

NANAIMO COMMUNITY GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

NOVEMBER 2017

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CHILDREN & YOUTH

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EDUCATION

FOOD SECURITY

SPORTS & RECREATION

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SPORTS & RECREATION

- PacificSport Vancouver Island – Operating Facility

Arts & Culture

Nanaimo & District Museum Society

Registered Charitable No: 107758989 RR0001

Adopt an Artifact; Feature Exhibit Sponsorship

Requested: \$100,000

The museum is a registered charitable non-profit organization that depends on support from the community to preserve and interpret Nanaimo's history. The Society celebrated its 50 year anniversary (incorporated April 2, 1964) in 2014 and we had over 60,000 visitors last year. We have enjoyed eight successful years in our current, purpose-built museum space while pursuing the following vision statement: The Nanaimo Museum will enhance cultural quality of life, anchor our community and enlighten visitors while nurturing the flow of inspiration through interactive presentation of stories and objects spanning Nanaimo's history. The museum also operates the HBC 1853 fort, the Bastion, an icon in the community and 3rd oldest building in BC. We focus on programming and interpretation for all ages, connecting our shared past with the present day community on many levels.

With sponsorship and donation opportunities ranging from the "Adopt an Artifact" program for smaller gifts, to multi-year major sponsorships and everything in between, we are uniquely positioned to ensure your donation has a lasting impact on our community for years to come.

Our state-of-the-art facility attracts the best in local artifacts as well as exhibits from provincial and national galleries & museums. With three to four feature exhibits annually, there are multiple opportunities for sponsorship with tailored campaigns that drive recognition and visibility.

Arts & Culture

Nanaimo Art Gallery

Registered Charitable No: 119243616 RR0001

The Mill Book Project

Requested: \$15,000

The Nanaimo Art Gallery is located on the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. Founded in 1976, the Gallery enhances the cultural, social and economic environment of Vancouver Island, serving a regional population base through exhibitions, education, and outreach that encourages active public involvement with art and ideas.

The Mill is a book of art, archival photographs, and writing on forest environments, set on Vancouver Island, and distributed internationally with co-publisher Sternberg Press (Berlin). Named after the place where forestry products are collected, processed, and made ready for use and distribution, The Mill will incorporate elements from Gallery exhibitions *Silva: O Horizon* (2015) and *Silva: Booming Grounds* (2016). The book will also include newly commissioned works, along with stories, essays and poems, and will itself function as a travelling exhibition.

Following *Black Diamond Dust*, co-published by the Gallery and Sternberg in 2016, *The Mill* is our second major publication. It will contain contributions by highly regarded local, regional and international artists. It will be interspersed with photos of artworks and public events during the exhibitions. *The Mill* will launch in late 2018. It will provide points of engagement for diverse audiences including those in the forestry industry, naturalists, environmental groups, students and educators, those in the labour movement, poets, artists, and art enthusiasts from communities in Nanaimo, Vancouver Island and beyond. The book will serve as a platform for a new global audience for Nanaimo, the Gallery, and participating artists and writers.

Arts & Culture

Port Theatre Society

Registered Charitable No: 130318330 RR0001

Community Performing Arts Centre Completion Project

Requested: \$100,000

Since 1998, the Port Theatre has wowed residents and visitors alike with its superb performances, excellent acoustics and wonderful sense of intimacy. The theatre offers a broad range of cultural events designed to meet many diverse interests and needs. A landmark on the city's waterfront, it also serves as an important meeting place for a variety of community events, seminars and educational conferences.

The completion of the Community Performing Arts Centre is in the planning stages at the Port Theatre. The purpose of this longtime project is to provide affordable performance and rehearsal space to local arts organizations throughout Nanaimo and the Region, provide excellent facilities for professional arts organizations to thrive, and to create an intimate venue to attract national and international touring professionals.

Our objectives for building this addition are:

- To provide long term sustainable performance and rehearsal spaces for the community,
- To provide affordable, professional spaces for local user groups,
- To encourage creative diversity throughout Nanaimo and the region,
- To support professional artists and cultural workers within the community,
- To attract national and international touring professionals to Nanaimo.

