BRIGADOON

Annual Report • 2014



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Greetings From our Chair

am truly honored and feel privileged to be the Chair of the Board of Directors for Brigadoon. We have a dedicated and caring Board committed to advancing Brigadoon's vision and ensuring that children have a wonderful week at camp; something they might not otherwise experience. The accomplished members of our Board are dedicating their time to make Brigadoon a special place and it is a pleasure to not only work with them but to represent them. Brigadoon could not accomplish what it does without their time, effort and compassion.

Board leadership is just a small part of the success of Brigadoon. We have a small but committed leadership team, camp counsellors and employees focused on maintaining the facility, operating programs and cooking outstanding meals. Brigadoon could not exist without their tireless efforts, humility and empathy. They are the foundation of what Brigadoon is all about.

But the true spirit of Brigadoon is found in the children. Seeing their happy smiles at camp, hearing their stories about developing self-confidence and listening to their parents talk about the positive impact Brigadoon has on their entire lives cannot be expressed in words.



Greg Blunden

The growth in campers not only demonstrates the magical experience of Brigadoon but also highlights the demand for such programs in our communities. We will continue to build Brigadoon so that as many children as possible can experience camp.

Alunden.

Greg Blunden Chair, Board of Directors Brigadoon Village



Messages From...

As we enter Brigadoon Village's fifth summer of operation, it is remarkable that we have grown our summer programs from 40 children in our first week of camp in 2011 to 450 children in 2014.

Brigadoon has evolved from the dream of David McKeage to a place where dreams come true for Atlantic Canadian children living with chronic illness, chronic conditions or special needs.

We look forward to meeting the challenges of our growth, including ensuring that funding is in place so that any child who meets the camp criteria can attend our programs. To date, that has been because of the support of the Atlantic Canadian community but it is a challenge that will continue to grow along with our camper population.

Brigadoon is now a second home to so many children and we look forward to being able to create many more smiles and much more laughter in the coming year.

David Graham, Executive Director

It has been wonderful returning to Brigadoon after my leave of absence. To see the advances in program offerings, camp development, staffing, strategic planning, community engagement and increased sustainability has truly been overwhelming. The most exciting advancement, however, has been our growth in camper and family participation. We could not have achieved any of the aforementioned without our partners, volunteers, investors and the greater community.

Upon returning to Brigadoon, it was wonderful to see so many of our initial investors (seed money, capital campaign, Let's Go campaign) still working with Brigadoon to ensure children and youth get the opportunity to attend camp and be transformed. This support is the foundation of our sustainability and Brigadoon is eternally grateful.

This programming season promises to be the largest and most diversified to date. More children, youth and families means more programming opportunities, psychosocial support, growth experiences, Canadian firsts and most importantly extraordinary fun.

David M. McKeage, Founder

Who we are

Brigadoon Village is a non-profit recreation and summer camp facility located on Aylesford Lake in the Annapolis Valley. With our partners, we deliver camp programming to children, youth and families living with a chronic illness, chronic condition or special need. Since we began operating in 2011, we have seen exponential growth in the number of campers who attend our summer programs, some of which are the first of their kind in Atlantic Canada.

Our mission is to assist in the betterment of the lives of children, youth and families living with chronic illness through experiential learning, research, teaching, and exceptional fun.

Our guiding principles lead our program development: to live sustainably, to be innovative, to be environmentally mindful, to be creative, to be compassionate, to be accountable, to be accessible, to create and build partnerships, to be community-orientated, and of course, to have exceptional fun. The generous support of our donors makes our camp programs possible.

