



Invest in the Future.

For nearly three decades, Trillium Waldorf School has offered an education that nurtures the whole child in mind, body, and spirit. It is a place where creativity flourishes, curiosity is celebrated, and students grow into confident and compassionate individuals. With the support of our community and partners like you, this unique learning environment will continue to thrive and inspire generations to come.

Vidar Foundation, a Canadian anthroposophical lending charity, is partnering with Trillium Waldorf School, a well-established independent school in Guelph, to offer a mission-driven investment opportunity to values-aligned investors.

A Values Aligned Investment Opportunity

Goal: Raise \$1.2 million in investment capital to fund a \$2.5 million, 25-year mortgage from Vidar Foundation for Trillium Waldorf School.

Investor Return: 4% annual return, managed and disbursed by Vidar Foundation.

Optional: Investors may choose to donate their interest earnings to TrWS's Tuition Assistance Program, supporting accessibility and inclusion.

Structure:

Vidar Foundation will:

- Contribute \$1.3 million in capital.
- Manage all investor relations and administration.
- Pay investors their annual interest payment.
- Oversee the full term of the investment.
- Be responsible for repaying the investor principal at maturity.

Trillium Waldorf School will:

- Make monthly payments of principal plus 5% interest to Vidar Foundation.
- Benefit from a stable, long-term mortgage solution that supports its mission and growth.

Security:

- The mortgage will be fully secured in first position against Trillium Waldorf School's 3-acre campus in north Guelph, a beautiful and well-loved educational property.

Contact:

- John Wright, Chair of TrWS Mortgage Committee: jwright@rowanlea.org,
- Trevor Janz, Chair of Vidar Foundation: trevorjanz@hotmail.com

FOR MORE INFO: www.trwsinvest.org

Why Invest in Waldorf Education?

Holistic, Human-Centered Learning

Waldorf schools offer a curriculum designed around the developmental stages of childhood. The approach goes beyond teaching facts to foster critical thinkers, creative problem-solvers, and compassionate citizens. Academic excellence is combined with music, art, movement, and nature to lay the foundation for lifelong learning.

Strong Community Roots

Our school cultivates lasting relationships among students, teachers, and families. With smaller class sizes and teachers who often stay with the same class for years, students are consistently seen, heard, and supported throughout their education.

Nature-Based and Low-Tech by Design

In a world where children are increasingly immersed in screens, Waldorf education emphasizes hands-on exploration, outdoor learning, and meaningful human connection. This approach creates the conditions for children to grow authentically and sustainably.

Growing Demand, Proven Model

Waldorf education has flourished for more than 100 years and is now present in over 60 countries. Interest continues to grow in Canada as more families seek meaningful alternatives to conventional schooling. Investment in Waldorf education aligns with this rising demand and supports a proven model built for the future.



“I didn’t know this kind of education and community existed until I stepped foot into Trillium Waldorf School...Our experience with Trillium has been nothing short of transformative. This institution epitomizes what education should be - a harmonious blend of a safe and nurturing environment, ample outdoor time, and an unwavering commitment to understanding and appreciating each child's unique qualities. The emphasis on practical arts adds a creative dimension to learning, fostering well-rounded individuals. The school's dedication to holistic development sets it apart, making it a beacon for those seeking an educational journey that goes beyond the conventional.”

-Lisa Gill

Investing in Trillium Waldorf School:

Since 1996, [Trillium Waldorf School \(TrWS\)](#) has been offering a transformative, values-based education to families in Guelph and surrounding communities. Today, with **over 160 students** from Kindergarten through Grade 8, complemented by a vibrant **Parent & Child Program** and a growing **Summer Camp**, drawing families from across the **Tri-Cities and Centre Wellington** regions.

Alumni often speak of their years at TrWS as formative, crediting the experience with equipping them to succeed not only in post-secondary education but also in their careers, relationships, and contributions to community life. The school's distinctive approach cultivates **intellectual curiosity**, **emotional intelligence**, and a deep sense of **social responsibility**.

As an independent, not-for-profit charitable organization, TrWS is fully accredited through both the [Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America \(WECAN\)](#) and the [Association of Waldorf Schools of North America \(AWSNA\)](#).

The school is also deeply committed to fostering a Healthy School Culture. This initiative helps faculty and students address social and emotional challenges with **compassion and collaboration**. Grounded in restorative practices, it strengthens conflict resolution, builds meaningful parent partnerships, and supports the development of essential relational skills that students carry into an increasingly complex world.



