

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



MANDATE

“To ensure a healthy future for the horticultural industry.”

**OHTF.ca**





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## About the foundation

The Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation was created in 1979 by a committee of forward-thinking leaders of the landscape and nursery sectors. The original goal of the Foundation was to help fund much-needed industry research. However, its mandate was soon expanded.

Today, the Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation is the research and scholarship arm of Landscape Ontario. The Foundation's mandate is to ensure "a healthy future for the horticultural industry," through financial support of research and scholarships funded by interest generated on capital investments.

## How to support the foundation

Donations to the Foundation can be made online by visiting [OHTF.ca/donate](https://OHTF.ca/donate).

Also at [OHTF.ca](https://OHTF.ca), you will find information on how to support the Foundation in a number of ways outlined below. With a donation to the Foundation, you have the satisfaction of knowing that you are "making a difference and leaving a legacy" for the profession that you love. You can support the Foundation by:

### SPONSORSHIP

Join the Foundation by making a pledge — an annual donation or a one-time gift.

### MEMORIAL GIFT

This is a meaningful way to honour a friend, loved one or professional contact, while also helping to support the profession.

### LEGACY GIFT

Earmark funds through your estate to sustain the horticulture profession. Contact your estate planner or lawyer to include this legacy provision in your will.

### STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Many Foundation sponsors share their expertise by speaking to groups and directing their honorariums to the foundation.

## Thank you to our donors

The Foundation would like to thank all of its donors. A donation is an easy and effective way to benefit Ontario's horticultural community. The Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation is a registered charity and all donations will receive a tax receipt.



## Officers and directors for 2021

<b>President:</b>	David Turnbull
<b>Vice President:</b>	Mike Thomas
<b>Secretary:</b>	Bob Allen
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Hank Gelderman
<b>Director:</b>	Tony DiGiovanni
<b>Board members:</b>	Brian Cocks Ben Kobes Mark Ostrowski John Peets Tim Rivard Rita Weerdenburg

## Scholarship program

Providing scholarships is particularly close to the hearts of Foundation supporters, who point with pride to the many recipients who are now successful industry members. A list of available scholarships can be found on the Foundation website at **OHTF.ca**.

The scholarship program continues to grow, and now boasts a number of scholarships supported by individual people and companies:

- Apprenticeship Scholarship
  - Bob and Ruby Allen Scholarship Fund
  - Casey van Maris Scholarship Fund
  - College/University Scholarships
  - Hensbergen/DeGroot Fund
  - Horst Dickert Scholarship Fund
  - Horticulturist Scholarship
  - John and Ruth Wright Scholarship Fund
  - Neil Vanderkruk Innovation and Scholarship Fund
  - OJ Müller Memorial Fund
  - Ottawa Chapter Scholarship
  - Unilock Collaborative Communications Scholarship
  - Peter Olsen Memorial Fund
  - Post-Graduate Scholarship
  - Post-Secondary Scholarships
  - Russel and Karen Loney Fund
  - Tony DiGiovanni Scholarship Fund
  - Upper Canada Chapter Scholarships
  - Waterloo Chapter Green Industry Scholarship

## More than \$39K in scholarship support

Introduced in 2015, a major component of the program is the Cullen Family Scholarships, which distribute more than \$20,000 each year. The program is designed to encourage and inspire leadership qualities in students who have a passion and enthusiasm for the landscape and horticulture profession, with candidates selected by their peers and teachers. Individual amounts are assigned to each school offering a horticultural program. This year, the foundation distributed a total of \$39,100 in scholarships to students enrolled in horticultural programs across the province.

## Developments over the past year

In the summer of 2021, the Foundation launched a revitalized and rebranded website at **OHTF.ca**. The website features a new logo and is mobile-friendly. In late 2020, longtime foundation member and industry pioneer Neil Vanderkruk passed away. The foundation recently established the Neil Vanderkruk Innovation and Scholarship Fund and is planning to raise \$100,000 to create a permanent scholarship in Neil's name. Similar fundraising campaigns will follow for the other memorial scholarships in order to further preserve the legacy of these exceptional industry pioneers and leaders.



