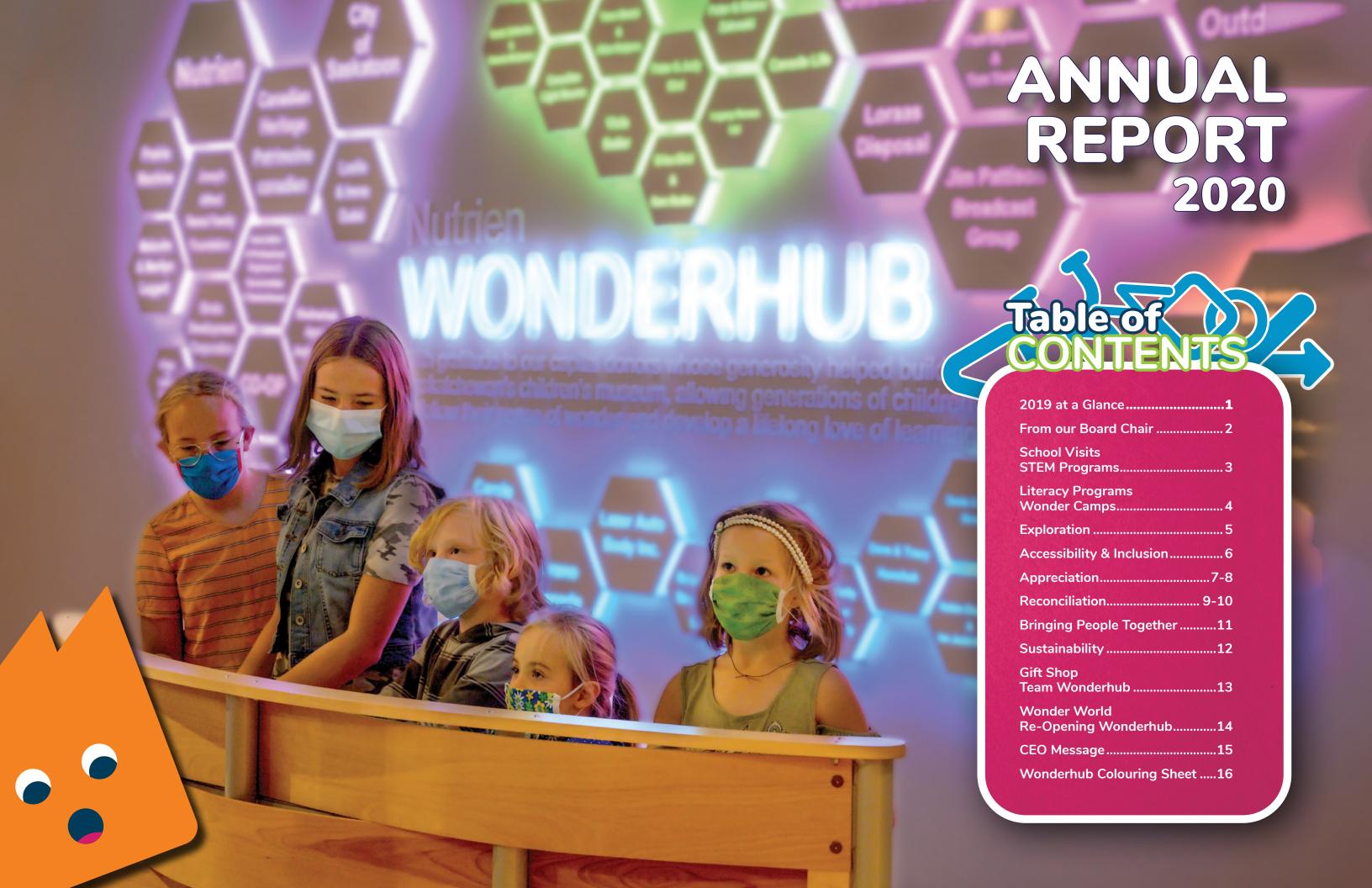
## Nutrien WONDERHUB

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020







From our Derivative Board Chair

The Board of Nutrien Wonderhub has had an eventful year, and I suspect it has been no different than every other non-profit and charitable organization in Canada. We started this year full of hope and anticipation. We were excited to put in place a new strategic plan which guides Wonderhub to continue to provide excellent programs for children and families, build and maintain relationships with our donors and sponsors, and look for new opportunities to grow and expand.