Camp means that she gets to meet new friends with the same illness, learn or try different things and most of all have fun"



"It is very rewarding to support an amazing team and organization providing such a wonderful cause. It is also reassuring and heartwarming as a parent, to see these children jumping off the wharf into the lake, running around outside having fun doing activities, and engaging in many more camp experiences. All this, while knowing they are supported with safe programming, nutrition, counselling, and other health and support services that meet their unique needs. As Board Treasurer, I also see the Brigadoon team working hard to manage the operations in a very financially responsible way, such that all programs are very safe and well developed, while also being sustainable for future children, youth, families, and sponsoring partners. It is a true honour and privilege to be part of such an amazing organization." "Allan Horsburgh

Board of Directors

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Allan Horsburgh, *Treasurer* Vice President, Stewardship & Accountability Nova Scotia Health Authority

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Mrs. Marjorie Lindsay Honorary Chair

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Dave Davies Retired, Agriculture Industry

David Graham Executive Director, Brigadoon Village Wally Jarvis Retired Executive, Insurance

George Lohnes, Q.C. Retired Lawyer

Brent Platt Director of Development & Administration, Brigadoon Village

Roger Sinclair Partner, Sinclair Billard + Weld

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Peter Boyd Wealth Management Advisor, Owens MacFadyen Group

David Graham Executive Director, Brigadoon Village

Allan Horsburgh Vice President, Stewardship & Accountability Nova Scotia Health Authority It's easy to be yourself, because everyone else is just trying to be their selves too." BRIGADOON

Campers' Favourites at Brigadoon

Graham McKinnon Camp Braveheart

"My favourite part of camp would definitely be going on the pontoon boat. I felt like I had brand new best friends and I was able to take on the world! If I ever had to take my shirt off to go swimming, I wouldn't have to explain each individual scar to anyone.

Give it an hour and a half here, and you will not regret anything about coming."



Keilly Emberly · Camp Got2Go

"My favourite activities here are probably swimming, and the sports, and l just love being outside.

I know that I'll have just the most amazing time. I have Colitis, and coming here means a lot because at home you're trying to keep things to yourself. But here, it's nice to talk to people who have the same thing as me and understand what I go through.

If I was able to talk to someone who made camp possible, I would say thank you from the bottom of my heart, 'cause I actually love it here. I love everybody; I love all the counsellors and I love everything about it, 50 thank you 50 much."



Lacey Hughes · Camp Trailblazers

"My favourite part of camp was that everyone was really nice and we did a lot of fun and interesting things. You get to share your experiences and learn about other kids' experiences. It's the best camp! I've been to a lot of different camps and Brigadoon is definitely the best one."





As I approach my fourth summer working at Brigadoon, I smile just thinking about what a magical place this camp is for the campers and the staff. Since starting as the Performing Arts instructor in 2012, I've had the privilege of experiencing camp in many capacities: as instructor, counsellor, head programmer, and in 2015 as Assistant Summer Director!

Brigadoon has given me the opportunity to make a meaningful difference at camp and in the experience it provides to the campers. I've watched the confidence, leadership, and silly spirits of campers, staff and volunteers grow during their time at Brigadoon. l can remember being a keen new employee in my first week and asking a senior staff member what the process was for running a certain program, and was told I was allowed to create and shape these aspects of camp. It was very empowering to feel like I had the ability to establish my own little part of what Brigadoon would become. I can also fondly remember during that week being told to put on a kilt, wacky hat and my best Scottish accent for an afternoon activity... an example of how the silly sides of both our campers and counsellors are encouraged during the summer!

One of my favourite moments from summer 2014 that captured the essence of Brigadoon was during Camp Silly-Yak. We were sitting on the dock during swim time when one of the older campers mentioned that she knows someone at her school who also has celiac disease, to which one of my ten year old campers replied, "You're so lucky, I don't have any friends who have celiac!" Her eyes then lit up as she shouted, "WAIT! ALL OF YOU ARE MY FRIENDS WHO HAVE CELIAC!" That moment of realizing she now has people who understand her situation is another example of why Brigadoon is such a unique, brilliant, and magical place!

Emma Bartlett and camper at Camp JoinTogether

What's New at Brigadoon?

New Gaga Ball Pit

Campers played in our brand new gaga ball pit, built from scratch by our Facility Coordinator, George Hardy! Similar to dodgeball, the game combines dodging, striking, running and jumping while trying to hit opponents with a ball below the knee. Hundreds of campers enjoyed this exhilarating, challenging and downright fun game in the new pit for the very first time at Brigadoon! Camp means being stress free, being myself, letting loose, friends and...FUN!"







New Kayaks

Thanks to the generosity of the Rotary Club of Kentville, Brigadoon was able to purchase three new kayaks and four paddles with which campers and families enjoyed exploring Aylesford Lake throughout the season.