## 2021 Scholarship Recipients

### **Apprenticeship Scholarship (\$600)**

Carley Prior, Humber College

### **College/University Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Era MUCa, Niagara College

### **Post-Secondary Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Ayza Vardar-Okur, Humber College  
Caio Paschoal Rosa, Seneca College  
Craig Klomp, University of Guelph  
Giancarlo Raschella, Durham College  
Holly MacAlpine, University of Guelph  
Kinley Tenzin, Seneca College  
Manpreet Kaur, Fanshawe College  
Rachel Mulder, Fanshawe College  
Raphael O'loughnan, Niagara College  
Sean Loose, Durham College

### **Horticulturist Scholarship (\$500)**

Staysail Shed, Humber College  
Tingyu Lin, Niagara College

### **Post-Graduate Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Jacob Leach, University of Guelph

### **Casey van Maris Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Cassidy Friske, University of Guelph

### **Horst Dickert Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Steve deBruyn, Fanshawe College

### **Tony DiGiovanni Scholarship (\$1,000)**

Mattison Innes, Niagara College

### **Cullen Scholarship Apprenticeship (\$1,000)**

Caroline Pilon, Algonquin College

### **Cullen Needs Based Scholarship (\$5,000)**

Janice Currey, Niagara Parks Commission

### **Cullen Family Scholarship Program (\$2,000)**

Beatriz Morais, Seneca College  
Charles Lewis, Fanshawe College  
Diana Lawson-Canning,  
University of Guelph  
Enoch Wong, Humber College  
Frances MacDonald, Algonquin College  
Jacob Snider, Niagara Parks Commission  
James Conway-Beaulieu,  
Durham College  
Philippe Mesley, Niagara College  
Richard Williams, Fanshawe College

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## A greener future

The industry has recognized the unique opportunity in the increased demand for living green solutions to address the environmental impacts associated with climate change. The quest by various organizations to mitigate these impacts has resulted in a wealth of industry-friendly tree supply and planting initiatives. Ensuring the success of urban landscape plantings is not without its challenges, and dealing with these hurdles has been the focus of several important research initiatives managed by Vineland Research and Innovation Centre, with financial support from Landscape Ontario and the Foundation.

With part of its mandate to support research programs that help to ensure a healthy future for the horticultural industry, the Foundation provided financial support to the following initiatives:

### **Highway of Heroes Living Tribute**

Since administrative structure is already in place, the Foundation collects charitable donations for the Highway of Heroes Living Tribute ([hohtribute.ca](http://hohtribute.ca)). This inspiring campaign seeks to plant two million trees, including 117,000 trees along the Highway of Heroes, one for each of Canada's fallen soldiers, assisted by the efforts of Ontario nursery growers and contractors.

### **GrandTrees Walk Fund**

The GrandTrees Walk Fund identifies and funds the best tree planting initiatives in the Greater Toronto Area. The initiative has provided funding to 25 organizations to plant native trees and shrubs.

### **One Bench One Tree**

The One Bench One Tree campaign aims to give back to frontline heroes by offering a moment of rest in nature. The project's goal is to add at least one bench and one tree to the landscape of hospitals across Canada.



## Meet the 2021 scholarship recipients



**Janice Currey**  
*Cullen Family Needs-based Scholarship, \$4,000*

With a love for the outdoors, and a vision to create beautiful and productive gardens, Currey enrolled at the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture. From there she launched her own company, Creation Care Landscaping. Over the winter, she is looking forward to experimenting with aquaponics, developing her horticultural knowledge and creating designs to install next spring. "Thank you Landscape Ontario for advancing and investing in the future of this diverse industry," Janice said.



**Manpreet Kaur**  
*Post-Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000*

As a foreign student, Manpreet is grateful for the opportunity to be awarded the scholarship. The award will provide significant financial assistance for Manpreet to continue in the Horticulture Technician program at Fanshawe College. She said she considers herself lucky to be able to go overseas and enhance her knowledge of the horticulture profession. Manpreet added the scholarship has given her even more confidence to continue focusing on her future in the horticulture business.



**Charles Lewis**  
*Cullen Family Scholarship Program, \$2,000*

Charles came to the landscape design world in a roundabout way. He went from working as a golf course groundskeeper, to deep sea engineer, to stay-at-home parent, and now building gardens. "I feel terrifically lucky to have found myself in the Landscape Design program at Fanshawe College at this time in my life, inspired by wonderful instructors and by the endless learning that lies before me," Charles said.