“Trillium Waldorf School has truly become our second home. The nurturing and loving community make it an exceptional place for our children to grow and learn. The dedicated staff creates a warm environment, fostering both academic and emotional development. We couldn't be happier with our choice – it's truly the most wonderful place on earth for our family.” — Katie Pew

A School Rooted in Community, Ready for Long-Term Sustainability

For more than 25 years, TrWS has combined steady enrollment growth with prudent financial management. From its early beginnings to its vibrant present, the school has consistently taken thoughtful, community-supported steps to meet the needs of an expanding student body.

The current home of TrWS on Victoria Road was built through the generosity of a founding member and expanded as the school required additional classrooms. Community-backed loans and bonds funded these additions, and every obligation was repaid in full.

In 2021, the school community united once again, raising **\$1 million in donations** and another **\$1 million through community bonds** to purchase the property from the founders. Currently, TrWS holds a **\$2 million private mortgage**, with the expectation that it be transferred to a new lender by **October 1, 2025**.

Like many independent schools, TrWS faced challenges in the years following the COVID-19 pandemic, including a temporary enrollment dip and higher operating costs tied to owning and maintaining its campus. In response, the school introduced strategic financial measures and continues to strengthen its governance and operations to meet changing external conditions.

Today, the school is thriving with:

- **160 students** enrolled for the 2025–26 school year
- A revitalized Board of Directors bringing renewed energy and strong oversight
- A dynamic Administrative Chair supported by an exceptionally dedicated faculty and staff

To secure its future, TrWS must transfer the \$2 million mortgage and raise an additional \$500 thousand by October 1, 2025. This capital will stabilize operations, reduce reliance on short-term community financing, and position the school for sustainable growth. With the campus recently appraised at \$4.8 million, investors can be confident that their support is secured by a strong underlying asset. This financial foundation will allow the school to meet lender requirements, lower financial risk, and direct resources toward education rather than debt servicing.

With a long-term, affordable mortgage in place, TrWS will be able to deepen its impact by continuing to offer:

- **Sustainable, independent Waldorf education** in north Guelph for families across the region
- **Tuition assistance** for diverse families, including an **Indigenous Tuition Waiver Program**
- Ongoing **faculty development and retention** to ensure quality and continuity in the classroom
- **Community outreach** through Early Years programs, Summer Camps, and educational workshops



“This school has been a central heart for my community and has created a loving, magical space for my children to thrive. This approach to education and the loving, inclusive container created is, I believe, the way that we will create the transformed future that is needed. My children, who are all different, have thrived. They have been met exactly where they are to form a space for them to develop as free thinking, intuitive individuals who can meet their life’s intention.” —Mary Kate Craig

This is more than an investment in bricks and mortar, it is a socially responsible investment in a vibrant community committed to education, equity, and long-term sustainability.

For more information on Trillium Waldorf School: <https://guelphwaldorf.ca/>

Investing with Vidar Foundation:

Empowering Waldorf Schools in Canada

[Vidar Foundation](#) is a Canadian charitable organization that provides low-interest, values-based financing to initiatives such as Waldorf schools, biodynamic farms, and cultural centers across Canada.

Founded on the principles of ethical investing and long-term sustainability, Vidar Foundation channels private capital into projects with deep social value and strong community roots. Through secured loans and tuition support programs, it enables independent institutions to grow without depending on traditional banking or government funding.

Vidar Foundation works directly with each of its borrowers, building close relationships based on trust and collaboration. **This hands-on approach has created an exceptional track record, with no defaults in its 20-year history.** By working alongside its project partners, the foundation ensures that investments are well-supported and focused on long-term success.

All investments are secured by real property mortgages, and the foundation also offers flexibility for smaller investors:

- Investments up to \$20,000 are typically redeemable within one week
- Investments up to \$50,000 are generally redeemable within one month
- Investments over \$100,000 are subject to customized terms, with a minimum horizon of three years

This model combines the security of asset-backed lending with the purpose of mission-driven finance.

With more than 20 years of experience and over \$2.6 million actively invested, Vidar Foundation offers investors a way to put their money to work in the service of education, agriculture, and the arts, while preserving principal and supporting real-world transformation.

For more information on Vidar Foundation: <https://www.vidarfoundation.ca/>

