIN EMPLOYMENT SUCCESSFULLY

Post project surveys - 80% of youth reported increased employment skills to maintain employment successfully

OUR GOAL - 75% OF YOUTH REPORTING FEELING MORE CONFIDENT MAKING PRO-SOCIAL CHOICES

Post project surveys - 90% of youth reported feeling more confident making pro-social choices

OUR GOAL - 75% OF YOUTH REPORTING INCREASED ABILITY TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

86% of youth reported increased ability to solve problems



Youth in Action for Mental Health

Youth in Action for Mental Health (YaMH) provides high school students with the opportunity to learn and discuss issues related to mental health. YaMH puts youth voices and ideas into action to facilitate productive conversations around the promotion of positive and critical understandings of mental wellness and illness.

This year we delivered YaMH through two, one day summits and supported two mental wellness events in Anglophone School District South and East.

For the summits we invited schools within the same region to attend a Mental Health Day event where students were guided through several workshops to help bolster mental health awareness, education, destigmatization and peer to peer support. Afterwards, alongside school champions and the YaMH coordinator, participants continued to work together to design an action plan for a project or campaign related to youth mental health or overall youth wellness in their school community.

The two Mental Health Summits were held in Fredericton and Hampton. Leadership teams of students from 11 participating high schools attended the summits and were then engaged in project development during the year. Participating high schools during the 2024- 2025 school year were Fredericton High, McAdam High, Harvey High, Oromocto High, Stanley Consolidated, Hampton High, Sussex High, Compass Sussex, Rothesay High, Belleisle Regional High School and Kennebacsis Valley High. In total 83 students participated in the leadership teams this year and hundreds more were involved in school based projects and events.

As part of our work in youth mental health we also took a leadership role and partnered with Anglophone School District East for their Mental Wellness Day and Anglophone School District South for their Mental Health Day. In total 20 schools participated in these important events.



Ring A Bell for Youth Mental Health

The Ring A Bell Campaign continues to champion awareness and excellence in kids' mental health through education, empowerment, and community connection. Co-created by the Honorable Cindy Miles and Maureen Bilterman and rooted in the 2008 Connecting the Dots report by former Child and Youth Advocate Bernard Richard, the campaign has become a province-wide movement uniting youth, families, schools, and communities to promote awareness and action for mental wellness.

December 2–6, 2024, New Brunswick celebrated the 14th annual Dots for Kids Day, with students from kindergarten to grade eight learning about mental health and wellness through classroom activities, videos, and lesson plans leading up to the provincial bell ringing event. Hosted by Hanwell Park Academy in Fredericton, the school-wide assembly featured speeches from school representatives, a PFY spokesperson, the Honorable Minister Miles, and showcased musical performances. The event concluded with a powerful minute of bell ringing, symbolizing a shared commitment to youth mental health and community support.

This year's campaign theme, Building Communities, focused on fostering meaningful conversations to reduce stigma and normalize mental health discussions. By engaging students, teachers, parents, and communities across the province, Ring A Bell



emphasizes the importance of early education, open dialogue, and collective action on mental health. The campaign continues to stand as a strong example of social innovation, demonstrating how awareness and collaboration can create lasting change.

“Bringing attention to mental health and wellness from a young age reduces stigma, fosters a sense of community and helps students develop resilience and better emotional regulation skills,” said Education and Early Childhood Development Minister Claire Johnson. “It is crucial we continue to teach our students the importance of leaning into their communities for support, especially when it comes to mental health.”



New Brunswick Youth in Care Network



The New Brunswick Youth in Care Network (NBYICN) is a provincial supportive network for current and former youth in care. The NBYICN strives to provide a sense of connection throughout the province among those who are living in the child welfare system.

Beginning in September 2024, the NBYICN staff had planned numerous activities that had a focus of engagement, connection and FUN! We had multiple in-person activities across the province, such as a day at the farm in Salisbury, games night in Saint John, painting night in Campbellton, and a nature walk in Fredericton. These activities brought an increase of participation around the province, creating meaningful connections and supports for youth in care! We also created a monthly supportive community where current and former youth in the care system could join a safe online space (zoom call) to chat about their wins and challenges of the month. We discussed everything from animals, tips and tricks of living on your own, and financial literacy. Other online sessions during the winter months of 2025 were: presentations on boundaries around the holidays, financial literacy, and two cooking classes (spaghetti with sauce and homemade ramen).

On November 29th, 2024, we celebrated Youth in Care Day Across the Province! A first of its kind, which happened in 5 different locations across NB all connected through Zoom, which brought connection and removed the feeling of

being the “only one” in the care system. PFY staff travelled across the province to Grand Falls, Bathurst, Fredericton, Saint John, and Moncton to facilitate Minute to Win It Games. Many youth would look at the computer screen to see others across the province joining in and having fun! It was encouraging seeing former youth in care helping the current youth in care during these games. Network leadership members offering their expertise and sharing knowledge with those currently living in care. These engagements have increased the number of Network Members, creating better relationships with youth and staff from residential homes, and surrounding the youth with supportive adults to create better outcomes! One residential home staff member said “It’s been a challenging week for this youth, it was so nice to see him so happy during the games. Thank you for all you do”.

The Youth in Care Network also focuses on systemic change through partnerships. In November 2024 we supported youth as they did panel presentations for the Department of Social Development and the NB Adoption Foundation. In Spring 2025 NBYICN staff joined Social Development in the creation of the Child and Youth Rights Handbook. As an agency that operates from a trauma-informed lens, staff held in-person sessions with 52 current and former youth in care engaging in open dialogue around the Child and Youth Rights Handbook. Youth were very passionate about their input stating, “Sometimes, I feel like you can share your voice, but your voice isn’t seen as

valued” – youth in care. Common themes consistently emerged throughout the sessions, general awareness of rights, ongoing youth input, relationships with adults, and the inability to feel like a typical teenager. The NBYICN is committed to creating systemic change and responding to these experiences by educating and empowering youth on their rights.

