

Spring 2023

VitalNews

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Message from the Chair!

I was walking the dogs yesterday and heard songbirds chirping away in a neighbour's tree. Could spring be here? There's probably one or two more snowstorms left for this year, but I think we're getting close!

Spring is a time for new growth and rejuvenation. Here at the Community Foundation, we are also moving right along. Our spring grant cycle has begun as well as a Community Service Recovery Fund grant from the federal government that we are administering locally. Our new board members are settling in and there are many exciting things on our agenda.

Cheryl Pocsik is in her last year on the Board. Her leadership on the Grants Committee and the Executive has been invaluable. She and Glenn will now have more time to spend with their beautiful grandchildren camping and going on adventures. Thank you so much for all that you have added to our Board.

If you've been thinking you might like to sit on our Board, we'd love to have a chat. Please contact Niki or myself. If you know Cheryl, you might also want to ask her what it entails.

It's an exciting time to watch us grow too! Enjoy those extra minutes of sunshine!

-Frances Barnes

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT



Michelle Haag has lived in Hanna for 30 years, she has two boys who have started on their own paths. Raised in Acadia Valley, Michelle has spent most of her life in the Special Areas. Working at Lynks in Hanna as the Communications Manager is where she first heard of the CFSEA. It did not take long for her to realize what a great organization the Community Foundation was and decided that she would like to help make an impact. In her free time, Michelle enjoys spending time with her boys, and keeping active with her dog. WELCOME MICHELLE!



MICHELLE HAAG
PRAIRIE CROCUS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOVERY FUND REVIEW COMMITTEE

The **Community Service Recovery Fund** is a one time investment of \$400 Million that will help charities, non-profits, and Indigenous Governing Bodies to acquire the tools they need to adapt and modernize so they can better support pandemic recovery in communities across Canada. An eleven member committee recently formed to offer diverse experience, knowledge, and expertise in the evaluation of grants for the **Community Service Recovery Fund**. We are pleased to say "Welcome!" to the following committee members:

CHRIS HOWELLS

JULIE FRIESEN

DAVID ANDREWS

GLENDIA HAWTHORNE

SHONA DICK

ROBERT SYMMONDS

CHERYL POCSIK

JAIME ROGERS

HOLLY STADNICKI

TILEENA SEITZ

LINDA BINGEMAN



Community Services Recovery Fund



Canadian
Red Cross



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA



United Way
Centraide
Canada

DONOR STORY:

Walt and Debbie Piper

Walt and Debbie Piper both grew up in the Brooks region where they first met in high school, and later reconnected through their careers. After marriage, they decided that Brooks was where they wanted to stay and raise their two wonderful sons. Since then, the Piper family continues to grow!

After Walt spent 30 years working at TC Energy and Debbie spent 36 years at the SPEC Association for Children and Families, they are now both retired. When they're not busy babysitting their grandkids, Walt and Debbie can be found travelling to warm tropical places, enjoying kayaking and scuba diving, and passionately supporting their community.

In 2012, Walt and Debbie first became aware of the Community Foundation while Debbie was working with the SPEC Association where CFSEA supported various projects over the years. That same year, they made their first donation and CFSEA has been on their charity list ever since. When the **Brooks and District Community Fund** was established in late 2018, Walt and Debbie went a step further when they became Heritage Club members by adding provisions for the foundation in their wills, with funds designated to the **Brooks and District Community Fund**.

"Supporting the Community Foundation and the Brooks and District Community Fund is creating a gift that keeps on giving. Long after we are physically gone, revenues from our donations will continue to impact the community we love. We have so much to be thankful for, and we are happy and honoured to be able to give where we live and support the CFSEA, specifically, the Brooks and District Community Fund." – Walt and Debbie Piper

We love the idea that our donations continue to grow and create new revenue for distribution long after our donations. Our initial \$50 donation in 2012 is still at work. And will forever be at work." – Walt and Debbie Piper



thank you!

CFSEA

Walt and Debbie are proud to see their contributions at work in projects the Foundation has supported. Debbie is also one of the original members of the local volunteer Advisory Committee for the Brooks and District Community Fund. She assists the Committee by providing valuable insight into the needs of our region. The Community Foundation is grateful for Walt and Debbie: donors, volunteers, and friends of the Foundation.

