**MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO & BOARD PRESIDENT**

At YWCA Toronto, we believe in the strength of women.

When women have access to safe, affordable housing, they succeed. When women have access to decent work opportunities, they – and their children – live better lives. When women have a voice, they go further to achieve their dreams.

We harness the resilience and leadership of women to build communities and transform lives.

2018 was a particularly impactful year for us. We strengthened our longstanding partnership with the City of Toronto to open a new women’s shelter on Davenport Road. We observed a significant growth in our employment programs leading to stronger starts for newcomer women. Together with YWCA Member Associations across the country, we have made important gains for women’s employment in building employment skills.

We are particularly heartened by the younger generation of feminists we actively engage with through our improved digital media strategy.

But the work remains and much is needed to be done. We are painfully aware that a shelter is not a home. Looking forward, we hope to initiate a new public-private partnership with the City and with our generous donors to increase our permanent, affordable housing stock.

Without the continued support of our partners, donors, and government allies, our work would simply not be possible. Only together can we create lasting change.
She remembers the strength she found within herself when she arrived at Toronto’s international airport, from her home country in Africa, and had nowhere to turn. Having left an abusive situation behind, she remembers feeling confused, scared and unsafe.

1st Stop Woodlawn shelter is where she turned as she faced a labyrinth of immigration and income challenges. She was assured that the shelter was a safe place, that she had rights and that there was an immigration worker on staff to help her navigate the system. “That gave me hope. I knew I could go to the staff if I had problems.”

By working with the staff and remaining resolved and resilient she is facing her challenges with strength and confidence. Now, when thinking about her future, she has many goals and dreams such as pursuing further education, getting a permanent job and bringing her children to Canada. Each day her goals are becoming more of a reality.

“YWCA helps you to stabilize and move on.”

YWCA Toronto takes a strong stand against all forms of gender-based violence.

Violence against women remains a critical barrier to women’s equality. It is estimated that every six days, a woman in Canada is killed by her intimate partner. YWCA Toronto promotes safety for women and their children through a network of Violence Against Women shelters and support programs. In 2018, we provided over 1,110 women and their children with vital resources to rebuild their lives. Our shelters provide a safe refuge, emergency services, individualized counselling and trauma-informed supports.

At YWCA Toronto we believe survivors and stand alongside them to advance systemic change. We work with all levels of government to apply a gender lens to government initiatives, advocate for gender-responsive policies, and call for greater funding for programs that support women and children. We understand the deep connections between gender-based violence and other systemic inequities. When given supportive environments to thrive, women demonstrate the brilliance of their resilience.

- 386 women & children found safety and support at a YWCA Toronto shelter
- 482 women & children overcame trauma in healing and expressive arts programs
- 244 women & children received interest-free loans that helped them rebuild after violence
- $3.9 million invested in violence against women shelters & programs

YWCA Toronto takes a strong stand against all forms of gender-based violence.
Cheerful, insightful and intelligent—that is 17-year-old Nabiha. Her energy bounces off the colourful art-covered walls in YWCA Toronto’s Girls’ Centre, a place she frequents every week.

Everything clicked for Nabiha when she attended the Girls’ Leadership Camp. It was there she learned about her strengths, the power of her voice and her boundless capability to lead others. Bolstered by what she learned, Nabiha recently started a Muslim Students Association at her own school. She is also a member of the Girls’ Council and is a mentor for the Girls’ Talk program. She is energized by having the opportunity to support younger girls.

“It’s cool that I have the opportunity to give back.”

The physical space at the Centre is part of the magic, says Nabiha. With its friendly vibes, comfortable couches and soft lighting, everyone who comes through feels welcomed and heard. Girls can be themselves while developing leadership skills, strengthening critical thinking competencies and discussing topics in a safe place.

“I feel like an all-girls environment is not only important, it’s necessary. You need a place where you can celebrate girlhood, whatever your definition of that is.”

