

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

2023-2024



Fondation
Novatio

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Receiving by Way of Giving

Dear readers,

It's truly incredible how a 'free' gift, given without expectation, can snowball and change the world.

Since the release of our annual report last year, I've had the opportunity—or rather the privilege—to witness firsthand the remarkable impact even a modest donation can have in supporting the causes we care about in our Outaouais community. I've personally met several recipients and seen their projects in full swing. Of course, the donation from the Novatio Foundation helped pay for tangible support; but what struck me most was the boost this gift gave to the dedicated volunteers behind these initiatives. I could feel their energy levels rise, I saw their confidence in the success of their projects, and I witnessed their profound gratitude for this helping hand from the Novatio Foundation.

Everywhere I went, smiles were contagious. I soon caught this *infectious joy—the sense of happiness* in the eyes and hearts of the people and organizations we helped. It was then that I was reminded of a life lesson my godmother and grandmother taught me. She always said: “*It is in giving that you receive the most.*” Oh, how right she was. I am proud of what we, along with all the donors and volunteers supporting the Novatio Foundation, have collectively accomplished through these gifts. Not only am I proud, but I am also elated, fulfilled, and eager to do more.

What is my wish for all of us this year? That we give even more, to create a better world in our community, while experiencing the true return of generosity—it is in giving that we receive the most.

Thank you for your gift and for supporting this cause that is so dear to our hearts. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide our path, and may **OUR** Foundation have a long life.

RICHARD ROCHEFORT

THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



For the second year in a row, Novatio has provided financial support to a wide range of projects. The 2023-2024 call for proposals revealed the abundance of initiatives and the significant needs that exist. It also highlighted Novatio's growing presence in the Outaouais region, resulting in an increased number of funding requests. The Foundation received 21 applications, totaling over \$275,000 in requested support. With a project funding budget of \$125,000, the Foundation prioritized the most pressing needs for 2024, placing a strong emphasis on food security while also supporting parish initiatives that align with pastoral priorities for youth and newcomers.

The Board of Directors approved funding for 12 projects in parishes and community organizations, while also maintaining its annual contribution of \$20,000 to the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund through the Archdiocese of Gatineau. This five-year commitment is now in its second year.

This year, as in the past, site visits to recipient parishes and organizations offered a firsthand look at the remarkable efforts of dedicated individuals and volunteers who generously contribute their time and talent.

An Increasing Number of Donors

Given the growing needs, the urgency to recruit new partners and attract donors has intensified. Novatio has already made strides in raising awareness through site visits and regular articles in the diocesan newsletter, engaging individuals interested in supporting the Foundation's mission. The major gifts and planned giving programs also offer a range of options for those wishing to contribute.

The inaugural annual campaign, launched in the fall of 2023 as part of the Archbishop's brunch series under the theme "Your donation today gives new life to the future of our communities," reached over 600 people, despite not meeting its financial goal in this first campaign.

The second annual Archbishop's brunch scheduled for fall 2024 and winter 2025, will continue to raise awareness and directly fund more parish and community initiatives through the Foundation's micro-grant program. The parishes' commitment to hosting the brunches exemplifies their interest in supporting Novatio's initiatives, while also allowing them to carry out projects that are close to their hearts.

Grateful for your belief in Novatio's mission.

RENÉ LAPRISE, D.P.
DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL

HISTORY

The word Novatio,
in latin, means
"renewal".

1

The creation of the Novatio Foundation by the Archbishop of Gatineau, Paul-André Durocher, and a group of volunteers.

2

2017-2018: A pre-campaign study was conducted by team at BNP Philanthropic Performance.

3

2021: After being put on hold, the activities for the launch of the Foundation began, including the development and finalization of its documents, including by-laws, donation policies, etc.

4

2022-2023: A first call for proposals was launched and the first grants were awarded in 2023.

5

2023-2024: The second call for proposals was issued and grants were awarded at the start of 2024.

6

Fundraising activities continue.

