

RURAL COMMUNITY FUND OF FORTY MILE

Highlights from 2021



Photo taken in Bow Island, AB

A MESSAGE FROM CLINT THACKER, CHAIR

FOR THE RURAL COMMUNITY FUND OF FORTY MILE

The Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile has now been serving our region for three years!

There are so many things we look back on and are proud of as a committee, including that we have now distributed over \$130,000 in grants from the Community Foundation and various other funding sources. This means we have been able to assist over 24 projects across the County of Forty Mile! Be sure to keep reading for all the highlights from 2021!

We wish you all the very best in 2022, and look forward to growing our Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile with you in the coming year!

What's inside this issue:

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

WE GROW

**\$130,000+ GRANTS DISTRIBUTED
TO DATE ~**

**2021 GRANTS
IN FORTY MILE**

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WE GIVE

**\$46,000+ DONATED
TO DATE ~**

THANK YOU!

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WE'RE HIRING

**HIRING FOR COMMUNITY FUND
COORDINATOR**

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WE GROW.

Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile reaches over \$46,000 in donations.

***“THE RURAL
COMMUNITY FUND OF
FORTY MILE IS A
PERFECT WAY TO
GIVE BACK TO THE
COMMUNITY THAT
HAS GIVEN SO MUCH
TO US, IN AN
IMPACTFUL,
SUSTAINABLE
MANNER. WE
ENVISION THAT THE
FUND WILL
CONTRIBUTE TO THE
GROWTH AND
DEVELOPMENT OF
OUR COMMUNITY,
TODAY AND INTO THE
FUTURE.”***

***– CURTIS AND TARIA
GOUW***

**The Rural Community Fund of
Forty Mile offers a unique way
to support the charitable
needs of our region.**

Donations made to our Fund are never spent, they are invested, and it is the investment revenue that creates a continuous stream of funding supporting and sustaining strong communities throughout the County of Forty Mile.

The work we do as the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta and our own Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile would not be possible without the charitable gifts from our donors across Southeastern Alberta.

Our committee and staff would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our wonderful donors, and express our sincere appreciation for the contributions you make to CFSEA and the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile. Your willingness to support and invest in the current and future charitable and non-profit needs in our region has made a significant impact this year and will continue to do so for many years to come!

***If you would like to donate,
please visit cfsea.ca, scan the
QR code or call 403.866.8901.***

**Some gifts don't
need wrapping.
Donate to
support the
community's
greatest needs!**



Photo taken within the County of Forty Mile

**Thank you to all of our donors that support our fund.
These donations support grants throughout our region!**

WE GIVE.

Over \$19,000 awarded in Smart & Caring Community Grants in 2021

**OUR SMART & CARING
COMMUNITY GRANTS
HELP MAKE
COMMUNITIES
ACROSS
SOUTHEASTERN
ALBERTA A GREAT
PLACE TO LIVE FOR
EVERYONE AND ARE
AWARDED TWICE
ANNUALLY, IN SPRING
AND FALL.**

**In total, \$19,447.50 was
awarded through the *Smart &
Caring Community Grants* in
2021 in the County of Forty Mile.**

Foremost Ag Society received a \$10,000 Smart & Caring Grant in the Spring of 2021, with part of the funding received from the Bishop Family Fund. This fund was established for agricultural projects for the region, and this grant was the first of its kind received in the Forty Mile area.

***"Thanks for helping us
purchase a tractor! Having a***

***tractor allows our riding arena to
be used more because the ground
is always groomed and in great
condition for the community to
use,"*** commented Michelle Cowie,
committee representative for the
Foremost Ag Society.

A \$2,400 Spring Smart & Caring Grant was also awarded to the 40 Mile Park Foundation to complete the new park at Forty Mile Park.

This grant was also the first grant awarded using a portion of the investment income directly from the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile.

Most recently, in the Fall of 2021, a Smart & Caring Grant was also awarded to the Friends of Bow Island Library Society for the Children's Festival project.

***"This funding from the Smart &
Caring Grant gives us greater
confidence that we'll be able to
hold the Bow Island Children's
Festival for 2022 and years to
come. The pandemic has taken so
much away from our children and
our festival will bring back some
positivity, excitement, and
community engagement for them
to look forward to,"*** stated Kim
Mitchell, Treasurer for the Friends of
Bow Island Library Society.

***For the Spring 2022 grant cycle,
applications open in early
February and close March 15 at
4:30 PM. There will be a Grant
Writing Workshop in early
February that all applicants are
encouraged to attend. Please
connect with us at 403.866.8901
to learn more!***



Above: Spring 2021 Grant Presentation from Chair, Clint Thacker and committee member Curtis Gouw to the 40 Mile Park Foundation including committee members Suzanne Nelson, Gerald Reimer, and Craig Widmer.



Above: Curtis Gouw and Clint Thacker, Rural Fund Committee Chair and committee members, presenting the 2021 Spring Smart & Caring Grant to Craig Walsh and Jon Hollingsworth with the Foremost Ag Society



Above: Clint Thacker, Rural Fund Committee Chair, presenting the 2021 Fall Smart & Caring Grant to Kim Mitchell (Treasurer) & Kelly Thacker (President) the Friends of Bow Island Library Society.

**For more information or to donate, please contact our local Rural Fund Coordinator
at 403.866.8901 or 40milefund@cfsea.ca.**

WE GIVE.

In our first year participating in YiP (Youth in Philanthropy), \$5,400 was distributed from projects in the County of Forty Mile!

THE CFSEA'S YOUTH IN PHILANTHROPY (YIP) PROGRAM IS A LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS THROUGHOUT SOUTHEAST ALBERTA. EACH PARTICIPATING HIGH SCHOOL FORMS A STUDENT-LED COMMITTEE THAT OVERSEES THE ALLOCATION OF GRANTS TO LOCAL CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS.