FUND HIGHLIGHT : Town of Redcliff Library Board Fund

The Redcliff Library opened as Redcliff Centennial Library in 1967. They moved to their current location in 1982 and they are one of the original libraries to establish the Shortgrass Library System.

“Through partnership with the Town of Redcliff and CFSEA, we were able to start a bike loan program in 2019, and those bikes have been borrowed 77 times since its inception. The Redcliff Library has continued to provide service to patrons in Redcliff, Medicine Hat, and Cypress County throughout the pandemic with our curbside and delivery services. For this, we earned the Shortgrass Library System’s 2022 Pandemic Service Excellence Award”

-Tracy Laturnus– Library Manager



“The Town of Redcliff Library Board is really excited to finally establish this fund with CFSEA. This will allow us even better opportunities to serve our residents. We have several capital projects planned over the next five years, allowing us to make minor changes within the library but will greatly improve our youth spaces”



An **Agency Endowment Fund** provides organizations a simple and efficient way to build capacity and sustainability. It is a safe and simple way for non-profits to establish their own endowment. Donors can be sure that the endowed fund's principal will not be spent and can grow over time, providing a source of lasting support.

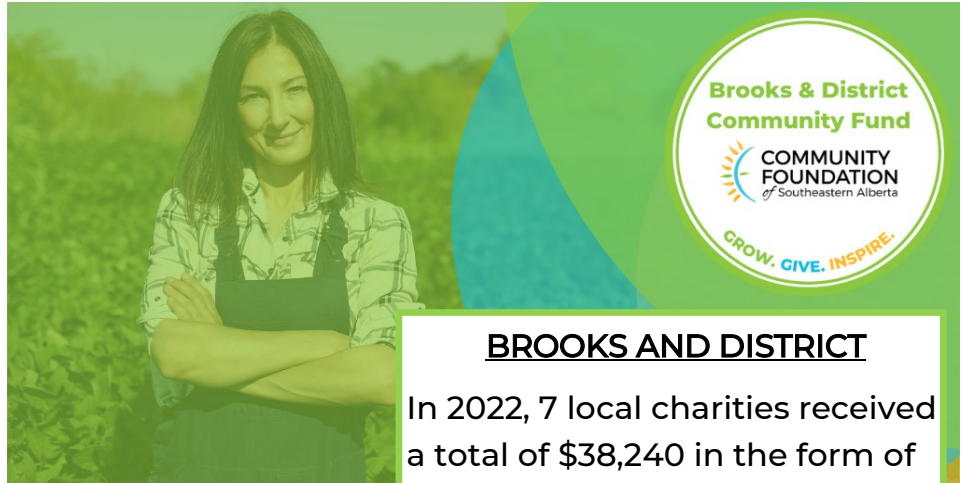
Connect with CFSEA if you are interested in learning more about Agency Endowment Funds so your non-profit can continue to support vibrant, healthy, and caring communities - Forever!

403.527.9038 | admin@cfsea.ca

RURAL COMMUNITY FUNDS

"With over 1200 community volunteer hours that the families and local community leaders contributed to this project, contributions from CFSEA will continue to bring communities together for a greater purpose."

-Habitat For Humanity



BROOKS AND DISTRICT

In 2022, 7 local charities received a total of \$38,240 in the form of Community Grants.

To date, the Brooks & District Community Fund has dispersed over \$235,000 in grants to various charities within our region. We are so pleased to see the impacts that these grants have made and look forward to what the future holds for our Community Fund. With Spring right around the corner, watch for our smiling faces as we will be engaging in upcoming community events such as the Spring 2023 Tradeshow, and Calf Sales at Bow Slope Shipping Association. We want to thank our volunteers for dedicating their time and to the many donors who have shown their support for the Brooks & District Community Fund!

The Prairie Crocus Community Fund has served Special Areas 2,3, and the MD of Acadia since 2019. We have dispersed \$178,179 through our Community Grants, COVID-19 Response Fund for Southeastern Alberta, YiP (Youth in Philanthropy), RBC Future Launch Community Challenge, Emergency Community Support Fund, and the Spring Repurposed Grant.