New Boardwalk & Platform

hanks to the generous time, resources and hard work of several volunteers, Brigadoon Village gained a new 200 foot long accessible boardwalk and platform on our newly acquired beach! Through the new government land acquisition, Brigadoon received approval to build a boardwalk through the surrounding land to a natural beach area. This boardwalk now provides campers with an accessible trail to enter a natural graded entry beach for swimming and other activities!

New Playground Equipment

Campers enjoyed a brand new sandbox, sun shade, puppet theatre, navigation play wheel, and spotterscope! We will be continuing playground upgrades in 2015.

New Soundfield System

he new sound system, which clarifies and amplifies speech in the dining hall, was funded by the Rotary Club of Kentville.

New Kitchen Sound Barrier

Our new kitchen sound barrier is used to minimize the noise from the kitchen when groups are using the dining hall.

New Land Acquisition

On April 28, 2014, Premier Stephen McNeil, Environment Minister Randy Delorey and Health and Wellness Minister Leo Glavine announced at Brigadoon Village that the Government of Nova Scotia had purchased 594 acres of land on Fancy Cove.

The land acquisition will play a large part in helping Brigadoon Village fill the unmet need of outdoor recreation opportunities for children living with a chronic illness, chronic condition or special need in Atlantic Canada, as well as the greater community.

Brigadoon Village can now utilize nearly 700 acres of land surrounding Aylesford Lake, meaning our campers and their families will have access to several more outdoor recreation and education opportunities throughout their camp experience.

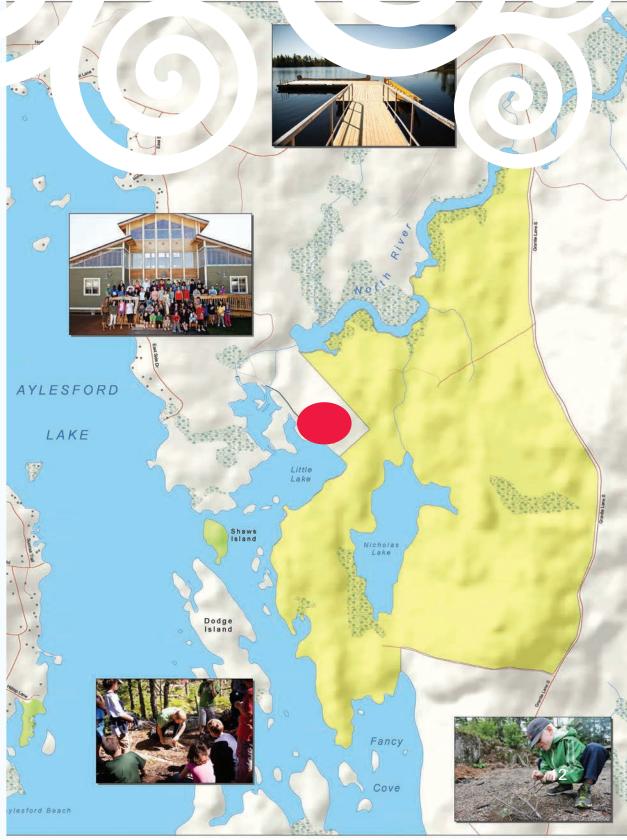
The acquisition is part of land from Yarmouth to Cape North, Victoria Co. the province has acquired through purchase, donation, exchange and land trust agreements.



Brigadoon Village



Newly Acquired Land



"Summer Camp is a place where I can be myself"

n 2014, we offered the following week-long summer programs to over 450 children and youth between the ages of 8-17:

Camp See-Ya (blind and visual impairments) in partnership with APSEA

Camp Braveheart (congenital heart issues) proudly supported by Braveheart Support Society

Camp Lots-a-Wata (kidney disease) proudly supported by The Kidney Foundation

Camp JoinTogether (juvenile arthritis) proudly supported by The Arthritis Society - N.S. Chapter

Camp Kedooopse (bereavement) generously supported by Medavie Health Foundation

Camp Treasure Chest (asthma) proudly supported by The Lung Association

Camp Trailblazers (craniofacial/facial differences) in partnership with AboutFace