“$2.6 million invested in girls’ & family programs

- 656 girls built friendships & became leaders at YWCA’s Camp Tapawingo
- 194 girls became critical thinkers & found their voice at the Girls’ Centre
- 595 teen moms & families increased social networks & built life skills to raise healthy children

At YWCA Toronto, we believe in empowering girls to become the leaders of tomorrow. At YWCA Toronto, we are committed to providing supportive environments for girls and young women to find their voice, explore their interests, and move forward as role models, mentors and community leaders. We know from experience that poverty, violence and rigid stereotypes continue to affect girls disproportionately, which limits their potential. The girls we work with tell us how difficult it is to find safe, inviting spaces where they feel as if they belong, and the difference it makes every day in their lives.

In 2018, over 1,460 girls, young women and non-binary youth accessed our programs — including our Girls’ Centre in Scarborough and Camp Tapawingo on Georgian Bay. At all of our programs, girls have the opportunity to discuss challenging topics, build their strengths, and develop lasting friendships in an empowering, feminist environment. As we receive very little government support for our girls’ programs, we continue to focus our advocacy efforts on securing dedicated funding for girls.
For the last eight years Elizabeth has made a home at Irma Brydson Place, YWCA Toronto’s apartment complex in downtown Toronto. While living here she has been able to focus on healing and personal wellness. Elizabeth values living in a safe environment with access to staff who provide support when needed.

“It is a good community for me. There is a lot of guidance and encouragement.”

Elizabeth enjoys reading, painting and writing, and you can often find her with a good book or with other residents in community spaces. Elizabeth’s enthusiasm about the sense of community and creative activities the programming offers is palpable. She participates in programs for expressive writing, knitting and art. Most recently she joined a storytelling program and although she was hesitant to join at first, she now cannot wait until the group meets.

Through the support and encouragement of the staff she has been inspired to write poetry, paint and practice Tai Chi. Elizabeth appreciates that her accomplishments are recognized, and she is glad that YWCA Toronto is part of her journey.

YWCA Toronto is committed to building safe communities for women and their families. Affordable housing in Toronto is now more elusive than ever with more than 100,000 families waiting for a permanent home. Growing housing insecurity, combined with the rising cost of living, is exacerbating poverty in our city and widening gender and racial inequality. YWCA Toronto is committed to providing affordable, supportive housing options to women and their families who need it the most.

In 2018, we provided 965 women and their children with safe, affordable housing in five communities across the city. All of our affordable housing initiatives help women build on their strengths, create stability and plan better futures. At Irma Brydson Place and Winona’s Place, we offer on-site legal support, health clinics, Indigenous programming, harm reduction and mental health services through our community partnerships. We will continue to engage with all levels of government, the private sector and the generosity of our donors to create a continuum of affordable and safe housing options for women and their families.

- $12.9 million invested in permanent housing programs
- 965 women & their children live in safe affordable housing
- 517 units of affordable housing for single women & women with children
- 50 units of affordable housing to support Indigenous women

YWCA Toronto is committed to building safe communities for women and their families.
New to Canada and overwhelmed by the size of Toronto, Klementina did not feel capable of navigating public transport or calling a doctor because she could not speak English. She was referred to the YWCA Toronto English Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) classes, and on her first day she was so scared she almost turned around and walked out.

“But that was the first day,” Klementina says with a smile, “I never missed a day after that.”

LINC offered Klementina no-cost, women-only English classes which enabled her to contribute fully to life in Canada. While she attended class, the Care for Newcomer Children program took care of her son. Klementina started on a new path that day and with the support of the staff she found her confidence.

“It was the sense of going from zero to one hundred. I could step out on my own. I saw that I could do more,” Klementina says.

Klementina is now attending George Brown College for a Community Worker Diploma, a decision she says was shaped by her positive experience at LINC.

“When I came to YWCA Toronto I found a place where I belonged.”

YWCA Toronto is proud to help newcomer women succeed in Canada.

Racialized newcomer women have the lowest median annual income of all newcomer groups at $26,624 and represent one of the most vulnerable segments of our population. Language barriers characterize a major obstacle toward social and economic integration. YWCA Toronto helps newcomer women make a strong start through our English Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program offered by the YWCA Toronto English Language Skills and Development. Our classes are available at no-cost in Etobicoke.

