

VitalNews

March 2019

2019 SPRING GRANT CYCLE

The deadline for both the Smart & Caring Grant as well as the Community Impact Award was March 15th. We saw a total of 33 applications submitted. 19 of those were for the Smart & Caring Grant and 14 of them were Letters of Intent for the Community Impact Award. The total funds requested was over \$600,000. Members of our Grants and Community Leadership committees are currently reviewing these applications closely.

The grant funding recommendations will be ratified at our Board of Directors meeting on May 16th and all grants will be presented at our Founder's Day Picnic on May 31st.

Each year we are noticing that the needs in our community are not only increasing, the requests for funding are significantly rising as well. It is only because of our valued donors that we are able to fund a portion of these needs.

If you have been considering making a donation please contact our office to learn about how your initial donation to the Community Foundation is never spent and how you can make an impact in your community.



Meet Board of Director Matthew Lofgren

Matthew was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia and grew up in a military family, having the opportunity to live in various communities across Canada. He received his Bachelor of Arts with a double major in Political Science and History from Dalhousie University in 2007. In 2010, Matt then went on to receive his Juris Doctor from the University of Calgary.

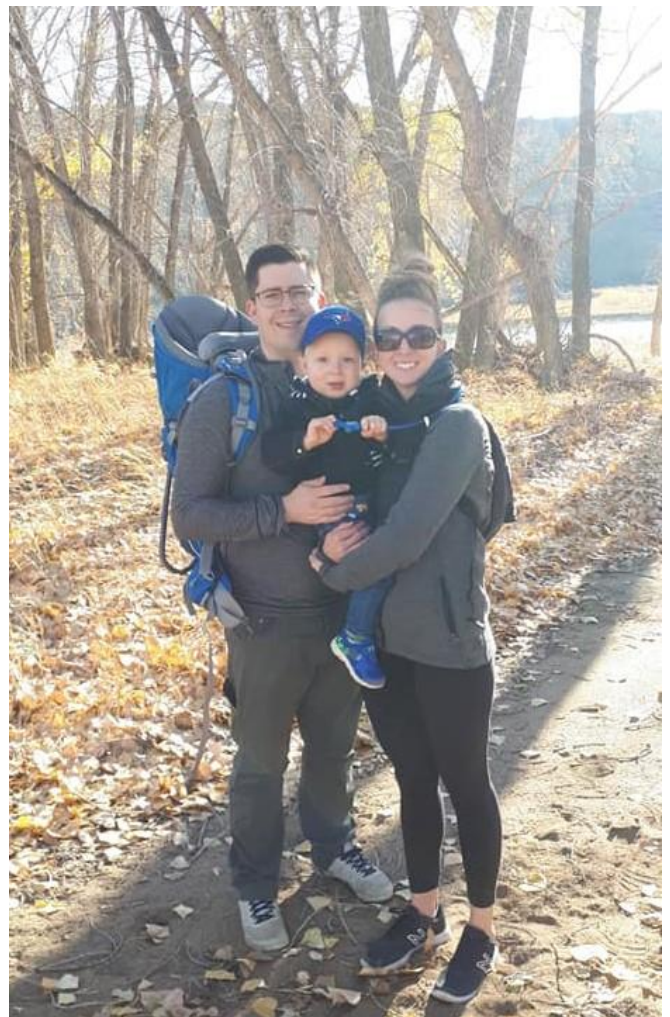
Matthew works as a Lawyer in Stringam LLP's Medicine Hat and Brooks offices. He has been a director for the Community Foundation for close to one year, sits on the CFSEA Endowment Development committee and is actively engaged with the Brooks and District Community Fund advisory committee. Matthew is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Brooks, the Brooks and District Chamber of Commerce, the Calgary Zeta Psi Alumni Association and the MH360 Networking Group. He believes in community engagement and has volunteered with many other community based organizations in the past including Scouts Canada, the Lion's Club and the Medicine Hat and Brooks Bar Association.

Through his Students for Survivors Campaign, Matthew received a Red Cross Certificate of Merit in 2002 for his effort to fundraise over 1 million dollars for the victims of the tragedy of September 11, 2001 in the USA.

Matthew and his wife Melissa moved to Alberta because they felt it was a place where their hard work would pay off.