Camp Guts & Glory (Crohn's & Colitis/inflammatory bowel disease) generously supported by Janssen Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Camp Got2Go (Crohn's & Colitis/inflammatory bowel disease) in partnership with Crohn's & Colitis Canada

The CCS Camp Goodtime (cancer) proudly supported by the Around the Bend Foundation in partnership with The Canadian Cancer Society - Nova Scotia Division

Camp Silly-Yak (celiac disease) proudly supported by The Canadian Celiac Association

Camp Carpe Diem (epilepsy)

Camp shows us that you can have that one thing in common with someone that can create a friendship. You struggle with things every day and somebody fully-sighted can't understand that. So, when you come to Camp See-Ya, you meet people who are in the same circumstances."



Over 450 campers sang songs, painted pictures, paddled canoes, ate s'mores and made new friends.

We welcomed young people from seven provinces and one state to the Village who spent time with campers living in similar situations as themselves. Our staff and volunteers provided amazing care and programs to the campers, challenging them to get out of their comfort zone and to try something new. With their support, our campers thrived and truly had a transformational experience at Brigadoon Village. Our food service and facility teams made sure bellies were full and the site was safe for everyone to enjoy. Without their hard work camp certainly wouldn't be the same.

The only thing more exciting than summer 2014 is that summer 2015 will be here soon. We hope to have more campers and most importantly, more fun!"

Leaders in the Making

Campers aged 15-17 can join Brigadoon's LIT (Leaders in Training) program as a Pursuit option. The goal of the LIT program is to create self-empowered leaders who give back to their camp, school and community through volunteerism. This program was led by staff member, Grace Caldwell, who developed a four day program around these themes: defining leadership through role models and understanding your own

leadership style, team work and group roles, goal setting, and compassion. In addition to helping run campfires and the Carnival event at camp, LITs work with a journal and create a number of take home projects.

The LIT program was super, super fun! I met so many great people here and I really felt like I was accepted immediately."

18,954 meals were served in 2014

Let's go to Camp This Weekend!

Brigadoon Village offered a variety of weekend and shorter camp stays so that children, youth and families living with other chronic illnesses, conditions or special needs could experience the magic of camp.

You're in Charge

Autism family camp Brainchild family camp Hemophilia family camp Wanna Get Down family camp Muscular Dystrophy family camp March of Dimes March break camp

> The March of Dimes March break camp was great, well organized and fun!"



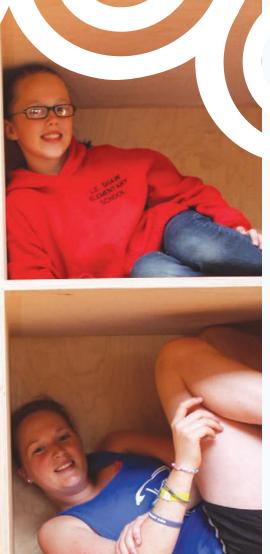
Let's go to Camp in Fall & Spring!

In 2014 our beautiful facility was enjoyed by a variety of groups throughout Brigadoon's off-season.

Our flexible and accessible meeting spaces, cathedral ceilings, stone fireplace in our dining hall and our lodge meeting areas made Brigadoon the perfect space for a treasured experience for every group's function.

Several schools, non-profit organizations, government agencies and corporate groups came to Brigadoon Village for teambuilding programming, corporate retreats, special functions, professional development sessions, annual general meetings, and of course, some good ol' fashioned camp fun!









Brigadoon by the Numbers

In 2012, 179 campers attended Brigadoon's first full summer of programming.

ln 2014, 450 campers attended Brigadoon's third full summer of programming...

(183 of which were campers new to Brigadoon)

...That's a growth of 250%!

his year we saw...

70% of campers come from Nova Scotia.

40% come from the Halifax Regional Municipality.

