



TAKING CLIMATE ACTION IN NB SCHOOLS

ANNUAL REPORT
2018/2019



VISION

Unlock the hidden potential of all New Brunswick students and educators to engage in the fight against climate change.



MISSION

Empower Youth to Take Action on Climate Change Through Education.



LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

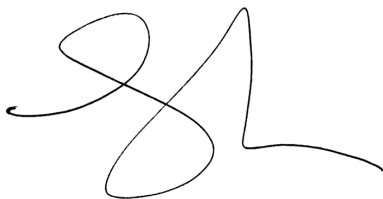
Dear Readers,

Never before have we seen such enthusiasm for our work than in the 2018-2019 school year. It's been a year filled with hope, action and transformational change across many schools in New Brunswick. Thank you to the teachers who trusted our process and expertise in facilitating activities in their classrooms. Thank you to the students who went above and beyond their course requirements to make changes to their schools and personal lives in support of climate action. Thank you to our sponsors and partners, whose contributions made this all possible.

This year we saw something new. In response to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change special report on the impact of global warming above 1.5 degrees, Swedish teenager Greta Thunberg decided to go on strike every Friday, leaving school in response to global inaction on climate change. This led to the international Fridays4Futures campaign inspiring youth from over 100 countries to walk out of their schools in protest. All of a sudden, instead of New Brunswick teachers working to spark interest in climate issues with students, we saw students demanding climate education and action from their teachers. This high level of youth engagement kept us busier than ever before. Throughout New Brunswick, we saw that youth were ready to be engaged in the fight against climate change, a fight for their future.

It's clear to our team on the ground that individual actions not only add up, but have a ripple effect throughout schools, communities and the province at large. Through building awareness and delivering programs to students related to energy, waste, water, food and transportation, we are seeing students connect the dots between individual actions, design, innovation and policy. We are more motivated than ever to continue inspiring action across the province through our educational programs. As Greta Thunberg said: "We don't need your hope, we need your action. And when we have action, hope is everywhere". We look forward to taking more action together in the 2019-2020 school year!

Sincerely,



Lizzy Gresh
Executive Director



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

The Gaia Project was conceived and launched at one school nine years ago by Brian McCain to “Empower Youth to Take Action on Climate Change”. Now, when I review our latest year’s progress, one word stands out, and that is GROWTH.

During the past year, we grew our student enrollments, visited new schools, increased our staff, expanded our funding and continued to mature as an organization. With this maturation came new challenges; and in order for the Board to fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities and steer The Gaia Project into the future, we undertook a review of the organization and revisited governance and operations. The Board hired subject matter experts, with the support of LearnSphere, to assist in developing short and long term strategic plans, strengthen governance policies, develop a communications strategy, and improve operational practices. Sub committees of the Board, in the areas of Human Resources and Governance were also created to enhance oversight of Gaia.

Sadly, we said goodbye to one of our original Board members, Jake Arsenault. Jake stepped down to dedicate more time to his recent start-up. Jordan Kennie was welcomed to our Board as a new member. Jordan is CEO and co-founder of Stash Energy, a made in New Brunswick energy company. Jordan brings his entrepreneurial expertise, business savvy, youth and passion to the table.

My special thanks goes out to John Reid, a member of our Board of Advisors. To ensure our team of professionals are properly compensated for their work at Gaia, John completed a cross Canada review of equivalent positions and made recommendations on salaries and benefits. The review assists Gaia in establishing fair and competitive compensation packages for our growing team.

I am deeply honored and proud to be working alongside our employees, professional dedicated volunteers, and sponsors. Our accomplishments were many, and in no small way, a result of the hard work, expertise, and contribution of time, and funds from our many supporters. A wholehearted thank you to all of you.

Sincerely,



George Dashner
President of the Board of Directors



ABOUT US

The Gaia Project is a New Brunswick based charity with the mission to empower youth to take action on climate change through education. We do this by working with students in grades 3-12 on inquiry-based projects related to energy, waste, water, transportation and general sustainability.

By providing opportunities for students to learn about climate change and the promotion of climate action projects at school, we are empowering a generation of climate literate and energy-aware citizens ready to lead the way forward.

OVER THE 2018/2019 SCHOOL YEAR THE GAIA PROJECT...