The proposed facilities will include a 50-220 seat flexible, purpose-built performance space, two separate rehearsal spaces available to the community, small catering kitchen, extra loading space for main stage, and additional lobby space accessible via Diana Krall Plaza.

Arts & Culture

Vancouver Island Symphony

Registered Charitable No: 119050813 RR0001

Matinee Series Development

Requested: \$10,000

The Vancouver Island Symphony is a professional orchestra based in the mid Island region of Vancouver Island serving the area from Duncan to Campbell River. Annually the Symphony presents over 20 concerts for 24,000+ people of all ages through a mix of paid and free community events. Built and grown by Islanders, the Vancouver Island Symphony is a cultural leader in the region and reaches people in a variety of ways through our community outreach programs.

In response to the fact that Symphony ticket holders are aging, the VIS has created a new Matinee Series that is launching now in our 2017-18 Season. The fastest growing demographic on Vancouver Island is seniors or people that have retired to "The Third Act" of their lives. With this growing population the VIS has created a new one hour Matinee Concert Series. Our goal is to allow our people that love their Symphony to continue to engage and experience the music for a shorter concert (60 minutes) and in the daylight. This is an important tool both for the VIS, our musicians and our audiences when thinking 10 years from now and looking at our role in the central Vancouver Island region as a contributor to our aging community.

Children & Youth

Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Vancouver Island

Registered Charitable No: 106804016 RR0001

Sound Cloud Noise Reduction

Requested: \$25,000

The mission of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Vancouver Island (BGCCVI) is to provide a safe supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop the confidence and skills for life. BGCCVI provides experiential learning environments that inspire children, youth and families of diverse abilities to acquire and develop the critical cognitive, emotional, and social skills needed to become resilient and contributing members of society. With 12 club locations serving over 1000 members every year in the communities of the Comox Valley, Nanaimo and the Cowichan Valley, BGCCVI is Vancouver Island's largest childcare provider and is trusted by more families than any other provider.

The project is to install noise reduction ceiling clouds in our three largest child care facilities. At any given time, our Chase River, Fifth Street and Ladysmith centres can have between 24-36 children in one room. Although high ceilings and open spaces are wonderful for program experiences and activities, the excessive noise reverberation created makes it difficult for children to understand the leaders' instructions and feedback. While the noise levels can be a temporary distraction for some, children with sensory challenges (i.e. Sensory Processing Disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) are struggling to be successful in the program. One in eight children in the programs fall on the autism spectrum, and we're seeing an increase in the occurrence of other sensory disorders as well. Children can become agitated and uncomfortable, covering their ears or even requiring personal ear protection as the noise levels rise. The addition of sound clouds at these three large facilities will allow the passionate, enthusiastic program leaders to provide inclusive programming in an environment that is safe and comfortable for all children in our care.

Children & Youth

Nanaimo Family Life Association

Registered Charitable No: 107759011 RR0001

Support Among Youth

Requested: \$50,000

Nanaimo Family Life Association has been in operation in Nanaimo since 1967. NFLA believes that healthy individual and family relationships are the heart of a strong and resilient community. It is an organization specializing in peer counselling, group counselling, senior programming and volunteer development. Our programs include: Volunteer Peer Counselling, Senior Peer Counselling, Better at Home, Beyond Blame and Seniors Connect.

Our initiative is intended to address a gap in services in our community that relate to youth (ages 14 – 18) and mental health/wellness. We will provide a peer support group, overseen by a Coordinator, for youth who are experiencing mental health issues. This program will work to engage vulnerable youth through going to where youth are (schools, drop-in centers, and other youth serving agencies) and reaching out to them. The Coordinator will be an individual that youth can relate to and be accessible to them. Our agency is well known in the service Sector and provides training in counselling, which enhances our credibility when working with the community on this project. We are the only program in our city offering this type of support to youth. This programs differs in the Mental Health/Illness arena by recognizing the experience and expertise of youth and drawing upon their innate need to connect in order to learn new skills. That is to say, we will endeavor to provide support that is engaging and non-threatening on a more informal and relaxed basis.