MISSION

The Novatio Foundation mobilizes the community so that we may embody our Christian values, do good in the world around us, assist those most in need, and contribute to the blossoming of the kingdom of "justice, peace, and joy" (Romans 14:17).

VISION

A Church that makes a difference in this world. Christian communities that contribute to the fulfillment of all men and women in their communities, and this, for generations to come.

VALUES

The Novatio Foundation, a charitable organization, promotes the following evangelical and ecclesial values in its operations and those of its partners:

Partnership

To value the partnership between men and women, laity and clergy, employees and volunteers in its structure, activities, and projects.

Social solidarity

Reach out to and support the excluded, the poor or the destitute, the elderly, immigrants and youth through a social ministry that aims, among other things, at fighting poverty, respecting human rights and cooperation.

Respect and equity

To value human dignity and promote social justice through individual and collective empowerment.

Care for creation

To commit to respectful care for creation and safeguarding of the environment.

Creativity, innovation, experimentation

Develop the capacity of individuals and groups to imagine and implement new projects.

Transparency and integrity

To ensure accessibility to information and encouraging honest and authentic behavior.

MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

A SYNODAL CHURCH: LISTENING TO GOD AND THE WORLD.



In my September 2023 pastoral letter, shared during the diocesan gatherings presenting the 2023-2025 pastoral priorities, I emphasized that a synodal Church is a Church that listens. For our archdiocese, and for the Catholic Church in Quebec, Canada, and around the world, the future depends on parish communities that listen to the Word of God, to the Spirit, to one another, and to the world in which we live—a world where our Church is called to serve.

Welcoming remains our core value in reaching out to others and opening our hearts to the needs of the world. In this spirit, the Novatio Foundation has a special mission to support projects and initiatives that foster listening and equip parishes and community organizations to face the challenges of our time.

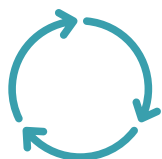
There is always hope for our Church and our world. By truly listening, we will not only hear the cries of our brothers and sisters but also the voices rising to bring them comfort, hope, and joy. Let us each do our part to make our Church truly synodal!

Thank you!

+PAUL-ANDRÉ DUROCHER

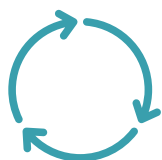
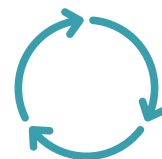
ARCHBISHOP OF GATINEAU

LEARNING TO WALK SIDE BY SIDE



In September 2021, the Archdiocese of Gatineau joined all dioceses in Canada to create the [Indigenous Reconciliation Fund](#) (IRF). The Novatio Foundation supports the Archdiocese of Gatineau, which has already contributed \$40,000 toward its \$100,000 commitment.

To date, the IRF has raised over \$15 million toward a goal of \$30 million and is thus ahead of its five-year fundraising campaign goal. It has approved 166 projects selected in collaboration with partners from First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities across the country. These initiatives aim to: promote community and family healing and reconciliation; revitalize culture and language; enhance education and community empowerment; and foster dialogue to promote Indigenous spirituality and cultures.



In June 2022, the Archdiocese of Gatineau welcomed the Algonquin parish of Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire, which serves the Indigenous population of Kitigan Zibi located near Maniwaki. This addition helps the archdiocese in establishing genuine connections with the local Algonquin community.

In November 2023, the archdiocese formed a Catholic-Indigenous dialogue committee that is chaired by Father Mario Thibault from Gracefield, to deepen mutual understanding and identify ways of benefiting from the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund.



In July 2024, on the occasion of the second anniversary of Pope Francis' pilgrimage to Canada, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) provided updates in a [Letter to the People of God](#) on the measures the Catholic Church in Canada has taken to respond to the Holy Father's calls for a future of justice, healing, and reconciliation. It encourages Catholics across the country to continue listening to and supporting residential school survivors and Indigenous communities on this journey.