LED

346

PROJECTS

WITH

8200

STUDENTS

IN

64

SCHOOLS



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

New Brand, New Website

In order for The Gaia Project to be the leader in providing students and educators the resources necessary to take climate action, we needed a strong new logo and easy to use website. Over two years we worked with Orange Sprocket to develop a new look for Gaia. In January 2019, our website officially launched. Thank you to The McCain Foundation and Allison McCain for helping us rebrand!

New Electric Vehicle

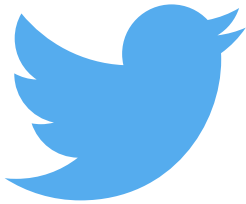
Our lease was up on our previous EV, so we decided to bring something new to schools: a Chevrolet Volt! This car has helped us educate students on the future of transportation, the relationship between electric vehicles and the smart grid, and the role of energy storage in a green economy. Designed to make an impact, this car also serves as an educational tool itself with statistics on electric vehicles and charging in NB, and is fully branded with the new Gaia logo. Thank you NB Power for sponsoring the lease of this car!

New Plan: The Climate Change Education Plan

Thanks to the support of the Environmental Trust Fund, The Gaia Project had the opportunity to develop The Climate Change Education Plan, a document aimed to address the barriers and opportunities to climate change education and action in NB classrooms. This was a great leadership opportunity for Gaia to address Objective #9 of the NB Climate Action Plan: Incorporate climate change into education at all levels, including experiential learning and connecting learners with climate change initiatives in their local communities.



