Giving Extraordinary Kids a Chance to Be Ordinary.
Greetings from Our Executive Director and Board Chair

As we enter our ninth summer of operations, we are incredibly proud of the progress that our team has made in giving extraordinary kids a chance to be ordinary. Since the day our facility opened for our first summer camp, Brigadoon has grown exponentially and this ambitious dream has now become a reality. We have now hosted over 3,400 campers across 14 summer programs, and as we prepare for another summer camp season, this number will rapidly grow again.

Brigadoon’s goal has always been to provide a transformational life experience for children living with health conditions and other life challenges. While we have grown faster than we ever thought possible, the core pillar of who and what we are has not changed. As we continue to grow to meet the needs of the pediatric illness community, we will continue to impact the lives of our campers with the help of our dedicated team, generous donors, and committed partnerships. We may have started small, but we have plans to be bigger and better!
Every summer we are inspired by the children and families who come through the gates of Brigadoon. We are committed to changing the trajectory of the lives of these children by creating an environment where they can be impacted by experiential learning, meaningful connections, and of course, have exceptional fun! We can’t wait to see the transformation that future campers will undergo as they learn more about themselves, what they’re capable of, and the impact they can make.

We have come so far over the last nine years, but we’ve really only just scratched the surface.

David Graham  
Executive Director

Anne McGuire  
Board Chair
We’re Bursting at the Seams!

When we opened our doors nine years ago, we hosted 38 kids at our first program, Camp Guts & Glory. Little did we know that by 2018, we would have 713 campers registered across 14 different camp programs. Our cabins are getting increasingly full each summer, with many of our camps resulting in waitlists. We need room to breathe and space to grow to ensure that all children from Atlantic Canada living with a health condition or other life challenges have the opportunity to experience our programs.

With the support of our extraordinary donors and partners, we will continue to grow and make positive impacts on the lives of the kids. Compassion, partnerships, empowerment, accountability, and innovation are at the heart of everything we do. These objectives have—and will continue to be—our guiding light as we aim to expand our program offerings and provide extraordinary kids a chance to be ordinary.
I was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis in June of 2014. I was less than a month away from graduating high school when my life was flipped upside down. I could make an endless list of negative aspects regarding my experience with a chronic illness, but if there’s one thing living with a chronic illness has taught me, it’s that I’d rather focus on the positive.

Without having been diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, I would have never stumbled upon Brigadoon Village. My Dad grew up knowing Brigadoon’s founder, Dave McKeage. When Dave heard about my unfortunate diagnosis, he knew it was too late for me to experience Brigadoon as a camper, but encouraged me to volunteer. Little did I know that Brigadoon would be my favourite place in the world for the better part of three summers and that I would be echoing similar motivational words to countless other campers along the way.

Before my first camp as a volunteer counsellor in 2016, I was extremely nervous. I arrived on site not knowing anyone and I remember sitting off to myself preparing for the week by reading my campers’ files. I was volunteering for a Crohn’s and Colitis Camp—was I going to need to tell a room full of strangers how many times I go to the washroom a day? Then my first camper arrived and everything changed. He didn’t seem like someone who needed thorough medical supervision. He didn’t know that this was my first time being a counsellor. He was a kid looking to have a fun week at camp and Brigadoon was one of the only places where he could just be himself.

Three years later, I am starting my journey to becoming a physician. I am more confident and comfortable with myself and Brigadoon has taught me what it means to be truly empathetic. There is more to a patient (or camper) than their underlying diagnosis. It is hard to justify with words how unique and amazing Brigadoon really is. For me, the best part about Brigadoon is witnessing the growth that campers undergo. Brigadoon campers learn about themselves, about others, and leave with a newfound knowledge about their condition and how to advocate for themselves. Brigadoon transforms lives.
Our Extraordinary Partners

We launched our first summer camp program in 2011 and we are committed to providing transformational camp experiences that inspire and impact our campers for years to come. As we head into our ninth summer of operations, we are now running 14 customized summer camp programs with our partners.

Thank you to our partners who help bring our programming to life:

- AboutFace
- APSEA
- Arthritis Society Nova Scotia
- Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division
- Crohn’s and Colitis Canada
- IWK Neurosurgery Kids Fund
- Lung Association of Nova Scotia
- Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia
- The Kidney Foundation of Canada Atlantic Branch
“Camp was an amazing experience for my daughter! She was nervous about it at first, but hasn’t stopped talking about it since coming home. She has her heart set on going again next year! It was very nice for her to know that she’s not alone in her battle and that there are others like her going through similar things.”
Watch us Grow!