**Cassidy Friske**  
*Casey van Maris Scholarship, \$1,000*

Cassidy is very thankful to the Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation for the scholarship. She has always had a keen interest in design and environmental sustainability. She is now able to combine these interests and major in Landscape Architecture. Cassidy is currently enrolled in her first year at the University of Guelph.



**Craig Klomp**  
*Post-Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000*

Craig Klomp is currently a first-year graduate student who is pursuing a Masters in landscape architecture at the University of Guelph. The scholarship will allow him to pursue more education and grow as a student in the horticulture industry. Craig is interested in sustainable design in landscape architecture, and looking at how eco-friendly services make up our built environment.



**Tingyu Lin**  
*Horticulturist Scholarship, \$500*

Tingyu Lin is in the Landscape Technician program at Niagara College. As a child, Tingyu was obsessed with plants and said enthusiasm still fulfils her heart. Propagating plants, gardening and yard maintenance are her common activities. She said as an international student, there are challenges for her to overcome, but she's certain the more effort she puts in, the more success she will achieve.



**Mattison Innis**  
*Tony DiGiovanni Scholarship, \$1,000*

Mattison would like to thank the foundation and instructors for selecting her to be the recipient of the award. Entering her final year at Niagara Parks School of Horticulture, Mattison said she has enjoyed every moment of it. Her interest in horticulture started at a young age and has only grown stronger thanks to her instructors and peers at school. She is currently looking at internship opportunities and interested in a career in plant health care, specifically pest and disease management.



**Diana Lawson-Canning**  
*Cullen Family Scholarship Program, \$2,000*

Diana grew up in New Zealand, on a hill-country farm that inspired an enduring interest in plant, microbial and animal life. Trained as a biologist and editor, Diana has always had one foot on the ground, doing landscaping alongside research communication work. Now an Ontario resident and University of Guelph MLA candidate, Diana is exploring native plant selection and cultivation.



**Sean Loose**  
*Post-Secondary Scholarship, \$1,000*

Sean is grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Post-Secondary Scholarship. The scholarship will help him further his horticultural studies, with the goal of pursuing a future in sustainable landscape design. Growing up in Toronto, Sean said he understands the importance of green spaces and how now more than ever we need to promote healthy green infrastructures in cities.



**Holly MacAlpine**  
*Post-Secondary  
Scholarship, \$1,000*

Holly would like to express her sincere gratitude for the support provided through this award.

Her passion for nature and design started at a young age, fuelling her interest in landscape architecture. She is currently in her fourth and final year of the BLA program at the University of Guelph. She hopes to focus on environmental conservation, site rehabilitation, historic preservation and park design in her future career.



**Era Muca**  
*College/University  
Scholarship, \$1,000*

After nearly a year-long internship with a local organic farm,

Era was inspired to pursue a formal education with Niagara College in the Horticulture Technician Program. "I am extremely grateful to receive the scholarship," she said. "I am eager to learn and grow within their institution. I aspire to contribute to the field of horticulture while making a positive impact on my community."



**Caroline Pilon**  
*Cullen Family  
Scholarship Program,  
\$1,000*

After studying Theology and working as a PSW,

Caroline began to search for a new career. With a desire to remain active, work outdoors and serve others, she tried gardening, working for Susan Beduhn, owner of Horticare. "I immediately knew I'd found my place. Sue encouraged me to pursue my studies through the Horticulture Apprenticeship Program at Algonquin, where I was blessed with down-to-earth, knowledgeable professors and classmates."



**Frances MacDonald**  
*Cullen Family  
Scholarship Program,  
\$2,000*

The experience gained through the Algonquin College Horticultural

Industries Co-op program, and unique work term opportunity with The Herb Garden, has continued to inspire Frances' passion for native plants and sustainable garden design. Frances said it's an honour to receive the scholarship and looks forward to a rewarding career in the horticulture industry and each new season's opportunities.



**Rachel Mulder**  
*Horticulturist  
Scholarship, \$500*

Rachel is a student in the Horticultural

Technician program at Fanshawe College, and grateful to have been selected for this award. Growing up on a dairy farm, she has been passionate about the outdoors since a young age, and quickly discovered her interest in the horticultural industry. She hopes to own and operate a flower farm as a platform for public education and to demonstrate the essential role horticulture and agriculture play.



