

# OSNS LEGACY FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT YEAR: 2024







# TERRITORIAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The OSNS Legacy Foundation respects that the land on which we live and connect with our families, donors and supporters is the traditional territory of the Syilx Okanagan People.

We are grateful to live, work, and play on these lands.

# A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



This past year has been one of growth, impact, and continued community support for the OSNS Legacy Foundation. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and partners, we have made significant strides in strengthening our fundraising efforts, expanding our outreach, and working towards our goal of long-term sustainability at the OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre.

From record-breaking campaigns to meaningful new partnerships, each milestone we have achieved is a testament to the dedication of those who believe in our mission. We are grateful to our community, whose generosity allows us to support OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre and make a lasting difference in the lives of children, youth and families.

I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the OSNS Board of Directors for their leadership and commitment.

## 2024 highlights:

- Successfully supported the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Week, raising over \$71,000 for the OSNS Legacy Foundation. Proceeds from this annual campaign contribute to the Stawarz family's \$250,000 pledge
- Strengthened community engagement during Leave a Legacy Month in May, securing two additional bequest donors
- Received a generous \$30,500 donation from funds raised at Wildstone's Colours 4 Kids Run
- Hosted a successful March Match fundraising campaign, led by C.J. Greig & Associates, raising \$58,000
- \$7,500 raised through 'Foolish Pairings' - a third-party fundraising event
- Conducted outreach to the dental office community during World Autism Month, with a campaign spearheaded by South Okanagan Perio. All contributions were matched up to \$5,000, resulting in a total of \$10,413 raised
- Engaged a professional advisor to oversee the management of OSNS Legacy Foundation funds, ensuring long-term sustainability and responsible stewardship
- Continued to engage OSNS donors and the broader community in advancing our mission.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we are making an impact that will be felt for years to come.

**BERNICE GREIG**  
BOARD CHAIR

# A WORD FROM OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

With determination we continue working towards our mission of securing the financial stability of the OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre. We are proud of the relationships we've built, the campaigns we've successfully held, and the community engagement that's taken place.

However, the funds raised and relationships built in 2024 are more than just numbers– **they represent hope, opportunity and the fact that we are working together towards a common goal.**

Every child and youth deserves to receive the early intervention care they need to thrive. When we are brainstorming new fundraising initiatives, or thinking of who we should invite next for a tour of the OSNS facility, it's about awareness, education, and ensuring our community understands the vital role this long-standing organization plays.

We thank our community for showing up for us in various ways, whether you purchased a smile cookie, attended Wildstone's Colours 4 Kids Run, or chose to make a bequest in your will to the OSNS Legacy Foundation. Each step, big or small, is a step closer to more children receiving the care they need to thrive.

With gratitude,



**MEGAN WINDELER**  
PHILANTHROPY ASSOCIATE  
OSNS LEGACY FOUNDATION



**HEATHER MILLER**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OSNS CHILD & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE



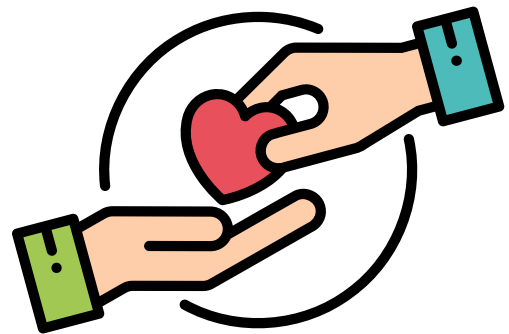
# CREATING LONG TERM STABILITY

## OUR MISSION

To secure the delivery of pediatric rehabilitation in the South Okanagan Similkameen by ensuring the financial stability of the OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre.

## OUR VALUES

- Generosity
- Stewardship
- Stability
- Security



## OUR COMMITMENT

- We will seek out support.
- We will encourage generosity.
- We will invest wisely.

## SIMPLY STATED:

*The goal of the Foundation is to grow sufficient funds to provide an annual interest income that covers the operating costs of OSNS.*



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# MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Bernice Greig**  
Chair

Bernice is a graduate of Penticton Secondary School. She obtained a BA (History) and Diploma in Art History from UBC, then an LLB from UVIC. After practicing in Vancouver with a large firm, she returned to her home-town of Penticton, where for the last twenty years she has had a solo general solicitor's practice, focusing on corporate, commercial and estate planning and administration matters, from which she retired recently.

