

## From the Chair

The Limestone Learning Foundation, in partnership with the Limestone District School Board, is dedicated to ensuring that every student is successful and supported in their well-being and education.

We hope that you are staying safe and healthy as we adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on our lives.

Our intention is to provide you with a brief update on what we had planned for this Spring. We value the patience you have afforded us as we consider how we may pivot around from our typical activities in order to support students and school communities during these challenging times.

We continue to work closely with the school board and our community partners and agencies to see how the Foundation may be able to serve our larger community, especially those who are particularly vulnerable. We cannot do this without our dedicated volunteers and donors.

We want to assure you that although we will be suspending grants and events until we are safely through this public health emergency, we remain ready to provide more of the successful projects that have carried the Foundation beyond its 20 years.

These are unprecedented times and we want to thank the Limestone District School Board, and Director of Education Debra Rantz, for their commitment to student learning and well-being.

Our staff continue to work remotely and always happy to help.

Be kind to yourself as we move forward.

Katherine C. Leverette  
Chair, LLF Board of Directors

## Makayla's Story

### **Makayla Parks** **Granite Ridge Education Centre**



Makayla Parks has taken her love of photography and videography to new heights. The 17-year-old student at Granite Ridge Education Centre has launched her own GIS (Geographic Information Systems) business, providing orthomosaic mapping, videography, and photography to clients in Frontenac and Lennox Counties.

Parks was a successful candidate in a youth entrepreneurial summer program, receiving mentorship from business leaders and a \$3,000 start-up grant to market her company Highland Aerial.

She has created maps for the North Frontenac Cemeteries with former classmate Ryleigh Rioux, and retired LLF Board member Brenda Martin. "I've also been doing photography and videography for members and other businesses/events in my community."

Makayla was introduced to environmental mapping and drone technologies through her involvement with her school's "Above and Beyond" drone program, funded by the LLF. "Without the program I would be nowhere today with my business and I wouldn't have even known what GIS (Geographic Information Systems) meant," explains Parks. "I am so lucky to have been a part of this program. This is when I started to seriously consider getting into GIS as a career."

For more information about Highland Aerial visit Makayla's Facebook [@highlandaerialdrone](#) or e-mail her at [highlandaerial@gmail.com](mailto:highlandaerial@gmail.com).

## We are All In this Together



The Foundation sincerely appreciates signature event sponsors such as Johnson Insurance, who have been beside us since the Foundation's inception. That's over 20 years! Thank you Johnson Inc. for your belief in our mission and generous financial support.

Because of our loyal supporters, whether large or small, the Limestone Learning Foundation can fund exceptional learning opportunities like the drone program at Makayla's school. Her experience inspired her to turn innovation into action, and her business is thriving.

## Golf Classic Postponed



The Sandra Davison Golf Classic, which was scheduled for June 4, 2020, has been postponed due to public health risks associated with COVID-19.

This decision was reached after consultation with Loyalist Golf and Country Club, organizers, and local partners. It is a disappointing turn of events as staff had been diligently working on making this year's tournament another great event, but it is a decision that is necessary.

## Climate Action Initiative 2020



This spring The Limestone Learning Foundation was poised to launch a significant district initiative, one that would inspire every student in the Limestone District School Board.

Unfortunately, we will have to delay the official launch of Climate Action 2020, but we will continue to build this movement as we empower school communities to stand up, start up or follow through with a climate action initiative that addresses climate change and its impact across the district.



Feel free to contact us to learn more.

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