And then March 12th hit. Over the last several months, the Board has been guiding and supporting Amanda and her team through the closure and eventual re-opening of Wonderhub. We are proud of the work our team does every day to make Wonderhub a safe place to be while following all the health protocols.

We said goodbye to some Board members who have been with Wonderhub from the very beginning and helped launch and open its doors and welcomed new Board members who will guide us into the future.

Over the past several months, we have taken the opportunity to put in place many foundational governance pieces, such as updating our Bylaws, Committee Terms of Reference, and the Orientation Manual for new Directors. This is necessary work and will serve us well as we adopt best practices in board governance.

The Board is grateful for the continued support of many of our donors and thank you for your trust and confidence. We are also grateful to Amanda and her staff for their thoughtful and dedicated approach to ensuring we continue to operate Wonderhub safely for our children. And finally, we thank our members and customers for your support and we look forward to continuing to serve you.

#### Catherine Gryba

Chair, Board of Directors

## School Visits

This was our first year to host classrooms for Discovery Visits at our new facility. When teachers bring their students to Wonderhub, they discover new ways to connect with their classroom curriculum in fun and exciting ways. We combine play time in the museum with a structured program led by our Program Facilitators to create enriching opportunities for students and teachers to connect, have fun, and re-discover the joy of learning.

inquiry. A+++, 100%, 5 stars, 2 thumbs up, 11/10! Loved it!

- Sunny Blackstone, Confederation Community School

Thank you so much for this amazing learning Activities were amazing. The students opportunity! It's all sooooo fantastic! ...It had lots of fun and I know that they learned teaches through play and interaction and many important building concepts. I, as an encourages imagination, conversation, and adult, enjoyed the lesson. All of my students had smiles on their faces, so I know they enjoyed it.

- Elizabeth Nordick,

St. Peter School

At Wonderhub, we incorporate literacy skills into almost all of our programming. Reading gives kids access to unlimited learning, and that's why we provide literacy and storytelling programs for children as young as 1.

During this year's nine-session StoryScapes program, writers, singers, dancers, filmmakers, and songwriters ignited the imaginations of children at Wonderhub, in libraries, and even in their own homes through our virtual program delivery.

Our virtual programming even featured volunteer authors who read you their stories and shared about their writing process! Special thanks to Anthony Bidulka, Brenda Mintzler, Alice Kuipers, Beverley Brenna, Janis Cox, Mary Harelkin Bishop, Janice Howden, and Diane Young.

When school is out, Wonderhub camps are in! We had so much fun getting to know your kids this year at our Wonder Camps. Some of our favourite camp memories this year were from our February camps, which took our campers outside each day to discover the fun that winter brings. Our amazing camp leaders shared winter survival skills, took campers geocaching, built structures that keep people and critters warm in winter, and even braved the cold for a winter scavenger hunt.

When the pandemic hit, our camp team didn't miss a beat, switching to on-line camps that kept kids safe at home while still offering interactive, small group camp experiences with skilled program facilitators. While we missed the in-person fun, our virtual camps brought the fun to you, keeping kids engaged and active during the closure.

Helping students harness their excitement and curiosity to build circuits and code over the past year has been what drives us to continue to bring awareness to Engineering and technology in the province.

Joel Goy, IEEE North Saskatchewan Section When kids walk into Wonderhub, they become scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and tech wizards. Every day brings new discoveries and Wonderhub is making sure that Saskatchewan's children get to explore their world and prepare to become the innovators of tomorrow.

