



Report to the Community 2020-2021

THANK YOU!

Your generosity and commitment to Mohawk students this past year has changed students' lives. **Every day a student receives any kind of help, you are telling them that their dreams are meaningful and achievable.**

Gift Catalogue

As our students faced financial difficulties, many of you supported them through the Gift Catalogue. We were able to help our students with situations like job-loss, adjusting home resources to accommodate online learning, unplanned trips home, and simply making ends meet.



\$27,000 +
(Nov 2020-March 2021)

Most supported areas:

General support fund, fill the fridge, access to technology

Helping Hampers

Mohawk started a grocery basket program called Helping Hampers to help students facing food insecurity.

In addition to your generous contributions, Hamilton Community Foundation provided a grant that supported 59 families and 69 individuals with food hampers.

Javier Rumie, an international student and recipient of a family hamper, was grateful to receive a hamper, saying **"it's so great to know someone is out there who really cares that you can call in an emergency."**



"Your support helped me stay motivated and focused on my studies and fulfilled my needs. **I couldn't have done it without your help.** Thank you!" – **Rahim Azizi, Mohawk student**



Women in Technology and Trades

The Women in Technology and Trades group (WITT) was created as part of a strategy at Mohawk to support and encourage women to enter the technology and trade fields.

Thanks to funding from the RBC Foundation, our WITT program provides the support to connect female students to the resources they need to succeed.



"This is helping to overcome the mindsets in regards to women in tech and trades. It's a positive experience for everyone. I would like to continue participating and supporting programs that are focused on helping other young women pursue non-traditional careers."

– Melissa Montenegro-Rosero, Mohawk student



Challenge 2025

City School by Mohawk brings free education to community neighbourhoods to start people on a path to education or employment. Seeing the success of City School over the past five years, Mohawk saw an opportunity to do more. Challenge 2025 (C2025) was created to build a pathway to college for thousands in the community.

We have seen transformational change in individuals and families who are now experiencing the benefits of employment after being given the opportunity to develop employment skills through this program.

Mohawk is making steady progress towards the following goals:

- Partner with the City of Hamilton to support 3,000 people in the transition from income support programs to meaningful employment.
- Partner with 100 regional employers to deliver rapid, demand-led training that closes workforce gaps; providing employers skilled workers to support their resource needs, with a region-wide reduction in the skills gap.
- Build a pathway to college for 4,000 participants.
- Partner with other community colleges across Canada to test the City School by Mohawk model in other regions of the country.



Homeward Bound

Homeward Bound is a program supporting single Indigenous moms to embark on a phased education program. Since participants often face multiple barriers, including previous difficulties with education, unstable housing conditions, lack of confidence, or poverty, this program focuses on removing those barriers.



Because of your generosity, students like Serenity are set up for success.

“The Homeward Bound program has given me the avenue to be able to continue my education and advocate for others and still continue to be my own advocate. I thank everybody that’s been involved with this program. It’s been a very positive thing for me.”

– Serenity Ashton, Mohawk student



Student mental health

The pandemic has heightened the need for mental health support. Mental health issues are on the rise, especially for our postsecondary students. In swift response to the rise in mental health concerns, Mohawk evolved its student mental health strategies and initiatives to ensure our students had fast access to a variety of supports and felt safe to seek help.

Students were encouraged to access free counseling services through telephone, video, and text. Numerous virtual informational sessions and resources were offered to students virtually in addition to daily mindfulness, meditation, and yoga classes.

"I think that continuing to support mental health for students is going to be hugely beneficial for future students and future generations. I think we can move to a place of taking away the stereotypes and taking away the stigma. Eventually, we'll be in a better place."
– Ashley Zimmerman, student



In memory of Kelly Dunham

Many of you will remember someone who strived every day to make the world a better place. Kelly Dunham, a Mohawk alumni, coach, and employee of nearly two decades, has had an award created in her honour, made possible by the generosity of the community and Mohawk College.

In support of the Dunham family's commemorative award, Mohawk College doubled the total value of the scholarship fund – creating a legacy fund for this award. The endowed Kelly Dunham Memorial Scholarship Award will provide financial support to female students in varsity basketball, a sport near and dear to Kelly's heart.