The women we serve tell us that they come to LINC because it is a women-centred learning environment. It is a safe space where women can build connections, receive support and leave feeling more confident and prepared to take on the challenges of Toronto’s labour market. To ensure child care is not a barrier to skills development, we provide child-minding for children ages six months to six years while mothers attend class. We honour newcomer women’s resilience and celebrate the skills and gifts they bring to Canada.
YWCA Toronto is dedicated to advancing gender equity and racial justice. Advocating for systemic change is an integral component of YWCA Toronto’s work. 2018 was an important year for us in terms of strengthening our advocacy campaigns, building community coalitions and advancing gender equity — one march, petition, consultation and meeting at a time.

We joined YWCA Canada’s delegation at the 62nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and presented on the housing barriers faced by women across Canada. For the first time ever, we launched two advocacy campaigns that involved a strong digital media focus. We continue to innovate and explore tools and approaches that promote civic engagement, amplify the voices of the women and girls in our programs, and advance our advocacy objectives.

Looking ahead, we are excited to work with YWCA Canada, other Member Associations across the country, and our supporters to ensure the voices of the women we serve are fully considered in important public policies. Through sustained advocacy work, we believe we can end gender-based violence and poverty and work towards an equitable, just and inclusive society for all.

POWERFUL MOVEMENT

2018 advocacy highlights include:

- Consulting with program participants and front-line staff to identify social policy issues and priorities;
- Influencing policy and legislative change through briefs, submissions, deputations and government relations activities;
- Convening forums to increase dialogue such as co-hosting town halls addressing gender-responsive budgeting and gender equity;
- Launching campaigns during the 2018 provincial and municipal elections to promote women’s civic engagement and highlight key issues;
- Participating in an advocacy day on Parliament Hill, alongside other YWCA leaders, on the subject of women’s economic security; and,
- Actively contributing to coalitions dedicated to gender equity, poverty reduction and social justice.

1. 77% is the wage gap between men & women in Toronto, a gap that widens for racialized & newcomer women & women with disabilities
2. $1,685 per month is the average fee for a licensed infant child care spot in Toronto
3. 6,000+ women and children sleep in shelters on any given night in Canada because it is not safe at home
4. 3.5 million social media impressions obtained by YWCA Day on the Hill hashtag #YWCADayOnTheHill
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The Trust Collective presents a unique opportunity for committed philanthropists to be part of a bold new partnership to amplify women’s voices and contributions to make a real and lasting collective impact on the lives of women and girls. Learning events held throughout the year will offer a deeper engagement with the issues at hand, starting with the international Women Deliver 2019 Conference in June.

The vision and capacity of the Trust Collective immediately captured the attention of many forward-thinking YWCA Toronto supporters and by the end of 2018, three women pledged their support. Our goal is to recruit five women altogether, which will translate into $450,000 in unrestricted gifts directly to YWCA Toronto over the next four years, as well as the establishment of five endowments that will champion philanthropic giving through a gender lens in perpetuity.

Our work with women over the last year has reached new heights, thanks to the public attention gender issues have received. At the same time, as a sector, we have come to recognize that no single organization or donor is going to solve the world’s most complex problems. Only by working together can we achieve great things.

That is why we welcomed an opportunity to partner with the Toronto Foundation on the Trust Collective, a new fundraising and donor education initiative structured to build awareness and long term support for the issues facing women and girls.

This collective movement unites YWCA Toronto with 16 other local organizations serving women, with the shared goal of engaging 100 women philanthropists, each pledging $100,000, on a three-year philanthropic and learning journey.

Together, we will raise $5 million in unrestricted funding for women-focused organizations in Toronto, and create another $5 million in endowments forever committed to supporting women’s equity across Canada and worldwide. By joining like-minded organizations and donors, not only support more women and girls, we build capacity within the sector for stronger collaboration in the future.

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YWCA Toronto’s Board of Directors is committed to creating change for women and girls across Toronto. The Board ensures that our work is aligned with our vision and mission, stewards our financial and donor resources, and provides leadership and oversight of our strategic plan and initiatives.

**OUR VISION**
YWCA Toronto will be a leader in transforming the lives of marginalized and disadvantaged women and girls in Toronto.

