

JOURNEY OF GENEROSITY





Randy Steinwand
Board Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE **Board Chair**

I grew up on a farm in central Alberta and was fascinated by spring. Spring changed everything. Blades of brilliant green grass pushed through the dirty, wintry ground. Buds on the trees broke forth into fresh new leaves. The prairie crocuses sprang onto the landscape. The sight, smell and feel of spring growth was incredible.

I love things that grow. To grow is natural. To grow is to fulfil God's design.

From its humble beginnings over 40 years ago, MFC had a dream to grow. Early MFC pioneers had a passion to grow generosity in the hearts and minds of Canadian Mennonites. They wanted to grow faithful, joyful giving, through various vehicles, to impact the wider church.

Over the years, we've seen MFC's influence grow in donations to charities, grow in assets under management, grow in services, grow in clientele, and grow in vision. Today, more than ever, MFC has a resolve to expand its reach nationwide! There is an urge to continue growing beyond our comfortable and familiar surroundings and embrace more people with the challenge of changing our world through generosity.

Our Board of Directors has been spending the majority of their time this year on growth-related strategies. We have a new determination to align our board membership, our structure, our policies and our brand toward growth. We want to honour the enthusiasm and vision of our founders by ensuring that our reach continues to grow wider and deeper.

This Annual Report reflects MFC's journey of growth for another year under the leadership of our Executive Director, Darren Pries-Klassen. Together we share the vision for involving more and more of you in the excitement of generosity.

I love being part of a movement that grows. This is God's design.

MESSAGE FROM THE

Executive Director

Our staff are passionate about giving generously. In addition to living this message personally, we also teach and preach it to others. Giving generously means that we live generously. They go hand in hand. You can't really give generously without living generously. Neither can you live generously without giving. However, giving and living generously go much deeper than philanthropy, the altruistic concern for human welfare, and the need of others.

Living generously is an act of worship that gives proof our words of faith in God are true. It is in living generously that we not only worship but that we come to know the loving and generous character of God.

