



ANNUAL REPORT FY 2019 – 2020



ISISTERS PIVOTS FROM IN-PERSON TO VIRTUAL TECHNOLOGY MENTORING



iSisters First Virtual Graduation, 2020

Mission

We create and deliver technology programs at no cost to learners as we believe in equipping women with the skills and confidence to participate fully in their community.

Vision

iSisters Technology Mentoring, a leader in technology learning and development, helps empower women in need to live better lives, create brighter futures and build stronger communities.

Values

We are passionate and committed to: Learner-Focus, Community Orientation, Excellence, Respect, Accountability.



Celebrating success on graduation day!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Claire Toplis, Chair

Pat den Boer, Past Chair

Cathy Lewis, Founder

Jennifer Welsh, Treasurer

Lauren Thibodeau, Director, Governance

Gina Bak, Secretary

Sarah D'Angelo, Director, HR

Judy Puritt, Director, Volunteer Management

Ashley Kelahear, Director, Communications

Hannah King, Director, Legal

Janet Clarke, Director at Large

Highlights and Accomplishments FY 2019-2020

We are pleased to report that we exceeded all expected outcomes despite COVID-19 restrictions during March & April, 2020. Thank you to the iSisters team for your hard work and dedication.



iSisters Board members join our first virtual graduation



A Letter from our Board Chair

The fiscal year 2019-20 has been one of transition for iSisters. With our former Executive Director departing at the end of last year's summer break, we launched an ED search and were pleased to appoint Ann McSweeney to the role in our final quarter of the year. Ann brings years of experience to the ED role and many exciting ideas about how to grow our programs and increase the impact of our charity across the city and beyond.

Not long after Ann joined us the world was impacted by the COVID19 pandemic. iSisters, like most organizations, was affected as partner centres where we offer training were forced to close during the lockdown. With physical locations to offer programming limited, we focussed on how to most effectively mentor those who have never had the opportunity to try applications like Zoom, Google Meet, Webex and the like. We used our expertise to ensure disadvantaged women without that knowledge could take the first steps to allow them to begin learning how to use computers and the internet – in our new online classrooms. The pandemic has brought home more than ever how critical having these basic skills is to get by in life.

While opportunities to offer in-person programming have been reduced due to the pandemic, we are pleased that many have been able to transition to online offerings. This along with the implementation of our key 2019-20 strategic priority, a new Partnership engagement model, have made it possible for us to offer more effective opportunities for women in our community to gain skills and improve their lives this year. I am grateful for the hard work of each of our board members in contributing to our success.

And while some funders have redirected their focus to other causes in the pandemic, we are appreciative of those who have continued to support our work during this troubling time; we believe you should be very pleased with how your donations have been stewarded this year.

Going forward, we are gearing up to celebrate an anniversary – our 20th year offering programs that help increase economic opportunities for women in need in our community. We are so grateful to our dedicated donors who have supported us throughout this journey ... it is with your vital contributions that we have been able to assist over 3200 women since we began work back in 2001.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CT', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Claire Toplis, Chair
Board of Directors



Executive Director's Message

As we prepare our annual report iSisters along with the rest of the world are coping with the impacts of COVID-19. The resiliency and adaptability of our entire team to pivot from in-person to online virtual programming quickly, has been a great source of pride for all of us at iSisters.

Since joining iSisters on January 20, 2020, it is a very humbling experience to work alongside many incredibly talented, passionate and dedicated women. I would like to personally thank Claire Toplis, Chair for her guidance and support and to our dedicated board of directors who have embraced this new journey with me as their new Executive Director. Together we will continue to enhance the progressive work started by our founders in 2001.

Our learners have been a major focus these last few months ensuring that they receive the tools they require to communicate effectively using technology during this difficult time. We are so very proud of each and every young woman and the accomplishments they have achieved.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Iskrena Puhleva, a contracted instructor, for her dedication to iSisters ensuring that learners continued their programming during the pandemic and for her support to our newly contracted instructors. We have five very professional and knowledgeable instructors who are working hard to ensure the success of all our programs.

Our volunteers have been vital to our success. Thank you for your commitment to iSisters and the countless hours you provide to us. Words cannot describe how appreciative we are.

The year ahead will be one of uncertainty as we have never lived through a pandemic of this impact before. Rest assured that together we will embrace all the changes necessary to “Build Back Better”.

Fiscal year 2020-2021 will be very exciting as we embark on growing iSisters. The more women we are able to reach through partner expansion, the more women who will succeed through technology mentoring.

Please check out our monthly Newsletter – iCONNECT – for exciting news and updates.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann McSweeney". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Ann McSweeney
Executive Director

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT MADE THIS POSSIBLE THANK YOU!

Foundations - Corporate

Accenture
Adobe
Crabtree Foundation
Emergency Community Services Fund (ECSF)
Fidelity Insurance
Flex Foundation
Grey Birch Foundation
Johansen-Larsen Foundation
Leacross Foundation
MindBridge Ai
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Ottawa Community Foundation
Royal Bank
Selladore – Brian Belanger
Telus
Wesley Clover Foundation

Individuals

Adrienne Stevenson
Angela Golabek
Anne Findlayson
Cathy Lewis
Claire Toplis
Dr. N.R Willis & Family
Jane Parsard
Joan O’Connell
Kelly Rasmussen
Konval Matin
Lauren Thibodeau
Leslie Youngson
Mike Tierney
Neil White
Nora Rainboth
Sarah D’Angelo
Tania Tierney



Tungasuvvingat Inuit Graduation 2020



Leacross Foundation (Roslyn Bern) with iSisters learners

Learner Comments:

“Learned a lot more about resume writing and job search and I am more confident in the whole job search process.” AN

“I want to take another course and return to high school.” TI

“I want to apply for a job and attend college or university.” JK

“I had fun and more confident in looking for a job and I think I’m more confident about going online to try to find a job.” AA

“Learning how to create your own business.” PN



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 106,847	\$ 78,260
Short-term investments	2,126	2,095
Accounts receivable	1,541	4,341
Prepaid expenses	<u>1,305</u>	<u>1,555</u>
	<u>\$ 111,819</u>	<u>\$ 86,251</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,444	\$ 12,703
Deferred contributions (note 4)	<u>106,375</u>	<u>73,548</u>
	<u>111,819</u>	<u>86,251</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 111,819</u>	<u>\$ 86,251</u>

Approved by the Board:

..... Chair

..... Treasurer

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Revenue		
Grants	\$ 68,045	\$ 79,213
Donations	<u>14,802</u>	<u>13,236</u>
	<u>82,847</u>	<u>92,449</u>
Expenses		
Programs	47,094	64,180
Administration	29,848	22,121
Salaries and benefits	1,787	2,282
Professional fees	2,695	2,443
Insurance	<u>1,423</u>	<u>1,423</u>
	<u>82,847</u>	<u>92,449</u>
Net revenue for the year end	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM (USED IN)		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net revenue	\$ -	\$ -
Interest reinvested/accrued	<u>(31)</u>	<u>(16)</u>
	(31)	(16)
Changes in non-cash working capital components:		
Accounts receivable	2,800	18,280
Prepaid expenses	250	(250)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(7,259)	1,537
Deferred contributions	<u>32,827</u>	<u>(2,874)</u>
	28,587	16,677
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,079)</u>
INCREASE IN CASH	28,587	14,598
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>78,260</u>	<u>63,662</u>
CASH, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 106,847</u>	<u>\$ 78,260</u>



iSisters Technology Mentoring

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iSisters is iSocial

Visit our website at www.isisters.org