Bernice was a director of the OSNS many years ago and is delighted to return to the fold to assist with the establishment of the OSNS Legacy Foundation. She has been a director and the president of the Penticton Secondary Schools Bursary and Scholarship Foundation for twenty years. She has also been a director of Penticton and Area Cooperative Enterprise (PACE) for several years. PACE is a social enterprise that seeks to empower individuals with mental health barriers through employment.



**Patt Dyck**  
Vice Chair

Patt has lived in the Okanagan Valley since 1980. She and her husband Ron moved to Naramata to escape the crazy pace of life in the Lower Mainland. Together, Patt and Ron operated the Country Squire Restaurant in Naramata for 23 years. They welcomed tourists and locals to a fine dining experience in a heritage house, mere steps from Okanagan Lake. In 2000, they founded Cannery Brewing and began a new journey focused on craft beer well before the term craft beer became a thing.

Patt is committed to building relationships throughout the community: with customers, suppliers, charitable organizations, partners in the Arts and the growing Cannery Brewing team and their families. She is a long-time board member of the Naramata Community Fund Society. Outside of her day-to-day passion for running Cannery Brewing, Patt enjoys singing with the Naramata Community Choir, hiking the Kettle Valley Rail Trail, and spending time with her family.



**Peter MacIntosh**  
Treasurer

Peter is a partner with Grant Thornton LLP (Canada), which is an international accounting firm. He holds the Chartered Professional Accountant (CA legacy) designation as well as the Family Enterprise Advisor (FEA) designation. He specializes in assisting privately owned business with the numerous business and tax issues they face, both externally and internally.

Peter and his family moved to the Okanagan from Ontario in 1996. They have come to enjoy the many outdoor activities that the Okanagan Valley has to offer, which include cycling, mountain biking and all kinds of skiing. He and his wife still marvel at the beauty of Penticton and the surrounding area.



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# MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Dr. Gurpal Buttar**  
Director

Gurpal grew up in Penticton. His post-secondary education includes time at UBC, the University of Manitoba and McGill University. While abroad, he always knew he would return to the Okanagan and has been practicing as a board-certified Periodontist in Penticton for almost 10 years. He has a special interest in child development and is involved with coaching junior tennis and hockey.

Gurpal's wife, Caroline, is a Pediatric dentist and specializes in the treatment of children with behaviour and developmental challenges. They have two lovely children, Zoe and William, and look forward to raising them in this beautiful community.



**Kirby Layng**  
Director



**Scott Austin**  
Director

Scott was born in Summerland and lives in the community with his wife Susy. They have two children and two grandchildren. Scott obtained a Bachelor of Arts (Geography) from UBC but found his calling in horticulture, starting in 1984. He was nursery manager at Art Knapp's and then GardenWorks in Penticton for 35 years. During that time he hosted a weekly call-in radio show, Garden Talk, and wrote a gardening column for the Penticton Herald for 25 years. In 2013 he published his book 'Sun, Sage and Sagebrush-Lessons from an Okanagan Garden.'

Scott has a long association with the OSNS Child and Youth Development Centre, dating back 30 years when his son was born at 29 weeks at BC Children's Hospital. He was followed up for a year by the team at OSNS. His granddaughter Sophie is now a regular visitor to the Centre, receiving occupational and speech therapy. Scott has worked with the children in the vegetable garden beds at the Centre for many years and is a passionate supporter of the people and programs of OSNS.

Scott retired from the garden centre business in 2023 but continues his involvement in horticulture in a volunteer role. He also enjoys cycling, cheering for the Canucks and Vees, exploring the world of wine and teaching gardening skills to his grandchildren.



**Ryu Okayama**  
Director



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# MEET OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



***Megan Windeler***

Philanthropy Associate,  
OSNS Legacy Foundation & OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre

Originally from Penticton, Megan spent several years studying and living in Toronto, as well as some time working abroad. She is happy to be back home in the Okanagan Valley.

After obtaining a Bachelor of Fine Arts from York University, she completed the Fundraising Management post-graduate program at Humber College in Toronto in 2015 and has since been working in the non-profit sector. She has held roles with the Mental Health Foundation in London, England, Age Concern New Zealand, and before relocating to Penticton, she worked with BC Children's Hospital Foundation in Vancouver. With her knowledge and experience in fundraising and relationship management, Megan hopes to make a meaningful impact on the OSNS Legacy Foundation and to the financial security of the OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre.