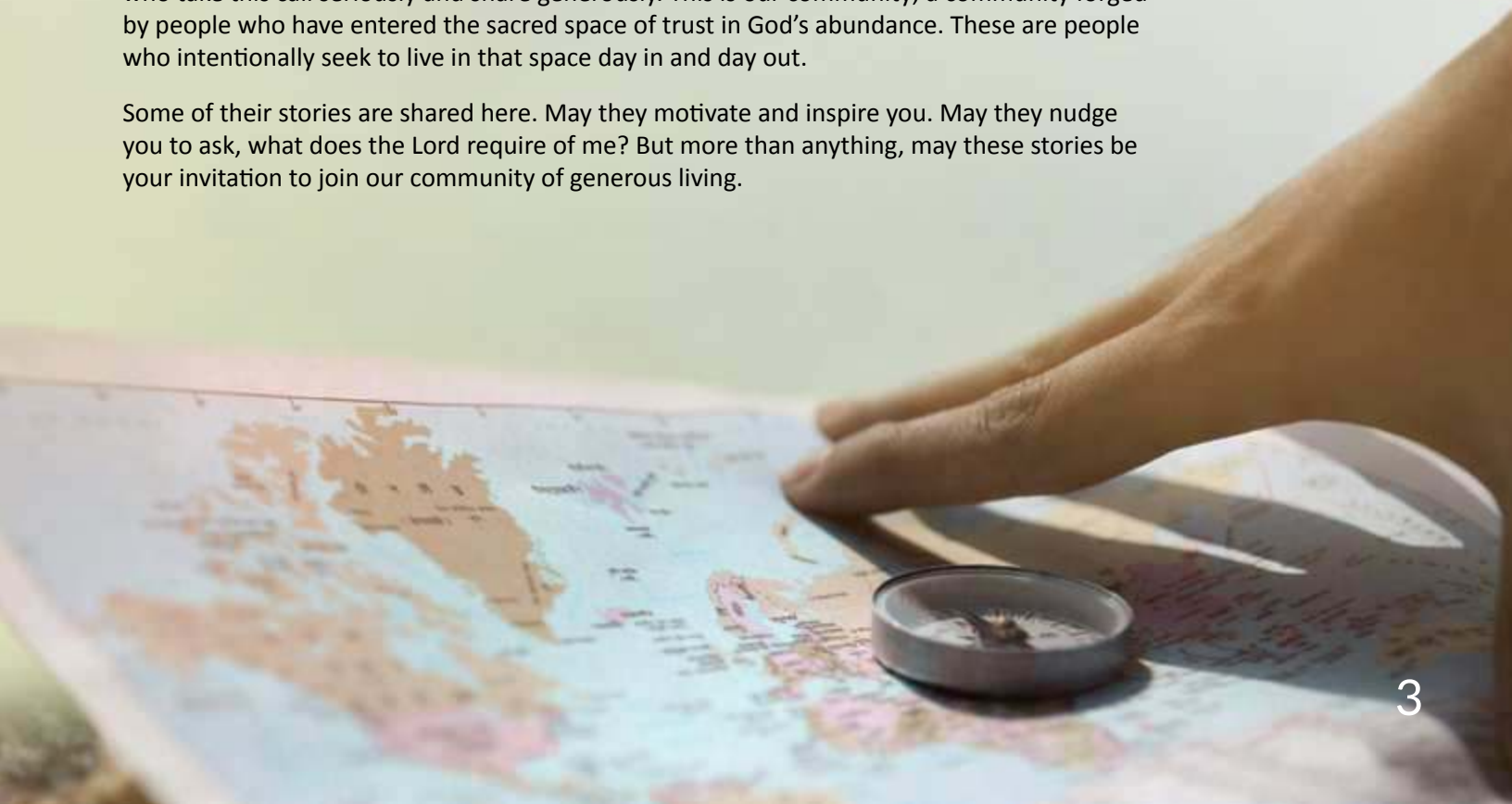
Living generously allows us to enter a sacred space with God where we let go of ownership and control and become stewards of all that God gives us. It is here, in this sacred space, that we can, as the Psalmist wrote, "Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him."

At Mennonite Foundation of Canada, it is our privilege to walk beside hundreds of people who take this call seriously and share generously. This is our community; a community forged by people who have entered the sacred space of trust in God's abundance. These are people who intentionally seek to live in that space day in and day out.

Some of their stories are shared here. May they motivate and inspire you. May they nudge you to ask, what does the Lord require of me? But more than anything, may these stories be your invitation to join our community of generous living.



Darren Pries-Klassen
Executive Director



Journey of Generosity

On a wintry morning, I looked out my upstairs window and saw individual snowflakes falling. Each one landed silently on the bare shingles of the roof below. At first, there were just a few scattered snowflakes dotting the black surface. But just a few minutes later, each shingle was covered with a light, dusty layer of snow – the single flakes had transformed into a sheet of white.

These snowflakes are much like individual steps in a journey. Each step may not amount to much, but when added together, they cover a lot of ground – transporting you from one destination to another.

Our journey of generosity may start out with small gifts of charity, which can feel so uplifting that we are inspired to seek out additional opportunities to make more generous gifts, aligning our generosity with our passions and beliefs. This moves us toward being generous in all areas of our lives.

We see this every day at MFC – humbling, powerful, inspiring stories of generosity. Many of you give sacrificially. Others of you have altered your lifestyle and buying habits in order to give more. You're not giving to achieve recognition. You're giving because of a commitment deep inside – an ever-increasing passion for making the world a better place.

This journey of generosity is fueled by joy and hope. That is the beauty of faithful, joyful giving.

— Jesse Huxman, *Director of Communications*



Bieber Family Foundation

Bill and Sharon Bieber are not your ordinary retired couple. For starters, they didn't want to wait until retirement to volunteer. "We saw a lot of colleagues who worked hard, saved their money and planned to retire early so they could volunteer and give back," Sharon said. "Sadly, it didn't often work out that way."

Bill is a doctor and Sharon is a teacher. Throughout their careers, they have routinely volunteered on short-term, international service trips. In their 30s, they spent several years in Papua New Guinea. Bill served firstly as a doctor with Wycliffe Bible Translators and then worked with the PNG Health Department. For the past 16 years, they have served as the Southeast Asia Coordinators for Medical Ambassadors Canada, training in community health evangelism.

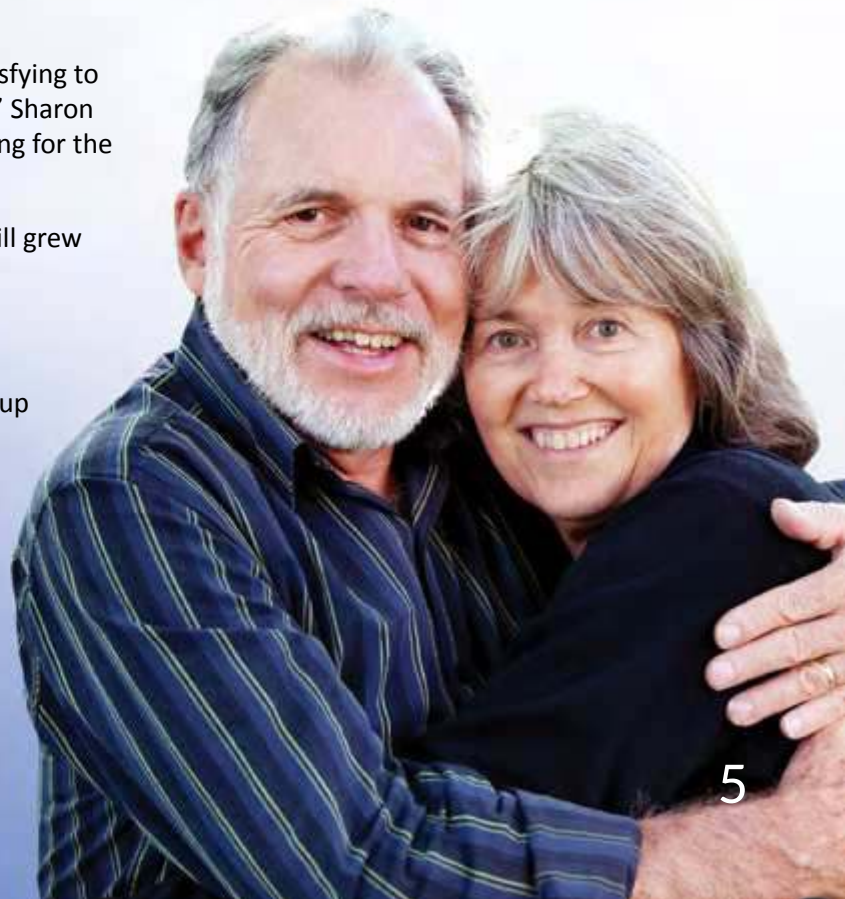
After Sharon's father passed away, the Biebers considered establishing a family foundation. They wanted a way for family members to pool their funds over time and have them available in order to respond immediately to needs around the world. Their goal was to make it easy both for members of the family to add to the fund and for their children and grandchildren to administer.

They spoke with MFC, and within a short period of time, they had established an account that fit their needs perfectly.

"We've already had one family meeting, and it was satisfying to see the kids discussing which charities we should help." Sharon continues, "We can see this becoming an annual meeting for the extended family to discuss which charities to support."

Faith is an important influence in their desire to give. Bill grew up in an Evangelical Free church and Sharon was raised in an Alliance church. Today they are active in their community church.

