



## Weston Family Foundation

### **Supporting short-term and long-term recovery for Canadians**

In May, our Board of Directors met to discuss how we as a Foundation can support the recovery of our nation at this uncertain time. We reconfirmed our commitment to our current focus areas: we know that improving the health of Canadians and restoring and protecting biodiversity across our landscapes will create a stronger and more resilient Canada.

But we also understand that our Foundation can and should do more at this unprecedented time in our nation's history. Our support strategy continues to evolve as we address short-term needs while looking for longer-term solutions for recovery and resilience for generations to come. As such, we are pleased to share our COVID-19 recovery actions to date:

- We have created a taskforce to identify the most effective ways our Foundation can support short and long-term solutions to the effects of the pandemic.
- Our Board approved a substantial new contribution that will be specifically directed to initiatives that aid Canada's recovery and subsequent future growth. More information about this contribution will be shared in the coming months.
- In the meantime, nearly \$1M in grants were fast-tracked for approval for immediate relief to food banks, youth groups, hospitals, homeless and women's shelters.
- As well, more than \$2M in funding has been confirmed for several research initiatives looking at COVID-19 susceptibility, vaccines, and examining the neurological impact of the pandemic.
- We are working with all our grantees on a case-by-case basis to assess the financial challenges faced because of institutional closures.

Over the next few months, we look forward to sharing several meaningful and impactful new initiatives from our Foundation.

We are fortunate that our foundation is financially stable despite this pandemic, and we have the capacity to honour all of our commitments and more. We will continue to make payments that are already scheduled in the near-term, as per our funding agreements, and continue to be flexible with all of our grantees to be helpful collaborators for those facing impacts on their activities.

While we cannot meet in person at the moment, we look forward to staying in touch and to finding other ways to connect in the months ahead. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with your Foundation contact if you have questions, or reach out to our general mailbox at [info@westonfoundation.ca](mailto:info@westonfoundation.ca).