We hit the road again in the summer of 2025 to connect, discuss ongoing activities for the upcoming school year and to have fun! We met with 82 youth (an increase of 26 % year over year) across the province. From BBQs to beach days, the NBYICN had a blast! “These events are so great to build connections that will last into adulthood.

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“We look forward to being part of more PFY events” – Director of Child and Youth Services.

NBYICN staff assembled the information and created a full calendar of events, activities, workshops, panel discussions, friendly competitions and outdoor adventures for all current and former youth in care! We look forward for the next fun year ahead!

The New Brunswick Youth in Care Network also has several resources and programs that are available to current and former youth in care. The Health and Wellbeing Fund assists with health related needs such

as dental, vision, and mental health supports. The Home Based Fund assists with the urgent housing-related needs of youth people in the process of leaving the care system and transitioning to independence. The Comfort Kit program delivers a book bag filled with personalized items to assist children and youth with their transition into care. During the 2024-2025 year, the Youth in Care Network distributed 75 comfort kits to children and youth coming into the carer system. With kits being provided to youth across the province, the responses to these comfort kits have been overwhelmingly positive.

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“Wowww c’est trop cool sont ben gentil, n’oublie pas leur dire merci merci merci... !! :) ” – Youth in Northern NB.

Our partners at the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada make these wonderful initiatives possible.

We also have two scholarships available for youth – the Ben Bourque scholarship for youth looking to pursue post-secondary education and the Rosemary McCain McMillin scholarship for youth looking to pursue graduate studies.





Sport3

Sport3 uses movement and conversation to create a more interactive and engaging environment for students to explore social-emotional learning, with an emphasis on respect, community, and connection. Building on this foundation, the program continued this year to support youth growth through games, discussion, and reflection. Core modules—Fairness, Being at Your Best, Emotional Awareness, and Equality & Equity—encouraged students to think about empathy, decision-making, self-awareness, and how barriers in communities can be broken down together.

The long-term effects of Sport3 are evident in the personal growth and increased social awareness of its participants. Students emerge from the program with a deeper understanding of themselves and their interactions with others, which translates into improved participation in day-to-day activities both in and out of the classroom. The program's emphasis on conflict resolution, leadership, and self-management helps students build the foundation for healthy relationships and responsible behavior. By promoting environmental stewardship and encouraging students to think about their role in the community, Sport3 instills values that contribute to their overall development as well-rounded individuals. These skills and values are not just temporary outcomes but are ingrained in the students, helping them navigate the complexities of social interactions throughout their lives.

This year we had a total of 332 youth take part in the program and over 100 of these youth accepted a space at our summer camp, Camp Tippy Canoe, where we will continue to work on the skills learned through the Sport3 program in a different setting and build stronger relationships and connections with each youth. This year we expanded our year-end celebrations into larger Mega bowls, bringing more schools together for activities like relays, team challenges, and handball. The new format was well received by both youth and staff, creating more variety, fun, and opportunities for teamwork. Many students stepped into leadership roles, made new friends, and built confidence throughout the day. While some schools were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts, those who participated expressed how much they valued the experience.

This year also marked the graduation of nine Sport3 school groups who had been part of the program for three years. Students consistently shared that Sport3 days gave them a chance to step outside their routine, connect with new peers, and build confidence that carried over into school life. Staff also noticed positive changes in engagement, especially among students who were hesitant at first.

With three new schools joining and strong participation from returning ones, Sport3 continues to provide inclusive, meaningful opportunities for youth to learn, connect, and grow—both in the classroom and beyond.

2024 – 2025 Valued Donors

\$50,000.00 and Over

Province of
New Brunswick

Government of Canada

Leacross Foundation

Children's Aid
Foundation of Canada

Counselling Foundation
of Canada

Ross Ventures Ltd.

Glenwood Foundation

United Way Central
New Brunswick

Windsor Foundation

\$1,000 to \$9,999

New Brunswick Children's
Foundation

Mental Health Foundation
of Nova Scotia

Stanley Mutual Insurance
(ANBL) Alcool NB Liquor

Rotary Club of Fredericton
Sunrise

CIBC Miracle Fund

Fredericton
Community Foundation

Farm Mutual RE

Lucinda Flemer

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McPhee Electric

\$10,000.00 to \$49,999.00

McCain Foundation

Grant Thornton

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Family Foundation

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SEED New Brunswick

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The Lockhart Foundation

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Community Fund

Canadian Women's
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Stuart and
Patricia Morrison

United Way Central
New Brunswick

Catherine Donnelly
Foundation

Crabtree Foundation

**A number of
anonymous donors.**

2024 – 2025 Board of Directors and Officers



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Director, Founder and Chairperson Emeritus

Bernard Richard

Special Advisor

John Sharpe

Executive Director

Executive:

Jessica Melanson

President

Mike Joyce

Past President

Lynne Lenihan

Vice President

Steve Holland

Vice President

Michel Landry

Treasurer

Directors:

Bev Gaudet

Andrew Lockhart

Pam Lynch

Amy Ross

Folusho Iyaniwura





As a provincial entity, Partners for Youth acknowledges that it carries out its work on the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq and Peskotomuhkati peoples.

This territory is covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship” which these nations first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources, but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. We, the staff and members of the board, pay respect to the elders, past and present, and descendants of this land. We honour the knowledge keepers and seek their guidance as we strive to develop closer relationships with the Indigenous people in New Brunswick.

487 Brunswick St. Fredericton, NB E3B 5L6

506-462-0323

info@partnersforyouth.ca

partnersforyouth.ca