



OTTAWA
NETWORK FOR
EDUCATION

RÉSEAU
D'OTTAWA POUR
L'ÉDUCATION

GRATITUDE REPORT 2023-2024



Mission: Inspire and support every child's learning journey in reaching their full potential by connecting community resources to help K-12 students succeed.

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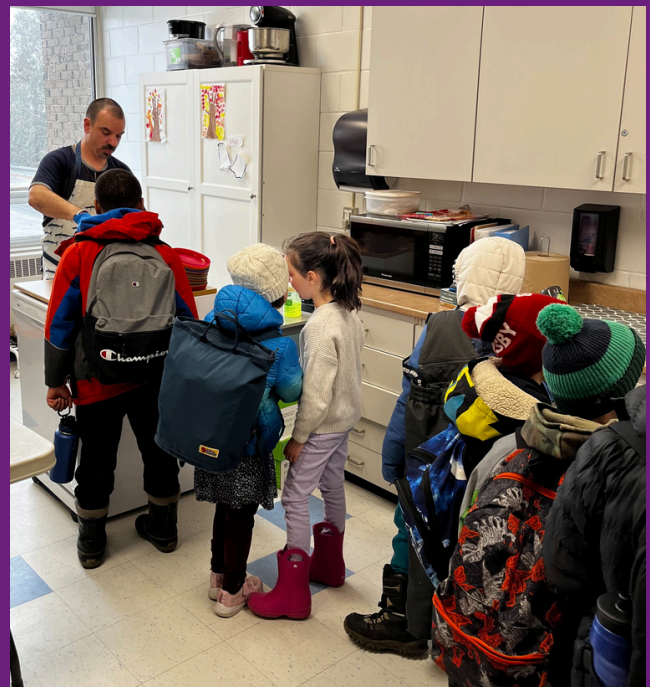
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**VOLUNTEER
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO



**HEATHER
NORRIS**
President & CEO

For nearly four decades, the Ottawa Network for Education (ONFE) has designed and delivered programs that support students on their learning journey. Our initiatives span learning, health and well-being, and career readiness, making ONFE a vital force for change in the lives of the children and youth in our community. This past year was no exception, marked by innovation, growth and advocacy.

Highlights from the past year include

- Partnering with The Coalition for Healthy School Food to advocate for a National School Food Program.
- Piloting a revolutionary smart indoor garden at a local high school as part of our Classroom Gardens program.
- Hosting our first province-wide French virtual World of Choices event in collaboration with our JA partners across Ontario.
- Celebrating the 30th anniversary of our Volunteers in Education (VIE) program.
- Marking 20 years of partnership with Borden Ladner Gervais LLP in the OttawaReads program.

Detailed information about these exciting initiatives and more can be found in this Gratitude Report. As we look to the future, we are strategic planning for continued success and growth and are preparing to celebrate ONFE's 40th anniversary, with more details to be announced in early 2025.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the Ottawa Network for Education. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of Ottawa's students, ensuring they have the tools and opportunities they need to thrive.

Heather Norris



COMMUNITY IMPACT

VISION

The Ottawa Network for Education (ONFE) is a charitable organization that collaborates with partners from education, business, government, and the community to develop enriching programs for K-12 students. Working with the four public school boards, ONFE supports children and youth in English and French. We fuel kids and ignite learning, making sure all children in Ottawa have an equal start every day. No other community organization has the same reach and ability to respond and deliver much-needed programs to schools across the region.

44,757

Students supported in

280

schools, reaching

78%

of Ottawa Schools



SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM



"Inflation particularly of fresh fruit and vegetables has hit all of us hard this year, particularly our vulnerable families. Can not think of one instance where we had any fruit go bad because it was not eaten. Ensuring our students had healthy snacks was invaluable." -OCDSB School



22,800+
Breakfast and snacks
served every school day in



204
Ottawa Schools



ADVOCACY FOR A NATIONAL SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM

This past year we partnered with The Coalition for Healthy School Food - the largest school food network in Canada to support advocacy efforts for a National School Food Program. The premise is that all children should have access to healthy food at school and we wanted the Federal Government to fulfill their 2019 election promise to initiate a National School Food Program. While we don't yet have the details about what the National School Food Program will look like and mean locally, we look forward to working with all levels of government as well as our education and community partners to support implementing the program in Ottawa schools.