Children & Youth

Nanaimo Women's Resources Society

Registered Charitable No: 133424523 RR0001

Street Wise Design Project

Requested: \$23,000

The Nanaimo Women's Resources Society is known for delivering creative programming in the community that supports women, youth, and families. Our mandate is programming that directly supports the individuals, while also addressing systemic issues to improve social, economic, cultural and political status of members of the community. We offer direct support services, social programs and referrals to community resources in a safe, non-judgmental environment. All of our programming is offered free of charge.

Street Wise Design will address youth safety and poverty in the community of Nanaimo. The project offers Nanaimo youth impacted by poverty to engage in socially positive activities that are creative, fun, and relevant. This a neighborhood based project increases youth safety by empowering local youth to explore their personal capacity for problem solving and learning through making, tinkering, customizing, and inventing. Street Wise Design is a component of the community space initiative at Sanala and is focused on successfully bridging youth development; the acquisition of social, emotional, and direct skills development with community connection. This project positions young people as active agents of their own change, with inherent strengths and skills to be nurtured and developed using community resources and knowledge.

Street Wise Design is based on the intentions and practices of Creative Youth Development (CYD), the Maker Movement: Constructivist Learning (Learning-by-doing), and traditional knowledge sharing. These are holistic, intentional practices that bring together hands-on skill acquisition, relationship building, and community engagement. This space will be a lasting programming space that can be shared between community partners to provide creative engagement programming for at risk youth.

Children & Youth

Nanaimo Youth Services Association

Registered Charitable No: 119050870 RR0001

Leadership Training

Requested: \$15,000

The Nanaimo Youth Services Association (NYSA) delivers multi-faceted services to youth aged 13 – 30 to ensure successful transitions in adulthood. We collaborate with individuals, organizations, and government to address needs while encouraging self-sufficiency. Since 1969, we have provided a range of resident and non-residential service to you and young adults in the Nanaimo Regional District. Programming includes but is not limited to, employment counselling and training, wage subsidy programs, life skills and transitional planning services. Our services provide a supportive environment where participants can develop confidence in themselves and gain skills for success. We offer a safe environment where youth can learn new skills and feel supported.

This proposal aims to build capacity and provide leadership training our staff team to work more effectively with our diverse demographic. We are seeking support to offer coach training to 15 of our staff members. Utilizing a coach approach in our daily practice will allow staff to observe and to customize their approach to individual need and elicit solutions and strategies from their clients. Built on the foundation of emotional intelligence, this training will enable our staff team to build coaching skills to enhance their work and personal environments, and to explore the possibilities of leadership through coaching. Being able to manage emotion and to recognize the emotions of others (using empathy and interpersonal relationships) is critical when leading and coaching others, and advancing personally and professionally. Research shows that Emotional Intelligence is a strong indicator of success and that leadership and emotional skills can be honed.

Children & Youth

RM Society – Rainbows Nanaimo

Registered Charitable No: 892645979 RR0001

Expanding Support Programs

Requested: \$12,500

The RM Society is a registered charity that provides financial support to Rainbows Peer Support programs in Nanaimo. Rainbows is a twelve-week program which fosters emotional healing and support for children, teens, and their families as they face a significant loss in their lives. Loss most often means either death or separation/divorce, but is increasingly including circumstances such as foster care, deployment, immigration, or the loss of a family member due to abandonment, addiction, mental illness, or incarceration.

Eighteen schools in Nanaimo-Ladysmith School District 68 currently have the ability to operate the Rainbows program, and it is also offered at two community sites; Christ Community Church and Cedar Secondary School. Our two community sites have two intakes per year - one program in the fall and another in the spring - however this is not enough. We receive registration requests at all times of the year, and the current level of programming is simply not keeping-up with the community demand for these services.

At this time, we are asking for \$12,500 to add two more Rainbows programs – one at each community site during the summer months - to bridge the gap in programming that currently exists. Our most pressing need at present is during the summer, where there is a four-month gap in programming from mid-May to mid-September - a long wait for families in need, and a time when a break from school is not providing children and teens with consistency and structure – compounding the issue of loss and leaving them somewhat at 'loose ends'.