85% of campers were referred to Brigadoon Village by doctors and clinic staff at the IWK Health Centre. 100% of campers surveyed said they would like to return to camp in 2015

The **BIG SWIM**

49 People Swam the Northumberland Strait and Raised \$300,000...

On Sunday, August 17, 49 swimmers (including three Brigadoon staff) entered the Northumberland Strait to brave the amazing feat of swimming from New Brunswick to PEI in The BIG SWIM. This year, all funds from the swim went directly toward sending Atlantic Canadian children living with chronic illness to Brigadoon's programs.

In 2013, The BIG SWIM raised \$50,000. This year's BIG SWIM goal was \$150,000. It was doubled. \$300,000 was raised for Brigadoon.

\$300,000 is the equivalent of giving 300 children the magic of a summer camp experience. Congratulations to GIVETOLIVE on such a successful event and thank you for selecting us as the recipient of funds raised. Thank you as well to all swimmers, kayakers and volunteers for your time in and out of the water. Through your incredible efforts, you've helped to ensure that 300 children will have the life changing experience of coming to Brigadoon Village. We couldn't be more thrilled, humbled and grateful.

...For Extraordinary Kids!

Photo courtesy of GIVETOLIVE





Under the B...

or eight consecutive years, Brigadoon Village has been bringing the community together for a night of extraordinary fun and games at its primary fundraising event, Blue Tie Bingo.

At the Westin Nova Scotian on April 26,

2014, TV personality Seamus O'Regan was host and bingo caller at one of our most successful Blue Tie Bingo events yet. It was an incredible evening consisting of bingo games, amazing prizes, delicious campinspired food and late night dancing. A group of campers and counsellors welcomed guests by singing the Brigadoon Anthem on stage, and 13 year-old camper, Jill Robinson, addressed the crowd with a heartwarming message explaining the benefits of attending summer camp at Brigadoon and how meeting new and lifelong friends at Brigadoon, who all live with the same chronic condition has impacted her life.

Through the engagement, generosity and support of guests and sponsors of Brigadoon's 2014 Blue Tie Bingo, \$55,000 was raised to help send Atlantic Canadian children to camp.

Thank you to the numerous sponsors for helping to make this year's event possible, including: Bell Aliant, Dexter Construction Company Ltd., Heritage Gas, Gesso Communications, Radio 96.5, West Jet, Wilsons, Theriault Financial Inc. and Miller's Kettle Corn.

photo by: sunrisephotography.ca



"Camp is a bubble where I can be myself and witness others getting to do the same. I've spent time with some truly amazing kids, that's not to mention the amazing staff team, and we all have an unbelievable amount of fun! Camp is home, for me and everyone else who comes." ~Rachel Morgan

Year-Round

Sally Banks, *Registrar & Administrative Coordinator* Monica Dykeman, *Registrar & Administrative Coordinator* Gareth Evans, *Summer Director* David Graham, *Executive Director* George Hardy, *Facility Coordinator* Kerri Ann Hillier, *Fund Development Officer* Jen Kelday, *Director of Programs & Operations* Adam Langille, *Executive Chef* Emily Mallard, *Communications & Media Officer* David McKeage, *Founder* Brent Platt, *Director of Development & Administration*

Summer Programming

Amanda Baker Emma Bartlett Steven Butler Emily Byrne Grace Caldwell Emma Galsworthy Xavier Hartley Anna Jamieson Bailey Lonergan Dana MacDonald Aiden McKinnon Rachel Morgan John Murphy Erin O'Flaherty Elliot Pitter Kizi Rose Cameron Ure Joel Want Hanna Webber

Food Services Ma

Claire Arenburg Jeremy Campbell Samantha Cross Sue Lyons Dominic Stettler Jessica Stokes Shawn Thorsen

s Maintenance

Jamie Corbett Katie Little Sue Lyons Nick McInnis Jessica Tooker

Volunteers

Heartfelt thanks to all those who have so tirelessly volunteered their time with us in 2014. Your contributions are so greatly appreciated.

19

${ m Donors}$ provide the support needed to allow chronically ill children the opportunity to be themselves, to be children.