In her spare time, Megan loves spending time with her dog Luna and enjoying the beautiful surroundings the Okanagan has to offer.

***Heather Miller***

Executive Director, OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre

As the Executive Director for the OSNS Child and Youth Development Centre since March of 2023, Heather is grateful for the significant contributions of the OSNS Legacy Foundation Board in sustaining long-term stability for the organization's services to the South Okanagan Similkameen communities. Working with this deeply caring board has enhanced Heather's experience in public healthcare and childcare services.

Heather moved to Penticton from Saskatchewan in July of 2022 after 30 years of experience in child, youth and family service delivery. Heather has a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration, a Social Work Degree and a Sociology Degree.

Heather appreciates the everyday learning and connections she experiences with the extended OSNS family and community.





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## \$71,048 RAISED



In 2021, the Stawarz Family, owner operators of the South Okanagan Tim Hortons, committed to a generous **\$250,000 pledge** towards the OSNS Legacy Foundation through the Smile Cookie campaign. With this pledge, they have shown us and the community their dedication to supporting the future of pediatric rehabilitation in our region.

2024 was another record breaking year, raising **\$71,048** for the OSNS Legacy Foundation.

### 2024 Smile Cookie Week Highlights:

- Smile Cookie business challenge lead by Wildstone Construction that continued throughout the week, engaging many local South Okanagan businesses
- Featured articles in the Penticton Herald and Castanet news
- Spotlight on the OSNS staff team
- Enthusiasm and engagement from the Tim Hortons team



# CORPORATE & COMMUNITY

## WORLD AUTISM MONTH

### DENTAL OFFICE ENGAGEMENT

led by

**SOUTH OKANAGAN PERIO**  
Periodontics and Implant Dentistry

April is World Autism Month, an annual opportunity for a dedicated conversation about autism spectrum disorder. Approximately 1 in 50 children and youth are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Canada and this number continues to grow.

Led by South Okanagan Perio, local dental offices were encouraged to spread the word about Autism Awareness Month and make a contribution to the OSNS Legacy Foundation. All donations made were generously matched by South Okanagan Perio up to \$5,000.

An amazing total of \$10,413 was raised to for the OSNS Legacy Foundation, furthering our goal to secure pediatric rehabilitation in the South Okanagan. Thank you to South Okanagan Perio and all the dental offices that participated.



## WILDSTONE'S COLOURS 4 KIDS RUN

**Wildstone Construction Group** held the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Wildstone's Colours4Kids Run in June 2024. This event is a fun-filled, family centred event that supports the sustainability and security of pediatric rehabilitation programs at OSNS. **With support from sponsors, event attendees, and a generous match from Wildstone Construction, \$30,500 was raised.**

**Wildstone**  
CONSTRUCTION GROUP



## DOANE GRANT THORNTON FOUNDATION

The **Doane Grant Thornton Foundation** provided a generous donation of \$3,500 to the OSNS Legacy Foundation in October 2024.

Along with their donation, they contributed volunteer hours to help with Fall clean up around the OSNS facility.



 **Doane  
Grant Thornton**



# CORPORATE & COMMUNITY

## MARCH MATCH CAMPAIGN



This March, support kids like Rockford and have your donation doubled



*led by*



**C.J. GREIG & ASSOCIATES LTD.**

GEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

For the second year in a row we held a matching campaign throughout the month of March. The 2024 campaign was led by **C.J. Greig & Associates**, who matched donations up to **\$25,000**.

Throughout the month we highlighted the story of Rockford Cogill, a young boy who attends the Autism Intervention Program at OSNS. Thanks to the generosity of our community and our matching donor, over **\$58,000 was raised to support the OSNS Legacy Foundation**.



## FOOLISH PAIRINGS FUNDRAISING EVENT



Hosted by Juliana Buitenhuis, Gillian Cogill and Foolish Wine, **Foolish Pairings** was an afternoon of unconventional wine and snack pairings with a silent auction, with all proceeds supporting the March Match Fundraising Campaign. Funds raised were matched by C.J. Greig & Associates. With the match amount, \$15,000 was raised at this successful event.

**Foolish** WINE **PAIRINGS**



**Sunday, March 10th, 3-6 PM**  
**\$50 (includes wine + snacks)**  
**Okanagan College,**  
**Penticton Campus**

OSNS   
 unconventional pairings raising funds for Child & Youth Development Centre

# CORPORATE & COMMUNITY

## LEAVE A LEGACY MONTH OUTREACH

May is Leave a Legacy Month in Canada, a time to highlight the importance of leaving a gift in your will to a cause that's important to you.