Community Services

Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society

Registered Charitable No: 132018235 RR0001

Daycare Playground

Requested: \$14,000

The Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society (CVIMS) also known as the Immigrant Welcome Centre was started 38 years ago in response to the Vietnamese Boat people crisis. The aim was helping newcomers to integrate into life here in Canada and become part of the Nanaimo community. Today that mandate is as strong as ever with the arrival of newcomers from many different countries but especially over the past two years with the influx of refugees from Syria, Eretria, Sudan and Iran. We are leaders in providing services for immigrants and in promoting inclusion and respect for all people in our community. We are committed to the values of equity and diversity.

To help children enjoy play we have a fenced outdoor play area with a sand pit and other outdoor toys for them to enjoy and express themselves. The play area is covered with rubber mats for health and safety reasons to ensure children play in a safe environment. These rubber mats are now lifting and potential causing a tripping hazard and around the sand pit area where sand gets spilt, they are very slippery. This has been identified as a priority issue by CVIMS Joint Health and Safety committee and the organization is looking to replace these rubber mats with a poured rubber solution. This solution found in so many playgrounds has a spring like surface thus preventing injury should a child fall, is non-slippery and has an all-weather protection surface. It comes in a variety of colours and patterns that make the environment a fun and exciting area for children to play.

Community Services

Crisis Pregnancy Centre of Nanaimo Society

Registered Charitable No: 885010645 RR0001

Building Renovation

Requested Amount: \$50,000

Crossroads Crisis Pregnancy Centre provides non-judgmental education and support to individuals during pregnancy, early parenthood, post abortive or adoption situations through peer counselling, practical, emotional and spiritual help along with sexual health education in the community. We ensure that families receive all the support, baby supplies and equipment they may need from conception through toddlerhood while being taught parenting and life skills. We provide compassionate peer counselling support services for mother's fleeing abuse, struggling with the loss of pregnancy or post abortion grief.

We are rebuilding part of the facility to ensure safety and accessibility to families in need. The front of our building and part of the side wall have been internally destroyed by termites and need to be reconstructed with termite resistant supplies and processes in order to make them safe and strong like the rest of the building. We are taking this opportunity to become wheelchair and stroller accessible by equipping the building with double doors, a wider straightened hallway for easy access to counselling and baby supply rooms, in addition to a larger reception with an area to park strollers with sleeping babies. The exterior will be enhanced with a sign, a sidewalk to alleviate tripping hazards for moms and a warm stone and Hardiplank exterior.

Community Services

Nanaimo Community Hospice Society

Registered Charitable No: 133194043 RR0001

Children's Griefmobile

Requested: \$20,000

Nanaimo Community Hospice Society (NCHS) believes dying, caregiving and grieving are three of life's greatest challenges and everyone struggling with these challenges regardless of age, means or culture deserves support. With compassion and dignity our volunteers and professional staff offer free programs, resources and education to our community when and where it is needed most and at no cost to our clients.

While we have a respected Bereavement Program for adults and children at the present, there is a real need to be able to attend to children and youth in their own environment – schools, at home, at day-care and kindergarten. NCHS has an already established relationship with schools, the RCMP Victims Services, Mental Health providers, Rainbows and others.

Not only are the types of complexities and trauma that our young families are facing around their losses growing, but also the number of those seeking help as a result of the high number of accidental and drug related deaths. Often a client is left alone with several small children and must not only cope with the grief themselves and their children, but also take on the role of sole provider. This results in not being able to attend counselling sessions during regular Hospice hours because of work, school or day care situations. Also, our present wait list is significant and is detrimental to the emotional well-being of the children who need our services.

NCHS feels that a fully outfitted mobile grief vehicle, with trained professional counsellors available to travel to where the children are would provide the early grief support to those grieving children who are at a loss as to why they are sad and don't understand why their world is so confusing. The purchase of a vehicle, outfitted with these proven methods of therapy (art supplies, therapeutic toys, games, musical instruments, miniature figures, etc.) would enable our counsellors to take our grief program directly to the children where they are most comfortable in a timely and unique manner.

Community Services

Nanaimo Disability Resource Centre

Registered Charitable No: 128031721 RR0001

Computer Literacy Training

Requested: \$4,000

The purpose of the Nanaimo Disability Resource Centre (NDRC) is to identify the needs of persons with disabilities and the availability of resources in the community to meet those needs. NDRC seeks to promote awareness in the community of the philosophy of living independently by providing information and referral services, individual and group advocacy and activities and programs according to the needs and interests of the community.

