



PILLAR
nonprofit network

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



2011 was a remarkable year for Pillar as we continued to strengthen the nonprofit sector and to spark innovation and collaboration in our community.

It was a year of successes. Our Social Enterprise for Sustainable Communities Program is now a catalyst in assisting London nonprofits to investigate and initiate social enterprise initiatives. Our All About Boards board development program sold out and was highly praised for the information it provided and the quality of the instruction. Both of these programs helped us to widen our reach in our goal of providing nonprofits the tools they need to serve our community – and they are just two of the many professional development opportunities Pillar provides.

We also received recognition this past year for the work we do from the City of London, when it approved our request for annual funding for our operations. We look forward to continuing this important partnership and strengthening the sector together.

And it was a year of celebrations, too, as we marked our 10th anniversary with much festivity and hosted our best attended Pillar Community Innovation Awards event ever in November.

All of this would not have been possible without the remarkable staff, volunteers, members, sponsors and donors we have been fortunate to have this past year. To them and to you, thank you for your support!

Brian Meehan, Board Chair
Michelle Baldwin, Executive Director



BRIAN MEEHAN &
MICHELLE BALDWIN

FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ice cream, lollipops, fortune cookies, and candy centrepieces were some of the sweet treats Pillar shared in 2011.

And volunteerism, innovation, and social enterprise were some of the sweet moments.



Don't have a Meltdown: Get the Scoop on Event Planning included a visit from our very own Nicky Dee ice cream gal.

Picnic in the Park with Pillar: Our members and friends joined us for lunch in Victoria Park on a sunny August day – we chatted, played with hula hoops and croquet, and gave out fortune cookies to people in the park spreading the message: Be the change – volunteer!

Youth volunteers turned passion into action with over 3000 hours of volunteering over the 3 weeks of ChangeTheWorld Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge.



500 people came to our 5th Annual Pillar Community Innovation Awards. At our biggest event ever, we told the stories of 12 exceptional finalists.



Our sold-out All About Boards series gave local board members a chance to learn the ins and outs of board development.



We celebrated our 10th anniversary all year long – we gave out fortune cookies and lollipops, took lots of photos to create a photo-mosaic as a legacy, and celebrated our organization's successes.



Our 4th Foundation Investment Forum brought over 60 people together to talk about "Leading to Get It Right or Not Get It Wrong?"

Social Enterprise Day @ Ivey launched our Social Enterprise for Sustainable Communities program with inspiring speakers and roundtable discussions.

We brought nonprofits and business together at Capacity Building: Investing in Not-For-Profit Effectiveness, a community conversation about what nonprofits need and what corporations could be doing to help in London.



PILLAR HAD MANY SWEET MOMENTS IN 2011

Expect more sweet moments from Pillar in 2012! Stay tuned at www.pillarnonprofit.ca



BRIAN BLATNICKI &
MARIA LUISA CONTURSI

Social Enterprise for Sustainable Communities Program – A Partnership to Build a Better Community

United Way of London & Middlesex, the Richard Ivey School of Business, and Pillar Nonprofit Network have partnered to investigate and initiate Social Enterprise as a tool to create social change.

We will be working with and learning from our Ottawa and Sarnia partners as well as engaging local nonprofit organizations that are interested in exploring social enterprise as a means to improve sustainability and elevate community impact.

We are interested in working with funders, financial institutions, social entrepreneurs, businesses, and other local organizations to create an innovative collaboration that will define new ways to make a tangible and positive impact on the quality of life in our community.



Richard Ivey School of Business
The University of Western Ontario



WHAT'S NEW AT PILLAR?



This program is generously supported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



AL GREEN

All About Boards – Board Development Series

All About Boards was developed to energize local nonprofit board members and help them to take their organizations to the next level. The series was designed to teach attendees the fundamentals in four sessions: Board Basics, Financial Fitness, Build Your Best Board, and Big Picture Thinking for Boards.



With this sold-out series participants were able to learn from the presenters, each other, and a panel of other experienced directors.

“(The presenter) helped me understand in a very clear and basic manner what my role as board member is...thank you.”

“The speaker had both technical knowledge and real world experience.”

“Panel great! Such highly qualified people!! Spot on for what I need.”

“Certainly able to keep my attention – very clear knowledge about the subject and how we move to provide our organization with the challenge of a good, workable plan.”

WHAT'S NEW AT PILLAR?



London
CANADA

This series is generously supported by
the City of London.

In 2011 Pillar had **283** nonprofit organization and individual members.

Over **1800** people attended Pillar's professional development programs in 2011.

Pillar connected over **19,000** people to volunteer opportunities in London.

We provided service to and engaged over **50,000** individuals and organizations through our website and social media and mail, telephone and walk-in inquiries.

Our volunteers contributed over **3000** hours of their time in 2011.

London has over **1200** nonprofits and charities.

60% of Londoners volunteer.

Value of contribution of London's volunteers is **\$672M** a year.



ERICKA AYALA RONSON

“Through our participation with Pillar and its dedication to Social Enterprise, we have gained valuable knowledge on how to best make significant social impacts and employ marginalized individuals.”

Kevin Dickins & Corey Allison,
WOTCH Community Mental Health Services



“We have been delighted with the responses (many of them) we have received to our ads for volunteer opportunities on Pillar’s website. It is a great testament to the very valuable role Pillar is playing in this community.”

Christine Troughton,
Chair of Fund Development Committee,
Heart-Links/Lazos de Corazon



“Once again, thank you for your continued support of our Centre and the nonprofit sector in London. You do amazing work and I am grateful for the work you do in promoting our sector and helping us grow in leadership and capacity.”

Louise Pitre, Executive Director,
Sexual Assault Centre London



“Thank you ever so much for all that you do to both raise community awareness about and recognize all of the incredible initiatives, projects, individuals, and groups that strive to make our community the most inclusive, welcoming, safe, innovative, fun, creative, and wonderful place that it can be.”

Meredith Fraser,
Director of Education,
Regional HIV/AIDS Connection



WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT PILLAR?

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Citi Cards Canada
Echidna Solutions Corp.
Harrison Pensa LLP
Lerners LLP
Libro Financial Group
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Voyageur Transportation Services

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Highstreet Asset Management
Horizon Leadership
HR Council for Nonprofit Sector
Imagine Canada
Kovacs Group
Libro Financial Group
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London & Region Fund Raising Executives
London Community Foundation
London Convention Centre

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Lissa Foster
Fanshawe College Foundation
Foundation Western
Goodwill Industries - Ontario Great Lakes
London Community Foundation
London Economic Development Corporation
Brian Meehan
Greg Moran & Mindy Gordon

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WOTCH Community Mental Health Services

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London Community Foundation
Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration
The Ontario Trillium Foundation

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NATHAN FERGUSON

Pillar's mission is to strengthen the effectiveness of the nonprofit sector.

We support nonprofit organizations in fulfilling their missions in our community.



NATHAN GARBER



AMY KORTVELY
& KRIS USHER

Pillar Nonprofit Network

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