This year, our little innovators enjoyed self-directed exploration in the museum, finding something new in Create Space every month to stimulate their curiosity. Kids made oobleck, mapped the human heart, made seed bombs, combined coding and crafting to make jewelry, solved steam mazes, made rainbows, and cracked codes. Our focus on these topics continued as our programming moved online, with some of our most popular videos helping kids turn their own homes into labs where they could continue hands-on learning despite the pandemic.

In addition to these self-guided experiences, Wonderhub also offered programs led by our team members and community volunteers, bringing an additional level of knowledge and skill to our Wonderhubbers. While there were many such programs offered this year, one that stood out was our partnership with IEEE to provide a circuitry and coding event. A fantastic group of electrical engineers volunteered to help kids create flashy circuits to take home. When their creations lit up, so did their faces as they realized how much they were capable of learning and accomplishing with a little help from the pros!

EXT - ALARM WILL SOUND ME



## Appreciation

Nutrien Wonderhub would not be able to inspire tomorrow's creative thinkers without the support of our Wonder Funders. Thanks to our donors and sponsors, we are able to maintain our commitment to creativity, curiosity and a lifelong love of learning.

**Affinity Credit Union** Dave & Naomi Anderson Lois Anderson Kendra Apshkrum Robyn Arsenie Brenda Ashkevill Association of **Professional Engineers** and Geoscientists of Aurora Workplace Solutions Inc. Rvan Bahonich **Danielle Barrett Margaret Baxter** Scott & Susan Bayne Judy & Peter Bird Erica Bird & Sam Butler **BMO Financial Group** Dale Boan Darnell Bohach Mike Bondarenko Thomas Brown **Tanis Bryson Doug Butcher** Ken Buyers M Neil Cameron Doug Campbell Stephanie Campbell Susan Campbell Summer - Skye Carrier

**Contour Developments** 

**Dominic Cote** 

**Amanda Cranmer** 

**Marigold Cribb** 

Andrea Crowdis

Alix Cruickshank

John Craig

Stacey Crump Travis & Alyssa Csada Culligan **David Dagl Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation** DCG Philanthrophic Services Heidi Devon Ron Dewald **Dennis Dibsk** Sandy Doering Liudmyla Dynnyk Rob Engel **Fastprint Saskatoon** Kara Firman Sean Fitzpatrick Olivia Flanigan Folster family John & Courtney Forseth Clint & Carole Forster Sheryl Fox **Rosalind Fredlund** Callin Friesen Marlon & Jennifer Friesen Luke Fristshaw Justin Gareau Kristle Gerbrandt Crista Gessell Kendra Getty **Barb Giles** Ian Goldberg Stephanie Goller Chevanne Carsse Sarah Greenwood Joveth Casignia Naomi Guicheteau Imod Chabani Yuying Guo Jamie Chanaguay Irene Halliday Robin Chapman & Walter & Sandra Halliday Ian Judd - Henry Simratia Hamrie Wyka Carey Charlebois Laura Harrison **Danielle Chartier Alexis Harvey** Kendra Chubb Katie Hayes City of Saskatoon Colin Heatherington Chelsy Clendenon Warren Heatherington Jim Clifford **Candice Heidt** Kathy Cobham Kyle Helm **Community Initiatives** Henry Remai

Tamara Hinz

Ken Hofstra

**Carey Howie** 

Stacey Huard

David Hunchak

Rob & Amber Huck

Merrick family

Margaret & Tom Hurst Hy-Grade Millwork IEEE - Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Island Collective Marja Jewsbury **Charlotte Johnston** Darlana Jones Michael Joyce JR Birdhouses **Chantal Kahore Muhammad Khan** Saeeda Khareem KIM Constructors Kindle Café **Penny King** Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon Janelle Klassen Cheryl Klemmer Ken Kluk Lianna Korte Jodie Kucheran Chantal Kyplair **Beverly Lackie** Amanda Laliberte Angela & Dave Larson **Betty Anne Latrace** Henderson Jeremy Lauhren Hale **Brian Leffler** Legacy Homes Ltd. Leslie & Irene Dube