**OUR MISSION**
YWCA Toronto accomplishes this vision by being a strong advocate for women and girls, providing transformative services in the areas of employment support and training, housing options and shelters, leadership development programs for girls and key supports for women and children who have experienced violence.

**OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

- **Strengthen** awareness of YWCA Toronto, leveraging our credibility and reputation.
- **Ensure** financial and organizational sustainability.
- **Integrate** continuous quality improvement in operations and programs.
- **Deliver** high-impact, life-changing programs for women and girls.
- **Align** advocacy with mission priorities, supported by program expertise.
- **Promote** strong governance and employer best practices.
2017 REVENUE & EXPENSES
Year ended December 31

- **Revenue**: $30,547,798
- **Excess of Revenue Over Expenses for the Year**: $25,099

2018 REVENUE & EXPENSES
Year ended December 31

- **Revenue**: $31,960,615
- **Deficiency of Revenue Over Expenses for the Year**: $79,868
  - Includes the "Gain on Sale of Capital Asset" of $214,670

Auditors: Ernst & Young LLP
Charitable Business #108229865 RR0001

Information filed under the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996 is available on the Ministry of Finance website: http://www.fin.gov.on.ca.
Canadian Western Bank
The Catherine and
Maxwell Meighen Foundation
The D.H. Gordon Foundation
Joan E. Eddy
Goldcorp Inc.
Harnett & Jonathan Goodman
The Harold E. Ballard Foundation
John and Christine Currie
Foundation at Toronto Foundation
Jerry & Joan Leznicki
MFS Investment Management
Canada Ltd.
Nancy Ramalho & Jeff Graham
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Irma J. Brydson Foundation
RBC Foundation
S.M. Clarkson
Echo Foundation
The Harry E. Foster
Charitable Foundation
The Honourable Margaret McCain
Margaret Newman, in memory of Ted Newman
Nordstrom
Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd.,
Johnston & Daniel Division
Royal LePage Shelter Foundation
Suhuyini Abudulai
Susan Aharan
Rebecca Ruth Allen & Jeffrey Levitt
AMR Barristers & Solicitors LLP
Anya Fertility & Reproductive Health
Sally Armstrong
The Boiler Inspection and
Insurance Company of Canada
Brydon Family
Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities
Canadian Women’s Foundation
Mary Anne Chambers
Doris Chan
Canadian Western Bank
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Linda M. Chu
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Cidel Asset Management
City View Alternative Sr. School
Brian Clark
Clayton Gyngold Fund
at Toronto Foundation
Collier Fitness & Nutrition
Creative Investment Corporation
Kathy Cunningham
Donna Daska
Ellen Donovan
Christina Dawson-Gray
Dorothy and Rogers Foundation
at Toronto Foundation
Denise Dwyer
Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario
Wendi Ems
Eyewear Marketing Inc.
Sheldon Inwentash & Lynn Factor
Lois Fine
The First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto
FMAV

Nancy Foster
Julia Foster
Catherine Gagnon
Francis Galligan
Gandy Charitable Foundation
Geoffrey B. Scott Memorial Fund
at Toronto Foundation
Sharon Gershagit
Ronald & Lee Gold
Goldman, Sachs & Co.
John & Judith Grant
Yola Grant
Lucy Greene
Katherine Gurney
Heathendrana Bryant Memorial Fund
Tekker Family
Steven Hilditch & Nikke Yokukura
Denise Jackman
Elaine Kennedy
Lara Jensen
Jannise Inc.
Lynne & Jordan Elliott
K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation
Karol Kukas & John Crouse
Kanetix Insurance
Jim Kastle
Tanya Kostman-Berry
Anne Macdonald

Judith Mandel
Jeannette Manguiat-Stoecker
Martha LA McCain
Sophy McDonald
Heather McGregor
The McLean Foundation
Ian & Hayley McLean
MKTG
Mary Pat Moore
Nancy Moore
Janis Moor
Motion Clothing
Nora Nestor & Alfred Avanesyan
Mary Ann O’Rourke
Sally Patterson
The Peterborough K.M. Hunter
Charitable Foundation
Pharmaprix
Pharmaprix
Entertainment Group
The Philip Smith Foundation
Tanya Piazza
Plumpton Hill Professional Corp.
Frances Price
Marli Ramsey
Linda M. Rapson
Raschkowan Foundation at the
Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation
Vincenta Cheng
Christian Science Society, Scarborough
Linda M. Chu
CHUM Charitable Foundation
Cidel Asset Management
City View Alternative Sr. School
Brian Clark
Clayton Gyngold Fund
at Toronto Foundation
Collier Fitness & Nutrition
Creative Investment Corporation
Kathy Cunningham
Donna Daska
Ellen Donovan
Christina Dawson-Gray
Dorothy and Rogers Foundation
at Toronto Foundation
Denise Dwyer
Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario
Wendi Ems
Eyewear Marketing Inc.
Sheldon Inwentash & Lynn Factor
Lois Fine
The First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto
FMAV

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Julia Foster
Catherine Gagnon
Francis Galligan
Gandy Charitable Foundation
Geoffrey B. Scott Memorial Fund
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Martha LA McCain
Sophy McDonald
Heather McGregor
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Nancy Moore
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Entertainment Group
The Philip Smith Foundation
Tanya Piazza
Plumpton Hill Professional Corp.
Frances Price
Marli Ramsey
Linda M. Rapson
Raschkowan Foundation at the
Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation

2018 GIVING

$100,000+
Anonymous (1)
Dr. Kristin Blakely-Kozman
Fidelity Investments
Gibbons Family
The Home Depot Canada Foundation
Ruth Mandel
Jan Ruby & Mary Thomson
Shun Youkakutsui Fund
at Toronto Foundation
The Garden Club of Toronto
Jana Wilson
Joan & Bobart Wright
Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) Canada

$50,000+
Anonymous (1)
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Irma J. Brydson Foundation
RBC Foundation
$25,000+
M.H. Clarkson
Echo Foundation
The Harry E. Foster
Charitable Foundation
The Honourable Margaret McCain
Margaret Newman, in memory of Ted Newman
Nordstrom
Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd.,
Johnston & Daniel Division
Royal LePage Shelter Foundation
Anonymous (3)
Dan & Carolynne Boivin
Fidelity Investments
Gibbons Family
The Home Depot Canada Foundation
Ruth Mandel
Jan Ruby & Mary Thomson
Shun Youkakutsui Fund
at Toronto Foundation
The Garden Club of Toronto
Jana Wilson
Joan & Bobart Wright
Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) Canada

$10,000+
Anonymous (3)
Dan & Carolynne Boivin
Fidelity Investments
Gibbons Family
The Home Depot Canada Foundation
Ruth Mandel
Jan Ruby & Mary Thomson
Shun Youkakutsui Fund
at Toronto Foundation
The Garden Club of Toronto
Jana Wilson
Joan & Bobart Wright
Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) Canada

$1,000+
Anonymous (15)

20
ESTATES
We honour the memory of the individual whose legacy was realized in 2018.

2018 YWCA TORONTO WOMEN OF DISTINCTION AWARD SPONSORS

PRESENTING
Sun Life Financial

CHAMPION
Elmwood Spa/Bangkok Garden
Shoppers Drug Mart
TD Bank Group

PATRON
The Globe and Mail
KPMG LLP
RBC Royal Bank
Ryerson University
Willis Towers Watson

TRIBUTE
BMG Financial Group
The Hon. Margaret Norrie McCain
ScotiaBank

FUTURE LEADERS
The Chang School of Ryerson University
Society of United Professionals

OFFICIAL MEDIA SPONSOR
CBC Toronto

ART AUCTION SPONSORS ($2,500+)
Renee Ballard
Susie & Greg Belton
Mary Coldair
Eileen Farrow
Focus Asset Management
HOK
The McQuaig Family

ART AUCTION PURCHASERS ($1,000+)
Tom Ashburne
Dominic Auld
Ron Barauskas
Flora Courteau
Pinar Crombie
Wendy Macdonald
Marco Mancini

ART AUCTION DONATIONS ($1,000+)
Anonymous (1)
Bluboho Inc.
The Odette Foundation
Leslie Pringle & Donald Wright
RiskCheck Inc.
Vastacon Limited
Joan & Robert Wright