CLASSROOM GARDENS

"Seeing the kids engaged in growing their own food and trying new lettuces and herbs For the first time. It was so much fun to make salad and homemade dressing and eat together!" - Ottawa Catholic School Board School



3760
students in



103
Ottawa schools

TEST PILOTING NEW GARDENING TECHNOLOGY



This past school year, our Classroom Gardens Program piloted a new revolutionary smart indoor garden at a local High School. Picture this, the world's first smart indoor garden using fogponics to grow plants. The technology was developed by NASA to grow plants in space, and now students have a unique opportunity to engage with cutting-edge agricultural technology, paving the way for a greener, edible, sustainable future.



JA OTTAWA



8869
students in



108
Ottawa schools

VIRTUAL JA WORLD OF CHOICES

JA Ottawa is teaching more students financial literacy, entrepreneurship and career readiness skills than ever before. In the spring, we hosted our first province-wide French virtual World of Choices with our JA partners across Ontario for grades 5-8 that was attended by close to 3000 students. And JA Company students were featured at the 2024 Spark Soirée where they were able to engage and showcase their businesses to over 200 guests, including City Councillor Cathy Curry and former Mayor Jim Watson.

"...I'll always be grateful...for believing in me and my skills, as well as taking me so seriously even though I was 16 years old. Professional confidence was my biggest take away from JA."
_ JA Company Alum



VOLUNTEERS IN EDUCATION



8247
students in



105
Ottawa schools

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VIE

This year we celebrated the 30th anniversary of our Volunteers in Education (VIE) program, a beacon of support for teachers and students. As a result of COVID, we launched a virtual after-school tutoring program that continues to gain momentum. Virtual tutors play a vital role in extending the reach of educational support beyond the traditional classroom, meeting the diverse needs of students in a digitally connected world.



OTTAWAREADS

225

students in

3

Ottawa schools



20 YEARS WITH BLG

OttawaReads celebrated a big milestone this past year, as Borden Ladner Gervais LLP celebrated 20 years as a OttawaReads partner at Queen Elizabeth Public School, helping students in kindergarten through grade three learn through the magic of reading.



STEP FOR YOUTH IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY COALITION



856
students in



48
Ottawa high
schools

SUPPORTING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

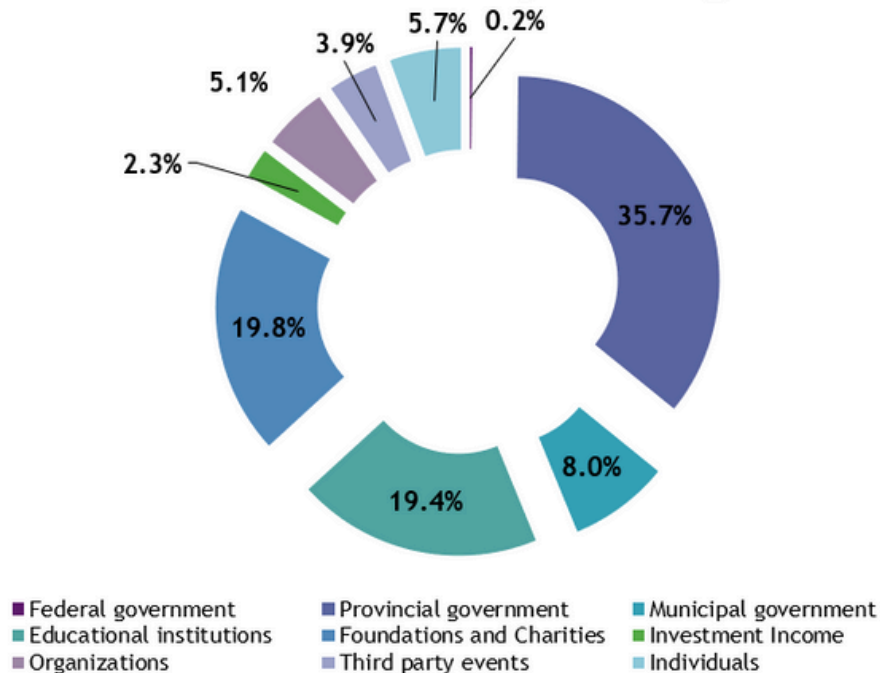
As coordinators of the STEP for youth in schools community coalition, this past year, ONFE collaborated with 30 committed community partners ensuring access to counsellors in 48 high schools supporting problematic substance and technology use. Substance use, mental health and technology use are among the top issues impacting our youth.