Tara Nichols **Novatex Graphics** Nutrien Gebine Ocampo Omolara Oshiniga Jessica Pakota Paper Plane Communications Lacev Pelletier Jaimie Peters Stephanie Pettit **Annalyn Phillips Brad Pickard** Judy Poellet Post Media Janet & Art Postle Prairie Laser Ink & Toner Supply Inc. **Prairie Machine** Kelly Pritchett Thomas Rath Rawlco Radio David Leswick Frany Rawlyk W. Robert (Bob) Reid **Lily Street Foundation** Reiger family Kathy Lindsay - Olfert Jessica Reimei Derek Lindskog Christen Remne Paige Lofstrom Anneka Richer Loi Photography Crystal Rinas Alex Loken Matt & Courtney Rohachuk Carla Loney - Tindall & Babak Roshan Joe Tindal Rotary Club of Saskatoon Ana Liezel Lucmavor - Nutana Cathy Masters B. Russell Sean Maw Joni Rynsburger - Rathwell Herb McFaull & & Kent Rathwell Anthony Bidulka Haleh Salmasi **Braden McKay** Gracen Sanderson Amanda McReynolds Nicole Sanderson Doran Chandra & Madhav Sarda Hanzel Meja Sask Culture

Jhayailou Mesiona Kim Michaliew Eftychia Mitsogianni Karen Mohr MR PROMO Som Mukherii Camper Murawsky Magielyn Napone Ron & Laura Negraeff Candace Neufeld Bernie Neumann Hui Song David & Janice Paslawski **Bruce Tang** Laura Teale John Tse Logan Turk

Sask Lotteries Saskatchewan **Construction Association** Saskatoon B'Nai Brith Sasktel Saskatoor **Lorraine Schmid** Angela Schmidt **Kimberly Scott** Service Master - Saskatoon **Bonnie Shackleton** Glen Shackleton Laurie Shaw Karen Siemens Siobhan Sinclair Lacey Sletten **Chris Standing** Dean & Alisa Stanzel Tatum Stolar **Brooke Stone** Karen Stroug Tayag family **Ashley Thauberger** Brett Thiessen Mark Thompson **Judy Thomson** Tourism Saskatoor **Stacey Towle** Kristen Trautman **Curtis Tuplin** Paula Ulboa Michelle Ullyott - Pederson Tammy Van Lambalgen Jeri Lynn Walton Judy Ward Gordon Way Nathan Wehr

Marlea Whitley &

Kristy & Lauren Wiens

Elaine & Peter Zakreski

Roy Sydiaha

Kayla Wilcocks

Jamie Willfong

Don Witzel

Erin Wolfson

Christine Xu

Nafiseh Zamani

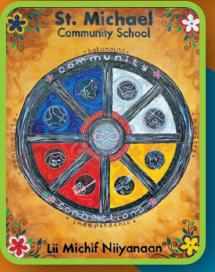
Fangqin Zeng

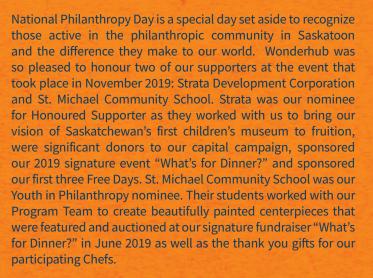
Ivan Zhang

This year has brought about many changes in our world. The COVID-19 pandemic is far reaching and has impacted everyone in our communities. Wonderhub has always strived to be a place of connection, where families feel welcomed into our doors to learn, play and grow together. This need is greater now than ever before, and we are proud that Wonderhub is still a safe place to explore, create and make memories thanks to the support of our community.