YIP PROVIDES YOUTH IN THE FORTY MILE REGION WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME INVOLVED IN PHILANTHROPY AT A YOUNG AGE, AND TO SEE HOW THEY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Students from St. Michael's School helped distribute \$900 to HALO Air Ambulance, and another \$900 grant was given to the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter.

The students recognized how vital these services are to our region, and wanted to ensure they each received funding. They selected HALO since it provides such a critical service to everyone in the region. The Women's Shelter summer program was also selected as the students wanted to provide children in need with something to take them away from the challenges they face in their everyday home life.



St. Michael's School YiP Students & Staff



Cherry Coulee YiP Students

The students from Senator Gershaw School granted \$1,800 to the Kale Porteous Memorial Splash Park.

While the students reviewed a number of charitable needs in the region, they felt that supporting the splash park would ensure health, wellness and recreational needs of everyone in the region could be supported, for many years, while also being able to honor the memory of their classmate.

Cherry Coulee Christian Academy also participated in the 2021 YiP program. Their YiP participants reviewed various charitable organizations in the region. Ultimately, students selected Prairie Gleaners as their recipient of their \$1,800 YiP grant.

Students highlighted the organization's strong ability to provide a reliable source of food for those within region, as well as their innovative ideas in finding ways to feed people all over the world.



Senator Gershaw YiP Students & Staff

For more information on the 2022 YiP program, or how you can also make a donation that contributes to grants that fund incredible initiatives like this, please connect with our Rural Fund Coordinator.

Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile Funding Summary

Smart & Caring Grants



2019

- \$10,000 - Senator Gershaw School
- \$5,000 - Bow Island Susan Andersen Library
- \$5,000 - North Forty Mile Recreation Society Accessible Bathroom Bow Island Arena
- \$10,000 - Bow Island Historical & Tourism Society Bow Theatre Upgrades

2020

- \$17,000 - Etzikom Museum Accessible Upgrades & Facility Enhancements
- \$2,400 - Village of Foremost Splash Park

2021

- \$2,400 - Forty Mile Park Foundation Park Project
- \$10,000 - Foremost Agricultural Society Tractor Purchase
- \$7,047.50 - Friends of Bow Island Library Society - Bow Island Children's Festival

COVID-19 Response Fund for Southeastern Alberta



2020

- \$1,336.50 - Etzikom Museum picnic tables
- \$5,025 - Bow Island Golden Ages Centre PPE
- \$10,000 - Forty Mile Christian Academy laptops
- \$15,000 - Forty Mile Regional FCSS 'Meals on Wheels Program'
- \$1,800 - Bow Island Fire Department sanitizing units
- \$1,800 - Bow Island Susan Andersen Library computer area sanitize & safety upgrades
- \$1,750 - Village of Foremost sanitizing units

Youth in Philanthropy YiP 2021



\$1,800 - Senator Gershaw School
Kale Porteous Memorial Splash Park
\$1,800 - Cherry Coulee Christian Academy
Prairie Gleaners Association

\$ 900 - St. Michael's School Bow Island
HALO
\$ 900 - St. Michael's School Bow Island
Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Youth
Camp Program

RBC Future Launch Community Challenge



2019

- \$5,000 - Foremost School
- \$5,000 - Foremost RE-Create Youth Program
- \$5,000 - Bow Island Youth Swim Club

2020 Spring Repurposed Grant



2020

- \$5,000 - Forty Mile Regional FCSS Summer Fun Youth Program

**24 GRANTS & \$130,958.50 AWARDED
IN FORTY MILE SINCE 2019**

WE'RE HIRING!

Want to be part of a charity that is all about positive impact?

We recently announced that Michelle MacLean will be leaving her position as Community Fund Coordinator.

When we asked the Chair, Clint Thacker, for a few words about Michelle, he had the following to say:

"Right from Day 1, Michelle has been the heart and soul of our Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile. She brought an incredible amount of skill,

talent, and experience to her position as Fund Coordinator, but perhaps what is most impressive is her passion and dedication to her community. That was evident in her relentless and determined efforts to make sure our Rural Fund was supporting local groups and individuals as much as possible. She was everywhere and talking to everyone! Michelle will be impossible to replace as our Fund Coordinator, but the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile will be a lasting legacy in our communities for many years to come! From all of us in the County of Forty Mile, now and in the future, thank you Michelle!"

While the recruitment process continues, Michelle will remain in the position as a primary point of contact. We are all excited about continuing with the ongoing growth and development of the Rural Fund within the County of Forty Mile, and we are currently seeking candidates for the position of Community Fund Coordinator for the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile!

In Fall 2018, three community funds were established to serve the charitable needs of specific geographical regions within Southeastern Alberta. These permanent funds or endowments have been established by local residents and enable the community to "give where you live." They operate using the Community Foundation's charitable status, administration, and financial support reporting to and working closely with the Advisory Committee and the Executive Director,

The Fund Coordinator will be responsible for implementing and evaluating events and activities outlined in the Endowment Development Plan with the goal of building a sustainable local rural fund in the County of Forty Mile.

If you want to be part of a charity that is all about positive impact, please submit a cover letter and resume to niki@cfsea.ca today or visit cfsea.ca for the full posting!

WE ARE HIRING!

COMMUNITY FUND COORDINATOR

Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile
County of Forty Mile



cfsea.ca
f t i n

104, 430 - 6th Avenue SE
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 2S8

2020 / 2021

Annual Report

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updates***



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– Today, Tomorrow, Forever!**