PROJECTS FINANCED

AUX GOÛTS DU JOUR (formerly Les œuvres de charité)

On May 31, Deacon René Laprise, the director of the Foundation, met with a team of dedicated volunteers in Gracefield. These volunteers handle the reception, storage, and weekly preparation to fulfill requests for food assistance. During this visit, a grant was given to the team to support their commitment to promoting food security and providing food for those in need in the Gatineau Valley.



From farm to table, on the road to commitment to equity and human dignity — CENTRE DE VALORISATION DES ALIMENTS DE LA VALLÉE-DE-LA-GATINEAU (CVA)



The organization prioritizes food security in the Outaouais region. Working collaboratively with parishes, local organizations, and the Indigenous community, the CVA is actively committed to this cause. On May 31, Mr. Gislain Charette, the Executive Director of the CVA of the Vallée-de-la-Gatineau, warmly welcomed the Foundation to their location in downtown Gracefield, where local products are showcased. During this visit, the Foundation granted funding to support this important project.

SOUPE POPULAIRE DE HULL

The community soup kitchen in Hull is dedicated to welcoming individuals facing financial, social, or personal challenges by providing the support and resources needed to improve their quality of life.

On June 6, Mr. Richard Rochefort, Chair of Novatio's board of directors, met with board members of the Soupe Populaire de Hull and the head chef to discuss needs and their initiatives. During this meeting, the grant was officially awarded to support this important initiative, which aims to address growing needs in the community by offering meal services and assistance, while actively reaching out to those in need.



DINER POUR MIEUX APPRENDRE/TABLE DE BETHLÉEM (formerly l'œuvre d'Edna Charrette)

This organization, Eating to Better Learn, has a longstanding commitment to the Buckingham area, ensuring that children—particularly those in English-speaking schools—have access to proper nutrition to support their academic success.

BANQUE ALIMENTAIRE DE LA LIÈVRE (formerly La Mie de l'entraide)

The organization is firmly established in La Lièvre and provides support to both children and adults. There has been a 160% increase in needs compared to 2020-21, reflecting a growing demand for crucial food security.



On May 7, the joint Board of Directors of the Lièvre Food Bank and the organization "Dîner pour mieux apprendre" warmly welcomed Deacon René Laprise and Monique Washnuk from the Novatio Foundation. This was a wonderful opportunity to tour the facilities, discuss the challenges faced by families and individuals in the Buckingham area, and explore how these challenges connect with the Foundation's mission. The meeting concluded with the presentation of two grants, highlighting their mutual commitment to the community's well-being, which took place at the premises of both organizations.

LE GRENIER DES COLLINES À VAL-DES-MONTS



The MRC Food Bank (Le Grenier des Collines) is dedicated to ensuring food security for vulnerable residents in the MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais by offering emergency food assistance and implementing alternative initiatives such as community kitchens, gardens, and a community fridge to reduce food waste. On March 27, the Foundation visited the facilities in Val-des-Monts, accompanied by Father Christian Rakotondrazafy, the pastor of St-Pierre-de-Wakefield parish. During this visit, funds were provided to support this vital project.

A WELLNESS CENTRE — GRACE CONNEXIONS

Grace Connexions is committed to promoting mental health and improving access to tailored services that enhance health and well-being for all. This initiative, supported by the foundation, aims to establish a therapeutic farm in the Gatineau Valley.

On May 21, the Foundation attended Grace Connexions' annual general meeting in Gracefield, where the team had the opportunity to meet the founders, Judy and Rick Brown. Foundation members left inspired by their deep commitment to making meaningful change and providing vital support to local residents through this exceptional project.



INITIATIVES AT THE PARISH OF ST-JOSEPH CATHEDRAL



St. Joseph Cathedral presented two initiatives to Novatio: one for a summer day camp designed to share the Word of God while having fun with children and youth aged 5 to 17, and the second aimed at combating loneliness and isolation in the community by fostering spaces to connect, share, and socialize. On April 28, Mr. Richard Rochefort, Chair of the Board, presented a grant to Father Papy Léonel Manengo, the pastor of St. Joseph Cathedral, to support these two important initiatives.

