

YOUTH TRAVEL FOUNDATION

annual report 2019-2020





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MISSION

Promote travel as an educational tool for the personal and professional development of teenagers and young adults across Canada. Since its inauguration in 1993, YTF has enabled more than 700 young people to carry out their goals and embark on a new adventure.

VISION

Each year, YTF awards grants to support the travel projects of young Canadians. Our goal is to encourage the next generation to become curious, respectful and committed. Build a more tolerant world, one traveller at the time.

VALUES

Open-mindedness; we welcome people and ideas from all places. **Togetherness;** we believe in collaboration and the power of the collective. **Mindfulness;** we're on a mission to leave the world better than found, we raise consciousness about a better way of travelling.

TEAM MEMBERS

Jacques Perreault
General Director

**Arianne Méthot
&
Cynthia Gélinas**
Coordinators

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bruno Bussière
President

Gabriela Sauter
Vice-president

Marie-Claude Racine
Secretary-Treasurer





SUMMER 2019 SOLO TRAVEL GRANT

Chloé planned a summer in the Land of Eternal Blue Skies, also known as Mongolia. First to take part in a field school researching contemporary internal migration, Mongolian livelihoods and impacts of tourism in rural and urban areas in collaboration with the American Center for Mongolian Studies. Then to embark on a big cycloadventure through Mongolia, to experience nomadic life firsthand and deepen her understanding of Mongolian culture.



SUMMER 2019 GROUP TRAVEL GRANT

The Cardston Girls Choir received the Group Travel grant for their 17-day Europe tour combining music and history. Consisting of 16 teenagers from Alberta, this all-female vocal ensemble is set to partake in several artistic gatherings and attend some major cultural landmarks. First, the *10th Annual World Peace Choir Festival* in Austria. Then Czech Republic, Germany and Denmark. Last but not least, the *Grand Prix of Nations Gothenburg & 4th European Choir Games* in Sweden. What a program!



SUMMER 2019 MARY BARCLAY GRANT

The Mary Barclay grant was offered to Fifi, who's currently working on a literary project called *Soledad*. Exploring themes of identity, immigration and nomadism, she seeks inspiration in her own family experiences by going to the different places she called home. Her first stop is New York, to attend events hosted by some of her favourite writers and movie directors. She will also join cultural gatherings and visit meaningful museums. She then intends to go to Cuba and Nigeria.



AUTUMN 2019 SOLO TRAVEL GRANT

Jennifer is going to Thailand, a trip that will certainly contribute to her personal and professional development, in addition to fostering an impact within the social movements she is affiliated to. Her itinerary focuses on themes such as international cooperation, the promotion of peace, human rights and gender equality. She will learn about the local historical context of organizational and political strategies through networking and visits to key activist sites in Bangkok.

**Projet
Québec-Cuba
2020**

www.ProjetQuebecCuba.ca

**UN PROJET MULTIDISCIPLINAIRE
REGROUPANT 5 PROGRAMMES D'ÉTUDES**

 Cégep de
l'Outaouais

AUTUMN 2019 GROUP TRAVEL GRANT

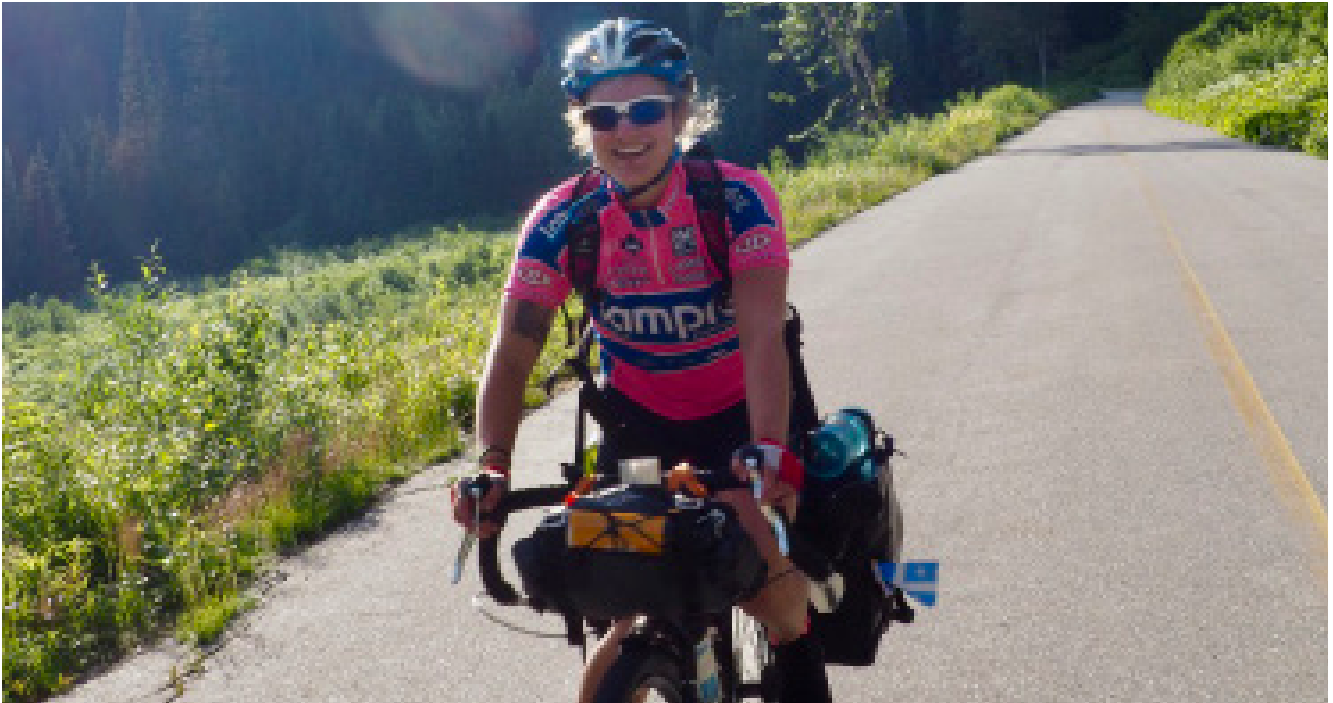
A group from Cégep de l'Outaouais is travelling to Cuba for a scientific expedition involving students from different fields: biotechnology, geomatics, business management, multimedia and natural sciences. They'll develop a modern environmental communication strategy and various multimedia tools for biodiversity awareness and conservation, in partnership with local specialists. They'll also identify viable and sustainable economic activities for the host community.