2023-24 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

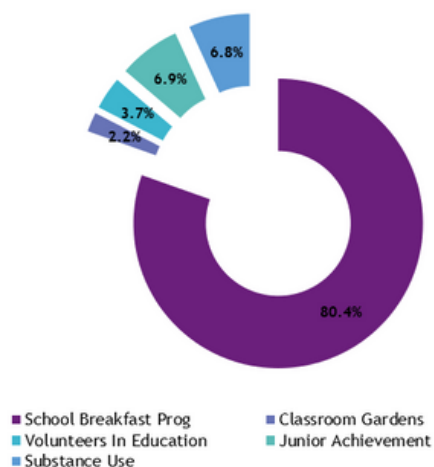
All funds we receive from our generous community, partners and donors are accounted for and put towards furthering our mission to help Ottawa's children and youth succeed.

REVENUE BY FUNDING

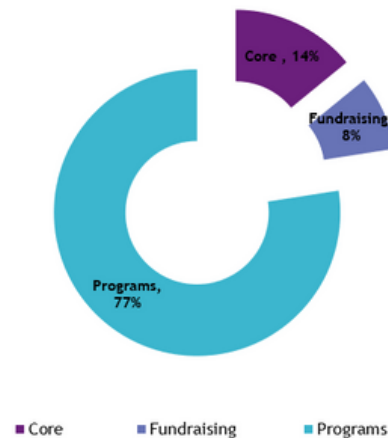


Total Revenue: **\$5,007,679**

EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



OPERATING EXPENSES



Total Expenses: **\$5,132,867**

[VIEW OUR DETAILED 2023-24 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.](#)



THANK YOU



AMY HUYNH
Volunteer, JA Ottawa

VOLUNTEERS

Many of our programs would not be able to run without incredible community members who generously volunteer their time. Your dedication and hard work make a profound impact on the lives of educators, students and families. Whether you're supporting the School Breakfast Program, OttawaReads, Volunteers In Education or JA Ottawa, your contributions are invaluable. Your commitment helps foster educational growth and helps ensure that every Ottawa student has the opportunity to succeed. Thank you for your unwavering support, passion, and the positive difference you make every school day.

DONORS

The financial contributions of our individual, legacy, corporate, government, and foundation donors are a driving force behind our mission to inspire and support every child's learning journey, ensuring they reach their full potential by connecting community resources to help K-12 students succeed. Your generosity has empowered us to expand our reach, innovate our programs, and provide students with the essential tools they need to thrive. Thank you for believing in our mission and making a lasting impact. We look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead and the continued partnerships that will help shape the future of student success in Ottawa.

DINE & DONATE PARTNERS

This year was the first full year of our Dine & Donate program, and we cannot thank our participating restaurants enough for donating a portion of the proceeds from select menu items to our School Breakfast Program. Your contributions have made a profound impact, helping to fuel kids every school day. We eagerly anticipate expanding this program and collaborating with more local restaurants in the future. If you're interested in becoming a Dine & Donate restaurant, please reach out to Mitch Miller, Director of Advancement at mmiller@onfe-rope.ca.



THANK YOU

EDUCATION PARTNERS



PARTNERS IN EXCELLENCE (\$20,000 AND UP)



THANK YOU

PARTNERS IN SUCCESS (\$5,000 TO \$19,999)



PARTNERS IN SUCCESS (\$500 TO \$4,999)

Accenture
Advocis
Amazon
AMEX
Arbor Memorial Foundation
Avanade
Banque Nationale du Canada / National Bank
Business Sherpa Group
Dairy Farmers of Ontario
Duffey Financial Solutions Inc.
Egg Farmers
Excellence in Literacy Foundation

Fairstone
Fieldless Farms
Giftfunds Canada
Grand Pizzeria and Bar
G. Edward and Mary-Anne Reed Fund – OCF
Kanata Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastics Club (KRSG)
Kanata United Church
KPMG
Mrs. Janet and T. L. Roy Fund – OCF
New Edinburgh Cricket Club
Ottawa Carleton Elementary Occasional Teachers Association (OCEOTA)

