



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**
OF CAPE BRETON

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024

Vision Statement

To significantly contribute to the healthy development of youth in our community.

Mission Statement

We are committed to the healthy development of children through professionally designed mentoring programs.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 18, 2024

I just want to start off by thanking everyone for making it to this year's Annual General Meeting. We've had a very unique-but fortunate-year, and I'd like to thank you all for the time and effort you put into everything we did, from selling tickets, volunteering your time at events like Bowl for Kid's Sake, to bringing fresh ideas and perspectives in each board meeting, or even just doing odd jobs that the agency needs done! Everyone continues to step up when they're needed and I believe we have a strong board here going forward.

Looking back on the past year, we were very fortunate to have received a large donation as a result of a class action lawsuit, and we were awarded a large one-time grant from the province giving us a huge leg up going into the next year. On top of that, we had another successful year of building back up the Bowl for Kid's Sake event, as well as our other ticket sales and auctions in between.

As we move into the next year, we can start planning the best ways to efficiently use the nice windfall we've gotten...starting with hiring a full-time caseworker. This act alone will hopefully have a big impact, freeing up a lot of Francine's time to be able to focus more on other areas of the agency and along with the help of the board, allow us to hopefully find more ways to secure funding going forward. But just because we had a good past year doesn't mean we can let up fundraising-we really need to use this time wisely to plan on new ways to keep the agency funded in the years to come.

Again, I'd like to thank everyone for all their time and effort this year and beyond to keep the doors open to keep making a difference in kids' lives.

Matthew Bennett

President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

June 18, 2024

I would like to begin with a quote from a man who understood the importance of children and dreams, Walt Disney once stated, "All our dreams can come true-if we have the courage to pursue them."

2023-2024 has proven to be a year that dreams do come true. The donation we received of nearly \$50,000.00 was a wonderful surprise. This money gave us financial relief, it allowed us to have a back up reserve in case one of our fundraising events came in short due to the economy.

Then we were shocked, overwhelmed and thrilled to be the recipient of a one time grant from the provincial government for \$250,000.00. The impossible became possible...we could look at technology upgrades, building repairs, an aggressive PR/Recruitment plan for the Fall and most important... the ability to hire a full time caseworker.

I am a firm believer that if you can imagine an aspiration, you can create it. The "it" that we have created is a strong sense of pride in what we are doing to help the many children of Cape Breton. The amount of funding received this year will make a difference in so many children's lives. The goal is to triple our caseload by this time next year.

The sense of pride we have in this agency will allow us to offer hope, accomplishment and community recognition in the hard work we do as board, staff and volunteers.

I have found working in the non-profit sector for 36 years has taught me to be innovative. One must first have a thought, then structure the thought into a plan, then turn the plan to reality...but to get there you must be creative... be childlike and soar on wings of imagination....we have the ability and funding to do more of this this year.

Sometimes, if we look at ourselves as a candle, we can then appreciate that we lose nothing by lighting another candle...but only increase the brilliance of the light. Our children are the additional candles which we can assist, by helping to light their path to future successes. This allows us the ability to create tomorrow's citizens of our community...let's do something great!!!!

What does the future hold...lots of rewarding hard work. We will still need to look at fundraising and new fundraisers so that we do not rely on just that donation and grant. I guarantee we will be frustrated during the next year, let us remember how far we have already come, and smile at all we have accomplished and all that is yet to be.

I wish all of you a wonderful summer. I look forward to all of us coming back rested and relaxed for a busy year of helping kids.

Thank you.

Francine Hall, BA BSW
Executive Director

Handwritten mark: a cross-like symbol.



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STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES FOR

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cape Breton

(society name)

for the fiscal period ending

2024-03-31

(yyyy/mm/dd)

	20 24
Income	
Membership fees	0
Fund raising	70,620
Other revenue	270,477
Other revenue	40,217
A. Total Income	381,315
Expenditures	
Administration	11,649
Education and training	0
Insurance	14,665
Professional fees	4,456
Salaries	97,892
Other expenditures	3,811
Other expenditures	
B. Total Expenditures	132,473
C. Net Surplus or (Deficit) (A - B = C)	248,842
D. Surplus or (Deficit), beginning of year	51,332
E. Surplus or (Deficit), end of year (C + D = E)	300,174

Auditor or Director:

Matthew Bennett
(signature)

Director:

Charles About
(signature)

Matthew Bennett
(name)

CHARLES ABOUT
(name)



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BALANCE SHEET FOR

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cape Breton

(society name)

for the fiscal period ending 2024-03-31
(yyyy/mm/dd)

2024

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and deposits
Accounts receivable
Prepaid expenses

300,174

Capital/Fixed Assets

Equipment
Land and buildings
Other capital/fixed Assets

300,174

A. Total Assets

Liabilities

Current liabilities

Amounts payable
Taxes payable

0

Long Term Debt

Mortgage
Other

0

B. Total Liabilities

Equity

Retained earnings/deficit
General reserve

0

300,174

300,174

C. Total Equity

Total Liabilities and Equity (A must equal B + C)

300,174

300,174

Auditor or
Director:

MB
(signature)

Director:

Charles About
(signature)

Matthew Bennett
(name)

CHARLES ABOUT
(name)