Bill offers some insight into their generosity. "We grew up this way. Our churches and our parents taught us. And our professions are a gift that we can share. We can show the love of Christ through our work."



Windfall for Charity

“That dealership had been part of our family for more than 45 years. When we sold it, we were left with a windfall for charity.”

There’s a tone of satisfaction in Don Pasiuk’s voice as he shares his generosity story – a story that began years earlier.

Don and his wife, Orilyn, have been active in their Abbotsford, B.C. church for years. In addition to supporting their church, they’ve made financial donations to a number of charities. Their kids attended Mennonite Educational Institute and Trinity Western University, so the family is passionate about the importance of Christian higher education.

The Pasiuks have always given generously, but recently, their capacity for generosity increased significantly. Don’s father owned five dealerships in British Columbia which sold and serviced Peterbilt trucks. That business was passed down to Don and his siblings who enjoyed several successful decades of business. When the family agreed to sell, there was a considerable profit.

Don and Orilyn knew they wanted to give a significant portion of the profits to support their favourite charities, but they needed some time to figure out the details of how to disburse their gifts. They met with MFC Stewardship Consultant Arnie Friesen and learned that Mennonite Foundation of Canada could issue a charitable receipt immediately, which would give them more time to consider options for distribution to charity. For Don, this was the perfect solution – tax relief with time to plan a giving strategy. He’s also considering how he might use this opportunity to get his kids involved – perhaps inviting them to be involved in the charitable decisions. “Our goal is to teach them how to give and to experience the joy that we feel when we give,” Don says.

“There is such great joy in giving,” Don continues. “It’s truly a blessing to give. And we want to support those charities that have had a positive impact on our family.”

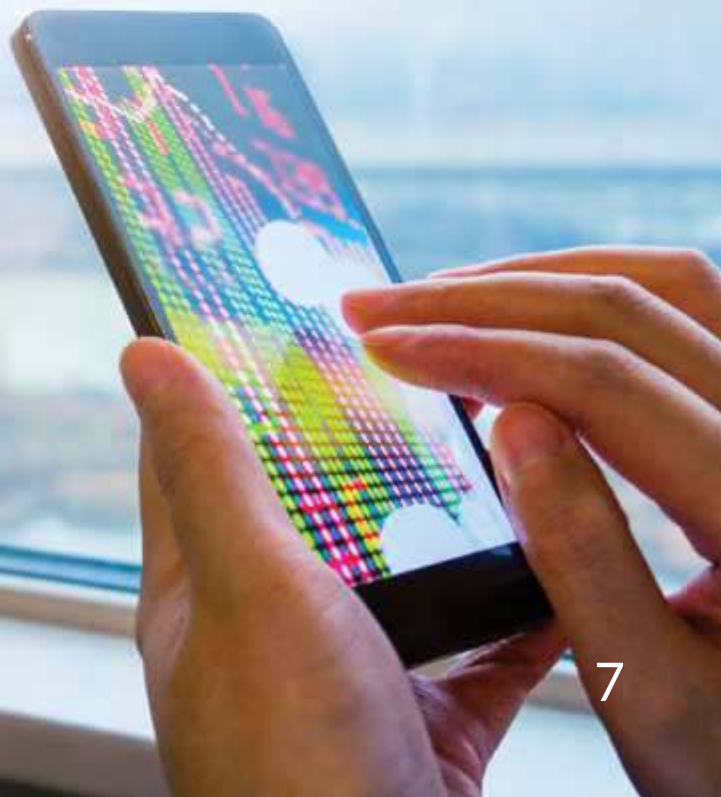
Gifts of Stock

Donations of publicly traded securities (stocks, bonds and mutual funds) continue to be a popular trend at Mennonite Foundation of Canada. In 2015, MFC issued \$19.77 million in donation receipts. Of this total, 52% (\$10.23 million) was from donations of publicly traded securities. “Donors and professional advisors (accountants, lawyers and investment planners) are realizing the significant tax advantages of donating publicly traded securities, and they appreciate the one-stop shopping/donor-advised model that MFC offers,” says Rick Braun-Janzen, MFC Director of Finance. Donors have told MFC that we make the process easy, and our flexible gifting account options give them time to consider which charities they wish to support and when to send the money to those charities. Donors appreciate the added bonus of avoiding capital gains tax on donated securities.

Bob and Judy Shantz have been making donations of publicly traded securities for several years. “We like being able to donate the shares and get one receipt for all of our gifts to charity.” The proceeds from the sale go into their charitable gifting account. They can inform MFC how much and how often they would like money sent to their church and/or favourite charities. “MFC does all the work. Even when we’re away, the donations still get sent, just the way we wanted,” Bob says.

The process to donate publicly traded securities is fairly simple. Contact an MFC office to discuss your particular donation scenario. MFC staff will work with you and your investment advisor to facilitate the donation. Once the transfer and the sale of the donated securities is complete, MFC will communicate the results to you and discuss how you would like to distribute the net proceeds from the sale of the donated securities to charity.

In recent years, several charities have encouraged their donors to use the services of MFC for processing gifts of publicly traded securities. A charity may not want to establish and maintain a brokerage account for processing gifts of securities as they would need to develop policies and train staff to facilitate these gifts. “Why recreate the wheel when MFC can do it for you?” asks Rick Braun-Janzen. “We will handle all the administrative details and make the process easy for both the donor and the charity.”



Highlights From This Year's Recipient Charities

Mennonite Foundation of Canada provides the essential connection between generous donors and charities committed to life-changing results. Through MFC, \$16.7 million was distributed in 2015 to 886 charitable organizations. Here are a few highlights from this year's recipient charities.



Rosthern Junior College

Rosthern Junior College provides a strong and supportive academic program for students in grades 10-12. Currently, RJC has a Capital Fundraising Campaign targeting program and facility upgrades. However, all schools need students, who are the heart and soul of life in our institutions. RJC students have opportunities to learn, live and grow together in a nurturing environment. Because of our Bursary Program, more students have the opportunity to emerge educated and equipped to be leaders of academics, industry, arts and athletics. Having these funds available each year is a priority. Who knows what our students may become or the positive change they will make in the world?

Mennonite Central Committee

In its largest-ever humanitarian response, MCC is providing relief to displaced people in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan. Through a local MCC partner, Hamo and his family receive monthly packages that include food and hygiene items. "The rice is the most important thing. We use it daily," he says. Across the region, MCC also provides rent assistance, relief and hygiene kits, clothing and kitchen supplies. The response also includes support for peacebuilding, education for displaced children and trauma healing.





Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA)

Bosena is one of 8,500 rice farmers in Ethiopia whose income has increased 79% through MEDA's EDGET (Ethiopians Driving Growth, Entrepreneurship and Trade) project, which offers access to new markets, techniques and technologies. She has been able to build a house for her son and herself, buy an ox and send her grandchildren to school – setting an example for her whole community. Last year, MEDA supporters helped bring new hope to 36 million families living in poverty around the world.

Barnabas Family Ministries

Barnabas Family Ministries is a year-round Christian Retreat Centre located on Keats Island on the Sunshine Coast of B.C. Our mission is to strengthen, encourage and educate families through the use of Christian retreats, which include 9 weeks of family camps in the summer. Eighteen other retreats throughout the year focus on preparing for marriage, parenting, strengthening marriages, young adults, and Christian leaders. Our facilities are available for rent by churches, Christian organizations and corporate groups. By farming our land, we try to be stewards of what God has given us, achieving some degree of sustainability, which has opened up relationships with others who live on the island. Key partners in our ministry are volunteers through their services and our donors through their financial support.