Wonderhub values relationships – those between children and their adults, between team members and most of all, between partners in our community. Over the past year, Wonderhub has been privileged to work with many organizations in our community to foster the next generation of dreamers, builders, engineers, explorers and scientists. Whether it's offering programs that highlight STEM in a way that gets kids excited or bringing arts and culture to life in a way that is relatable and creative for families, our partners help make Wonderhub a place of discovery. We know that by bringing together people to share their unique strengths we were able to allow children to see themselves represented at Wonderhub while also learning from each other.







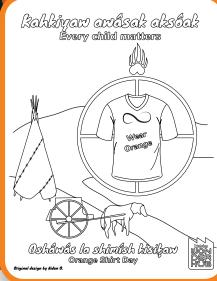


# Reconciliation

Nutrien Wonderhub and our beautiful Mendel building reside in Treaty 6 territory and the traditional homeland of the Métis people. We remain committed to and engaged in reconciliation and in heeding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action – particularly those addressing education and museums. While the educational calls to action are primarily addressed to the federal government, Wonderhub can, in the spirit of these calls, ensure that our own educational offerings are culturally appropriate and equally accessible. In addition, we are proud to have created a treaty education program for school visits that lays the foundation for a strong understanding of treaty relationships and Indigenous rights for some of our youngest visitors.

This year our participation in Reconciliation Saskatoon has grown, and we are now part of the Youth and Family Action Group. We are honoured to come to this table where elders, survivors, and community members unite to lead our community's journey of reconciliation.









### HERE'S A GLIMPSE OF RECONCILIATION IN ACTION AT WONDERHUB:

Our team received FNMI education with help from Cort Dogniez. The wisdom shared by Cort, the blanket exercise, and the discussions that followed all brought our team together in mutual understanding and appreciation. This learning is in response to the TRC's call to educate management and employees on the history of Aboriginal peoples, the legacy of residential schools, UNDRIP, treaty rights, cultural competency, and anti-racism.

Wanuskewin and Culture Days - For Culture Days this year, eager participants learned about oral storytelling in Métis Culture with Cort Dogniez. Children drew images that represent their favourite parts from oral stories they have heard in their own families and cultures. Cort shared stories of the fur trade, brought in animal pelts for a hands-on sensory activity and a commonly played string game that was played when friends and families gathered. Our theme this year was 'Common Threads'. This was woven through our events by a collaborative String Art project exploring common threads between all the people who attended. Participants were then welcomed to create a string art piece to take home with them to be reminded of the value of diversity and how we can celebrate the differences in all people while learning about all of the beautiful ways that we are the same.

Wonderhub partnered with Wanuskewin to offer a Mini-Moccasin Keychain Workshop for ages 10 and up. This was a multigenerational event as children and their adults worked together in learning about the history of making moccasins in First Nations cultures and had the opportunity to create their own mini-moccasin to take home. This initiative was facilitated by programmers from Wanuskewin, enabling our Program Facilitators to expand their knowledge of First Nations beading traditions.

- Indigenous content Wonderhub featured Indigenous content in a variety of ways with a focus on Indigenous storytelling. Books that were both written and illustrated by Indigenous authors and illustrators provided an opportunity to share authentic stories and show original artwork with Wonderhub visitors. These works would inspire activities in exhibits such as featuring designs and crafts that celebrate Indigenous illustrators. The stories would inspire guests to learn more about Indigenous storytelling and to share their own stories. The goal of sharing Indigenous content in programs is both to encourage a foundational level understanding of the importance in taking steps towards reconciliation through education and through celebrating the beauty of Indigenous cultures through the arts and stories.
- **Métis Days** Métis Cultural Days with CUMFI was an opportunity to be a part of an annual event that demonstrates appreciation and support of the Métis culture and arts. While at this family event, Wonderhub participated in the promotion of reconciliation by encouraging all people to increase their understanding and appreciation of Métis Art and Culture through performances, art displays and interactive booths. We offered an art-based activity designed by a local Métis artist and participants were able to build with the colourful Octoplay pieces that resembled the floral pattern found in Métis beadwork.
- Orange Shirt Day Each day of the week leading up to Orange Shirt Day we read stories about the meaning of Orange Shirt Days, including "Phyllis' Orange Shirt" and the "Orange Shirt Story". All Wonderhub guests were invited to create a paper orange shirt with a written inspirational message on it to hang in the lobby for awareness. Our team supported the initiative by wearing Orange shirts and aprons. Some of the inspirational messages included "Strong, Resilient, Proud, Indigenous", "Love each other the same 'cause we are all worth the same" and "Every Child Matters". More than 4,150 people participated.







# BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

You know that part of Wonderhub's mission is to be a hub for children and families, but were you aware of how many community building initiatives and programs we offered this year? Check it out!

#### Community Events

From Culture Days to Diversity Disco to the first virtual Pride Parade, the Wonderhub team was out in full force this year, representing the children and families we serve at some of our community's most iconic events. Saskatoon has so many ways to celebrate the diversity of our city and we have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating with you!

#### Kinsmen Park Programs

All year long, come sun or snow, Wonderhub provides regular outdoor programming at Kinsmen Park. With a downtown location, this park is a beloved place for Saskatoon's families and this year we brought arts, culture, and STEM programming right to you in the park.

#### **Adult Nights**

There's a child deep down inside every grownup, and we think re-connecting to that inner child brings out the best in all of us. Our adult nights brought hundreds of adults together to let their inner child take over as they played in the museum, tried out some creative crafting, and made fun memories together.

#### **Birthday Parties**

Wonderhub has truly emerged as a favorite place to celebrate children's birthdays. It is our honour to be present (pun intended) for such joyful events in the lives of the children we love.

#### Noon Year's Eve

Ringing in the new year is such an act of optimism, but midnight is a little out of reach for most kids. That's why this year we celebrated the new year at noon with hundreds of children and their adults.

## Sustainability

Our museum is our home and we take pride in the exhibits and spaces that were specially designed for the first and only children's museum in Saskatchewan Safety is an important aspect of our daily operations, infrastructure and **Facilities Management**. To ensure the magical experience of Wonderhub is felt by all who visit, we practice weekly inspections and checks on all exhibits and spaces. Maintenance is performed on equipment all week long in the form of repairs, cleaning, replacement and preventative maintenance. Our team is creative in identifying methods for enhancing the safety of exhibits and equipment based on our patrons use, as well as cost effective approaches to using local and national products. These efforts help us to extend the lifespan of our museum for generations to continue exploring and learning through play!





From November 15 – December 31, our annual appeal campaign, **Invest in Memories** kicked off for the third year. Memories are forever, and during the holiday season we know that memories shared together are the best gift you can give. We were honoured that our Board of Directors, as well as an anonymous donor chose to match all donations made to increase the impact of every donation. With this support, the community came together and gave the gift of play for the children and families that visit Nutrien Wonderhub, or participate in our Outreach activities, raising a total of \$27,766!

On October 6, 2019 we relaunched our friendraiser event "Discovery Dash" and had over 40 teams join us for a fun filled day for the whole family! Discovery Dash is more than just an event, it's a way for families to come together and make memories. Families either pre-registered their teams or registered at the door and collected pledges to participate, but what makes this event a friendraiser is that there is not a minimum donation required to participate. Our goal was to raise funds while ensuring that every family can come and experience the fun. Through the support of sponsors and prize donors as well as the hard working teams, we were able to raise over \$12,500. Wonderhub is all about discovery – and this event helped families to discover Wonderhub in a whole new way so the sound of laughter rang out as children and their adults worked together to have fun while they were learning something new.