"I saw Medicine Hat as a small community that was large enough to have everything we would ever need, and as a place that had opportunity for growth and a community that was on the cusp of breaking out. I wasn't wrong!" explains Matt.

With a young son and another baby on the way, Matthew and Melissa have enjoyed the low cost of living, sunny weather and incredible people in Medicine Hat. So much so, that a number of family members have joined them here.



"Growing up in a military family I always understood that it is important to give back and to serve the community in which you live. Throughout my life I have always looked for ways to give back and to work for causes I believe in. As Medicine Hat has been so generous to my family and to my business, I believe I need to give back to the community and the Community Foundation is the best way to achieve this. The Foundation builds community and leaves a legacy to ensure Southeast Alberta is and will always be a great place to raise a family and that nobody is left behind. We support so many amazing charities who work tirelessly to make our community such a fantastic place to live, and I am so happy to work with them to achieve these goals." says Matthew.

2019 Board Leadership Training

Training for board leadership was hosted by the Board Leadership Southeast Alberta to a sold out crowd on March 16th.

The training was accessible to local residents who are currently board members, those interested in joining a board and those who work closely with board governance.

The workshops were held at the Medicine Hat College and offered training in various topics such as board governance, board recruitment and succession planning, financial statements, bylaws and policies, fundraising and building inclusive and effective organizations.



Board Leadership Workshop Series

BOARD LEADERSHIP
SOUTHEAST ALBERTA

Creative Fund Development Strategies

When: May 2, 2019 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Where: Medicine Hat Public Library
Cost: \$20 (refreshments included)

Register online at www.boardleadershipsouth.com or [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca)

Logos at the bottom: Alberta, LEARN, rph, Medicine Hat College, Community Futures, CHOCOMBS LIBRARY SYSTEM, Community Foundation, Canadian Mental Health Association.

BOARD LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP SERIES

Mark Your Calendars

April 19 - office closed for Good Friday

April 22 - office closed for Easter Monday

May 31 - Founder's Day Picnic: Carriage House 4:00 - 6:00 pm



Everyone is welcome to come see the impact that our donors' philanthropy across Southeast Alberta.

CFSEA Regional Development

The Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile is off to the Races!

Michelle MacLean started as the Community Fund Coordinator on February 4th and she's been on the go ever since - hosting events, making presentations and connecting with a variety of people across the County. Her role never stops!

"It's exciting to be part of our Community Fund here in Forty Mile," says MacLean. "I look forward to seeing the community get involved and helping the fund grow!"

The Community Foundation also hosted a Grant Writing Workshop on February 6th in Bow Island. Those in attendance were very eager to find out how the grant process works, what the requirements are and how their organizations, clubs and projects can apply for funding. The Rural Community Fund of Forty Miles' advisory committee is looking forward to reviewing grant applications from their area.

"We have an incredible committee of dedicated people from throughout our region," comments Clint Thacker, committee Chair. "I know they are just as eager as I am to meet in order to review the grant application. The committee will make their recommendation to the CFSEA board who will then approve the first grant recipients this year."

Michelle and members of the Advisory committee look forward to giving group presentations as well as individual meetings for anyone interested in growing the local fund.

We look forward to sharing all the fantastic happenings for the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile very soon!

For more information you can reach Michelle at 403.866.8901 or 40milefund@cfsea.ca



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FUND OF FORTY MILE**

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Donor Profile: Craig Elder

Craig Elder and his family moved to Medicine Hat from Calgary in 2004. They found it to be an instantly welcoming place to be a part of a community. Craig has been involved with Rotary since 1998 and continues to do so as part of the Medicine Hat Sunrise Rotary Club.

Since arriving in 2004, Craig has been an engaged community member by sitting on the boards of the CCDA, the Medicine Hat PC Association, Medicine Hat Rugby Development Association, Medicine Hat Burns Club and the Cypress Club. He has also been part of the Medicine Hat College Business Advisory Committee, the Invest Medicine Hat advisory committee and the Women's Shelter Endowment committee.

"I was raised with the belief that the community in which you live and work contributes to your success and growth as a member of that community. Therefore, it is mutually beneficial to nurture, contribute and give back to the community that gives so much to you." says Craig.

Recognizing how much the community has given to Craig and his family, they decided to establish the Elder Family Fund in 2009. The distributions from the Elder Family Fund are designated to our community's greatest needs through Smart and Caring granting process.

