Mississauga Foundation

years of community impact



This year marks a meaningful milestone for the Mississauga Foundation as we celebrate 25 years of harnessing generosity to drive transformational change in our community.

Over the past quarter-century, donors, fundholders, charitable organizations and community partners have helped turn generosity into lasting impact. Together, we have supported vital programs, strengthened local organizations and created opportunities for people across Mississauga.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building on this legacy through initiatives that respond to our community's evolving needs.

In this edition, we share two important announcements, spotlight a local organization investing in the next generation through music, and reflect on a special evening celebrating 25 years of community impact.

Thank you for being part of our story. Watch our 25th Anniversary Celebration video.



ANNOUNCEMENTS - NEW INITIATIVES, LASTING IMPACT

DOUBLING THE IMPACT: $25,000 MATCHING FUNDS FOR FOOD SECURITY



In celebration of our 25th anniversary, the Foundation is **matching donations to its Endowed Food Security Fund dollar for dollar, up to $25,000**. The goal is to raise $25,000 from community donors, which the Foundation will match with an additional $25,000, **adding a total of $50,000 to the endowed fund by the end of 2026.**

Access to food is fundamental to individual and community well-being. As food insecurity continues to affect households across our community, the Mississauga Foundation is taking action to strengthen long-term support for local food security initiatives. The campaign has already received its first contribution.

Foundation Board Chair Erica Teklits and her husband, Dr. Ramesh Zacharias, have generously donated $5,000 to get the campaign underway. Their gift will be matched by an additional $5,000 from the Foundation. An endowed fund helps provide a sustainable source of funding over time, supporting the Foundation's ability to respond to community needs now and into the future. By contributing to the Endowed Food Security Fund, donors can help strengthen this ongoing commitment to food security in Mississauga.

Help us reach our $50,000 goal. Your donation will be matched dollar for dollar, doubling your contribution's impact.
Donate to the Endowed Food Security Fund here.

A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE PENDLE FUND: SCHOLARSHIP TO SUPPORT UTM STUDENTS



The Mississauga Foundation is pleased to announce a significant new gift from the anonymous donor who established the Pendle Fund, making post-secondary education more accessible for Mississauga students.

This generous contribution will establish **the Pendle Award at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), supporting eligible Mississauga residents pursuing undergraduate studies at the university. The award will cover 80% of tuition and student fees and may be renewed for up to four years,** helping reduce financial barriers and allowing students to focus on their education and future opportunities.

The Foundation anticipates that the first student will receive the award in 2027, with the program expected to support multiple students in the years ahead.
This new scholarship builds on the legacy of the Pendle Fund and reflects the lasting difference that thoughtful philanthropy can make. By investing in students and their education, the award will help create opportunities for the next generation of Mississauga leaders.
Learn More About the Pendle Fund.

COMING SOON: THE MISSISSAUGA FOUNDATION'S CHARITY NEWS BULLETIN

The Mississauga Foundation is preparing to launch a new Charity News Bulletin designed to support the charitable organizations that help make our community stronger.
The bulletin will share practical guidance, helpful resources and relevant updates to help charitable fundholders raise awareness of their endowed funds, inspire generosity and strengthen their long-term impact in Mississauga.
From communicating the purpose and impact of an endowed fund to finding meaningful ways to engage donors and encourage future contributions, the bulletin will focus on useful, actionable information that organizations can put into practice.



Our goal is to make it easier for charitable fundholders to access relevant information, strengthen their fundraising efforts and build lasting support for the causes they serve.

Have a topic you would like us to cover? We welcome suggestions for future editions of the Charity News Bulletin.
Contact Harshita Rathod, Marketing and Communications Coordinator at the Mississauga Foundation, at hrathod@mississaugafoundation.ca to share your ideas.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT:

MAKING MUSIC, BUILDING CONFIDENCE AND CREATING LASTING OPPORTUNITIES: MISSISSAUGA CHILDREN'S CHOIR

For nearly 50 years, the Mississauga Children's Choir (MCC), Mississauga's only auditioned children's choir, has helped young people develop musical abilities, confidence and leadership skills.





> *"The program focuses on learning music, singing and developing leadership skills,"* says Caroline Suri, CEO of MCC.