AS OF AUGUST 2019



67,000+
IMPRESSIONS



278
FOLLOWERS



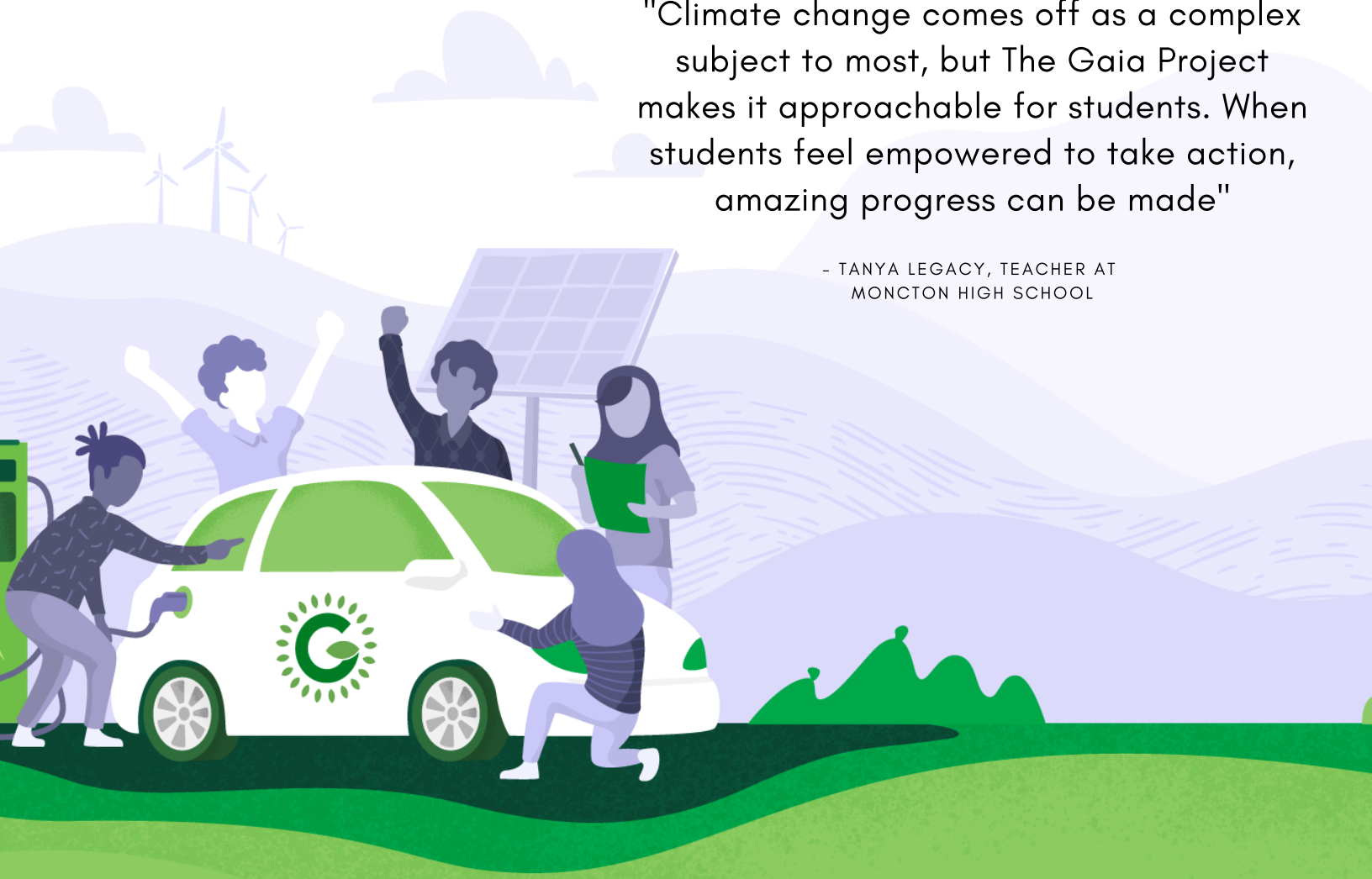
1,055
LIKES



1,080
EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS

"Climate change comes off as a complex subject to most, but The Gaia Project makes it approachable for students. When students feel empowered to take action, amazing progress can be made"

- TANYA LEGACY, TEACHER AT
MONCTON HIGH SCHOOL



THANK YOU

From everyone at The Gaia Project, we would like to say thank you for all of the support we have received this year.

Funders

- NB Power
- NB Environmental Trust Fund
- The McCain Foundation
- The Harrison McCain Foundation
- Allison McCain
- The New Brunswick Department of Energy and Resource Development
- Canaport LNG
- Climate Action Fund (CAF)

Board of Directors

- George Dashner
- Janet Gagnon
- Krista Downey
- Nick Russon
- Carolyn Barnhart
- Monique LeBlanc
- Jordan Kennie

Collaborators

- NB Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
- New Brunswick Environmental Network
- EOS Eco Energy
- Nature NB
- NexGen Energy
- Orange Sprocket
- Pigeon Creative
- Brilliant Labs
- Ducks Unlimited
- Science East
- Learnsphere

Board of Advisors

- Brian McCain
- John Reid
- Jake Arsenault
- Frank Camm
- The NB Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

HR Committee

- Janet Gagnon
- Monique LeBlanc

Governance Committee

- George Dashner
- Janet Gagnon
- Nick Russon
- Carolyn Barnhart

Strategic Planning Committee

- George Dashner
- Jordan Kennie
- John Reid

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the teachers and schools that welcomed us into their classrooms in the 2018/2019 school year!

ASD-E

Bernice MacNaughton High School

- Brian Corbett
- Adam Trider

J.M.A Armstrong/Salisbury Middle

- Jean Fortin
- Jean-Yves Savoie
- Jocelyn Cliff
- Cindy Casey
- Chris Carter
- Jeremie Goguen
- Angelique Ross

Moncton High School

- Tanya Legacy
- Jill Cassidy
- Caroline Richard

Salem Elementary School

- Diedra Riddle

St. Stephen High School

- Tom Hart

Riverview High School

- Marie-Josée Poitras
- Jillian Lansdale
- Troy Butler

ASD-N

Bathurst High School

- Shannon Lavigne
- Alice Walker

Miramichi Rural School

- Kendra McLean

ASD-S

Beaconsfield Middle School

- Kennedy Fulton

Forest Hills School

- Janet Landry
- Pamela Hawkins
- Jessica MacPhee
- Jessica Rideout
- Nathan Cameron

Fundy Middle/High School

- Lisa Hawkins
- Mathew Grant
- Cameron Rudderham
- Lauren Cormier
- Jeffery Matheson
- Sarah Morgan-Lee
- Jason Godbout

Hampton Elementary School

- Nicole LeBlanc
- Denise Long

Hampton High School

- Donna Fry
- Laura Myers

Harry Miller Middle School

- Chelsea Maxwell
- Mariel Prosser

Millidgeville North School

- Rachel Dempster
- Matthew Mactavish
- Andrew Morrison
- Crystal Pye
- Courtenay Crosby

