

kids first

Working with others
to keep kids' programs
and services front
of the line

Annual Report 2003

www.investinginchildren.on.ca


Investing
in Children
*Their future is in our hands.
Our future is in theirs.*

Our Vision

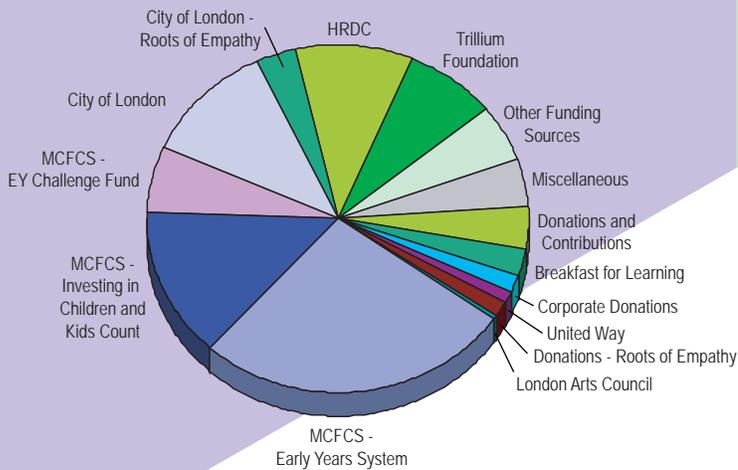
Investing in Children will be an impassioned and trusted leader, making London the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Our Mission

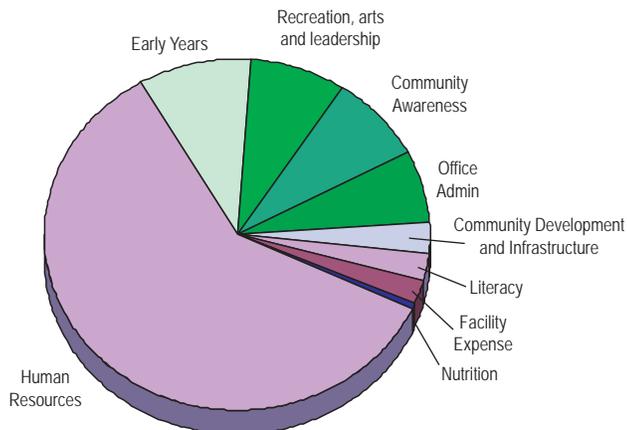
Investing in Children is a diverse group of community leaders who are passionately committed to improving the lives of children and families by:

- ✎ increasing community focus on children
- ✎ facilitating collaborative initiatives and
- ✎ stimulating new opportunities

Revenues



Expenses



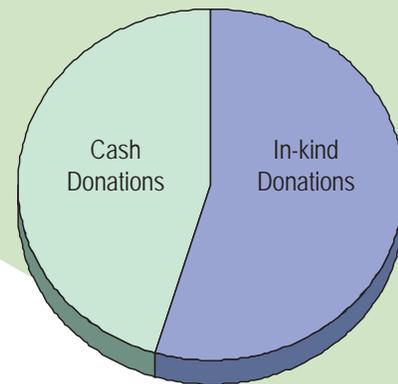
A message from the Executive Director

It may seem hard to believe, but we've now completed our fourth full year operating as Investing in Children. With a strengthened management structure, a clear vision, ever increasing support from community organizations and individuals, and a set of exemplary projects in hand, we will continue our commitment to work with you to put Kids First.

Special thanks to our Board and their generous contribution of skills and ideas, to the staff for their passion, dedication, creativity and exceptional capacity for multi-tasking, and especially to our community colleagues and supporters who always remind us why we are undertaking the work we do. Together we can make a difference for our children and their families in London.

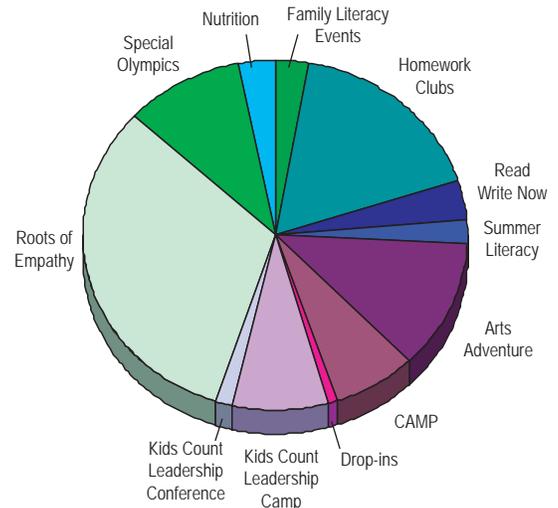
Jan Lubell
Executive Director

Cash vs. In-kind Donations



For every dollar we receive we leverage at least one additional dollar of in-kind support.