2015 Highlights



\$16.7M
DISTRIBUTED TO
CANADIAN
CHARITIES

886
CHARITIES
SUPPORTED
USING MFC
SERVICES



ACCOUNTABILITY
CERTIFICATION
FROM CCCC



\$10.23
MILLION

DONATIONS OF
STOCKS &
MUTUAL FUNDS



265
PRESENTATIONS
TO GROUPS

590
WILL &
ESTATE
PLANNING
CONSULTATIONS



9/10
OUR CLIENTS'
OVERALL
RATING
OF MFC SERVICES

MFC Staff

Management Team



Darren Pries-Klassen
Executive Director



Rick Braun-Janzen
Director of Finance



Jesse Huxman
Director of Communications

MFC Board of Directors

Randy Steinwand (Chair), Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada

Allister Penner (Vice Chair), Evangelical Mennonite Conference

Abe Fehr (Board Treasurer), Mennonite Church Canada

Abe Bergen (Board Secretary), Evangelical Mennonite Conference

Willie Fehr, Christian Mennonite Conference

Henry Fehr, Evangelical Bergthaler Mennonite Conference

Jacob Friesen, Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference

Ron Epp, Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada

Len Hartzler, Northwest Mennonite Conference

Stan Burkholder, Northwest Mennonite Conference



MFC Staff

ALBERTA



Kevin Davidson
*Stewardship
Consultant*



Peter Dryden
*Stewardship
Consultant*



Cathy Dyck
*Administrative
Assistant*



Arnie Friesen
*Stewardship
Consultant*



Daniel Lichty
*Stewardship
Consultant*



Irm Nickel
*Administrative
Assistant*

MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN



**Rebecca
Braun-Huynh**
*Accounting
Assistant*



Elisabeth Dowler
Accountant



Candie Nairn
*Administrative
Assistant*



Harold Penner
*Stewardship
Consultant*



Shelly Wilcoxson
*Administrative
Assistant*



**Dori Zerbe
Cornelsen**
*Stewardship
Consultant*

“How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment. We can start now, start slowly, changing the world. How lovely that everyone, great and small, can make a contribution toward introducing justice straightaway. And you can always, always give something, even if it is only kindness.” – Anne Frank

MFC Staff

ONTARIO AND EASTERN PROVINCES



Gayle Fangrad
*Administrative
Assistant*



Marlow Gingerich
*Stewardship
Consultant*



Sherri Grosz
*Stewardship
Consultant*



Wendy Koch
*Communications
Specialist*



Julia Machacek
*Administrative
Assistant*



Denise Mazik
*Administrative
Assistant*



Mike Strathdee
*Stewardship
Consultant*



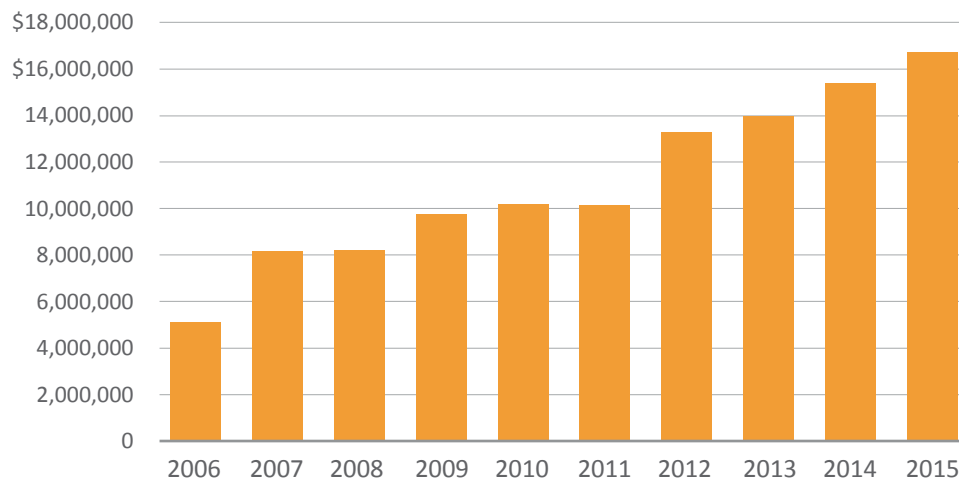
2015 Distributions

Our team works hard to spread the message of stewardship and generosity. In 2015, our clients distributed more than 16 million to 886 charities using the services of MFC – the largest amount ever!