From outreach done in 2024, we were notified of two additional bequest gifts that have been made to OSNS & the OSNS Legacy Foundation.

SOCIAL MEDIA

DONOR LETTER

E-NEWSLETTER



May is Leave a Legacy Month



HELP KIDS LIKE SAM & SOPHIE



A connection spanning over 30 years...

OSNS continues to make an impact on Scott and Susy Austin and their family. Their son Sam was born in 1993 at 29 weeks at BC Children's Hospital. He weighed 2 pounds 12 ounces. Sam had a brain bleed, and they were told he might have cerebral palsy. He had no heartbeat, so they didn't know how oxygen deprived he was. Scott and Susy spent 8 weeks at Children's Hospital and during that time they were prepared by the doctors for every eventuality. When Sam was stable and they finally were able to go home, they were referred to OSNS. A therapist began seeing Sam every month to work on Sam's developmental progress. Scott and Susy still remember Sam on the floor with the therapist working on different skills.

At end of that first year, they were told that Sam was progressing well and catching up on his fine motor and gross motor skills. Sam is now 30 years old, six feet tall and works in the wine industry in the Okanagan.



Susy, Sam & Scott



Fast forward to four years ago in 2020...

When Scott and Susy were expecting their first grandchild, Sophie was born on June 23rd with lung issues and spent six weeks at the NICU in Kelowna. They later found out that Sophie has a genetic deletion, a very rare condition with no real definitive answer to what a child's future with this condition will look like.

Just like that, Scott and Susy were thrust back to 1993, thinking, "this can't be happening again". They were able to draw upon their experience with Sam to help their daughter and son-in-law during this challenging time.



Your legacy can change a child's life.

May is Leave a Legacy Month in Canada, a time to highlight the importance of leaving a gift in your will to a cause that is important to you.



Dear OSNS,

It is through the dedication of individuals like you that we have been able to make a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of the children and youth we serve. Your contributions have been instrumental in allowing us to continue providing enhanced pediatric rehabilitation care to children and families throughout the South Okanagan Similkameen.

As we look towards the future, we do so with optimism and a deep sense of responsibility. We believe in leaving a legacy that transcends generations, ensuring the services and programs you have supported continue to thrive for years to come.

Having the OSNS Legacy Foundation in place since 2021 has made it possible for OSNS to accept a number of new gift types, broadening giving opportunities for our community. The Foundation's mandate is to provide financial stability to the OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre, and with the consideration of a planned gift, you will be contributing to this mandate, helping to ensure the sustainability of the OSNS mission beyond your lifetime.

**Included in the donor letter was the story of Sam & Sophie - two generations from the same family who have been supported by OSNS. Their story is a powerful reminder of how early intervention and continued care can shape lives across generations.**



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ARE FOCUSED ON INCREASED ENGAGEMENT WITH BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY. WE SEEK TO ENGAGE OUR NETWORK IN THE WORK DONE AT OSNS, THE IMPACT THE CENTRE HAS ON FAMILIES IN THIS REGION, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SECURING THESE PEDIATRIC TREATMENT SERVICES INTO THE FUTURE.

1

## OSNS & FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP

We will work closely with the OSNS Executive Director and Finance team to understand the financial needs of the Centre, ensuring the OSNS Legacy Foundation can provide financial support when needed.

2

## CORPORATE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We will continue to have meaningful conversations and hold tours of OSNS with businesses and individuals - both of which will allow us to share the increased need for support of OSNS. We will work closely with those who are interested in supporting the OSNS Legacy Foundation by finding a giving strategy that aligns with their goals.

3

## PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR ENGAGEMENT

We will connect with Professional Advisors in our community, individually and through professional advisor events, to share the mission of the OSNS Legacy Foundation and educate them on charitable giving tax strategies for their client base.

4

## COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING

Community fundraising initiatives will be developed to engage members of our community in the work of the OSNS Legacy Foundation, such as the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign and the March Match Fundraising Campaign.

5

## LEGACY FOUNDATION EVENT

A public fundraising event will be held to raise awareness and funds for the OSNS Legacy Foundation.

6

## STORY TELLING AND BRANDING

Collaborating on branding and marketing, we will continue to work on the joint messaging of OSNS and the OSNS Legacy Foundation to ensure our community understands the need for both of these resources within the community - immediate services versus securing services.