PRAIRIE CROCUS

In 2022, Charities in Special Areas 2, 3 and MD of Acadia, received \$23,040 in total in the form of Community Grants.

"We get to manage a Scholarship Fund with CFSEA. We are happy that each year the increased investment income means we are able to award more funds to local students."

- Melvin Bingeman

Prairie Crocus
Community Fund



GROW. GIVE. INSPIRE.

RURAL COMMUNITY FUNDS

“ We donate to empower our community to do more, help to secure our community's future, and invest in a legacy for our community.”

– Natalie and John Van Tryp



Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Southeastern Alberta

GROW. GIVE. INSPIRE.

FORTY MILE

In 2022, 5 local charities received a total of \$11,840 in the form of Community Grants.

The Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile has been serving the County of Forty mile since 2019. We have been able to disperse \$150,959 through our Community Grants, COVID-19 Response Fund for Southeastern Alberta, YiP (Youth in Philanthropy), RBC Future Launch Community Challenge, and Spring Repurposed Grant.

The Cypress County Community Fund has been serving the Cypress County region for 2 years. Since 2021, we have been able to disperse \$28,300 through our Community Grants and YiP (Youth in Philanthropy).

CYPRESS COUNTY

In 2022, 4 local charities received a total of \$24,000 in the form of Community Grants.

Cypress County Community Fund

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Southeastern Alberta

GROW. GIVE. INSPIRE.

“Cypress County is excited to see this community fund get started, and we all look forward to the good it will bring to our region.”

–Cypress County Council

2022 Community Grants Distributed



2022 COMMUNITY GRANTS

"The 2022 grant recipients demonstrated the importance of working together to create change. By representing collaborations, they are fostering connections between diverse groups across the region. Each one of these initiatives showed promising impact for their communities."

-Niki Gray/ Executive Director

Community Grants support communities across Southeastern Alberta by enhancing belonging of all citizens and strengthening the nonprofit and voluntary sectors. Donors may choose this fund as a way to allocate their contributions to support the community's greatest needs. In awarding grants, we conduct a comprehensive procedure to determine the most crucial community needs from data and evidence-based practice. Grants are then awarded based on potential impact and fund availability.

2022 Community Grants

Spring → \$164,650

Fall → \$102,732

Total → \$ 270, 382



Each year, the Community Foundation hosts a Vital event to help determine the community's greatest needs which then guides our funding priorities. The current priorities, in no particular order, are as follows:

Mental Health
Work & Economy
Vulnerable Populations-Particularly;
Food Security, Housing Stability, and Domestic
Violence

SAVE THE DATE

2023 SPRING COMMUNITY GRANTS

The **2023 Spring Community Grant** supports communities across Southeastern Alberta by enhancing belonging of all citizens and strengthening the non-profit and voluntary sectors. Donors choose this fund as a way to allocate their contributions to support the community's greatest needs. The deadline for applications is March 15, 2023. Visit our website to apply: <https://cfsea.ca/we-give/smart-caring-grants/>

FOUNDER'S DAY PICNIC



JOIN US FOR OUR:

**FOUNDER'S DAY
PICNIC**

**SPRING 2023 COMMUNITY
GRANT PRESENTATIONS**

MAY 29TH, 2023
4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

The CARRIAGE HOUSE
2055 21 Ave SE, Medicine Hat

RSVP to admin@cfsea.ca or 403.527.9038 by May 10th, 2023

Donors, community members, charities, and Community Foundation supporters will gather together at The Carriage House, to celebrate our annual Founder's Day Picnic this May.



COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

The **Community Impact Award** is a grant awarded to agencies that have innovative project ideas, demonstrate creativity and leadership, and support vibrant, healthy, and caring communities.

The CFSEA's Community Impact Award is a one \$25,000 grant, designed for agencies with innovative project ideas that show creativity and leadership in supporting a vibrant, healthy and caring community.

