



Looking back on the last edition of DMRF's Philanthropist magazine, I am amazed by the immense change our Foundation, and indeed, the world, has experienced since the fall of 2019. 2020 turned the page of an entirely new chapter in a completely different book. Not only did our Foundation welcome new leadership to the helm when I stepped into the role of chief executive officer in late 2019, we also celebrated our most successful funding year yet, paying out over \$5.6 million to outstanding local health research projects.

This success is in no small part thanks to you, our donors.

While we were celebrating these accomplishments, life pivoted and presented us with a drastic and momentum-altering change: the novel coronavirus COVID-19. Three months into the new decade, we all faced a massive cultural and societal shift as a global pandemic saw us fearing for our health and living in a quarantine state.

No one expected this change, including the DMRF team, but we understood that adversity requires us to be flexible and adaptable. Our Foundation therefore packed up our laptops, closed our office doors and set up shop in our separate homes, working together, in virtual collaboration. We knew that now, more than ever, research was vital to the health and wellbeing of the people of the Maritimes and the world. The DMRF team, along with our researchers, utilized our flexibility, knowledge, passion and expertise, creating a new momentum that would ensure our goal to bolster health research was achieved.

We have and will continue to make that goal a reality.



MESSAGE

FROM THE CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I am proud of our team; they continue to work, never missing a day. I am proud of our researchers—they too continue to work against the odds, with many embracing the uncharted territory that is COVID-19 research. I am proud of you too, our donors. You have risen to the occasion, regardless of the impact this pandemic is having on you, and continue to support outstanding local health research projects.

We are grateful.

While COVID-19 research has dominated the conversation for quite some time, we know that other conditions and diseases still desperately need our attention. In fact, while in quarantine, my own mother faced a significant health crisis that left our family reeling. Not only were we struggling to navigate the health care system while in lockdown, we were confronted with the stark reality that all health research is crucial, and that cancer, dementia, cardiology and mental health illnesses—among others—stop for no one, not even during a global pandemic.

I'm sure there is someone in your life who has a similar story to tell.

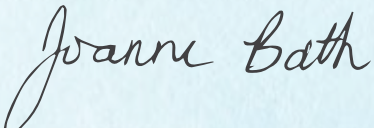
2020 has been a time of significant adaptation and change for each of us. What I think the DMRF team and I have learned most is just how important it is to harness the strength of momentum to accomplish the tasks at hand. Whether it's utilizing the passion and skills of our team, partnering with other health institutions and enterprises to fund many large-scale research projects, finding creative ways to bolster the expertise and knowledge of our researchers or leaning into the generosity and care of our donors, we know that gathering that energy and moving it forward creates a positive and progressive change, one that a pandemic cannot weaken.

This issue explores that energy and the many ways momentum is required to advance health research and philanthropy. Momentum can be defined as the strength or force that allows something to continue or to grow stronger or faster as time passes.

Everyday, we bear witness to the power of momentum to create something bigger and better. 40 years ago, Molly Moore gave \$5 to health research and since that time, her kind gesture has created a momentum that has raised millions of dollars to support local research excellence. Our researchers use knowledge, expertise and collaboration to create a momentum that leads us to better health outcomes. You, our donors, also use your generosity to create a momentum that has seen our Foundation grow substantially over the last 41 years, allowing us to support local health research projects that have the capacity to change the face of health as we know it. Thank you.

We hope you enjoy this special edition of *The Philanthropist*, and we thank you again, for being a part of the DMRF family.

Sincerely,



Joanne Bath
Chief Executive Officer, DMRF