It takes a village to make Brigadoon a second home for so many campers every summer. We’ve got so many things to celebrate, and these are just a few of them:

**Another Growth Spurt**

From 38 campers in 2011 to **713 in 2018**.

We hope to see over **750** campers in the summer of 2019!

**Small and Mighty**

Our team worked passionately with donors and partners to raise **$1.3 million** for our extraordinary campers and facilities.

**More Programs**

In the summer of 2018–thanks to the IWK Neurosurgery Kids fund—we launched a camp for kids living with neurosurgery conditions, **Camp Brainiac**.
Welcome to the Brigadoon Kitchen!

In the summer of 2018, we served 713 campers! Curious to see what that includes? Take a look!

- 2,528 lbs of chicken
- 2,400 packages of hot chocolate
- 252 bags of bagels
- 1,406 boxes of pasta
- 2,528 lbs of chicken
- 252 bags of bagels
- 1,406 boxes of pasta

Which equals:

- 2,638 summer camp meals
- 1,975 camper snacks and s’mores
- 898
Check out Our Facts and Stats

Each summer, we are able to see the continued positive impact Brigadoon has on its campers by showing them that they have limitless potential. Check out how Brigadoon continues to make a difference to our campers.

80% of families say their camper now talks more openly about their illness or condition, since attending Brigadoon.

90% of families felt their child learned something new about their illness or condition at Brigadoon.

90% of our campers said they learned more about their health condition or other life challenge at Brigadoon.

94% of our campers felt better about themselves after attending Brigadoon.

99% of families said their child made new friends at Brigadoon this year.

100% of our campers said they tried something at Brigadoon that they have never tried before.

100% of families agreed that their campers felt safe and supported at Brigadoon.
We may have started small, but look how far we’ve come! We couldn’t be more thrilled to see Brigadoon expand and continue to attract campers from further across Canada.*

Our Campers Come from Far and Wide

495 Nova Scotia
79 New Brunswick
30 Prince Edward Island
15 Newfoundland & Labrador
04 Quebec
29 Ontario

*Due to their diagnosis, some campers are eligible to attend more than one program.
For the past five years, I have journeyed from Ontario to Brigadoon Village for Guts & Glory Camp/Camp Got2Go for kids with Crohn’s and Colitis. I was 11 years old and recently diagnosed with Crohn’s disease when I first attended Brigadoon. My first trip was filled with excitement and nerves and by the end of week I had a hard time leaving. At the end of each week, we had the ‘paper plate’ awards. These were awarded by the counsellors to the campers on the final day, based on a highlight from the week. Each paper plate award brings back many memories of fun times that I had with my cabin mates and leaders.

Throughout my years at camp, I have made many friendships, and with the help of social media, I’m able to stay in touch with my friends year-round. We let each other know how we are feeling, and we even talk about our doctors!

I have lots of memories from past years at Brigadoon: the Sharing Circle where we can talk about our journey with others who understand it and know you are not alone, the dance party on the final night of camp, sitting under the stars watching a meteor shower and shooting stars! When I think back, you can make so many memories over five years.

I have grown up at Brigadoon. This camp is a part of me and it is a part of my story. Each year I look forward to going back to this place that holds a special place in my heart.

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An Extraordinary Year

Brigadoon passionately transforms the lives of children and youth living with health conditions and other life challenges to help them reach their full potential through experiential learning, meaningful connections, and exceptional fun. We provide programs that empower kids to gain independence, build strong relationships, and realize that they are not defined by their conditions. This year has been filled with milestone moments and growth, and we’ve got big plans for the coming years. With the support of our community and partners, we know there are big things coming.

Five Years of Wine and Dash!
Thank you to Scotiabank for being our Presenting Sponsor for Wine and Dash with $70,000 in sponsorship since 2016!

Mental Health Matters at Brigadoon
Thank you to Medavie, who has committed $75,000 to support Camp Kedooopse.

We Have a Very Egg-citing Announcement!
Egg Farmers of Nova Scotia donated 4,356 eggs and $2,500 to our Healthy Eating Program. Thank you!

Cycling for Success
Thanks to the 73 cyclists from Tour For Kids who raised over $100,000 this past summer.

Lights, Camera, Action
Dalhousie Medical School’s Student Society chose Brigadoon as their charity of choice for their annual variety show and have donated a grand total of $18,000! Thanks to Scotiabank and Spinco Halifax for matching the donation.

