

## SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION IN CANADA



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### AGM REPORT SEPTEMBER 2023

Greetings fellow Sons of Norway Members!

Another summer is coming to a close and the wildfires have been extremely fierce. We missed most of the fires in Kelowna but were home for the Knox Mountain fire on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The extreme fires of August hit just after Cal and I and two granddaughters, Eva and Martina, left for Istra, Croatia to visit Cal's families. We watched the news daily to see how the city was fairing and with much concern as the fire on the north side of Knox Mountain/Glenmore area is where the girl's mom lives. Thankfully, everyone was safe and did not lose any property but so many in our valley and in northern BC were not so lucky. I have not heard of any Humanitarian requests from members of Sons of Norway so hopefully that is good news.

The Foundation received 19 Post-Secondary awards applications, no Apprenticeship application and no applications for the Bjarne and Karel Thorshaug Norwegian Studies Bursary. We did receive 1 application for the Oslo International Summer School Bursary. Please remember to encourage your family students to go to the [sonfic.ca](http://sonfic.ca) website and see if they might qualify to apply next year.

Following approval by the Board of Directors of the ranking of the applicants, we will notify the students as well as release the list of those receiving funding from the Foundation for 2023. We wish all the applicants a very successful academic year and look forward to hearing from the recipients as to their progress over the next school year.

Donations to the Foundation help generate funding that allows bursaries and grants to be given out. One of the avenues of giving that I encourage with my family and friends is to honour a loved one's passing with a memorial gift to the Foundation. With a family's permission, I have prepared envelopes addressed to the Foundation Treasurer and had them available at the funeral or a celebration of life of passed members. If you are unable to attend a loved one's service but want to acknowledge her/him, you can enclose a note providing a family member's contact information with your personal cheque and the Treasurer will advise that family that a gift was received in the name of their loved one. **Every gift counts toward making these wonderful awards possible!!!**

Fraternally,  
Gloria Benazic  
SONFIC Awards Director