St John the Baptist/King Edward School

- Leslie Hamilton-Brown

Quispamsis Middle school

- Shalomath Dow

Rothsay High School

- Vickie Sooley
- Kellie Simon
- Julie Matthews
- Faye Horgan

Simonds High School

- Nick Gresh

Sussex High School

- Stephanie Bonnell-Walsh
- Jeffrey Gaunce

ASD-W**Bliss Carmen Middle School**

- Julie Robinson

Cambridge Narrows**Community School**

- Morgan Levesque

Carleton North High School

- Brian Muse

Devon Middle School

- Hannah Cusack
- Sarah MacFarlane
- Marquita Stewart

Florenceville Middle School

- Lianne Comeau

Fredericton High School

- Laura Fowler
- Matthew Lynch
- Ashley Farnworth
- Gillian McMullen
- Andrew Meek
- Aimee Gauvin
- Ian Oshberg
- Louise Standing

Gagetown School

- Jill Meek

Hartland Community School

- Jeff Mills
- Daniel Gallagher

John Caldwell School

- Samantha Jellett

Leo Hayes High School

- Lori Lyons
- Lisa Holyoke-Walsh
- Mark Holstetler
- Jeremy Smith

Meduxnekeag Consolidated School

- William McKinley

Minto Elementary/Middle School

- Molly Nugent

Nashwaaksis Middle School

- Michael Sorensen
- Jessica Curry

Oromocto High School

- Trista Michaud Hachey
- Winnie Hsu

Ridgeview Middle School

- Shane MacNeil
- Kathleen Brideau
- Travis Drillen
- Monique Turley

Saint Mary's Academy

- Britannia Burn

Sudbury West Middle School

- Winni Clerk

Tobique Valley Middle School

Cynthia Hebert

DSF-NE**École Marie-Esther**

- Cécile Gauvin
- Isabelle Chiasson

École La Relève

- Melissa St-Coeur
- Katia Noel
- Cathy Gosselin
- Patrick Blanchard

Polyvalente Roland-Pépin

- Michelle Thibeault
- Alain Bernard
- Valérie Audet
- Maxime Levesque

Polyvalente W.-Arthur-Losier

- Monique Robichaud
- Marie-Pierre Hétu

DSF-NO**Centre d'apprentissage du Haut-Madawaska**

- Cécile Bélanger-Bouchard

École Marie-Gaétanne

- Céline St-Onge Theriault
- Valérie Ratté

École Mgr-Martin

- Josette Ross
- Chantal Campbell

École St-Jacques

- Marco Couturier

École Notre-Dame

- Lisa St. Amand
- Tracy Desbiens
- Judith Levesque

École St-Joseph

- Julie Couturier
- Brigitte Babineau
- Tina Landry

École Mgr-Matthieu-Mazerolle

- Renée Rioux-Marquis

École élémentaire Sacré Coeur

- Daniel Cyr
- Chantal McCormick

DSF-S**Écoles des Arc-en-ciel**

- Yanick Moyen
- Marie-Josée Picard
- Chantal Ouellette-Parent

École Abbey Landry

- François LeBlanc

École des Bâtisseurs

- Jennifer Verret

École Les Éclaireurs

- Jessica Courty
- Louis Fortin

École Notre-Dame

- Josée Levesque-Couturier

École Sainte-Anne

- Monique Livingston
- Monique Poirier
- Myriam Richard
- Louise Daigle
- Julie LeBlanc