Beyond rehearsals, choristers travel across Ontario, including Huntsville, Dwight, North Bay, Peterborough and Ottawa, collaborating with other choirs and leading high school workshops. These experiences build teamwork and lifelong friendships. Last year, 85% of choristers who travelled to Muskoka and North Bay had never been north of Highway 7, and only one had previously visited North Bay.

> *"That's why these tours are so important—because they bring youth together from across the province. They work together to build a stronger choir, create an incredible sound and form life-long friendships," Suri explains.*

MCC also invests in future musicians through a partnership with the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music and Choral Studies, offering three university students an apprenticeship each season to gain practical experience in conducting, performance and music education.
Rising operating costs and fewer opportunities for children to engage with the arts through school programs make sustainable funding essential.

> *"We recognize that without diversifying our funding, we could not continue to provide this level of opportunity and music education to the young people of Mississauga," says Suri.*



With guidance from the Mississauga Foundation, MCC recently established an endowment fund that will generate income over time to support its operations and sustain music education opportunities for Mississauga's children and youth.

> *"My sincere thanks to the Mississauga Foundation for partnering with us, and to the donors who help to build our Fund," Suri shares.*

By building its endowment, MCC is investing in young people, emerging artists and the future of arts education. The Mississauga Foundation is proud to support this work and thanks the donors helping sustain it for years to come.

- Donate to the Mississauga Children's Choir Fund.
- Learn More About the Mississauga Children's Choir.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

A MILESTONE MADE POSSIBLE BY GENEROSITY

On October 14, the Mississauga Foundation welcomed donors, fundholders, charitable organizations, community partners and elected officials to its Donor Appreciation Event at the Great Hall of Mississauga Civic Centre, celebrating 25 years of bringing people together to build a stronger, more caring community.



Since its founding in 2001, the Foundation has granted more than $28 million to charities and grassroots organizations. This milestone represents more than two decades of people coming together around a shared belief: that investing in our community creates a better future for everyone.



The evening recognized the generosity and commitment that have made this work possible. The Foundation extends its sincere thanks to Mayor Carolyn Parrish, MPPs Sheref Sabawy, Rudy Cuzzetto and Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, MP Fares Al Soud, and Councillor Stephen Dasko for joining the celebration. The Foundation was especially honoured to receive an honorary scroll recognizing its 25th anniversary.

Music and community storytelling were at the heart of the evening.

The Mississauga Children's Choir, led by Caroline Suri and Michael Denomme, delivered a beautiful performance of O' Canada, with all 44 young choristers helping make the occasion memorable. The Mississauga Symphony Orchestra quartet, added an elegant musical touch to the celebration. We also extend our thanks to Claudine LaRochelle-Reischl, Executive Director of the Mississauga Symphony Orchestra, for her support in making the evening special. Guests also heard from community organizations making a difference across Mississauga.



Rebecca Pacheco of Embrave Agency to End Violence shared insights into the organization's work supporting people impacted by gender-based violence. Reverend Deacon Bill Crawford of Trinity Church, Streetsville, spoke about the church's Community Meal Program and its role in supporting community members.

The evening also celebrated the 2026 Pendle Award recipients. The Mississauga Terriers Hockey Club, represented by Rad Matijevic and David Chirrey, was recognized for its longstanding commitment to supporting young people and strengthening the community. Laurie Pallett was also honoured for her pioneering contributions and longstanding support of the Foundation, which have helped shape its legacy of generosity.

The Foundation extends its gratitude to emcee Tom Cooney for guiding the evening, and to everyone who helped make this milestone celebration possible.







As the Foundation reflects on its first 25 years, one thing remains clear: lasting community impact is built together. It is made possible by donors who give, fundholders who invest in the future, charitable organizations that respond to community needs, and partners who believe in what Mississauga can accomplish. Thank you for being part of the Foundation's journey. We look forward to continuing to harness generosity to drive transformational change and building tomorrow's Mississauga together.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our 25th anniversary is both a celebration of what our community has accomplished and a reminder of what we can continue to achieve together.

Whether through establishing a fund, supporting local organizations, investing in education or helping address food insecurity, every act of generosity can contribute to a stronger Mississauga.

Thank you for your trust, partnership and continued commitment to our community.

Building Tomorrow's Mississauga Together.

1100 Central Parkway West, Unit 16, Main Level, Mississauga, ON L5C 4E5
info@mississaugafoundation.ca
www.mississaugafoundation.ca