THE NATURE OF HOPE.

2019 Impact Report
Because of you!

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, FORTWHYTE ALIVE CONTINUES TO BE A BEACON OF HOPE FOSTERING A DEEPER CONNECTION BETWEEN PEOPLE AND NATURE.

Time in nature grounds us and gives us hope. Thinking about the future in today’s world can be overwhelming. Now more than ever, we know that spending time outside is crucial for our health and the health of our communities.

Because of you, more people are finding hope and peace in time spent outside at FortWhyte Alive. In 2019, inner-city youth found safety in nature and in their
communities through our trailblazing Strong Roots program. Children built resilience through outdoor, four-season play and learning at FWA’s Forest School. And, passionate volunteers gave their time to help connect more visitors with new nature-based hobbies.

Thanks to your support as a donor, volunteer, member or partner, you have made it possible for more visitors to get up close with nature in many different ways. Offering formative experiences in nature to kids of all ages offers countless mental and physical health benefits. Connecting with the natural world, be it a walk through the trees, learning to grow food, or listening to the sounds of wildlife, eases anxiety and depression and fosters a sense of well-being.

Your generosity makes FortWhyte a place of comfort and connection for so many. Your generosity makes a more hopeful future possible.

Thank you!

With gratitude,

LIZ WILSON
PRESIDENT & CEO
Strong roots for youth and community.

BECAUSE OF YOU, INNER-CITY YOUTH HAVE THE CHANCE TO EXPLORE AND PLAY IN A SAFE AND PEACEFUL OUTDOOR SPACE AT FORTWHYTE ALIVE.

The act of connecting with nature yields many benefits. It’s an opportunity to establish connections, gain new perspectives, and simply play.

The Strong Roots program brought a group of inner-city youth from Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata to FortWhyte Alive for facilitated outdoor experiences. Youth tried their hands, mostly for the first time, at nature-based activities like canoeing, wilderness survival, and campfire cooking while building a positive connection with volunteer mentors from Winnipeg’s civic unions.

Your investment is building a future where more youth feel safe and comfortable outside exploring a connection with nature that will last a lifetime.

Special thanks to our partners in Amalgamated Transit Union 1505 (ATU 1505), United Fire Fighters of Winnipeg (UFFW), and the Winnipeg Police Association (WPA), and to the Bear Clan Patrol.
“The opportunity for youth to have meaningful experiences outdoors is just so important, and not always accessible.”

KYLE MUSWAGON
Program Coordinator, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata

(L-R) Jayna, Tempest, and Teanna taking in summer at FortWhyte Alive.
Photo Credit: Danielle Da Silva
“Play based learning is the most powerful source of education in early years and beyond. I wish everyone had access to this experience for their child.”

DANA BAXTER
Forest School parent
107 preschoolers experienced outdoor learning through three seasons. Each Forest School student spent approximately **66 hours outside** per session.
489 volunteers found meaning and discovered new passions, contributing 22,321 volunteer hours - a value of over $260,000!

Thank you!

Connecting with nature is an important step to finding a sense of place and hope in the world. Because of your contributions, people from all walks of life experience outdoor recreation opportunities.

Many of our best educators are part of our team of over 480 volunteers who are endlessly dedicated to our mission, passionate about nature and generous with their time.

Anne McKeans and Blair Reid felt that FortWhyte Alive was the right place to put their passion for birding into action.

Each spring and fall, Blair shares his knowledge leading Birding and Breakfast programs, while Anne’s role at the Info Desk often makes her the face of FortWhyte Alive.

Together, they deepened their impact by working with other volunteers to make our windows more bird-safe. From initial concept to installation, this innovative project is completely volunteer-led and integral to “walking the walk” of environmental protection.

Birds of a feather flock together.

A RENEWED INTEREST IN BIRDING POINTS TO AN INNATE DESIRE TO EXPERIENCE NATURE.
“For us, most importantly, volunteering provides us with the feeling that we are still contributing to the world.”

ANNE MCKEAN AND BLAIR REID
Volunteers since 2014

(L-R) Blair and Anne walking FortWhyte Alive’s winter trails.
“Whether you are a donor, member, volunteer or corporate supporter, you are the reason FortWhyte Alive has the deep impact in Winnipeg’s community that it has.”

LIZ PRALL
Chair, Board of Trustees
Planting the Seeds for a Sustainable Future.
YOU CREATE THE FERTILE SOIL THAT SUSTAINS FORTWHYTE ALIVE.

Through your support, FortWhyte Farms partners with high schools and community organizations to bring youth into nature to learn about food and wellness while gaining employment and leadership skills.

And it’s the stable support of monthly donors, like Pam and Kathy, that make this work possible and sustain FortWhyte’s environmental education programming.

Pam and Kathy have a life-long relationship with FortWhyte. Pam first visited over 30 years ago as a grad student in natural resources management; and Kathy began visiting 25 years ago as a mental health counselor for teens, where visits to FortWhyte served as nature therapy.

They share a mutual love of FortWhyte Alive and engage in every way: as members, volunteers, snowshoers, donors, and CSA farm shareholders.

“We became monthly donors for convenience, plus we know it helps FWA plan. We’re committed to this place.”

PAM HOMENICK AND KATHY CARLSON
Monthly donors since 2019
FortWhyte Alive acknowledges our place on Treaty 1 Territory, the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation.