

THE ARQUIVES

Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET: OUR PEOPLE



STAFF (5) | VOLUNTEERS (146) | DONORS (LEGIONS)

CANADA'S LGBTQ2+ ARCHIVE

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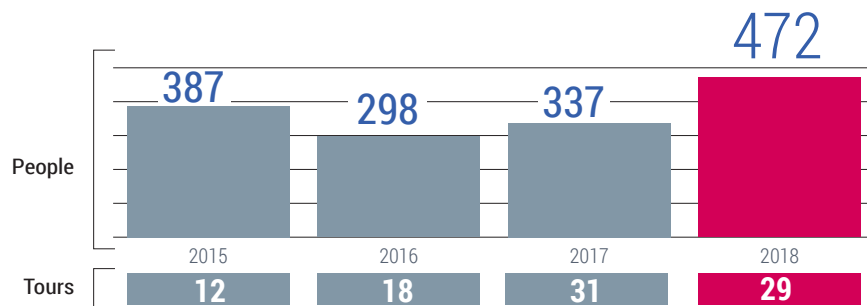
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All of our volunteers, staff, community partners, and donors, without whom we would not be able to make this happen.

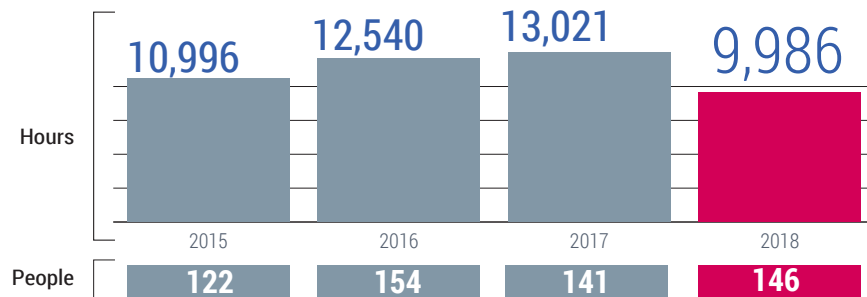
KEEPING OUR STORIES ALIVE

OUR **IMPACT** IN THE COMMUNITY

Heritage Walking Tours & Tours of The ArQuives



Volunteer Hours



**MORE THAN
ONE HUNDRED
WALKED THE
VILLAGE ON
ONE OF OUR
MANY TOURS**

2018 – YEAR IN REVIEW

Over the last few years, The ArQuives (formerly the CLGA) has learned that embracing change, engagement, disruption, and new challenges is key to unlocking our communities' strengths and ensuring we remain relevant for years to come. In 2018 we put this principle into practice and reshaped the path we are taking in aid of collecting, preserving, and sharing the diverse stories of LGBTQ2+ people in Canada. In the process we achieved some landmark accomplishments — turning points to make sure we remain the largest independent LGBTQ2+ archives in the world. Among 2018's challenges were securing foundational funding, a new name, the broadening of our collection, outreach and programming, and making the archives physically and digitally accessible.

2018 witnessed our archivists make significant progress in processing wide ranging fonds, such as The Body Politic and The Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario, and broadening our collections with new and more diverse donations from people and groups such as the two-spirit trans sex work activist Monica Forrester, the Inside Out Festival, Supporting Our Youth (SOY), and 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations. We also turned our attention to renovating The Jared Session House (34 Isabella) to make it physically accessible. The six-

month long construction site to build a new front entrance was a challenge, but it did not deter our stakeholders — public hours ran as usual, and more than 650 revellers found their way to the back door for our Nuit Blanche Exhibition. With the support of TD and the Pride and Remembrance Run we updated our internal databases to create a new digital portal for world-wide access to our collections. Last year's outreach initiatives and programming were further activated and diversified with the inclusion of new volunteers and staff — the impact of which will be felt for years to come.

In this report you will find more details of what made 2018 a pivotal moment in our history, all of which would not be possible without your support. We want to thank everyone who contributed to making The ArQuives what it is — keeping us connected to our histories and moving forward with us as we change and grow. Thank you to our volunteers, Board of Directors, our committed staff, and our generous donors who trust us with their collections and their support. ■

Without all of you we would not be able to pursue our mission to be The ArQuives, Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives, and keep our stories alive.

Raegan Swanson, Executive Director (left)
Dennis Findlay, President (right)



WHAT DOES CHANGE LOOK LIKE?

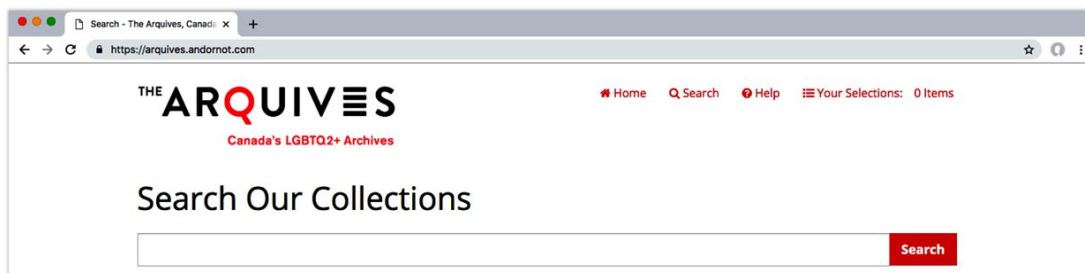
What's in a name? A question that our communities and the archives have struggled with for decades. Since our inception in 1973, we have already changed our name three times to fit our mandate and respond to the evolving LGBTQ2+ landscape — and 2018 marked a fourth time for a new name to embrace the diversity of our communities and collections. We spent six months reaching out to our stakeholders, through both online surveys and one-on-one interviews, and recognized the persistence and growth of communities not represented

in our previous name: most notably trans, queer, bisexual, and 2-Spirit folks. Our goal was a name that would carry on our legacy and advance our expanding role as a vital resource and repository. In early 2018, we chose the name The ArQuives, Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives and started working on our visual identity. Over time, it is through our actions and programming that our new name will garner significant meaning to our stakeholders. ■

THE **ARQUIVES**

Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives

The ArQuives was one of the beneficiaries of the 2018 **Pride and Remembrance Run** in Toronto. The funds were earmarked to create the digital hub for worldwide access to our holdings. The 5 km run and 3 km walk held during Pride weekend was a huge success, despite the rain. And in March 2019, with the help of Pride and Remembrance Run, **TD Bank**, and the essential work of our staff and volunteers we launched our digital portal for worldwide access to our collections. ■

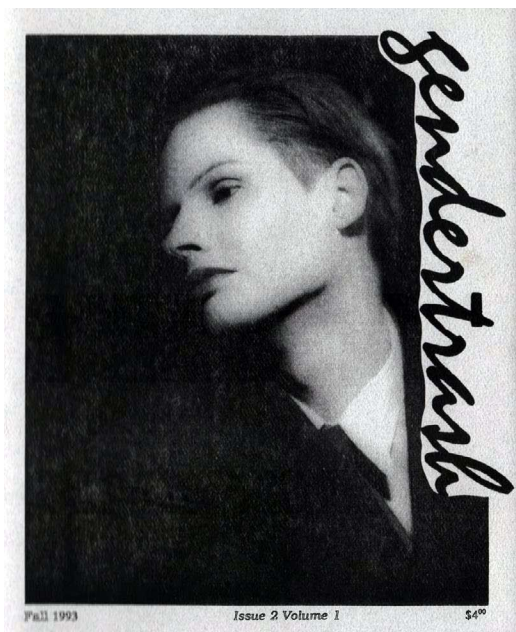


2018 PARTNERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

ARRIVING AND DEPARTING AT THE MYSEUM:INTERSECTIONS FESTIVAL AND THE 519

In March of 2018, The ArQuives partnered with two exhibits at the 519 as part of the **Myseum:Intersections Festival** – a festival exploring intersectional perspectives on Toronto and its history. The 2018 theme was “Arrivals and Departures.”

Former The ArQuives intern, Sid Cunningham, curated **Jeanne B ’93: A Gendertroublemaker Arrives**, an exhibit of the work of transsexual artist and activist Mirha-Soleil Ross drawing from the Mirha-Soleil Ross fonds – one of the two largest personal trans collections at The ArQuives.



Mirha-Soleil Ross’s film with Xanthra Phillipa Mackay, **Gendertroublemakers** (1993), was screened at the opening reception and visitors to an exhibit workshop engaged with this important history by recreating activist buttons from Mirha-Soleil Ross’s influential zine Gendertrash.

The exhibit **Escondidos No More!** highlighted the coming out of the Latinx queer community in Toronto, revealing a history of the work Latinx queers have done in creating essential spaces for themselves and those who follow after them.



As contributor to the exhibit Rico Rodriguez, who founded the story-telling collective *Queers in Your Ears* in 1997, told The ArQuives: “*If our history is invisible then we run the risk of becoming invisible as a community. We’re not!*”



2018 PARTNERS

QUEERING FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHY FEATURED AT THE SCOTIABANK CONTACT FESTIVAL

In April and May of 2018, the exhibit *Queering Family Photography* was on display at the Stephen Bulger Gallery as part of the **Scotiabank Contact Festival**. The exhibit was a co-production of The Family Camera Network and The ArQuives, with additional help from The University of Winnipeg's Two-Spirited Photography Collection. Lead curator Elspeth Brown, current Vice-President of The ArQuives' board of directors, and co-curator Thy Phu hired Sajdeep Soomal to coordinate the initiative, and sought insight and support from documentary filmmaker Richard Fung, Indigenous activist Albert McLeod, along with other volunteers to mount this vibrant exhibition. *Queering Family Photography* examined the critical work that LGBTQ2+ family photos do in documenting and creating queer belonging. As Elspeth Brown put it, "*photography offers a direct means of projecting queer joy and a potent resource for survival and resilience.*" ■



1



2

1. Outdoor photo shoot, digital image, photographer: unknown. Courtesy of the The ArQuives and the 2 Spirited People of the 1st Nations.

2. Teo and Matthew, c. 2008, Digital image, photographer: unknown. Courtesy of the Family Camera Network, the The ArQuives and Teo Owang.

3. Rupert Raj, Michael Camp, and Micheline Johnson, c. 1974, Kodacolor print, 3.5" X 3.5", The Family Camera Network, The ArQuives, and rupert raj. Photographer: unknown.



3



2018 PARTNERS

CURATING QUEER BLACK LEGACIES: A CONVERSATION

In June of 2018, The ArQuives hosted **“Promiscuous Archiving: The Joys of Curating Queer Black Legacies,”** a multimedia presentation and conversation between London-based art photographer and queer visual activist Ajamu Ikwe-Tyehimba and Toronto visual artist, poet, and community activist Courtney McFarlane. Both men have been active in the important work of archiving Black queer histories, with Ikwe-Tyehimba founding The Rukus! Black Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Cultural Archive with Topher Campbell and McFarlane curating Legacies in Motion: Black Queer Toronto Archival Project at the Myseum:Intersections festival in 2019. The provocative Queer Black Legacies conversation was recorded and can be viewed on-line through our digital portal. ■

WALKING THE VILLAGE WITH HERITAGE TORONTO



In 2018, the Community Engagement Committee revamped their LGBTQ2+ Pride walking tour of Toronto’s Gay Village, with the essential labour of long-time volunteer Croft Campbell-Higgins, along with volunteers Douglas Haines and Rachel E. Beattie. In their revisions, the committee made sure to keep the tour up to date with the changing history of our queer communities and to prioritize the incorporation of underrepresented participants in queer history. With the partnership of Heritage Toronto, they ran two free public walking tours in August and September.

“These tours have always been popular,” notes Executive Director Raegan Swanson. ***“But last year, as a result of expanding the tour, and additional promotion online and in person, we had 100s of people join us on the two walking tours.”*** ■



OUR OPERATIONS AND OUR COLLECTIONS

In 2018, the CLGA operations committee provided public service support to 100 researchers, over the course of 193 research visits. Even though we had construction in the front of the building we remained open to the public three evenings and one afternoon a week. We accommodated our out-of-town researchers who required access to the collections after hours, and last year the number of on-line research requests increased substantially.

Our efforts to increase The ArQuives' profile in the community is working; as last year saw archival donations from 140 donors, including donations from the 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations, and Sherbourne Health Centre - SOY. Tobadon Waxman, Assistant to our on-going *Trans Collection Project*, was instrumental in conducting the research and outreach to Monica Forrester who donated with her valuable collection, which broadens the diversity and representation of our holdings.

Last year we made major progress processing the Mirha Soleil Ross, David Hawe, Cabbagetown Group Softball League fonds, and the The Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario (CLGRO) collection. ■

— Adam Birrell,
Operations Committee Chair

2018 HIGHLIGHTS:

2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations

Organizational records; artifacts; photographs; personal papers.

Douglas Stewart

Oral History interview by Douglas Stewart and digital photos for the ROM Family Camera Network. Discussion about family, Toronto, being black, queer, and an activist.

Sherbourne Health Centre -

SOY (Supporting Our Youth)
Organizational Records

Monica Forrester

Personal records; photographs, journals, zines, illustrations, and periodicals.

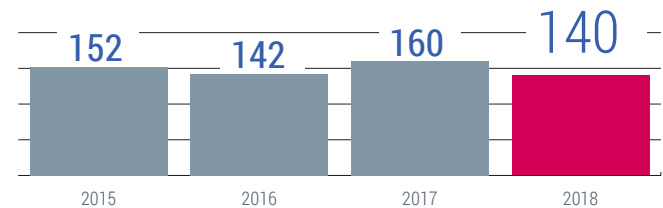
Records of Gerald Hannon

Photographs, correspondence, involvement with The Body Politic, Cabbagetown Group Softball League, and other items.

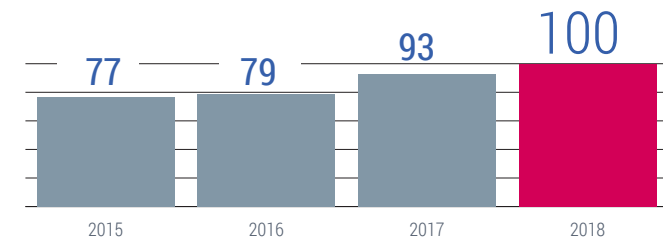
Queering Progress Oral Histories

MP3s of oral history interviews, transcripts, permission forms created for Tim McCaskell's book **Queer Progress: From Homophobia to Homonationalism**.

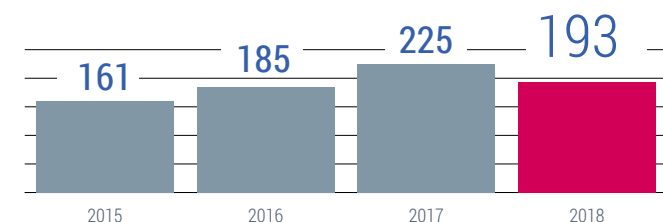
Number of Accessions (2015 - 2018)*



Number of Researchers (2015 - 2018)



Number of Research Visits (2015 - 2018)



*The number of accessions is not a measure of the quality nor quantity of an acquisitions.

MONICA FORESTER

As the founder of Trans Pride Toronto, former employee of the 519, and current program coordinator of the Aboriginal Sex Workers Education and Outreach Project at Maggie's, Monica Forrester is an important part of Toronto's LGBTQ2+ history. Her papers include activist and community organization materials, zines, copies of speeches she's given, and newspaper and magazine articles she has been featured in, as well as her journals, poems, photos, and postcards from friends. Forrester's papers add an essential part of the story of activism by trans women of colour and sex workers to The ArQuives' collections. ■



WHAT'S NEW IN THE ARQUIVES

SHERBOURNE HEALTH CENTRE - SOY (SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH)

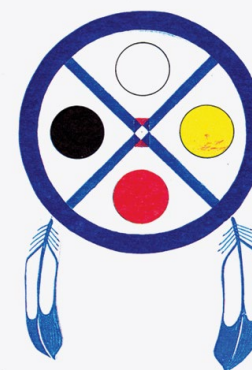
Supporting Our Youth (SOY), a program that started in 1998 in Toronto, has donated 14 boxes full of organizational material to The ArQuives. SOY began as a three-year community development project for LGBTQ2+ youth and in 2004 found a permanent home in the Sherbourne Health Centre. Over the years, SOY has run programs and projects like Eco-Queers (2000-2002), Re-writing the Script: A Love Letter to Our Families (2001) in partnership with Desi-Queer: South Asian Video Project collective, Word Out!, and Super Trans Powers (2013). They are and have been an essential part of community life and organizing in Toronto over the past 20 years and the collection will add valuable stories to The ArQuives' collections. ■



2-SPIRITED PEOPLE OF THE 1ST NATIONS

The organization 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations (founded in 1989 as the North American Indian Gay & Lesbian Society of Toronto) has donated a significant collection to The ArQuives from their years of Two Spirit community building and HIV/AIDS education and support. The collection includes photos of gatherings, programs from memorial services of Two Spirit community members, and organizational publications. This material significantly adds to our collection and broadens our stories, which have often ignored Indigenous people and lives. ■

NASHINE GINWENIMAWAZIMIN
Constant Care



2-SPIRITED PEOPLE
OF THE 1ST NATIONS

THANK YOU! OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

GUARDIANS

Champion \$10,000+

Estate of James D Stewart
Pride & Remembrance Foundation
TD Bank Financial Group
The Estate of Jack Hallam

Defender (\$5,000–\$9,999)

Dennis Findlay
Gilles Provost & Claude Jutras
Martha L.A. McCain
PinkTriangle Press

Protector (\$2,500–\$4,999)

Michael Halleran
Rachel Lauren Clark
RBC Foundation

Sentinel (\$1,000–\$2,499)

AJ Goulding
Alan Ray & John Montague
Anton Wagner
Barrie Martin
Brian Dawson
Brian Dedora
Charles Hill
Charles Lubiniecki
Colin Deinhardt
Crews & Tangos
Donald McLeod
Duncan McLaren
Edward Jackson
FLASH
General Idea Inc.
George Pratt
Gerald Hannon
Gerry Oxford
Gillian Roberts
Harold Averill
John Clifford
John Crawford
John Lownsborough
Ken Popert

Norman Hatton
Pearse Murray
RBC
Robert Coates
Robert Sirman
Robert Wallace
Robert Windrum
Salina M. Blair Family
Foundation
Spa Excess
Tom Warner



OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

\$500–\$999

Arthur Wood
 Brian Mossop
 Chris Ambidge
 Chris Hudspeth
 David Kraft
 David Rayside &
 Gerald Hunt
 Gordon Davies
 Graham Jackson
 Ian Turner
 Jack Connell
 Karen Stanworth &
 Carole Parriey
 Kelvin Browne
 Kristine Hoszka
 Michael Petty
 Ossian Ghazal
 Pegasus on Church Inc.
 Peter Zorzi &
 Charles Dobie
 Philip Hartwick
 Punk Sucks
 R&M Lang Foundation
 Richard Fung
 Robert Buckingham
 Telus
 The Charlie &
 Lulu Franklin Fund at
 The Calgary Foundation
 Vincent Wheeler
 Woody's On Church

\$100–\$499

Adam Peer
 Alan Miller
 Alex Liros
 Alin Senecal-Harkin
 Amy Gottlieb
 Andrew Chong
 Andrew Cruikshank
 Anthony Collins
 Bev Lepischak
 Bob Gallagher
 Bob Krawczyk
 Boutique Bar
 Brian Cartwright
 Brian H. Morrison
 Brian McBurney
 Brian Sambourne
 Brian Stearns
 Brian Terry
 Bruce Eves
 Carol Deacon &
 Heather Huber
 Carrie A. Brown
 Christopher Field
 Cyndra MacDowall
 Dan Hill &
 Lisle Christie

Daniel Baugher
 David Cassidy
 David Hallman
 David Hughes
 David Moore
 Denis Lefebvre
 Donald Clarke
 Donald J. Meen
 Donna Daitchman
 Edward Janiszewski
 Elspeth Brown
 Fabian Carvalho
 Farrell Macdonald
 Gary Fitzgibbon
 George Dalton
 Gerard McPhail
 Gerry King
 Harold Crawford
 Hugh M Brewster
 Jack Brannigan
 James Clark
 James Dougan
 Jennifer Welsh
 Jim Bartley
 Joanne St. Lewis
 John Dryden

John Peebles
 John Wallace
 John Whitepost
 Jordan Daniels
 Joseph Flessa
 Kabir Ravindra
 Kanata Electronic
 Services Ltd.
 Keiji Fujiyoshi
 Ken King
 Kinji Yamada
 League Inc.
 Lorne Fox Donation
 Fund at Toronto
 Marc Stein
 Matt Hicks
 Matthew Hayday
 Miriam Kaufman
 Neil Betteridge
 Neil Thomlinson
 Neville Austin
 Nikolas Tsirgielis
 Patricia Swerhone
 Paul Leatherdale
 Peter Demski
 Peter Graham

Priscila Simoes
 Tchorbadjian
 Raegan Swanson
 Richard Archbold
 Richard McLellan
 Robert Smith
 Rosemary Barnes
 Scott Bell
 Stephen A. Murray
 Stephen Yeates
 Steven Endicott
 Stuart Rogers
 Stuart Sankey
 Susan Ewing
 Terrence Paris
 Tim McCaskell
 Val Lem
 Valerie Kostyniuk
 Vivian Farris
 Wayne Madden
 Wendy Pearson

We thank all our generous donors, without your support we would not be able to keep our stories alive.
 We apologize if your name is missing from our list and ask that you bring this to our attention.