INITIATIVES AT THE PARISH OF NOTRE-DAME DE L'EAU VIVE

The Novatio Foundation supported the Parish of Notre-Dame de l'Eau Vive in three initiatives: one that enhances pastoral care for young adults, another focused on welcoming immigrant families, and a third aimed at supporting adolescents through the Ziléos group. These vital initiatives are designed to help young people and immigrant families connect, socialize, share experiences, and foster a sense of community.

On April 27, during a community dinner, the Foundation's director, René Laprise, awarded grants for these projects to Ms. Chantale Duguay, Chair of the Fabrique, and Father Rodhain Kasuba Malu, the parish pastor.



ACTIVITIES

YOUR DONATION TODAY GIVES NEW LIFE TO THE
FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITIES.

LAUNCH OF THE FOUNDATION'S FIRST ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Last October, as part of the Archbishop's brunches, the Novatio Foundation launched its first annual fundraising campaign under the theme "Your donation today gives new life to the future of our communities." The board of directors set a goal of raising \$50,000 for this inaugural campaign, which ran until June 30, 2024. During the campaign, we were also delighted to celebrate Archbishop Paul-André Durocher's 70th birthday, during which the Foundation received over \$2,500 in his honor.

On behalf of the board of directors, the Foundation extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the annual campaign and the Archbishop's birthday celebration.

The funds raised enable the Novatio Foundation to support collective efforts in our communities by providing vital financial assistance for key initiatives.

This campaign offers the opportunity to make a difference by making a:

- One-time gift
- Monthly gift, or
- Legacy gift.

The theme for the 2024-2025 annual campaign is **For the Future of Our Communities.**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Novatio Foundation invited the 57 parishes within the diocese, along with community organizations in the Outaouais region, to propose initiatives aligned with the Foundation's mission, the 2023-2025 pastoral priorities, and its key areas of support. The submission deadline was December 15, 2023. In this second call for proposals, the Foundation received a total of \$275,684 in requested support. Thanks to the generosity of donors and in accordance to the selection criteria, twelve (12) initiatives were awarded funds totaling amount of \$104,500.

ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

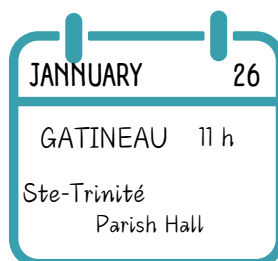


PARTNERING TO OFFER THE ARCHBISHOP'S BRUNCHES

This year, for the second consecutive year, the Foundation is proud to partner with the diocese to offer the Archbishop's brunches. The first brunch was held on October 6 in the Eastern pastoral zone (Petite-Nation) at the Papineauville community hall. Thanks to the participation of many attendees and the collective efforts of organizers and volunteers, \$6,870 was raised and distributed to two parishes and four organizations within the area of the Petite-Nation.










UPCOMING BRUNCHES:



STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION

THE NOVATIO FOUNDATION IS ADMINISTERED BY COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS, WHO FORM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. DIRECTORS ARE ELECTED FOR A RENEWABLE 2-YEAR TERM.

LEADERSHIP			
	Role	Name	Mandate
	Archbishop	Mgr Paul-André Durocher	Ex-officio member
	Vicar general	Rodhain Kasuba	Ex-officio member
	Executive Director	René Laprise	Ex-officio member
DIRECTORS			
	Chair	Richard Rochefort	2022-2024
	Director, Treasurer	Yvette Sanscartier	2022-2024
	Director	Claire Brouillet	2022-2024
	Director	Daniel Roussy	2023-2025