Our generous sponsors and volunteer organizing committee was ready to bring our signature fundraiser "What's for Dinner?" to life in June 2020. We were so excited to once again partner with some amazing Chefs in our community and showcase their creative culinary skills. However, as with many things, the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything. We made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 event and focus on other areas of our operations as we prepared to reopen our doors. We look forward to bringing back this amazing event in June 2021!



## Gift Shop

The Gift Shop at Wonderhub is a special place. While it contributes to revenue development, we chose to build it to be a resource for Wonderhubbers and visitors to our community. The variety of products featured throughout our shelves and racks are curated to reflect the sense of play and education experiences in our unique exhibits. We feature local artists, authors and Canadian products through STEM kits, books, apparel, crafting supplies, sensory goods, and branded souvenirs for a wide range of ages and abilities. Our goal is to create a retail environment where everyone can find something to spark discovery and take the learning through play experience home with them.



Without the support of volunteers, Nutrien Wonderhub would not be able to reach as many families in our community. The more than fifty individuals that give of their time and talents to help make Wonderhub better really represent the heart of our organization. From being on our Board of Directors to working with our Visitor Experience and Program teams and working at events like Discovery Dash, each person who volunteers gives much more than just their time. They are living examples of generosity and joyful learning at Nutrien Wonderhub for every family they come into contact with.





Of course, we can't talk about appreciation without recognizing the hard-working team of employees at Wonderhub. Every single day our team comes together to help the community to engage with the Wonderhub experience. This might mean welcoming them through our doors, or creating online content to share on social media and Wonder World, or working behind the scenes to ensure our organization is fiscally secure and sustainable.





## WONDER WORLD

PRESENTED BY ISLAND

The COVID-19 pandemic was unexpected, tragic, and incredibly stressful. However, as often happens in times of strife, we have found that this pandemic has forced us to grow, innovate, and persist. One of the best parts of this journey for us has been the creation of Wonder World and all the content that now lives there. When you and your children visit wonderhub.ca/wonderworld, you'll find all types of educational programming designed to give you hands-on learning at home. You can search by target age, topic area, date of publication, and popularity to find programs on whatever has your child feeling curious!

We were also thrilled to be able to transition our camps to a virtual format during our closure. Kids were able to stay safe at home while also meeting new friends and getting to interact with our team of program facilitators. The virtual campers explored mythology, dinosaurs, insects, wildlife, outer space, and much more!

"I was curious whether my little one could possibly stay engaged in an online camp, but she was happy, busy, and stimulated the entire time. The facilitators and other kids really made the experience enjoyable and I'm so glad she got to participate. It had been too long since she got to have fun with so many new friends!" -Wonder Camp Parent

### Re-Opening Wonderhub

Once Saskatchewan's reopening plan allowed for museums to once again welcome visitors, Wonderhub prepared for your return by working with a public health consultant to ensure that we took every possible precaution. Our approach to COVID-era museum operations is comprehensive and detailed. We implemented a tiered re-opening that allowed our team, our members, and our visitors to gradually become comfortable with new practices and protocols.

Our safety efforts have focused on three main factors - preventing coronavirus from being brought into the building, preventing the spread of the virus within the building, and ensuring we have all the information necessary to assist with any contact tracing efforts. You've been so supportive and we truly appreciate your willingness to wash hands, wear masks, leave shoes in the lobby, maintain social distancing, and help

kids keep props away from their faces. We hope that all the measures we are taking together will continue to allow Saskatchewan's children to enjoy the museum and play to their hearts' content while we adults keep them safe.

s Virus

## CEO Message

This report has been lovingly put together by the Wonderhub team, and creating it together has been cathartic. It can be difficult in times like these to remember all of the amazing positive experiences that we've had. Looking back over the past year, I am deeply moved by how the Wonderhub family – members, volunteers, visitors, employees, donors – has continually drawn on creativity and resourcefulness to ensure that the children of our community keep learning, playing, growing no matter what is happening in the world around them. What an honour it is to be a part of this team and to work everyday to help create safe and joyful experiences for children and families.