**Giancarlo Raschella**  
*Post-Secondary  
Scholarship, \$1,000*

Giancarlo is a student in the Horticultural

Technician program at Durham College. The scholarship is a big aid in helping Giancarlo continue his education in horticulture. He is happy to have chosen the horticulture field and to be in a program with great classmates and instructors. Giancarlo looks forward to his future in the horticulture industry.



**Beatriz Morais**  
*Cullen Family  
Scholarship Program,  
\$2,000*

Beatriz Morais is a second-year student of the Environmental Landscape

Management program at Seneca College. Her interest in landscaping started during an entrepreneurial stint at a sustainable construction company, but flourished to become her passion during a career sabbatical to focus on raising her three children. Since then, she has been investing in educational and professional development to start a new career in sustainable landscaping.



**Raphael O'loughnan**  
*Post-Secondary  
Scholarship, \$1,000*

As a labourer with the Niagara Parks Commission, Raphael gets to work at one of

the world's most renowned tourist destinations, Niagara Falls. Raphael has always been a nature enthusiast and is grateful to be able to work in such a diverse ecosystem. Raphael is an honour student in his second year of the Horticulture Technician program at Niagara College and hopes to one day hold a more specific environmental career within the Niagara Parks Commissions Environmental Stewardship department.



**Caio Paschoal Rosa**  
*Post-Secondary  
Scholarship, \$1,000*

Caio, a student in the Environmental Landscape Management program at Seneca

College, is delighted to hear he was selected for the scholarship. Caio is transitioning from a diploma in economics to horticulture/environment. A small sustainable backyard project sparked his interest in horticulture, and now he sees landscaping as a sustainable career in a world facing climate change.



**Stasail Shedd**  
*Horticulturist*  
**Scholarship, \$500**

After experiencing the healing powers of horticultural therapy first hand, Stasail has made it her mission to pursue a career in the field. Her goals involve bringing horticultural therapy to people for which it is inaccessible, via the installation of residential therapeutic gardens, and through online portals. Stasail is enrolled in the Horticulture Technician program at Humber College.



**Kinley Tenzin**  
*Post-Secondary*  
**Scholarship, \$1,000**

Kinley would like to whole-heartedly express his gratitude to the OHTF for the scholarship. He is currently studying Environmental Landscape Management at Seneca College. Kinley feels extremely glad for having chosen the program, which he said symbiotically blends the natural environment with horticulture and urban landscaping. Kinley pledges to contribute to the industry with dedication and zest.



**Richard Williams**  
*Cullen Family*  
**Scholarship Program,**  
**\$2,000**

Richard has a passion for botany and all things plant-care, as well as an extreme desire to be outdoors in nature. It's this combination that has led him into the field of horticulture, and is the main reason for his success. Richard is currently a student in Fanshawe College's Horticulture Technician program, and said he could not be happier than when he's learning about plants.



**Jacob Snider**  
*Cullen Family*  
**Scholarship Program,**  
**\$2,000**

Jacob is a second year student at the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture. Jacob has always been passionate about plants, botany and the environment. He is enjoying the academics of his program, but also the variety of work and being able to spend time outdoors. Jacob is looking forward to growing his skills and working towards his future goals in the horticulture industry.



**Ayza Vardar**  
*Post-Secondary*  
**Scholarship, \$1,000**

Ayza immigrated to Canada in 2019 and started chasing her passion for gardening by enrolling in the Horticultural Technician Pre-Apprenticeship program at Humber College. She has finished the program with honours and started working as a full-time maintenance crew member right after graduation. "The program was a very rewarding experience through which I could learn a lot in a short time. I got hired in one week despite COVID-19 conditions and had the opportunity to meet great people in the industry," she said.



**Enoch Wong**  
*Cullen Family*  
**Scholarship Program,**  
**\$2,000**

Enoch is currently in the process of earning his diploma in the Landscape Technology program at Humber College. With his entry into the landscaping industry, he aims to work with sustainable infrastructure to improve the long-term viability of the built environment.