2018 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Last year was a pivotal time as we actively implemented our 5-year strategic plan across all committees and initiatives. On the financial front we aggressively pursued both new and familiar revenue channels, including our generous individual donors, bequests, grants, and government and corporate special project funding. We also expanded our strategy to build sustainable funding through licensing agreements for parts of our collection, which remain valuable assets.

Over the last three years the James E. Steward Estate funds were made available to The ArQuives, and by the end of 2018 we had accrued a significant and secure reserve account. This account is earmarked for future capital investment, but its strength makes it a resource to draw from for interim shortfalls.

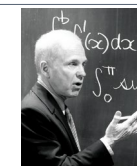
In 2018 we secured funding from Canada Summer Jobs, the Documentary Heritage Communities Program and Young Canada Works to hire archivists and archive assistants for our operations. The City of Toronto, through the Community Events Department, supported our Scarborough Museum Exhibition and Myseum's support was instrumental in mounting the Mirha-Soleil Ross Collection and Escondidos No More! exhibitions at The 519.

In 2018 our long-standing supporters — our individual donors — remain our single largest contributors, donating 36% to our operational budget.

In the last few years, the non-profit sector has faced the challenge of new corporate and government funding models redirecting money towards time-limited special projects with specific community or capital outcomes. In response we concentrated our efforts on applying for funding for special projects that also work to increase our long-term capacity. An example of this is the 2018 Pride and Remembrance Run donation which supplemented the TD contribution to complete our Online Database Access project.

Over the next four years, we will continue to pursue special project funding to increase our capacity and provide greater access to the collection and services to our communities.

An equally critical goal is to seek the resources and expertise to develop a strong, more engaged grassroots fundraising model. This framework will build on the strength of our current individual supporters and be informed by our commitment to greater diversity and representation of our communities, which is essential to The ArQuives' future. ■



James E. Steward Estate

Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Canada

The Salina M. Blair Family Foundation

OPERATIONS

Revenue

Donations	120,731
Grants	107,502
Royalties	72,609
Bequests	32,953
Other	4,244
Fundraising	950
TOTAL	338,989

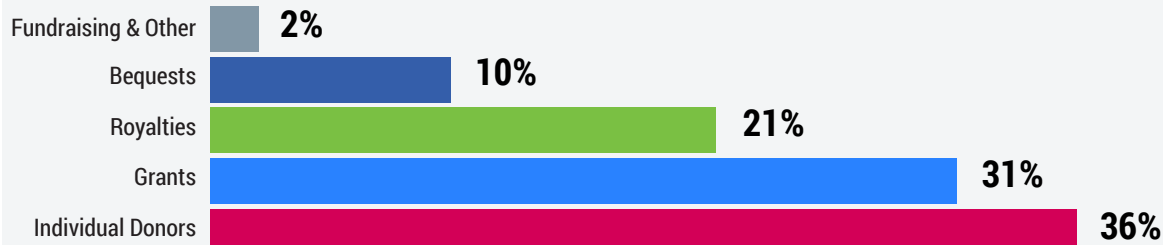
Expenses

People	213,078
Collection Management	74,991
Facilities	67,133
Administration	46,282
Fundraising	19,358
TOTAL	420,842

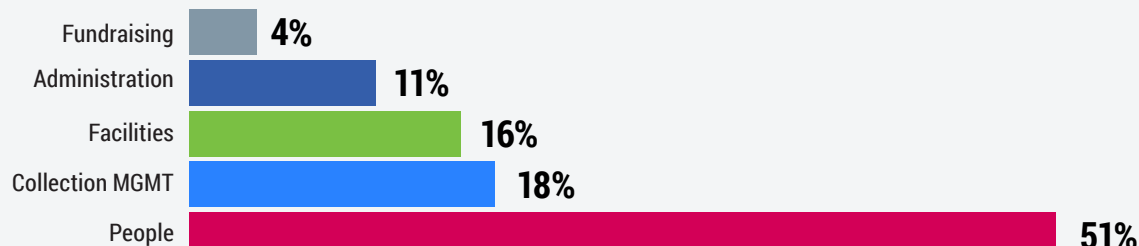
Deficit

(81,853)

REVENUE BY SOURCE



EXPENSE BY SOURCE



\$67K

Offsite storage cost represents as much as 67% of our total facilities cost.

\$45K

Facilities

Offsite Storage

9,980

Volunteer Hours

5,320

Staff Hours

RATIO OF VOLUNTEER TO STAFF HOURS

1.9 : 1

For every 1-hour of staff time there is nearly 2-hours of volunteer time invested in The ArQuives



KEEPING OUR STORIES ALIVE