



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Foundation disburses \$47,625 to community groups *\$27,265 in designated grants also distributed*

Medicine Hat, Alberta (December 8, 2011) – Grant writing paid off for nine local organizations Thursday as the Community Foundation distributed \$47,625 in community grants.

Dozens of organizations applied for the community grants in September, and after several committee and board meetings the Community Foundation announced grant recipients at its annual Chair's Reception.

“Although we had many worthwhile applications for assistance, these nine organizations had programs that seemed to reach out to our grants committee,” said executive director Mike Christie. “All of the community grant funds will be used wisely to benefit Southeastern Alberta.”

The largest grant of \$10,000 will go toward the Kid's Lunch Program at the Brooks Food Bank in Brooks, Alberta.

“The Brooks Food Bank serves a large rural area and this program will specifically serve the children,” said Christie. “Last year the program provided over 900 lunches and this funding will allow the Food Bank to fulfill the same needs this year.”

Other grant recipients include Alberta Easter Seals Society, Brooks & District Seniors Outreach Society, Foremost Municipal Library, Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin, The Champion Centre (Brooks), Nature Conservancy, Communities in Bloom (Brooks) and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of Alberta (ALS).

The Community Foundation also announced today \$27,265 in designated grants, bringing the *total grants given today to \$68,210*. Designated grants are pre-determined grants that benefit the region each year.

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Today's fall grants announcement brings the Community Foundation's all-time grant giving tally to 761 grants, totaling \$2,991,786.

"The Community Foundation exists to give back to the community," said board chair Cory Baksa. "Whether it is through grant making, endowment building, or community leadership, we are constantly striving to make a positive influence on Southeastern Alberta. To be a part of an organization that has given 761 grants to the community is a remarkable thing."

Grants are made possible by donations from community members. The funds are then invested and the grant disbursements made from the interest earned on the donation. The initial donation is never used and is endowed in perpetuity.

The next grant application process will begin in February 2012, with a deadline of March 15, 2012. Applications forms can be found online at www.mhcf.ca.

A complete list of grant recipients is attached. For more information, please contact Mike Christie at (403) 527-9038.

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Community Foundation Grant Summary – Fall 2011

Organization	Project	Amount
<i>Community Foundation Grants</i>		
Alberta Easter Seals <i>~\$430 from the Megan Wahl Fund</i>	Equipment and Support Services	\$5500
Brooks Food Bank Foundation <i>~\$970 from the Growing Active Kids Fund</i>	Kids Lunch Program	\$10,000
Brooks & District Seniors Outreach Society <i>~\$375 from the Brooks Community Fund</i>	Seniors Outreach Brochures	\$600
Foremost Municipal Library <i>~\$545 Wiedeman Family Fund</i>	Children's Area Upgrade	\$5375
Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin <i>~\$1030 from the Environmental Legacy Fund</i>	Educating Youth about Fish Habitat	\$5000
The Champion Centre (Brooks)	Affordable Supportive Housing for Men	\$2500
Nature Conservancy	Community Outreach and Awareness	\$2500
Communities in Bloom (Brooks)	Restorative Forest Project	\$6500
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of Alberta	Client Services	\$6650
TOTAL CF GRANTS		\$44,625
<i>\$3350 of this total is from Field of Interest Funds as noted above</i>		

Designated Grants

Predetermined designated grants

John Ignatius Jenner 4h Multi Club Fund	Trophy for the Grand Champion Calf	\$45
Alex & Jean McDougald	The Salvation Army	\$1140
Alex & Jean McDougald	The Medicine Hat and District Food Bank	\$1215
Big Country Allied Arts	Oyen Public Library	\$175
Rawleigh Family Trust	School Districts	\$235
Lavern & Mary Kurpjuweit	Health Foundation	\$1745
Lavern & Mary Kurpjuweit	Whispering Pines Camp	\$1745
Lavern & Mary Kurpjuweit	Church	\$835
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Brenda & Brock Millions	Church	\$835
DESIGNATED TOTAL		\$8805

Field of Interest Grants

Margaret Houlston Hydrocephalus Fund		\$180
FIELD OF INTEREST TOTAL <i>(includes those made for Community Grants)</i>		\$3530

Donor Advised

Zelmor Fund	Community	\$850
Freedman Fund	Medicine Hat Symphonic Society	\$395
DONOR ADVISED TOTAL		\$1245

Agency Funds

REDI Enterprises	General Use	\$3755
CORE – Gilles Piche Scholarship	Scholarship for CORE Staff	\$4260
AGENCY TOTAL		\$8015

Scholarships

TX Ranches (John Ignatius)	Medicine Hat Big League Baseball Association	\$1545
TX Ranches (John Ignatius)	Southeastern Alberta 4H Clubs	\$1595
Jardine Bursary	Special Areas Scholarship	\$1400
Joe Laycock Scholarship	Special Areas Scholarship	\$800
SCHOLARSHIP TOTAL		\$5340

TOTAL DESIGNATED GRANTS = \$26,935

TOTAL FALL GRANTS = \$68,210