Community Impact
Award Open Date:

MARCH 1, 2023

Deadline Date:

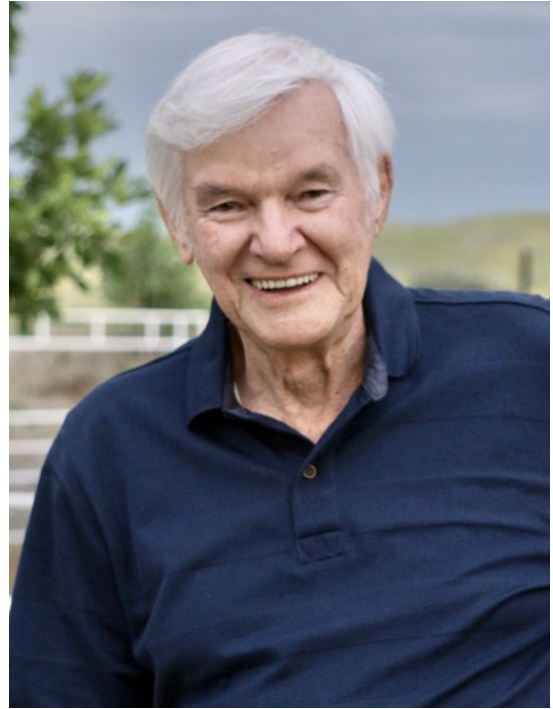
APRIL 17, 2023

Using information from CFSEA's 2022 Vital Conversation projects that address the following priorities are invited to apply:

- Work & Economy
- Mental Health
- Vulnerable Populations – *Food Security, Housing Stability, and*

Contact Jamie for more information at grants@cfsea or 403.527.9038

IN LOVING MEMORY



Our Board of Directors and staff would like to express our deepest condolences to the families of Marie Niwa, Ted Grimm, and David Carter. The Community Foundation has experienced years of their generosity and support; their philanthropy will continue to impact our region forever!



UPCOMING EVENTS: SAVE THE DATES

Make sure to save the dates!!



Grant Recipient Highlight

The Veiner Center: Elder Abuse Case : \$13,000

Harry Veiner donated the land adjacent to Lion's Park, "to build a very nice facility for the senior citizens of our City" on October 15, 1973. The Veiner Centre experienced a flood in 1995 and was flooded again in 2013. The centre was completely renovated to the building you see today, and the grand re-opening was on July 25, 2018. Veiner Centre reopened after the pandemic to the public with new operator, The Kerby Centre on September 7, 2021, and approximately one year later, was rebranded as Unison at Veiner Centre. Unison represents the programs, services, and supports offered at Veiner Centre, Kerby Centre, and online.

Unison at Veiner Centre is the go-to place for older adults - a vibrant, engaging hive of activity and exceptional resources that help seniors live their best lives. It's their passion and purpose to create in-person and virtual spaces for older Hatters to join together in enriching experiences for the mind, body, and spirit.



Cori Fischer– Director of Veiner Centre



The **Elder Abuse Case Management program** helps those affected by elder abuse take control of their lives, gain independence, build self esteem, and increase their sense of belonging. With the CFSEA's support, they can expand the existing program to better serve people impacted by elder abuse and better target programs and services so they have a stronger impact. With this support, they will also be focusing on prevention through education and increase overall awareness to seniors and the community at large. This program is about CARE — Case Management, Advocacy, Referral, and Education. Sometimes life can seem overwhelming. You may not know where to turn for the help you need. Finding the right resources can make all the difference. Referrals are accepted from anyone interested in the well-being of older adults.



"We are so grateful for this grant which will assist us in reaching homebound seniors experiencing, or at risk of, elder abuse. We can now expand our scope of practice and continue building an age-friendly community by helping those who need it most!" – **Jeanette Devore, Elder Abuse Case Manager, Unison at Veiner Centre**

Please call the Elder Abuse Resource Line at (403)952-8984 or visit the website at www.unisonalberta.com for more information about elder abuse and resources.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta (CFSEA) is seeking volunteer Board Members that can commit to approximately five (5) hours a month and serve a minimum three (3) year term.

- CFSEA is an Equal Opportunity organization and encourages applicants from minorities, women, Youth, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities and all other qualified applicants.
- Applicants are requested to email a letter of interest outlining their passion for community involvement and business knowledge that will contribute to the mission and operations of CFSEA to Frances Barnes at board@cfsea.ca by Friday, March 31.
- We welcome you to inform us, in confidence, if you require any special accommodations to participate in our recruitment process.