Her daughter, Ally Dunham, speaks to her mom's legacy. **"To know my mom was to know what humility and selflessness truly looked like because if she wasn't working, coaching, or being a mother, you could find her at the gym supporting, spectating, or giving someone a pep talk or pointers. I think that if she knew her significance to others was so big during her time here, that it would carry on even when she left this world, it would make her so tremendously happy. It would be an incredible accomplishment if through the award, we could carry on her drive and her passion for women's basketball as well as helping student athletes in any way possible."**

By the numbers

(April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021)



Bursaries
(based on financial need)

500+



Scholarships
(based on academic merit)

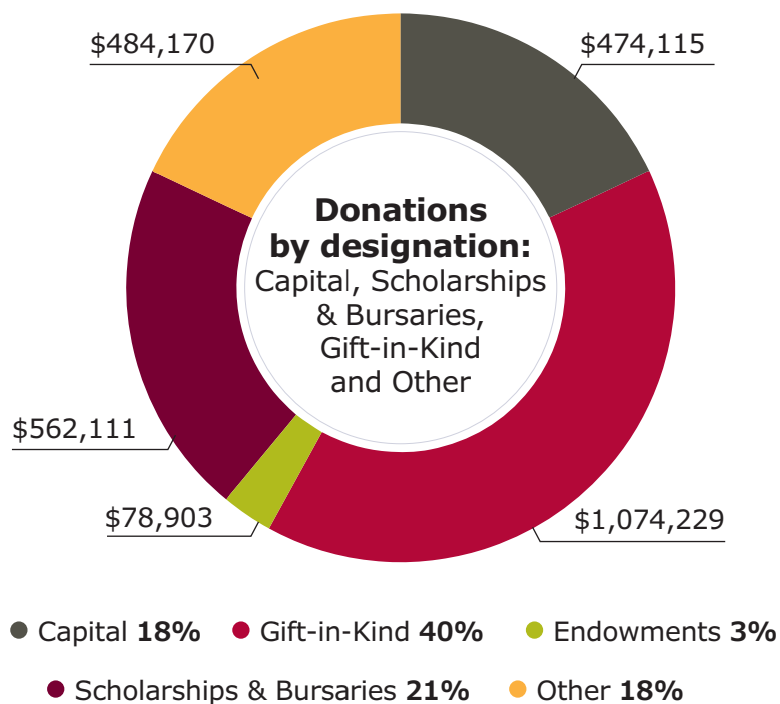
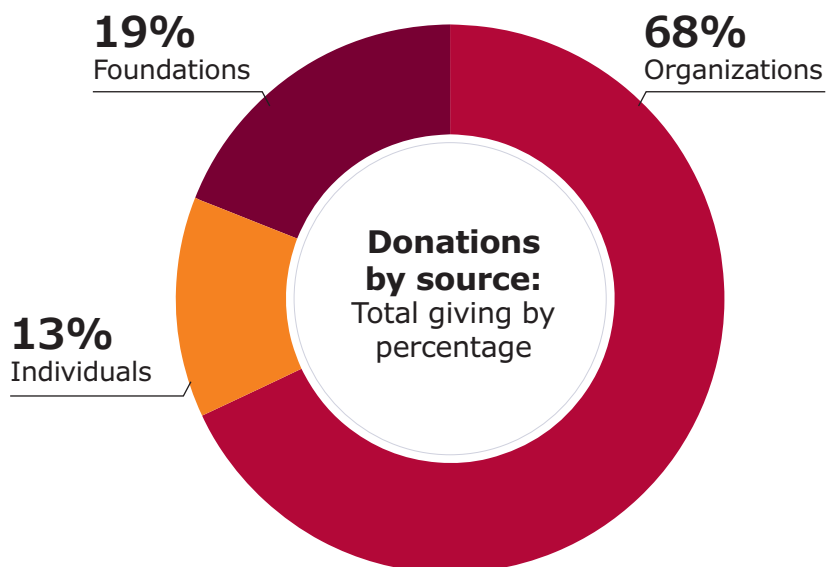
250+



Pandemic related bursaries
(immediate funding)

480+

2020/21 Fundraising activity total giving: **\$2,673,528**



"I just want to say thank you for this scholarship, it means a lot to me, especially graduating in a climate like this."

– Lena Bouma, Mohawk student



Thank you!

Whether your donation came from gift-in-kind, a gift in your will, an award, or contributing to students' greatest needs, thank you. We know it has not been an easy year, but it is because of you that many of our students have renewed hope, confidence, and the ability to continue on their educational journey.



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