Scotiabank
Rotary Club of West Ottawa
Starling Restaurant
Telfer Executive MBA
TCC Canada
The Bloodroot Fund
Toronto Foundation for Student Success
Welch LLP

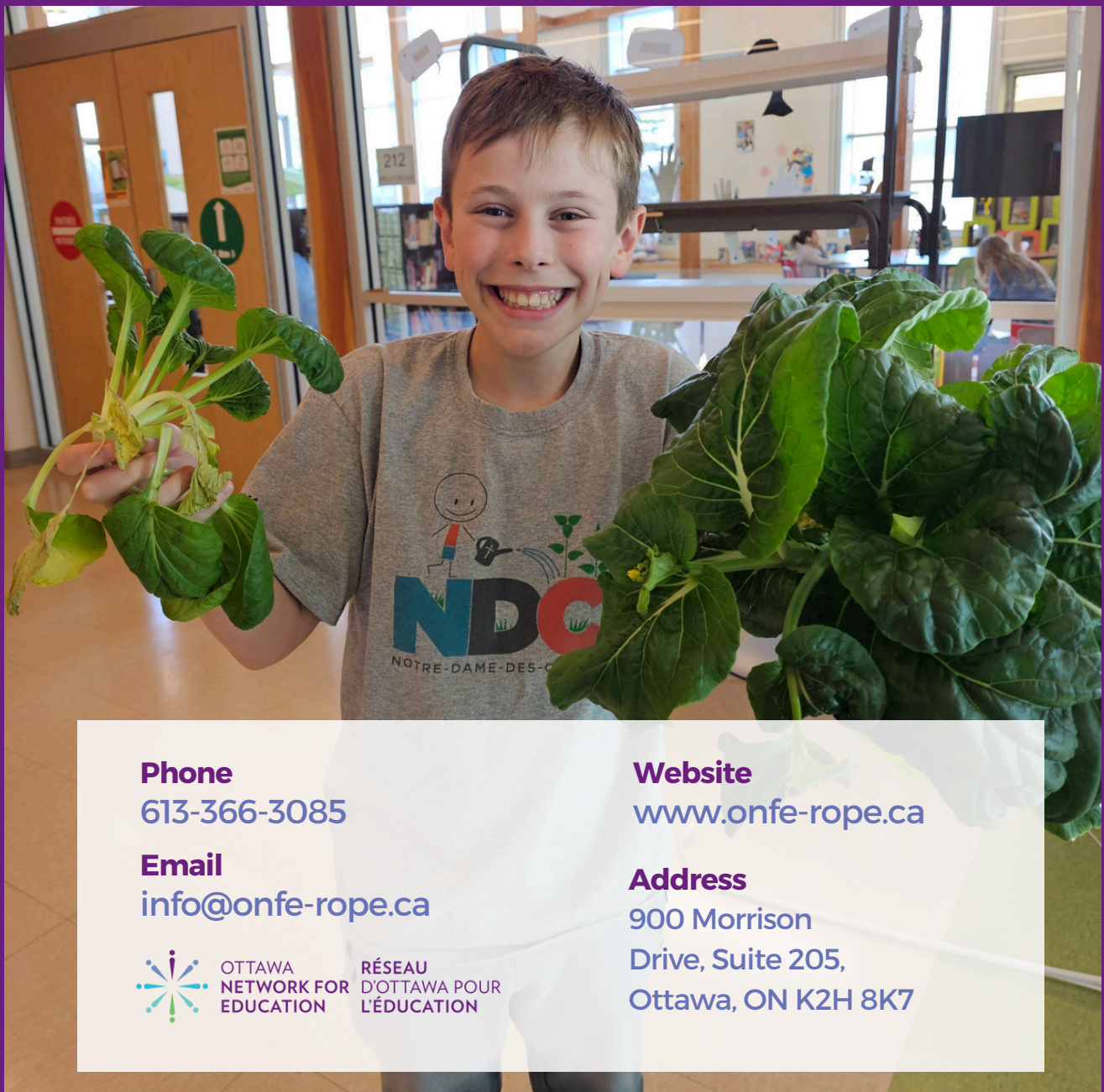
CONTACT US

Thank you for helping ONFE fuel kids and ignite learning every school day.

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[VOLUNTEER](#)

[PARTNER](#)



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