CFSEA is committed to improving the quality of life for the people of Southeastern Alberta through developing permanent endowments, making responsible grants, and inspiring community leadership.



Committee Member

- 15 years old +
- Attend 6-8 meetings annually
- Participate in local community events
- Be a community champion
- Help determine local impact through grants

BECOME A MEMBER



Advisory Committees

Brooks & District Community Fund

**-Nicole Nichols-Community Fund
Coordinator
brooksdistrictfund@cfsea.ca**

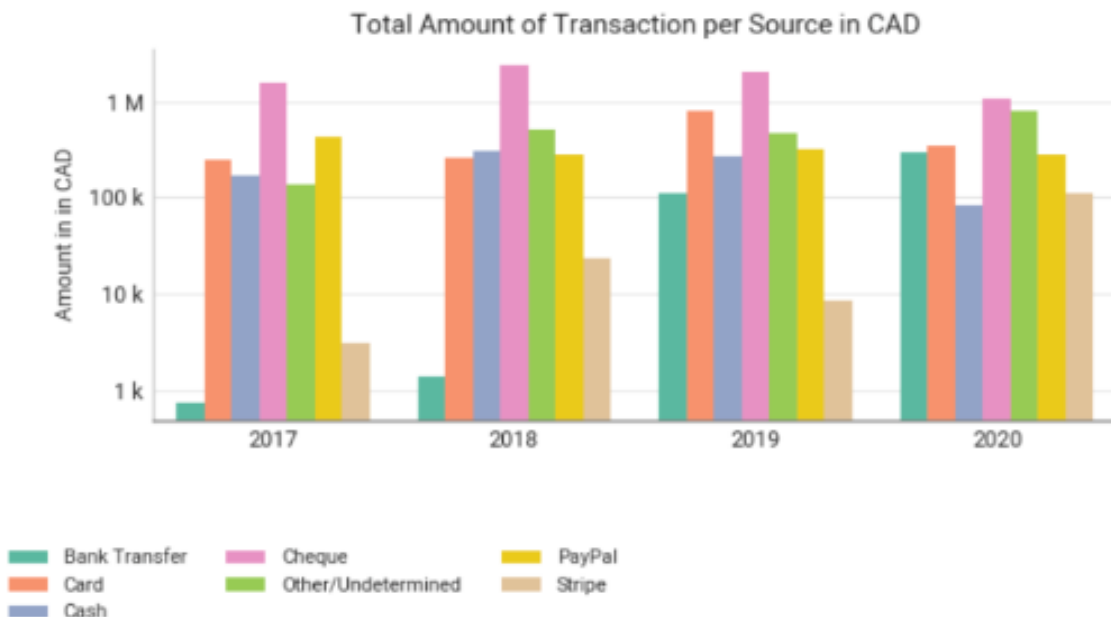
**Cypress County Community Fund
Prairie Crocus Community Fund
Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile**

**-Della Burkitt-Regional Development
Coordinator
della@cfsea.ca**

THE FUTURE OF GIVING: MICROPHILANTHROPY FOR NON-PROFITS

Understanding the impact of microdonations

“There’s been a lot of talk about the Great Transfer of Wealth, and how this 1-trillion dollar change of hand will disrupt the Canadian nonprofit sector. In fact, a [2019 report](#) by Coldwell Banker pinpoints that by 2030, millennials will hold 5x as much wealth as they do today. This is important when you consider Millennials are also now the largest generation of Canadians, accounting for [27% of the country’s population](#). And what we’ve learned is that while Millennials [give just 42%](#) the amount Baby Boomers do, their donations cause real, tangible change.” -Imagine Canada



With smaller donations growing in popularity, the platforms people are giving on are beginning to shift. The figure shows the total amount collected, the number of transactions and the average gift size broken down by payment type.

Most organizations have a donor base predominantly made up of donors aged 50+. Statistically, it's shown that these donors prefer to pay by traditional means: i.e., cheque or cash. This can be broken down further - the larger the gift size, the more likely it is to be donated via these traditional methods.

Microdonations are gifts between \$0.25 and \$25. And what these gifts lack in revenue, they make up for in impact - both for organizations and for the wider landscape of donors.

“And the true power of microdonations come not just from their volume, but from the power of sharing.” Imagine Canada