GIFT IN KIND ($1,000+)
Anonymous (2)
Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services
Adath Israel Synagogue
Erin Armstrong
Robert Armstrong

Sandra Riedel & D. J. Arnott
Catherine Riggall
Kathie Robinson
Mark Robson
Lucille Roch
Geoff Ryall
Aleksandra Sagan
Barbara Sahe
SAP Canada Inc.
Say Yeah Inc.
Ann Schwenkler
Candace Shaw
Kathryn Shaw & Giovanni Strazzullo
Annabel Stążek
Catherine Steele
Andrea Stewart
Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada
Toronto Education Workers,
CUPE Local 4400
Toronto Foundation
Beasy Triangle
Tiering Tomson & Suni Uppal
Tynan Studio
Ranjit Verbee
Diane Walker
Lenore Walters

Andrea Weissman Daniels
Bath Wilson
Patricia Wood
Kathleen Zimmer

“Home Is Where the Art Is”
Art Auction, in support of YWCA Toronto 1st Stop Woodlawn

ART AUCTION SPONSORS ($2,500+)
Renée Ballard
Susie & Greg Belton
Mary Coldair
Eileen Farrow
Focus Asset Management
HOK
The McQuaig Family

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Pinar Crombie
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Marco Mancini

Alberto Martinez
Deborah J. Mitchell
Sharon Mollenhauer
Flavia Robinson
Cynthia Waite
Chris Wright

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Adath Israel Synagogue
Erie Armstrong
Robert Armstrong

Shelley Axler
Baskateers
Catherine Beauchette
Roslyn Black
Brands for Canada
Child Development Institute
CHUM Charitable Foundation
City of Toronto - Revenue Services
Assessments Reviews & Analysis
ClubLink
Melissa Doherty
Dust Public Relations
Liza Falconer
FITC
Joe Fleming
Michelle Forsyth
GlobalMedic
Griffith Foods
Katharine Harvey
Byron Hodgens
The Home Depot Canada Foundation
Ishan Kodakal
Alexander Irving
J. Crew Vancouver
Tosh Jeffery
Nicole Katsuras
James Kennedy

21

22
COALITIONS
CAS/VAW Toronto Region
Advocacy Committee
Casino Woodbine Employment
Labour and Market Plan (ELMP)
Implementation Subgroup
Commitment TO Community
Counselling Network
Equal Pay Coalition
Here to Help Coordinators Committee
Neighbourhood Improvement
Area Network
Ontario Council of Agencies
Serving Immigrants (OCAS)
Ontario Network of Employment
Skills Training Projects (ONESSTEP)
Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses (OAITH)
Ontario Campaign 2000
Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care
Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association (ONPHA)
Scarborough Employment
Ontario Network
Scarborough Collaborative Employment Network East
Toronto Community Benefits Network
Toronto Mental Health and Addictions
Supportive Housing Network
Transitional Housing and Support Program Network
Violence Against Women Network
Woman Abuse Council of Toronto
Young Parents No Fixed Address

CREATIVE DESIGN & PRODUCTION
Kim Quashie
PHOTOGRAPHY
Alia Youssef
- Cover photo, pages 5, 9 and 16

MAKE YOUR VALUES YOUR LEGACY AT YWCA TORONTO
A gift in your will has the power to transform the lives of women and girls in our community.

VENUE RENTALS AT YWCA TORONTO
GREAT VALUE  GREAT CAUSE

SAV E THE DATE
Thursday, May 23, 2019
Fairmont Royal York

MAKE YOUR VALUES YOUR LEGACY AT
YWCA TORONTO

A gift in your will has the power to transform the lives of women and girls in our community.

To learn more about our planned giving program, please contact Katherine Verhagen Rodis, Major Gifts and Planned Giving Officer at kverhagenrodis@ywcatoronto.org or at 416.961.8101 x327.

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A gift in your will has the power to transform the lives of women and girls in our community.

To learn more about our planned giving program, please contact Katherine Verhagen Rodis, Major Gifts and Planned Giving Officer at kverhagenrodis@ywcatoronto.org or at 416.961.8101 x327.

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