"My belief in giving to the Community Foundation is that since it is an endowment, that once you give, your gift isn't just a one-time benefit to the community. It is a gift that keeps on giving year after year. As someone who works in the financial industry, an important part of what I do is creating a return on investment. That also applies on where to give of my time and money. I feel the CFSEA is an organization that has provided a good return on investment, not just for the donors that contribute and help in building a long term sustainable charitable endowment, but in the real impact it has by helping many organizations that do a lot of good every day in our community."

Beyond the Community Foundation, Craig and his family have supported a number of worthy charitable and athletic organizations in Medicine Hat and surrounding area and will continue to do so for years to come.



GRANT IMPACT STORY

KidSport Society Medicine Hat and Redcliff

KidSport received a Smart and Caring Grant of \$15,000 in November 2017.

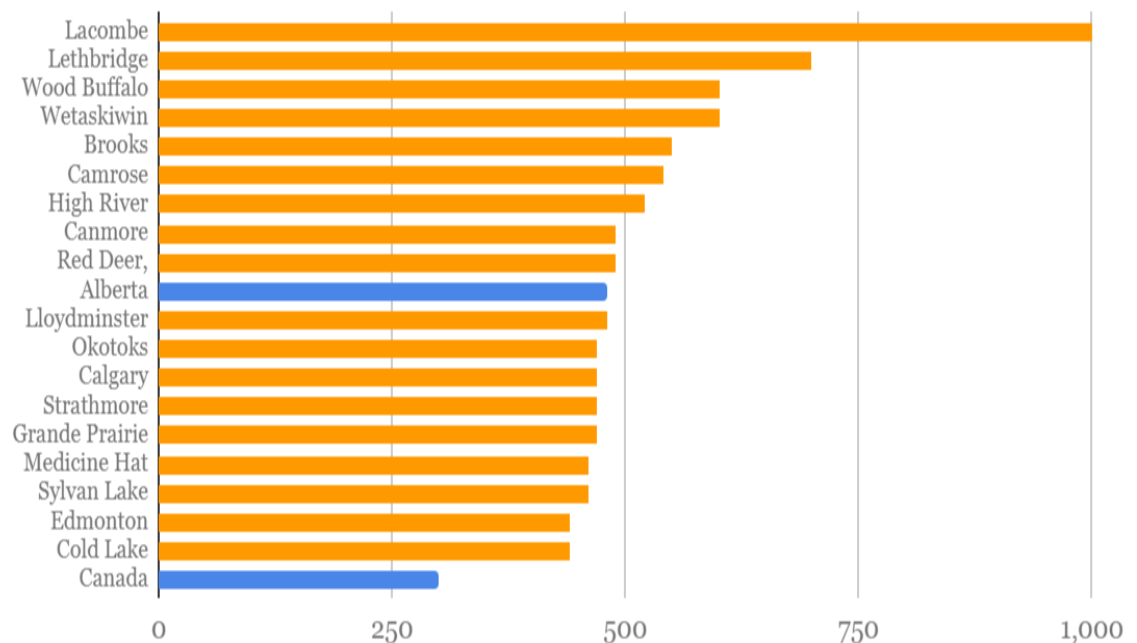
"We have been living in Medicine Hat for the last two years and our boys have enjoyed their stay here, mainly because of the opportunities through KidSport. Our applications to KidSport have particularly been so efficiently processed, and the website is user friendly! We are so thankful to those who support KidSport, you are positively influencing the lives of so many kids, and our family is forever thankful for all you continue to do! We believe that one day, we too, will be able to bless other families with our giving. You have set the standards high and we encourage you to continue impacting many children in this way. Well done KidSport, we are proud to be associated with you!"

If you are interested in supporting our local KidSport chapter, there is an open endowment fund here at CFSEA designated to KidSport Society Medicine Hat and Redcliff. Please consider donating so all kids can play!

Charitable Giving in Alberta

Median charitable donations

Dollars per year, per donor



Source: Statistics Canada, The Daily Feb. 8, 2019 and table 11-10-0130-01

Please help us spread the word about our donors, their impact and the work of the Community

Foundation by forwarding this newsletter to your family and friends.

Contact us:

E: admin@cfsea.ca

P: 403-527-9038

W: www.cfsea.ca

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