At Brigadoon, we believe everything wonderful in life is created from the elements. These are the Elements of Brigadoon, the generous group of people who helped make Brigadoon possible in 2014:



...Spirit Donors continued

- Costello Fitt Limited
- Crombie REIT
- Dennis Covill
- Down East Classic Car Club
- E.K.M. Health Foundation
- Esther E. Opie
- George Lohnes
- Gloria Jollymore
- J. Ray McDermott Canada Ltd.
- James Carter Lee
- Janet Knox
- Janet Webster
- Jonathan Mullin
- Justice Margaret Stewart

- Lakewood Poultry
- Marjorie Lindsay
- Mark Campbell
- Pratt & Whitney Canada Corp.
- Robert Meade
- Robert Merchant
- Rotary Club of Kentville
- Sara E. MacDonald
- St. Eulalie Rebekah Lodge 27
- Susan Euffing
- Susanne MacDonald
- Terry Coughlan
- The Canadian Celiac Association
- The Charitable Irish Society
- Valero Energy Foundation of Canada

To all of our donors...

Thank you

for your commitment and support of Brigadoon Village. Without your generosity, we could not offer children and youth the opportunity to reach their full potentials at camp.

To our sponsors ... Thank you for your support in 2014

We thank all of our sponsors who give so generously and support the work of Brigadoon Village. The following is a list of those who have given \$1,000 or more:

- Bell Aliant
- Dexter Construction Company Ltd.
- Freeman Audio Visual Canada
- Frito Lay
- Gesso Communications
- Heritage Gas
- NATIONAL Public Relations
- Radio 96.5
- West Jet



Let's Go! Campaign Celebrating the Completion

Brigadoon Village launched its second capital campaign, Let's Go! in 2013 with a \$1.5 million fundraising goal in an effort to secure funds to support new and existing programs, as well as to support children and youth to enter Brigadoon's transformational programs.

Thanks to the generous pledges of several organizations, Brigadoon Village donors, supporters, campers and parents celebrated the successful completion of the Let's Go! campaign in 2014 at an event entitled "Campfire Songs in the City."



I had so much fun singing campfire songs with my camp friends who I haven't seen since Camp Silly-Yak! I am so glad that Brigadoon has helped me to meet new friends who have celiac disease just like me." ~ Cameron Brown, camper

Camper Emily Bessey shares with guests what Brigadoon means to her

Guests participate and enjoy campers and counsellors singing songs around the "campfire"

Photos by Edward Robinson

Financial Reports

Statement of Operations

(Unaudited)

		Restated
Year ended December 31	2014	2013
REVENUES		
Facility rental	\$ 484,765	\$ 437,722
Fundraising	825,235	886,196
Other income	2,265	3,871
Amortization of deferred contributions	216,107	223,398
Grants	 15,835	 6,580
	1,544,207	1,557,767
EXPENDITURES		
Office	281,224	251,680
Fund development	242,548	261,701
Camp operations	 1,019,256	 920,588
	1,543,028	 1,433,969
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,179	\$ 123,798

*Full financial statements are available upon request

Financial Reports

Statement of Financial Position

(Unaudited)

Year ended December 31	2014	Restated 2013
ASSETS		
Current		\$
Cash	228,748	308,315
Receivables	6,339	29,850
Government remittance receivable	<u>68,449</u> 303,536	855
	303,330	339,020
Restricted cash	207,520	200,000
Property and equipment	6,846,266	7,154,399
	7,357,322	7,693,419
LIABILITIES	1,351,322	7,093,419
Current		
Payables and accruals		\$ 61,639
Deferred revenue	39,778	84,773
Current position of long-term debt	118,101	113,567
	213,503	259,979
Long-term debt	1,262,604	1,385,739
Deferred capital contributions	5,186,580	5,361,562
	6,662,687	7,007,280
NET ASSETS	694,635	686,139
	7,357,322	7,693,419
*Full financial statements are available upon request		



Thank you for reading our 2014 Annual Report.

Brigadoon Village is looking forward to an exciting year ahead. We are preparing to welcome more than 550 children to our summer programs in 2015.

To learn how you can help send a child to camp, please visit us online at **www.brigadoonvillage.org** or phone **1-888-471-5666**.



When I'm here, I feel like I'm welcomed and that we're all the same. I've never had so much fun at another camp. I fit in perfectly well with the Brigadoon family."





Giving extraordinary kids a chance to be ordinary.

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