Basic Computer Training has been offered since 1993 and offers free in-house computer skills instruction to persons with disabilities including motor, visual, hearing and cognitive disabilities. With computer literacy being considered an essential skill in today's society, the purpose of this program is to develop and enhance independent living and vocational skills for those who are otherwise unable to access computer and technology training. Students gain necessary skills to reduce social isolation, establish and maintain independence, secure employment or volunteer opportunities, or return to school for further training. Internet skills open up further channels of communication for students as well; including the ability to communicate with friends and family, on-line shopping, research, banking and more. Each of these tasks allows many students to participate in their community.

Community Services

The Men's Centre

Registered Charitable No: 876952110 RR0001

Connectivity Supervised Access Program

Requested: \$10,000

The Men's Centre responds to the needs of families and offers counselling support and referrals to men and their families in the physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual dimensions of their lives throughout the province. We strive to promote connections with partners and families. We help men and women with family court, divorce and separation, custody and access issues. We help support men and women in learning to communicate and enrich existing relationships. The Centre offers free individual counselling on a number of mental health related issues, domestic violence elimination workshops held in conjunction with the local Crown counsel, fathering support groups, and parenting access support for children and their families.

The Connectivity project will provide a healthy connection for children and parents in a safe place. The project will help improve communication skills of parents which will allow them to think and feel in ways that enhance their ability to enjoy life and deal with the parenting challenges they face after separation and divorce. When there is unresolved hostility between parents, a neutral place to exchange children for visits makes access easier to arrange and reduces tension for the child. The service includes simply supervised access exchange as well as full supervised access. Over 80% of parents who use supervised access are working towards dispute resolutions. The Connectivity program is designed to facilitate healthy and safe access between a non-custodial parent and child. It is considered to be a temporary service where non-custodial parents can have access to their children and learn and interact with them in a healthy way.

Community Services

Vancouver Island Integrated Counselling and Community Services Society

Registered Charitable No: 862569951 RR0001

Harewood Walk-in Counselling Clinic

Requested: \$5,000

Our mission is to provide a high level of professional and affordable counselling and support to a wide range of the community that supports, educates and prevents mental illness and addictions, and promotes physical and emotional wellness.

Since February of this year one day a week, in partnership with School District 68, we have offered a free walk-in counselling clinic staffed by volunteers. Utilising the unique single-session therapeutic approach, clients turn their crisis into an opportunity for necessary change. Social and income determinants in Harewood indicate that the need for this clinic is high. The School District agrees. Their in-kind contribution is valued at more than \$1000 per month.

After clients' 40-minute sessions most are able to view their presenting issue as part of the solution. We touch lives. Clients are now better able to function with their spouses, children, work-places and in life in general. We know that this clinic will have an increasingly positive ripple-effect throughout this lower-income community.

Education

Vancouver Island University Foundation

Registered Charitable No: 887333482 RR0001

Undergraduate Research Assistant – MABRRI

Requested: \$5,000

As a leader in providing high-quality learning, Vancouver Island University (VIU) supports the well-being of the people of Vancouver Island and coastal British Columbia by promoting a high quality of life for their communities through commitment to student success, community engagement and associated scholarship. Fostering undergraduate research is an institution priority and is one of the ways VIU gives students the chance to apply theoretical knowledge in a practical and meaningful way within their community.

One of the leading innovators of undergraduate research at VIU is the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute (MABRRI). MABRRI's mission is to advance the program of inquiry that involves regional stakeholders in meaningful explorations of issues of local relevance within the Arrowsmith biosphere region, which extends from the top of Mount Arrowsmith—the highest mountain on Southern Vancouver Island—to the bottom of the Salish Sea. MABRRI works in conjunction with undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty and community members to produce both environmental and socio-cultural research to protect the Mount Arrowsmith biosphere, which is one of UNESCO's 16 registered biospheres in Canada.

A typical undergraduate research assistant at MABRRI would likely participate in conducting research, analyzing data, community collaboration, and presenting research reports. The value of undergraduate research is unquestionable, as it encourages student innovation and creativity as well as giving students the opportunity to participate in practical, applied research experiences, which enhance understanding of classroom material. The community benefits by gaining access to university-based expertise to support planning and research projects. VIU seeks \$5, 000 to add an additional undergraduate research assistant to support community projects through MABRRI.