Celebrating Opportunities
The Joyce Family Foundation has given a gift of $150,000 to give 150 extraordinary kids a chance to come to Brigadoon!

Exploring our Creativity
Thank you to the Robert Pope Foundation, who donated $10,000 to Brigadoon’s Arts program.

Diving in for BIG SWIM!
Our longtime friends at GIVETOLIVE surpassed the $1,000,000 milestone in fundraising with THE BIG SWIM. The dock at Brigadoon has been officially named the “GIVETOLIVE BIG SWIM Dock” as a token of our appreciation.
Expanding Our Facilities

The Chicken Farmers of Nova Scotia and the Robichaud family were the first to contribute to Brigadoon’s new Outdoor Kitchen!

“Being able to give back to Brigadoon as a family has meant so much to us. Madison and Makenzie both attended camp at Brigadoon and they still talk about it. Some of their favourite memories were campfires and sharing meals with their friends. So, to be able to give specifically to the outdoor kitchen, that will be used for both of these things, is just magical. We’ll be there for the ribbon cutting (once it’s complete) with bells on.”

– Teena Robichaud

Board Members Giving Back

ALL GUTS & GLORY

Dr. Tony Otley and his wife Dr. Beth Cummings, and their business Grow For It Pediatrics Inc, supported the Dave McKeage Dreamcatcher Endowment to ensure children can continue to experience the magic of camp.

CARPE DIEM!

Brigadoon Board member, Dr. Alice Aiken and her siblings Julian Hanlon, Carl Hanlon, Margaret Hanlon-Bell, and Claire (Hanlon) Budziak, have honoured their late sister by making a gift to Brigadoon’s endowment fund. The “Roisin Hanlon Memorial Carpe Diem Fund” will ensure that children living with epilepsy get to experience camp.
From 2002–2005 I was producing medical stories for CTV’s Live at 5. Part of my mandate at the time was to produce a story from the IWK once every two weeks. I was assigned a rather charming PR officer from the IWK to work with me on this task. That guy was Dave McKeage. We spent a great deal of time together and told some remarkable stories, but my favourite story he told me was almost more of a fairy tale. He told me about this magical place he had been dreaming about... and it was called Brigadoon. Of course, 15 years ago, I had no children, and certainly could not imagine a day when Dave’s dream would benefit my child.

Eva was born in 2008. In 2009, she had her first seizure. We were told these were merely febrile seizures which she would outgrow at 3–5 years of age. That didn’t happen, and the diagnosis was changed to seizure disorder.

Brigadoon, through the years, has remained part of my life. I was there when it was still a construction site. I helped Dave and his team to get the word out about what was happening as it was built, as it opened, and finally, as it welcomed campers.

I can’t remember the moment I realized and accepted the fact that my kid qualified for camp, but I knew there would be things for Eva to learn at Brigadoon. We went to an information session at the IWK, where Eva met Cassidy Tully and I met Tiffany... and that was it. Eva wanted to go right away.

The drop off at camp was equally rough on both of us. I’d never relied on anyone besides family members to make sure Eva got her medication. That first night, she was sick to her stomach, and I was in tears at home at pill time—I’d never not been able to check in at pill time. Little did we know, that would be the only day she’d be homesick for us. On the last day of camp, my hopes and dreams for a dramatic reunion where my daughter would run and jump into my arms were dashed. Instead, she pretended not to see us. Brigadoon had won her over. She had started using the word epilepsy, which encouraged me as well. She stood in front of her grade four class and taught them about epilepsy. I found a journal and looked inside to find the words “epilepsy rules”. Don’t get me wrong, I still don’t like epilepsy, but Brigadoon has made for a remarkable silver lining. It’s a private club you don’t qualify for unless you’ve been dealt a bit of a tough hand.

**It’s for the brave and strong, and if you’re not brave and strong when you get there, you will be when you leave.**

Brigadoon has not only made Eva more brave and strong, but it’s done that for my husband and I too. I wear a “wishlet” on my left wrist. It’s been there since July 2017 when Eva came home from camp and tied it on. I can’t tell you what my wish is, but I will say I hope Brigadoon encourages all our extraordinary kids to wish big and dream big! To talk about their conditions, educate others, and grow up to fulfill their own fairy tales. Just like Dave McKeage did.

