

DR. WILLIAM J. BARAKETT, C.M. (1945-2019)



Our President of over 20 years passed away on August 26th, 2019, after a 5-month battle with a major illness. Earlier in the year, he had been named Honorary President of the 2019 Group Perron Event, a fundraising event that has taken place at the Brome Lake vineyard of Mr. Leon Courville, for the last 14 years. This year's event

netted over \$250,000 for 13 foundations, including the Butters Foundation. At about the same time, Dr. Barakett had launched his last campaign to support the Chaire DITC at UQAM and research projects that would help disabled children with behavioral issues succeed in elementary school. Unfortunately, illness dislodged the campaign and threatened the very life of our President.

Over the course of the summer, it was decided to launch a Legacy Campaign that would target friends of the President and interested individuals, companies & foundations. As of the end of 2019, friends of Dr. Barakett had pledged \$161,000 to a scaled-down project that would support the UQAM Chair for up to a period of 5 years, led by major donations from Laurence Pathy, John Cleghorn & Sheila & Paul Martin. The campaign will continue in the new year championed by members of the Board of Directors of the foundation.

NEW DIRECTOR

In May, the board welcomed our newest Director, Ms. Alyson Wood, Managing Director of Dennis Wood Holdings Inc. and CEO of Knock on Wood Design in Montreal. Ms. Wood has extensive experience in fundraising and divides her time between Montreal & Sutton.

DONATIONS TO THE ROUGEMONT FARM RESPITE SERVICE



In 2019, the Rougemont farm Respite Service got a significant boost with a \$20,000 donation from la Fondation Les Petits Trésors of Montreal. This foundation has taken a keen interest in this innovative farm project that supports over 50

families per month with much needed respite and stimulating farm & animal care activities for their disabled siblings. This year the farm service celebrated its 10th year of service to families in the community. The Farm Service also got a \$10,000 grant from the Holt Foundation of Quebec City to support a range of animal related activities that have always been a hit at the farm, including care for two highly spoiled horses.



BURSARIES TO WORTHY STUDENTS

This year the foundation continued to award bursaries to accomplished students at the High School level in Cowansville and in Special Care Counselling Departments at CEGEP de Haute-Yamaska in Granby and the Champlain Regional College-Lennoxville campus. Among the 3 schools, \$7,500 was awarded in bursaries which helped 6 students continue their post-secondary school studies in the 2019-2020 academic year. The John A. Bryant Fund in the Faculty of Education at McGill continues to fund library documents and graduate student bursaries with proceeds from an endowment funded by the Butters Foundation.

OPENING OF THE NEW FACILITIES AT CAMP GARAGONA

On September 12th, 2019, Butters Homes & Camp Garagona held the inauguration of the new arts building & splash pad at the camp that were built this year with a \$326,000 donation from the Butters Foundation, highlighted by a \$100,000 donation from the Bank of Montreal. Turnout included local politicians, parents, volunteers and corporation directors. Madame Louise Yelle, President of Butters Homes, announced that the building will be named the Dr. William Barakett Pavilion, in recognition of his successful efforts to raise funds for the project. At the same time, she announced that the new Main Building will be named the Butters Pavilion in recognition of its generous \$2.5 million-dollar donation to the construction of the building in 2015.

Earlier in the year, the foundation granted a \$25,000 donation to the camp to continue its activities outside the busy summer season in order to provide much-needed respite services to families of disabled children in the area.

Ron Creary
Executive Director