

# WE'RE HERE TO HELP -

## + What we've funded this year

In 2016, BMO Community Giving donated \$57 Million to non-profit organizations across North America. Here are some examples of our charitable donations in 2016:

**MEMBERTOU SPORT AND WELLNESS CENTRE** - The First Nation community of Membertou in Nova Scotia is part of the larger Mi'kmaw Nation. The community has been pursuing a number of strategic initiatives to improve economic conditions and job prospects for its people. In support of the community, BMO has pledged \$250,000 over five years to help fund the construction of the new Membertou Sport and Wellness Centre near Sydney, Nova Scotia, which is managed in partnership with the YMCA. Dedicated to the promotion of active and healthy lifestyles within the community, the Centre is one of the largest recreational facilities on Cape Breton Island. This advanced facility will offer modern, convenient amenities and first-rate resources, including two ice pads, an indoor walking track and a 3,000-square-foot community fitness centre. The facility also boasts an energy-efficient geothermal ice-making system to service both ice pads, making year-round skating a new possibility for the community. Membertou is the first Aboriginal community in the world to achieve ISO 9001:2008 certification for its quality management system.

**CHILDREN'S AID FOUNDATION (CAF)** - We recently announced a donation of \$600,000 over five years, bringing BMO's total donations to the CAF since 1990 to over \$1.6 million. This latest pledge will support the new BMO Financial Group National Youth Mentorship Program for Youth Leaving Care. After enduring significant disruptions in their lives during critical stages of their early development, many young people involved with the child welfare system are far from prepared to transition into an independent life. Currently being piloted in Toronto, an innovative tri-mentorship model known as CHEERS (Creating Hope and Ensuring Excellent Roads to Success) is intended to connect young people between the ages of 16 and 26 who are transitioning out of the child welfare system with caring adult mentors who have been trained to provide emotional support, guidance and access to supportive resources and services, all of which can help these young people successfully establish stability and independence upon leaving the system.

**CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE (CUL)** - Our donation of US\$100,000 will help build strong, self-sustaining African American communities and provide opportunities with the power to transform people's lives. For a century now, the Chicago Urban League has worked to open the doors of opportunity for African Americans through advocacy, collaboration and innovation. The funds will be used to

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support CUL's Entrepreneurial Center, Housing & Financial Empowerment Center and IMPACT Leadership Development Program.

**EX MACHINA PERFORMANCE SPACE** – BMO is donating \$1 million over eight years for the construction of Le Diamant, a multi-purpose performance space in Québec City that will be the new home of Ex Machina, the theatre company founded and directed by world-renowned playwright, actor and director Robert Lepage. Le Diamant will be a unique and adaptable space with a variable interior geometry, where the layout of the stage, seating and technical equipment can be modified to accommodate different productions, giving the city access to many exceptional local and international performances, including operas, circus shows and world premieres of works by Ex Machina and other national and international companies.

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS (BGC) AND MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY BMO SCHOLARS PROGRAM** – A US\$300,000 donation provides support to the BMO Scholars program, a joint initiative between BGC and Marquette University in Milwaukee. The program works to ensure that students graduate from high school and have the study skills, mentorship and confidence they will need in order to attend and succeed in college. It also provides scholarships, which help students in the program overcome some of the financial barriers to attending Marquette University. Currently, in the 2016- 2017 school year 68 BGC students are on track to graduate from high school and 28 BMO Scholars are attending Marquette University.

**DISASTER RELIEF** – In 2016, BMO joined together with Canada's four other major banks to make a combined donation of \$1 million to the Canadian Red Cross in support of Syrian refugees arriving in Canada, helping with their transition and providing essential services and assistance with basic needs. Following the devastating wildfires in Fort McMurray, Alberta, BMO donated \$100,000 to support Red Cross relief efforts and announced measures to assist customers affected by the fires, which included options for deferring personal loan and mortgage payments. Special accommodations were also provided to BMO commercial customers. BMO later donated an additional \$1.9 million in support of nearby local communities and efforts to address the economic challenges facing Alberta.

### COMMUNITY GIVING BY FOCUS AREA

- Arts & Culture: 22.5%
- Civic & Community Service: 10.7%
- Economic Development & Affordable Housing (US only): 3.7%
- Education: 20.0%
- Health & Human Services (includes Hospitals & Federated Appeals): 38.1%
- Other (includes Matching Gift & Volunteer Grants Programs): 5.2%