Program Expenses





Investing in Children's 2002-2003 Accomplishments

Promoting partnerships and strategic alliances



- ▶ Special Olympics for 750 developmentally disabled athletes with peer mentors
- ▶ Kids Count Camp with 500 children
- ▶ Kids Count Conference with 175 children
- ▶ Homework clubs in fourteen neighbourhoods
- ▶ Arts Adventure project in four neighbourhoods
- ▶ Family Literacy events in several neighbourhoods
- ▶ Youth Drop-in Centres in three neighbourhoods
- ▶ Summer Neighbourhood Literacy Program, "Books Can Take You Anywhere," in six locations
- ▶ Lead role for Children's Nutrition Network and Breakfast for Learning Month and for distribution of school breakfast and snack programs
- ▶ Community Mapping Project

Facilitating innovative community projects



- ▶ Circus Arts Mentoring Partnership
- ▶ Children's Art Wall at Forks of the Thames
- ▶ Development of EYLearningzone.ca, Early Years
- ▶ Web-based learning, workbooks and workshops for organization development (Provincial Challenge Fund)
- ▶ Esso Family Math Partnership, co-host "Math Magic" tent at the London International Children's Festival
- ▶ Annual Special Friends of Children Awards, including five It Starts with Kids business awards
 - ▶ Lead role for development of FamilyInfo.ca
 - ▶ Agency of Promise for Ontario's Promise and lead role for southwest region community awareness and workshops

Encouraging Community Awareness

Development of community information materials

- ▶ Community report card published in the London Free Press in 2000 and 2002
- ▶ Snapshot of London's Children and Youth, published in the London Free Press, 2002
- ▶ Monthly calendar of low-cost/no-cost activities for children, published in the London Free Press.
- ▶ Inventory, data base and maps of children's programs (0-6yrs)



Community conferences and major presentations

- ▶ Work-Life Balance conference with keynote speaker Linda Duxbury
- ▶ Fast Forward: The Possibilities for Leadership conference with visionary speakers Mary Gordon (Roots of Empathy) and Rosamund Zander (co-author of "The Art of Possibility")

Early Years system leadership

- ▶ Leadership for Early Years systems planning and development
- ▶ Early Years Demonstration Project (excellent provincial evaluation)
- ▶ Monthly calendar of low-cost/no-cost activities for children, published in the London Free Press
- ▶ Community presentation by Mary Gordon on the Early Years
- ▶ Workshop presentations to local, provincial and national groups

Investing in Children's 2002-2003 Board of Directors and Council of Partners

- ✎ Althouse College, Alan Leschied
- ✎ Community Lawyer, Mandy Heyninck
- ✎ Extended Management Consulting Inc., John Ashby
- ✎ Junior Achievement, Cynthia O'Neill
- ✎ Lerner & Associates, Graham Porter
- ✎ London District Catholic School Board, Terry Grand
- ✎ Madame Vanier, Barrie Evans
- ✎ Middlesex London Health Unit, Diane Bewick
- ✎ Merrymount Children's Centre, Ailene Wittstein
- ✎ RBC Investments, Eric Sorrentino
- ✎ Scholar's Choice Moyer, Cindy Webster
- ✎ Thames Valley District Health Council, Linda Hebel
- ✎ Thames Valley District School Board, Gwen Orr (for Brenda Martin)
- ✎ Westmount Shopping Centre, Piper Badgely
- ▶ Boys' & Girls' Club, Don Donner
- ▶ Childreach, Susan Ryans
- ▶ Children's Aid Society, John Liston
- ▶ Community Member, Glenda Pennington
- ▶ Community Member, Patrick Dunne
- ▶ Community Member, Shanthi Radcliffe
- ▶ Covent Garden Market, Karin Hanwell
- ▶ Elmstate Health Consultants, Nancy Wright

- ▶ Fanshawe College, Michael Goodmurphy
- ▶ Frontier College, Tracy Fawdry
- ▶ Glen Cairn Community Resource Centre, Petra Taylor
- ▶ Investor's Group, Bill Clunas
- ▶ Let's Talk Science, Spencer Seiler
- ▶ London Intercommunity Health Centre, Michelle Hurtubise
- ▶ London Interfaith Counselling Centre, Willy Van Klooster
- ▶ London Police Service, Sergeant Chris McCoy
- ▶ London Public Library, Darrel Skidmore
- ▶ London Transit Commission, Deborah Luty
- ▶ Novack's, Paul Caplan
- ▶ Oscar Taylor's, Perry Jeffery
- ▶ Psychology and Family Medicine, UWO, Graham Reid
- ▶ Sears Canada, Norman Eligh
- ▶ Star 102.3, Andy Ross
- ▶ Thames Valley Children's Centre, John LaPorta
- ▶ The Toy Shoppe of London, Rose and Clyde Walton
- ▶ United Way, Ruth Young
- ▶ University of Western Ontario, Paul Whitehead
- ▶ UWO Preschool, Mary Lou Vernon
- ▶ Women's Community House, Kate Wiggins
- ▶ YMCA / YWCA, Shaun Elliot

✎ Board members

To become a member of Investing in Children's Council of Partners,
as an organization or individual, please contact Jan Lubell.



A Message from the Board

The Board of Directors is extremely proud of the achievements of Investing in Children during this past year. In fact, the greatest challenge to individual Board Members is keeping pace with all of the new initiatives, plans and projects that Jan and the staff champion for our community. We congratulate the staff for their commitment - but more for their enthusiasm and creativity for the successes of this past year.

As a Board, we are very much aware of the challenge in assisting our community in insuring that children and families prosper and grow in healthy ways. We take our stewardship seriously in insuring that the scarce resources that are committed are well placed to provide for the maximum benefit for the greatest number of children. In this endeavour, we share with London's educational and children's services in providing a comprehensive and cooperative system of support. We trust that this cooperative focus on the needs of children will continue to mark the coming year's challenges as well.

Piper Badgely
Co-Chair

Alan Leschied
Co-Chair

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