From Eva, all of our family, and on behalf of all Brigadoon families, thanks to everyone at Brigadoon for all you do. And to all of you who support the work being done at Brigadoon. Thanks for giving our extraordinary kids the chance to be ordinary.
Brigadoon continues to work diligently to ensure that our community’s investment in our mission delivers the most significant impact possible. In 2018, Brigadoon achieved an excess of revenues over expenditures of $69,685 that will help the organization to position itself for the expected growth in children and families accessing our programs in 2019.

### Revenues
- Fundraising: $1,293,952
- Facility rental: $725,925
- Amortization of deferred contributions: $186,044
- Grants: $38,583

### Expenditures
- Camp operations: $1,336,359
- Fund development: $488,499
- Program & office administration: $343,528
# Financial Position

## Assets - Current

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Cash</td>
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<td>Short-term investments</td>
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<td>Receivables</td>
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<td>Prepaids</td>
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<td>Government remittance receivable</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>Restricted cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,818,311</strong></td>
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## Liabilities - Current

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<tr>
<th>Liability</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Payables and accruals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
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<td>Current portion of long-term debt</td>
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<td>Current portion of callable debt</td>
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<td>Current liabilities before callable debt</td>
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<td>Callable debt</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>Long-term debt</td>
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<td>Deferred capital contributions</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>1,487,250</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,818,311</strong></td>
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</table>
Friends of Brigadoon

This list is a sample of some of our many generous donors.

14 Bells Fine Art Gallery
Elizabeth Abbott
Nicole Abbott
David Acker
Mary Lou Ackerman
Jennifer Adcock
Carol Adderson
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Agriculture in the Classroom Canada
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Stephen Alexander
Carole Allain
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In-Kind Donations

A small sample of some of the many in-kind donations we received.

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Benjamin Bridge Vineyard
Black & McDonald
Cansel
CTV
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The Monday Piece Makers
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Michelle Bohaychuk
Director of Development

Jenn Ross
Director of Operations

Tiffany MacInnis
Summer Director

George Hardy
Facilities Manager

Dianne Kendall
Red Seal Executive Chef

Sarah Murphy
Marketing & Communications Officer

Vanessa Nasrallah
Development Officer

Lynn Stewart-Yuill
Development Officer

Kerri Ann Hiller
Development Officer

Jayme Lynn Butt
Manager, Campaign Gifts

Graham Roberts
Off Season Program Coordinator

Sally Banks
Registrar & Administrative Coordinator

Kelly Doney Morrison
Administrator & Board Liaison

Liz Muggah
Sous Chef, BSc Nutrition, P.Dt.
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Former President & CEO  
IWK Health Centre

Allan Horsburgh (Treasurer)  
Vice President  
Stewardship & Accountability  
Nova Scotia Health Authority

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Executive Director  
Brigadoon Village

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Head, Division of Gastroenterology  
IWK Health Centre  
Professor of Pediatrics  
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Vice President, Research  
Dalhousie University

Phil Warren  
Government Administration – Retired

Wendy MacGregor  
Legal Writer and Advocate

Jeremy Scott  
Partner, Indirect Tax  
BDO Canada LLP
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Bradley Verran    Jennifer Ackerman
Bryn Longcroft-Harris   Joey Karam
Cameron Dauphinee  Josh Willoughby
Cassidy Tully      Julie Theriault
Elliot Pitter      Karina Stanley
Gabrielle Doucet   Kathryn Lawrence
Kathryn Simms
Sarah Schwartz
Meredith Otley
Shane Kinrade
Molly Wright
Simone Sewell
Morgan Dalrymple
Vanessa Miller
Nathan Otley
Will Stordy
Oliver Lorimer
Ruth Hall

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Sharaden MacLennan Alisha Youden
Howard Caterer     Beth Corcoran
Jeremy Campbell

Facilities Team

Matt Shepherd – Facility Assistant Sasha Smith – Housekeeping
Shelley Hardy – Housekeeper Brian Randall – Housekeeping
Kenda Pellerine – Housekeeping
The sky is not the limit.

Our hearts are heavy with the loss of our dear friend, founder, visionary, and colleague. Dave was our inspiration and mentor, and our community has lost an extraordinary human being. Dave has given us, our province, and our country a tremendous gift in Brigadoon. He has impacted the lives of all who have had the honour to know him, and his legacy and altruism will continue to transform the lives of thousands of children living with health conditions and other life challenges for decades.

Thank you, Dave, for giving extraordinary kids a chance to be ordinary.