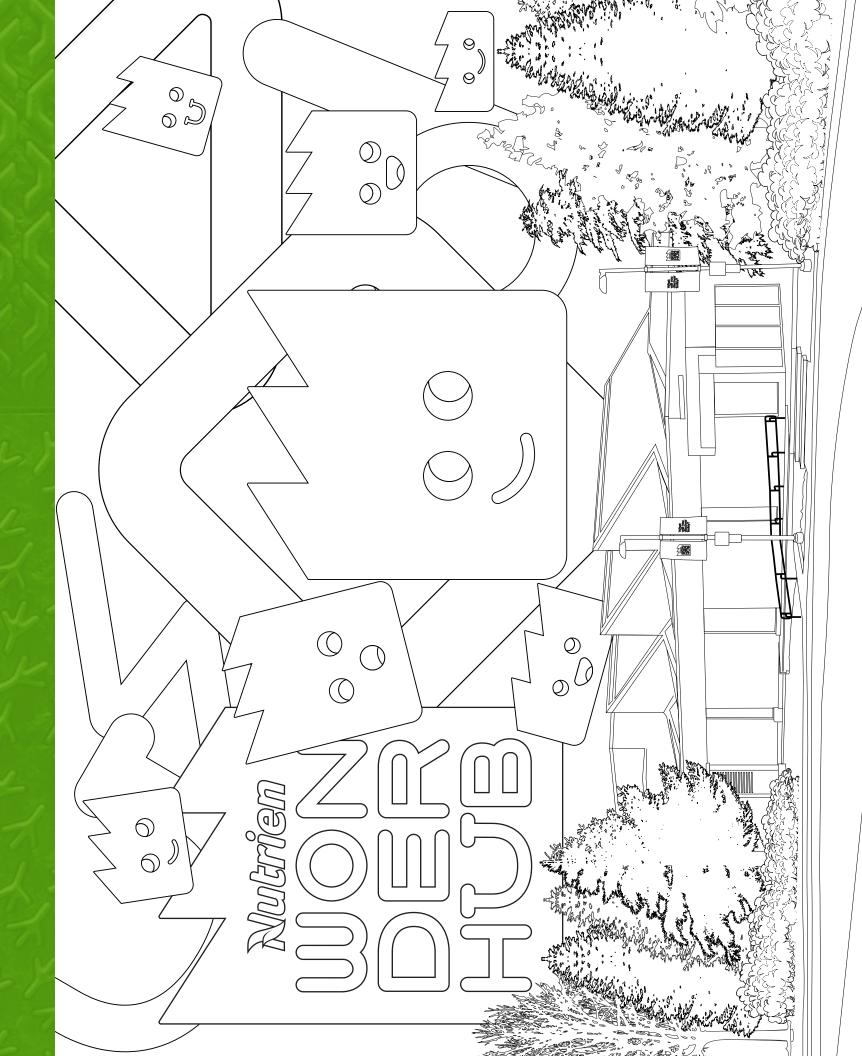
As we all continue to try to navigate through this pandemic, know that Nutrien Wonderhub will keep striving to meet your needs. This is a very difficult time for arts and culture organizations, indoor gathering places, and touch-based experiences – and Wonderhub is all of these. As an organization that depends on visitation to keep operating, this has been a difficult year for us and it looks as though next year will be very difficult as well. However, every time you share one of our free online programs with a child in your life, every time you register your child for a day camp, every time you make a donation, every time you participate in one of our outdoor programs, and every time you walk through the doors of our museum you are helping to ensure that Saskatchewan's children's museum survives. Thank you for your help. Together, we are nurturing the creativity and curiosity of our youngest community members – and securing a bright future for Saskatchewan.

Play on!

Amanda McReynolds Doran

**Chief Executive Officer** 







What will you discover today?