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2023-2024

FONDATION NOVATIO

RÉSULTATS

EXERCICE CLOS LE 30 JUIN 2024

6

	2024	2023
PRODUITS		
Dons (annexe A)	16 488 \$	19 961 \$
Résultat net des placements financiers (annexe B)	50 849	35 336
Contributions sur ventes immobilières	35 280	7 462
	102 617	62 759
CHARGES		
Honoraires professionnels – Gestion administrative	127 778	78 612
Projets subventionnés	104 500	71 270
Don à l'Archevêque Catholique Romain de Gatineau pour le Fonds de réconciliation avec les Autochtones	20 000	20 000
Autres honoraires professionnels et consultants	4 800	3 762
Frais de bureau	1 206	936
Publicité et promotion	920	873
Frais de déplacement et de représentation	196	272
Abonnements et cotisations	164	899
Intérêt et frais bancaires	50	65
Amortissement des immobilisations corporelles	413	207
	260 027	176 896
INSUFFISANCE DES PRODUITS SUR LES CHARGES	(157 410) \$	(114 137) \$

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2023-2024

FONDATION NOVATIO

BILAN

30 JUIN 2024

8

	2024	2023
ACTIF		
Actif à court terme		
Encaisse	22 686 \$	28 745 \$
Placements dans le marché monétaire, évalués à la juste valeur	2 029	43 541
Débiteurs (note 3)	17 304	233
	42 019	72 519
Placements (note 4)	401 818	559 489
Immobilisations corporelles (note 5)	1 445	1 858
	445 282 \$	633 866 \$
PASSIF		
Passif à court terme		
Créditeurs (note 6)	19 000 \$	50 174 \$
ACTIF NET		
Grevé d'affectations internes (note 7)	500	125 000
Non affecté	425 782	458 692
	426 282	583 692
	445 282 \$	633 866 \$

BUDGET

2024-2025

Budget 2024-2025 Fondation Novatio			
		2023-2024	2024-2025
Revenus	Don majeur	700 000	100 000
	Don régulier	250 000	5 000
	Autres (campagne annuelle + brunch)	50 000	50 000
	Intérêts placements	24 000	20 000
	Total	1 024 000	175 000
Dépenses	Mission	125 000 \$	45 000
	Total	<u>125 000 \$</u>	<u>45 000</u>
	Administration		
	Professionnel	25 000	0
	Salaire	100 000	104 703
	Contractuel	0	0
	Bureau	5 000	1 000
	Communication	15 000	5 000
	CA et Comités	2 000	1 000
	Autres	3 000	1 000
	Total	<u>150 000</u>	<u>112 703</u>
	Financier		
	Comptabilité	2 000	2 000
	Audit	5 000	5 000
	Total	<u>7 000</u>	<u>7 000</u>
	Total	282 000	164 703
	Surplus/(Déficit)	742 000	10 297

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND PARTNERS.

The Novatio Foundation and the Archdiocese of Gatineau encompass a strong and compassionate community — one that comes together to strengthen its communities and assist those in need. It is with a grateful heart that we witness acts of generosity, kindness and care freely given by our donors, partners, and volunteers every day.

Need information or wish to speak to a member of our team?

CONTACT US

180 Mont-Bleu Boulevard
Gatineau (Québec) J8Z 3J5

Tel. 819 771-8391, ext. 310

Fax. 819 778-8969

novatio@diocesegatineau.org

diocesegatineau.org/en/novatio/

To make your donation
online, scan the QR code or
go to: <https://rb.gy/om744>



Registered charitable organization number: 785 681 883 RR 0001





What legacy story do I want to tell ?

- Take care of my family and loved ones - ensure their financial security.
- Express my deep rooted values
- Make a difference in my community
- Honour life's greatest gifts - give back

WAYS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

- Name the Novatio Foundation as beneficiary of a gift in my will
- The gift of a life insurance policy
- A donation of securities

My will is powerful!

I can ensure that my legacy will have the kind of impact that I want!

Values

Love



Gratitude

generosity

kindness



INFORMATION :

<https://willpower.ca/charities/fondation-novatio/>

Contact Monique Washnuk

819 771-9391 x.323

philanthropie@diocesegatineau.org