# ABOUT OSNS

**OSNS ENVISIONS COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES WHERE EVERY CHILD AND YOUTH GETS WHAT THEY NEED TO THRIVE**



Since 1978, the OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre has been dedicated to helping children and youth with developmental support needs. Their team of specialists offers a comprehensive range of services, including:

- physiotherapy
- occupational therapy
- speech therapy
- behaviour support
- family support
- autism intervention
- inclusive preschool & childcare

## AREAS SERVICED BY OSNS



Penticton	OK Falls	Osoyoos
Summerland	Naramata	Princeton
Cawston	Kaleden	Hedley
Oliver	Keremeos	Coalmont



**55**  
team employees



**15,907**  
square footage  
of space



**4 million**  
dollar budget





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# OSNS PROGRAMS & SERVICES

INTERVENTION AT OSNS IS EVIDENCED-BASED, DATA-DRIVEN AND SHARPLY FOCUSED ON QUALITY CARE. THE TEAM STRIVES TO TALK ABOUT WHAT MATTERS TO FAMILIES AND TO BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR CONSISTENT PROGRESS. AS A MULTIDISCIPLINARY ORGANIZATION, OSNS PROVIDES INTEGRATED PEDIATRIC AND EARLY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING.

## EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Speech-Language Pathology, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy for children ages birth until school entry. Treatment sessions can be Centre based, home/community based, group or individual.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Inclusive Kinderplace Preschool & Daycare programs. The specialized ECE staff team teach pro-social skills and kindness through strengths-based programming and collaborative, family-centred care.

## AUTISM INTERVENTION

A skill-building program for children aged 2-12 with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder. The autism program addresses social skills and communication, play, fine and gross motor skills, self-help skills and emotional regulation.



## ASSESSMENT SERVICES

Early years multidisciplinary assessments monitor for at-risk markers and coordination of autism assessments for children under 6.

## FAMILY SUPPORT - SOCIAL WORK

Available to all families referred to OSNS. This includes intake meetings and navigation of the Centre and community resources, as well as ongoing support with the process of understanding services, diagnoses and advocacy.

*"Our son has received Occupational and Physiotherapy at OSNS. He sees his clinician in regular blocks. Since starting at OSNS he is now able to pick up a pen/felt/crayon and can colour a picture, although sometimes on the wall, but before he would avoid it at all costs. His speech has blossomed as has his personality. We are so indebted to OSNS and all the wonderful people that work with him."*

-Kristie

# CREATING A LEGACY

BY INCLUDING THE OSNS LEGACY FOUNDATION IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS, YOU CAN ENSURE THAT YOUR VALUES AND COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL CHALLENGES AND THEIR FAMILIES CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

Some planned giving options to consider:

1. **Bequests:** Designate the OSNS Legacy Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, which allows you to allocate a specific amount or percentage of your estate to support our mission.
2. **Life Insurance Policies:** Name the OSNS Legacy Foundation as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, turning a modest investment into a significant gift.
3. **RRSP, RRIF & TFSA:** Name the OSNS as a beneficiary of your RRSP, RRIF or TFSA.
4. **Gift of securities:** Donate shares, bonds or mutual funds

We understand that estate planning is a personal decision, and we want to assure you that any commitment you make will be handled with care and respect. We would be happy to work with you to explore the various planned giving options available and tailor a solution that aligns with your philanthropic goals.

We recommend discussing your planned giving options with your financial or legal advisor to determine which approach best suits your unique situation.



Scan for more information including sample phrases for your will, our legal name and charity number

“

*I included the OSNS Legacy Foundation in my will because I want to make sure this excellent organization continues no matter what. I feel strongly that if children with developmental challenges build skills and have successes, they will build their confidence as young individuals, who will then turn into amazing adults with leadership skills who will in turn give back to our community. These children are our future and we as a community need to make sure OSNS always has the funds to do what they do so well.*

**-Sharon Romank, OSNS Legacy Foundation bequest donor**

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GET IN TOUCH WITH  
US TO LEARN MORE



megan.windeler@osns.org



250-492-0295



# OUR SINCERE THANKS

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE  
OSNS LEGACY FOUNDATION.  
TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE  
TO THE STABILITY OF PEDIATRIC REHABILITATION IN THE  
SOUTH OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN.**



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In support of