MFC's 2015 Charity Distribution



Charity Distribution



Foundation Financials

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015

Balance Sheet

Assets

Investments	178,237,969
Investment income receivable	718,979
Capital assets	1,084,284
Other assets	83,674
Total	180,124,906

Liabilities

Accounts payable	196,974
Earnings payable	1,203,481

Capital held for investment

Managed funds	91,921,695
Endowment funds	33,682,894
Non-endowed gifted funds	44,432,928
Invested in capital assets	1,084,284
Internally restricted funds	7,602,650

Total **180,124,906**

Statement of Operating Activities

Investment income	6,055,190
Other income	337,937
Total income	6,393,127

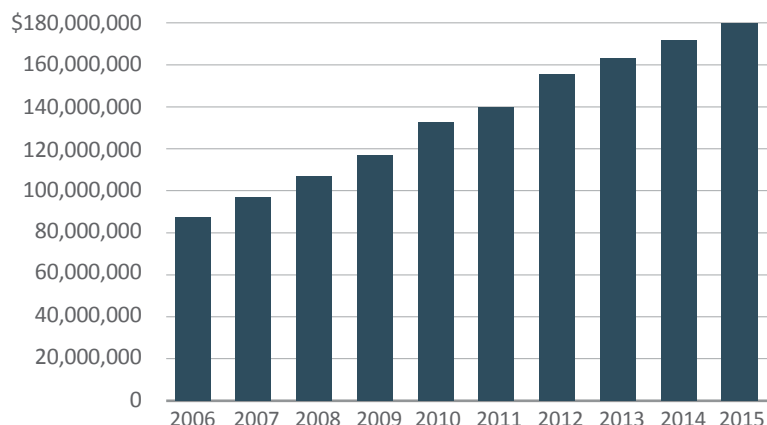
Earnings paid on funds	(3,487,679)
Operating expenses	(3,407,777)
Deficit for the year**	(502,329)

Distributions to charity in 2015 **16,731,176**

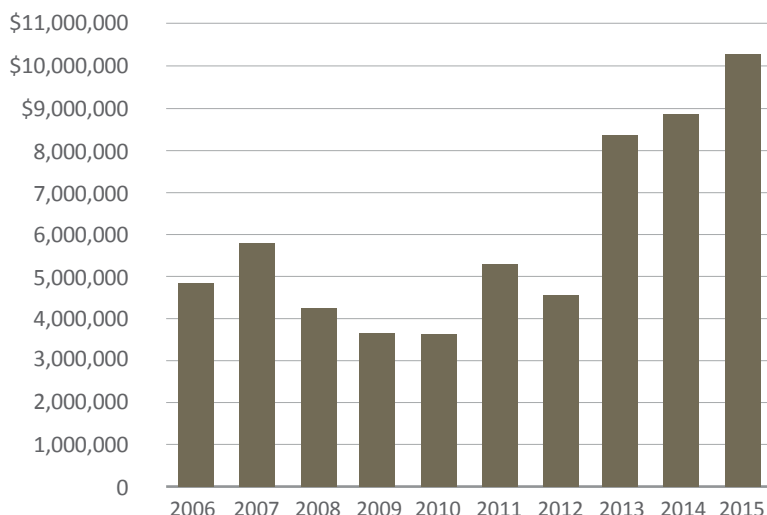
** Unrealized gains in fixed income portfolio 51,052

Operating deficit (553,381)

Assets Managed



Securities Donated





MennoFoundation.ca

1.800.772.3257

Charitable number: 12925-3308-RR0001