AUTUMN 2019 SOLO TRAVEL GRANT

Penny is a landscape artist who decided to travel to the UK to visit Cornwall's 12 major gardens, a county renowned for its many national heritage sites and gardens. The trip revolves mainly around the exchange of professional knowledge with the local gardeners and creating bonds with members of the community. The two-week itinerary will be done biking, as Penny believes it's the most appropriate way to facilitate intercultural exchanges, in addition to being a green mode of transport.

A WORD FROM THE 2018-2019 AWARDEES



« The best part of this trip was by far meeting new people every day. They would come to me almost instantly when they would see my bike loaded like a mule. They would come to talk, to offer me food or even a place to stay! Everyone, in their own way, gave me the strength and courage I needed to keep going. I am still amazed by the generosity and kindness people showed. »

-Myrika, Summer 2018 Solo Travel Grant (Canada)



« This was a very surprising, empowering, yet exhausting educational experience. The 4 months of constructions provided us with countless learning, on top of allowing us to put into practises the skills we had studied in school. The 6 future engineers that we are came back from this journey more mature and full of memories with a unique community. »

-Frédérica, Summer 2018 Group Travel Grant (Rwanda)

A WORD FROM THE 2018-2019 AWARDEES



« This trip challenged me and helped me understand what I'm capable of. I learned to embrace adventures instead of being afraid of what can go wrong in the future. I learned to appreciate the present moment and seize the opportunities when they arise. And I know for sure that I can now apply this state of mind to my daily life. »

-Amélie, Summer 2018 Mary Barclay Grant (Denmark, France & Ireland)



« Pura Vida is an incredible experience which, I think, I will cherish forever. It wasn't easy for me at first to reach out to the members of the group because I'm very shy, but little by little we started to connect with each other. I started feeling more comfortable and my timidity lowered thanks to all the preparatory activities that were organized. »

-Rose-Anaïs, Winter 2019 Group Travel Grant (Costa Rica)

SLEEP FOR PEACE

As part of the United Nations International Day of Peace, observed every year on September 21st, Hostelling International launched the *Sleep for Peace* campaign. For this awareness program, national HI associations around the world are invited to organize activities promoting the role travelling plays in contributing to world peace and cultural understanding.

Since 2016, HI Canada has been collecting \$1 for each night booked at participating hostels on September 21st. Thanks to this initiative, \$1,712 was offered to YTF this year.





NEW PARTNERSHIPS

CAISSE.
☐ D'ÉCONOMIE.
SOLIDAIRE.

Leader in social investment, Caisse d'économie solidaire will allow YTF to award one additional grant in 2020, thanks to a \$1,000 donation.



A partnership with Univesta lead to the creation of a brand new \$2,000 grant, which will be offered yearly for the next 5 years.



A group from the Capitale-Nationale region will receive a \$5,000 travel grant, offered in collaboration with Village Monde and Desjardins.



COVID-19

The pandemic forced YTF to abruptly stop its activities. Travelling is not recommended right now. For obvious security reasons, we have decided to suspend our grant programs until further notice. The YTF team remains on the lookout for developments and is looking forward to reunite when the sanitary situation allows.



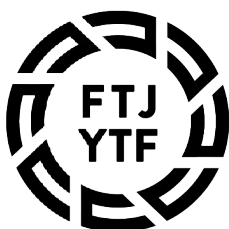
SUPPORT YTF

Show your support of YTF's mission by making a donation; all donations are directly redistributed in grants!

We are looking for financial partners who share our vision and are eager to provide young Canadians with the possibility to expand their horizon. Give us a call to discuss how your business could get involved. Another great way to support YTF is by spreading the word in your social media, with your classmates or coworkers.

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FONDATION **TOURISME JEUNESSE**
YOUTH TRAVEL FOUNDATION

