



## Message from our CEO, Daniel Holland

Autumn in Nova Scotia! Crisp cool evenings and nights, warm days that linger into October, vibrant foliage, harvests and farm markets overflowing, routines resuming, and a sense of renewed vigour after the slower pace of the summertime.

This newsletter provides many examples of the ongoing work of our funding partners, the commitment to care for communities we see across the province, and the impactful ways in which grantees do good. Kudos to you all for each and every effort!

This fall more than any I can think of, it feels like there is something different in the air here in Nova Scotia. We are at a pivotal time as we enter a post-pandemic reset. Nova Scotians have shown a conscious choice of how to behave during the pandemic. We saw many examples of respect, care, and resilience. With a long overdue approach to inclusion and justice, there is a different way ahead. We must seize on the momentum that is building in communities as we burst out of the challenges of COVID-19. Now is about shining a light on the strengths exhibited, celebrating them, and sharing the best ideas to lift up others.

I recently read that “in one way, the pandemic has been helpful (the only good thing about the pandemic) in that it has upended all of our expectations about how society works. Now it’s up to us to form something new. We are in a wet clay moment; we must mold the future now, before it sets.”

In the coming months, in communities large and small across Nova Scotia, we will deepen existing relationships, start new ones and re-kindle those we may have not touched for some time. This begins with deep listening to citizens, communities, philanthropists, and partners as we convene around issues that matter. To what end? To create spaces and moments for connection and transformation. These connections will enable models to emerge that build on community resilience, and channel good in its many forms. Let’s mold the clay together for a future of communities of belonging, respect, and possibility.

- *Daniel Holland*