**HELP SOW THE SEEDS OF SUCCESS**

**DONATE TO  
THE OHTF SCHOLARSHIPS AT**

**[ohtf.ca/donate](https://ohtf.ca/donate)**

*The Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation is a registered charity.  
All donations will receive a tax receipt.*



## FOUNDATION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FUND BALANCES			STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
	YEAR END AUG. 31, 2021	YEAR END AUG. 31, 2020		YEAR END AUG. 31, 2021	YEAR END AUG. 31, 2020
General Fund	\$344,389	\$25,077	<b>ASSETS</b>		
Dunington-Grubb/Sheridan Nurseries Research Fund	\$244,896	\$235,027	<b>CURRENT</b>		
Growers' Group Research Fund	\$399,558	\$381,065	Bank	\$437,939	\$884,633
Ottawa Chapter Val Kirshner Scholarship Fund	\$75,506	\$72,012	Accounts Receivable	\$104,400	\$151,374
Scholarship Fund	\$95,214	\$85,043		<b>\$542,339</b>	<b>\$1,036,007</b>
Casey Van Maris Scholarship Fund	\$32,526	\$31,997	<b>LONG TERM</b>		
IPM Symposium Research Fund	\$185,592	\$186,771	Investments	\$3,344,879	\$2,826,040
Tony DiGiovanni Scholarship Fund	\$110,814	\$106,662	Investment-Vineland Consortium	\$57,711	\$57,711
John/Ruth Wright Scholarship Fund	\$69,365	\$66,155	Accrued Interest Receivable	\$40,366	\$66,469
Horst Dickert Scholarship Fund	\$0	\$0		\$3,442,956	\$2,950,220
JT Somerville Fund	\$10,859	\$10,357	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$3,985,295</b>	<b>\$3,986,227</b>
Highway of Heroes (TFL) Fund	\$1,932,914	\$2,334,200	<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Unilock/Designers Group Fund	\$11,889	\$10,362	<b>CURRENT</b>		
Hensbergen/DeGroot Scholarship Fund	\$27,725	\$26,442	Accounts Payable and Accrued Charges	\$40,472	\$37,896
Russel/Karen Loney Scholarship Fund	\$10,217	\$9,744	<b>ACCUMULATED FUND BALANCES</b>		
Cullen Family Scholarship Fund	\$8,747	\$11,273	Fund Balances-Regular Funds	\$1,761,753	\$1,387,195
Robert/Ruby Allen Scholarship Fund	\$23,628	\$22,535	Fund Balances-Special Projects	\$2,183,070	\$2,561,137
One Bench One Tree Fund	\$3,194	\$0		\$3,944,823	\$3,948,331
Peter Olsen Scholarship Fund	\$32,890	\$31,368	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES/FUNDS</b>	<b>\$3,985,295</b>	<b>\$3,986,227</b>
OJ Muller Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$11,602	\$11,065			
GrandTrees Walk Fund	\$246,962	\$226,936	<b>STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>		
Waterloo Chapter Scholarship Fund	\$66,336	\$64,243			
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$3,944,823</b>	<b>\$3,948,331</b>			
			<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>YEAR END AUG. 31, 2021</b>	<b>YEAR END AUG. 31, 2020</b>
			Interest/Gains [Losses]	\$494,135	\$144,541
			Miscellaneous	\$50	\$1,349
			Research Grants	\$0	\$0
			Donations/Funding	\$1,713,457	\$3,169,708
			<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$2,207,642</b>	<b>\$3,315,598</b>
			<b>EXPENSES</b>		
			Administration Fees/Expenses	\$279,749	\$377,198
			Disbursed as Research Grants	\$0	\$0
			Event/Sponsorship Expenses	\$1,891,301	\$2,073,896
			Disbursed as Scholarships	\$40,100	\$54,850
			<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,211,150</b>	<b>\$2,505,945</b>
			<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>(\$3,508)</b>	<b>\$809,653</b>
			<b>FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$3,948,331</b>	<b>\$3,138,678</b>
			<b>FUND BALANCES, YEAR END</b>	<b>\$3,944,823</b>	<b>\$3,948,331</b>

**For information on the Foundation, including scholarship applications, supported research programs or to donate, visit [OHTF.ca](http://OHTF.ca)**