Food Security

Nanaimo Community Kitchens Society

Registered Charitable No: 892696980 RR0001

Bellies to Babies and Beyond

Requested: \$5,000

Nanaimo Community Kitchens Society facilitates cooking together in small groups to create a healthier community. Participants learn about healthy food choices while preparing meals from basic foods and in the process build skills, knowledge, friendships and self-esteem.

Bellies to Babies and Beyond is a 10 week cooking and skill building program for pregnant women, first time parents and families who are economically challenged in Nanaimo. Some are dealing with addictions and want a non-judgmental program. Participants learn about healthy lifestyles for pregnancy and infancy, community supports, and each week prepare a meal to fit their family size. Participants learn by doing through hands-on cooking and clean up. Following safe handling practices is so important for pregnancy and children. Childminding is provided for preschool aged children, allowing parents to focus on the cooking. The social interactions among parents and children is a huge outcome of the program. Upon completion of the program, participants receive our You Can Cook cookbook, a binder of recipes and nutrition information, and a certificate of completion. Nutrition has been shown to impact child development, especially from conception to age five. This is a key time to make changes for better health.

Food Security

Nanaimo Loaves and Fishes Community Food Bank

Registered Charitable No: 874258429 RR0001

Food 4U Warehouse Expansion Project

Requested: \$25,000

Nanaimo Loaves and Fishes Community Food Bank believes all people should have access to healthy, nutritious food. Our organization not only provides free food to 3500 individuals (1050 being children) per month but also 44 local non-profits, including 16 school meal programs. We serve anyone in need without restriction and the food offered to other local charities is unlimited.

Currently Nanaimo Loaves and Fishes Community Food Bank is collecting and distributing 10,000 kg of food per month from our local grocery partners. This edible food is being diverted from the landfill directly to our warehouse and sorted by our volunteers through our Food 4U program. 95% of the food we collect is perfectly edible and distributed to our 11 local depots, six days per week. The other 5% is donated to farmers for their animals or composts. The impact of our Food 4U Food Recovery Program presents a sharp increase in the availability of fresh, healthy food to those in need. The goal of our program is to stop unnecessary waste while converting it into food for the most vulnerable in our community.

Loaves and Fishes warehouse requires pallet racking extensions (\$5000) and a forklift capable of reaching the unused top sections of the warehouse (\$20,000) in order to continue to grow our Food 4U program. Currently 30% of the available storage space in our warehouse is empty solely due to lack of necessary equipment to access the space. This space is essential as local grocery stores want to increase their donations and new stores are signing on to partner with us. If we are unable to use the rest of our space we will need to turn food donations away and thousands of tonnes of edible, fresh foods will be wasted rather than given to those in need.

Sports & Recreation

PacificSport Vancouver Island

Non-profit Society

Operating Facility

Requested: \$20,000

PacificSport Vancouver Island inspires and engages our community to excel at sport and be active for life. We believe that the values and life skills developed through sport and physical activity allow all people to maximize their potential. Creating the link between sport/physical activity and health and social service issues is the next hurdle for us and other sport organizations in BC. We support the government's goal to increase the level of physical activity throughout the province and make BC the fittest, most active province in Canada.

Since inception in 1995, PacificSport has been housed on the Vancouver Island University (Nanaimo) campus. However, in the spring of 2017 we were notified that VIU unexpectedly was granted funding to expand the trades building located next door to us and that the footprint of our portable was going to be needed. Our building was demolished in March/April and we relocated to Rutherford Elementary School until more permanent facilities could be secured. This current location is adequate for the short term, but proper office space is required in order to better accommodate PacificSport staff, reduce the noise and interruptions that come with an elementary school setting and get back to closer proximity to the community we serve near the downtown core.

Our goal is to build a new single storey office structure to house recently displaced PacificSport staff and provide opportunity for closer collaboration with current and potential partners. The facility would be approximately 1500 – 2000 square feet. We aspire to make the facility innovative in its design; eco-friendly with leading edge building technology in order to realize maximal energy savings and at the same time use locally sourced products and services wherever possible.