



Investing in Children 2008 Annual Report





Accomplishments

Neighbourhood Programs

- ▶ Community Service Clubs
- ▶ Youth Leadership Camp
- ▶ Kids Power Conference
- ▶ Brain Games Homework Clubs
- ▶ Family Literacy Events

Community Projects

- ▶ Community Art Project - Stronach Community Recreation Centre Lanterns
- ▶ Community Art Project - South London Community Centre Murals
- ▶ Book Camp London
- ▶ TVDSB Special Olympics
- ▶ Blue Boxes for Books
- ▶ Children's Nutrition Network
- ▶ Ontario Student Nourishment Program

Special Events

- ▶ Fun at the Frog Summer Celebration
- ▶ London Gets Mugged
- ▶ Hyde Park Rotary Club Golf Tournament
- ▶ Used Book Sale at Cherryhill Village Mall
- ▶ Mt. Kilimanjaro Climb Fundraiser

Raising Awareness

- ▶ Kids First Day 2008
- ▶ London Child and Youth Network
 - ▶ Obesity/Inactivity Subcommittee
 - ▶ Literacy Subcommittee
 - ▶ Poverty Subcommittee
- ▶ National Family Literacy Day
- ▶ Participation in local, provincial & national activities

Tools, Research and Resources

- ▶ *InvestinginChildren.on.ca*
- ▶ *FamilyInfo.ca*
- ▶ Homework Club Tool Kit
- ▶ Family Literacy Units
- ▶ TEAM Volunteer Training
- ▶ Community Mapping

A Message from the Executive Director



It is an honour to share with you our successes over the past year. Investing in Children continues to be a respected leader in our community, while providing opportunities for children and their families through our many innovative projects.

Our efforts are focused in a variety of areas including literacy and numeracy, building leadership skills in our students, community art projects and school based nutrition programs.

Instrumental to our success is a dedicated group of volunteers who include our Board of Directors, community program and fundraising volunteers.

To our community and our partners, we would also like to extend our sincere thanks. Without your continued support we could not accomplish the great initiatives that we undertake in our community.

And last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank the staff of Investing in Children who work with passion and dedication to ensure that we continue to improve the lives of children and their families.

Anita Gilvesy, *Executive Director*

Our Mission

Investing in Children works with the community to improve the lives of children and their families because we believe every child should be provided with opportunities to help them reach their potential.

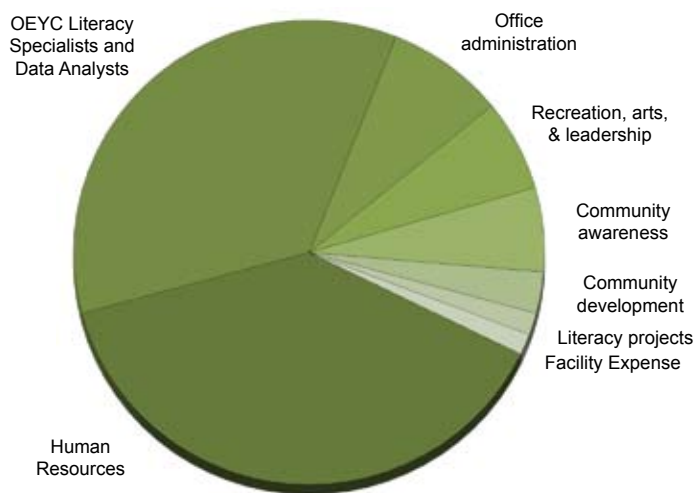
Our Vision

A community working together to provide opportunities for every child to have experiences that will help them become the best they can be and to celebrate its children's successes as they grow into tomorrow's leaders.

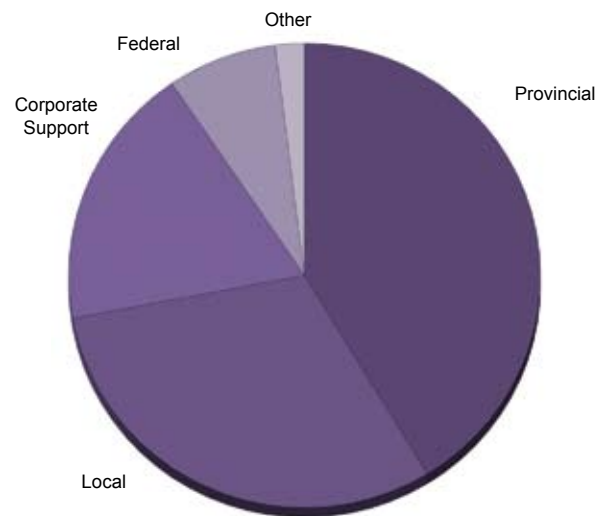
The Role of Volunteers

Volunteers are an indispensable part of Investing in Children's successes. In 2007-2008, we were able to have an impact on more than 14,000 children and their families thanks to our volunteers, who contributed more than 4,600 hours of service. Our core of volunteers is varied in skills and experience, including high school, university and college students, business professionals, retired teachers and community leaders.

Expenditures



Revenues



What the Community says about Investing in Children

From a Principal:

"The events at our school reached out into a needy community and communicated the value of learning, and the fun we might share in the learning process."

From a Grandmother:

"I want to thank you for creating Kids First Day and having a fun filled day for the children. The day was well organized and because of the multi places to see, there was not the overcrowding or no parking situation at hand. Thank you again for going all out and investing in our children."