École L'Odyssée

- Josée St-Onge
- Audrée Thériault

École Louis J.- Robichaud

- Lise Ouellet
- Robert Bourque

École Mgr-Marcel-François-Richard

- Janelle Cormier
- Sylvie Dionne
- Carole Robichaud
- Jean-Bernard Chiasson

École Sainte-Thérèse

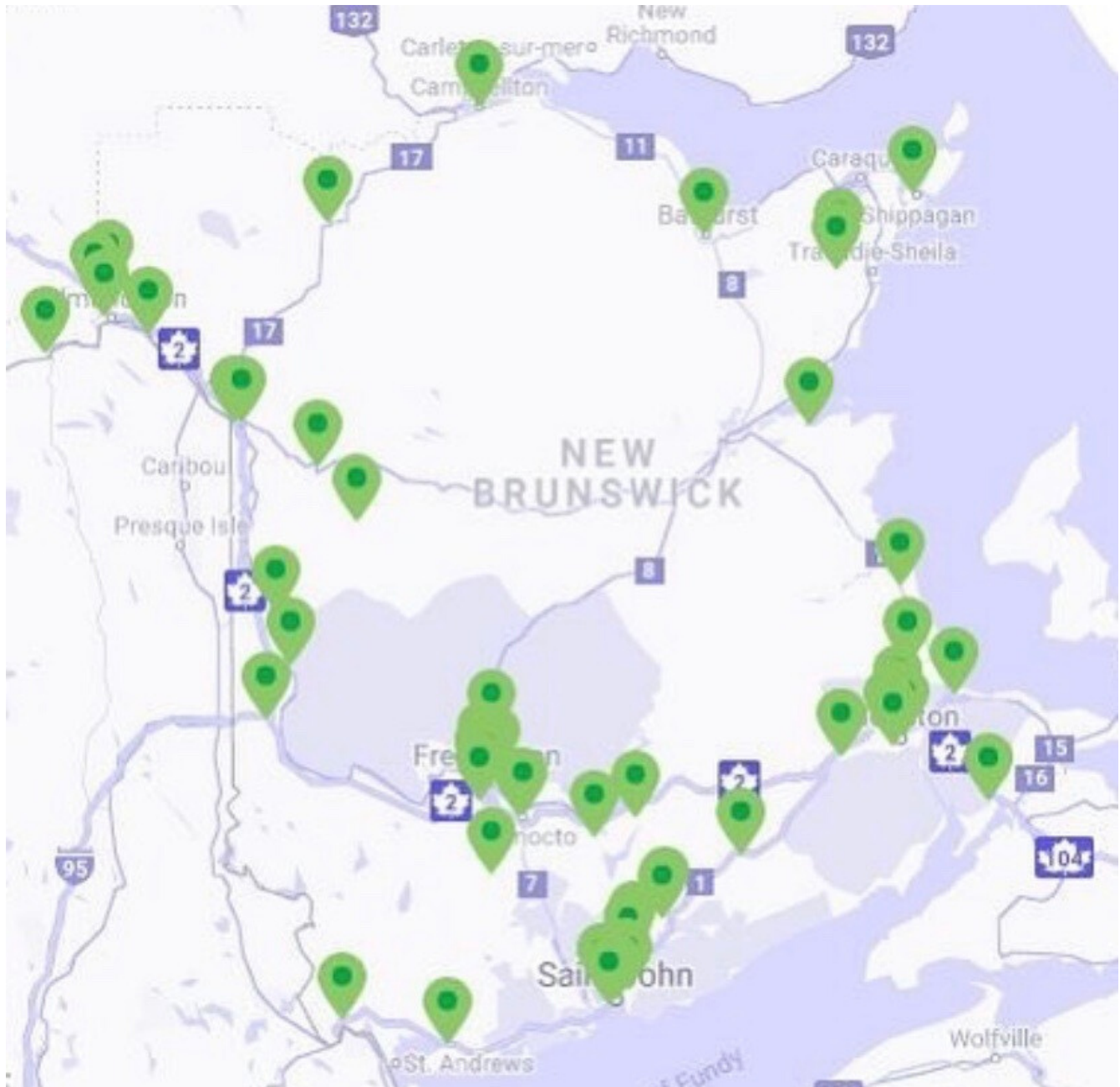
- Angela LeBlanc

École Samuel-de-Champlain

- Karine Lang
- Éric Levesque
- Chantal Daigle



SCHOOL MAP



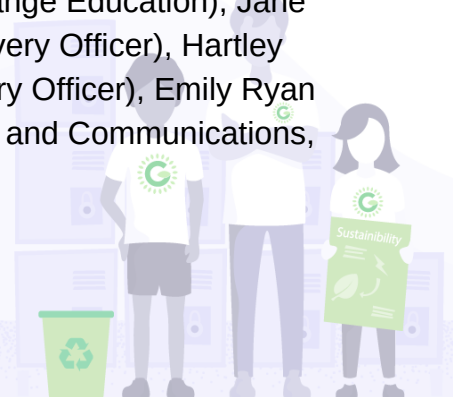
OUR TEAM



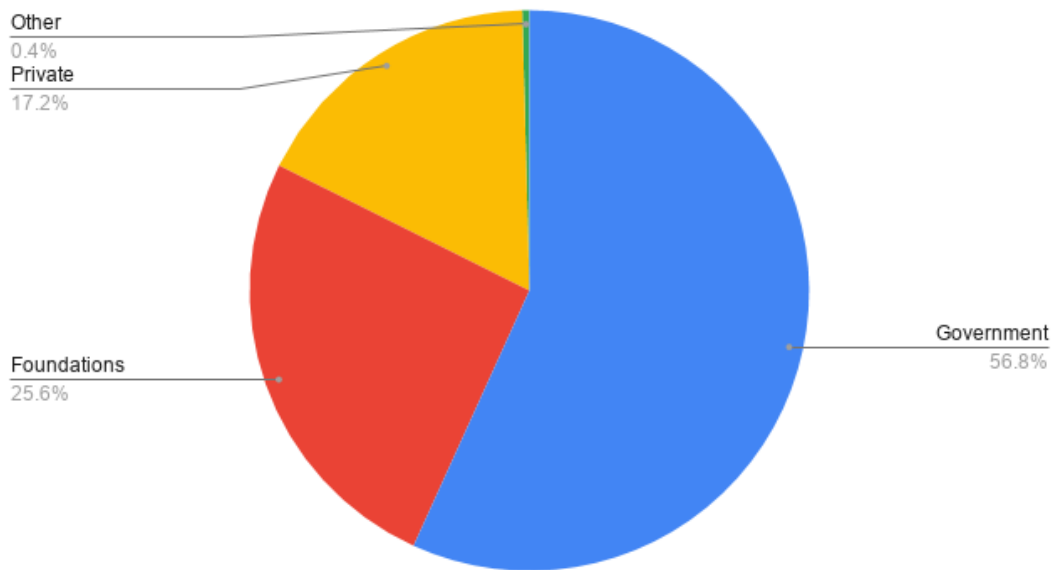
2018/2019 Gaia Project Staff

From left/right:

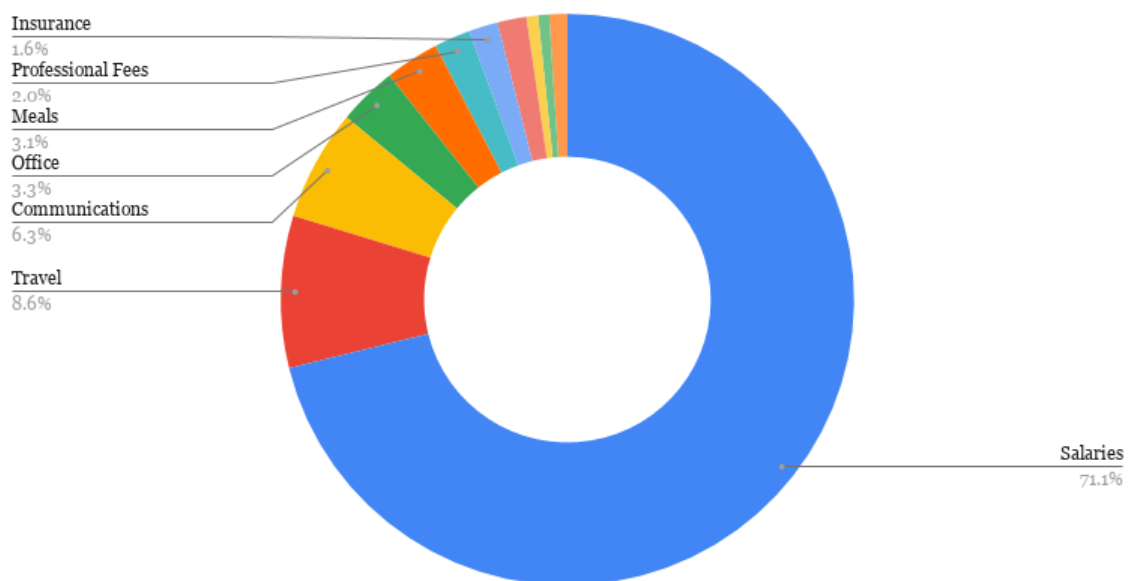
Lizzy Gresh (Executive Director), Jimmy Therrien (Program Coordinator), Michelle Thibault (Program Delivery Officer), Geoff MacDonald (Manager of Climate Change Education), Jane Burchill (Program Delivery Officer), Hartley Prosser (Program Delivery Officer), Emily Ryan (Manager of Philanthropy and Communications),



REVENUE: \$512,170



EXPENSES: \$364,759





@gaiaproject



thegaiaproject_



facebook.com/gaiaproject



www.thegaiaproject.ca

231 Regent Street, Suite 102
Fredericton, New Brunswick
E3B 3W8

506.230.2180

contact@thegaiaproject.ca
www.thegaiaproject.ca