From a Family Literacy Event parent:

"Literacy is such a critical skill to learn. By showing literacy is not just reading, I feel more confident as a parent. I am helping my children develop their literacy skills"

From a Homework Club volunteer:

"I just wanted to let you know that I really appreciate the opportunity to take part in going to Aberdeen each Wednesday, its actually a highlight in my week. The kids are great, we're getting to know them better, and helping them with their work is really fulfilling. I never knew an experience like this could have such a positive impact on my life, I love it, and I really think this program has an impact on each of their lives."

From Leadership Camp participants:

"Thank you for putting together the Leadership Camp. It was awesome! I had so much fun. Thanks for the wonderful experience I'll never forget!"

"I never thought I'd be in a situation where I never knew anyone, but thanks to you, I will know what to do."

2007-2008 Community Partnerships

- ▶ 103.1 Fresh FM
- ▶ A&P Sherwood
- ▶ Althouse College
- ▶ Bertoldi's
- ▶ Big Top Tent Rental
- ▶ Breakfast for Learning
- ▶ Brescia University College
- ▶ Brian Finch Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd.
- ▶ Brush and Palette Club
- ▶ Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network
- ▶ Canadian Writers Union
- ▶ Cherryhill Village Mall
- ▶ Childreach
- ▶ Citi Cards Canada Inc.
- ▶ City of London
- ▶ Cora's Breakfast and Lunch
- ▶ Culligan
- ▶ Digital Internet Group
- ▶ DTZ Barnicke
- ▶ Fanshawe College
- ▶ Farmer Jack's Orchards
- ▶ Excellence in Literacy Foundation
- ▶ Friends of London Public Library
- ▶ Green Shield Canada Foundation
- ▶ Harry E. Foster Foundation
- ▶ Hyde Park Rotary Club
- ▶ Imperial Oil Foundation
- ▶ Institute for Cross Cultural Exchange
- ▶ Jonathon Bancroft-Snell Gallery
- ▶ John Labatt Centre
- ▶ Kellogg's Canada
- ▶ Kiwanis Club of Forest City-London
- ▶ London Children's Connection
- ▶ London Community Foundation
- ▶ London District Catholic School Board
- ▶ London Food Bank
- ▶ London Free Press
- ▶ London Lawyers Feed the Hungry
- ▶ London Public Library
- ▶ Maggie L. Wood
- ▶ Marion Villa
- ▶ Martin Building Maintenance
- ▶ McCabe Promotions
- ▶ Merrymount Children's Centre
- ▶ Michael Buck/Lifford Wine
- ▶ Middlesex London Health Unit
- ▶ Middlesex/London Optimist Club
- ▶ Ministry of Youth & Children's Services
- ▶ Moksha Yoga
- ▶ Ontario Arts Council
- ▶ Optimist Club of Middlesex-London
- ▶ Owl Magazine
- ▶ Palace Theatre
- ▶ Quixtar Canada
- ▶ Sasha Gilvesy & Liana Saadi
- ▶ Scholar's Choice
- ▶ Scholastic
- ▶ Selectpath Benefits and Financial
- ▶ Sifton Foundation
- ▶ Special Olympics Ontario
- ▶ Starbucks
- ▶ Stevenson Children's Camp
- ▶ Sun Life London Financial Centre
- ▶ TD Waterhouse Canada Inc.
- ▶ Terra Infrastructure Inc.
- ▶ Thames Valley District School Board
- ▶ The Grand Theatre
- ▶ The Innovative Edge
- ▶ The Londoner
- ▶ Tim Horton's
- ▶ United Way of London-Middlesex
- ▶ Westmount Shopping Centre
- ▶ Wings of Paradise

2007-2008 Board of Directors

- ▶ Wayne Koch, Co-Chair, Selectplath Benefits & Financial
- ▶ Margaret Mitchell, Co-Chair, London Public Library
- ▶ Jency Wallace, Secretary, LEDC
- ▶ Richard J. Ferris, CA, Treasurer
- ▶ John Ashby, Crawford Packaging
- ▶ Colleen Ellison-Wareing, TVDSB
- ▶ Terry Grand, LDCSB
- ▶ Alan Leschied, PHD., C.Psych, Althouse College
- ▶ Rosine Salazer, TVDSB
- ▶ Ailene Wittstein, Merrymount Children's Centre

A Message from the Board

The Board of Directors is proud of the accomplishments of Investing in Children this year. Under the dynamic leadership of Anita Gilvesy, our staff demonstrate continuously their talents, innovation, passion and commitment to the work they do. They always go above and beyond to ensure that programs such as the homework clubs, student nutrition programs, Special Olympics, Kids First Day and Book Camp London truly make a difference in the lives of children and their families in London. Events, such as our Cherryhill Book Sale, are now annual events which provide dollars to support the work of Investing in Children and brings books into peoples' lives to support literacy.

We could not accomplish what we do without the generous support of our partners in the community and at the provincial level, who continue to see value in what we bring to the table. We are grateful for financial support as well as the sharing of talents and resources by many other community partners who share a passion for innovative programs which meet the needs in the community in a variety of ways. Together we make a difference in the lives of children and families in London.

Thanks to everyone for making this a very successful year at Investing. We look forward to many more.

Wayne Koch & Margaret Mitchell, *Co-chairs*



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