

Issue: Winter 2023

CommunityNews

A Message from our Executive Director



Niki Gray

Season's Greetings from the CFSEA Staff and Board! As the end of the year approaches, I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our donors, staff, volunteers, and community partners - I am fortunate to be in the company of such compassionate and dedicated leaders!

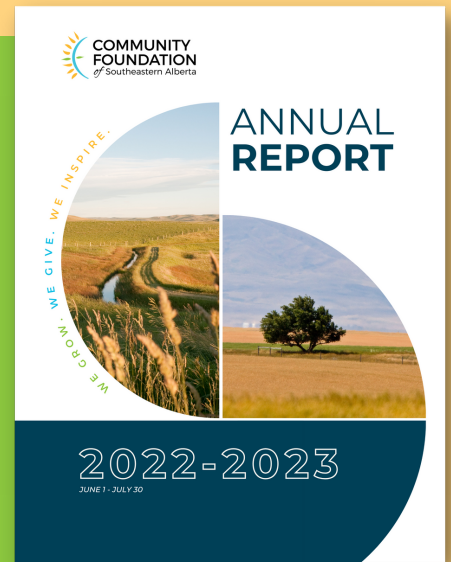
Even more inspiring is the time, talent, and treasure you continue to give in the face of Southeast Alberta's economic, social, and health challenges. Total donations received this past year were in excess of \$1.5 Million. This incredible generosity and foresight of our donors will continue to support the changing needs of our region for generations. The grants CFSEA distributed across Southeast Alberta were in excess of \$1.1 Million to 107 organizations serving a variety of sectors including food security, seniors, mental health, recreation, youth, education, agriculture, arts & culture, and safety. To learn more about the impact we've had together, please see the enclosed 2022/23 Annual Report.

I am pleased to share with you that I will be taking an extended leave of absence in 2024 to welcome the arrival of my third child! After much consideration, the Board of Directors have filled the interim Executive Director position with past Executive Director, Chris Christie. Chris was the Executive Director of CFSEA in 2017 and led the organization through growth, prosperity, and pandemic turbulences until her retirement in the summer of 2020. Chris will join the team in January 2024 until my return - CFSEA will be in great hands!

My wishes for safety, joy, and happiness as you take a pause this Holiday Season.

► What's Inside

- Donor and Fund Highlights
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CFSEA's Annual Report

CFSEA is pleased to share our 2022-2023 Annual Report. Take a look at the report to read encouraging stories from charities and our donors who make an impact across Southeastern Alberta.

Read the full Annual Report
at cfsea.ca today.

Fund Highlight

CFSEA is grateful to have received an initial donation of \$75,000 as **Pattern Energy** establishes its **Lanfine Wind Community Benefits Program**. Over the next 19 years, Lanfine Wind will contribute \$1,000,000 to CFSEA which will support local initiatives and community-based organizations within Special Area 3, the MD of Acadia, and the Town of Oyen. The Community Benefits Program will begin accepting grant applications from charitable organizations in Spring 2024. The priority areas include Indigenous Initiatives, Environment, Youth and Education, and Health and Wellness.



“We’re proud to have committed \$1 million to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta that will go directly to supporting critical local causes and initiatives. Lanfine Wind is a \$335 million investment in Alberta that is bringing diverse economic benefits to the region while powering 30,000 homes with clean and renewable energy. Together, we are building a better, cleaner, and more sustainable future in Alberta.”

– Hunter Armistead, CEO of Pattern Energy

Donor Highlight

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta Board of Directors and the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile are grateful to have received a donation in the amount of **\$446,000** through the generosity of **Thomas Bories**. Thomas came to the area of Foremost 35 years ago to hunt and ended purchasing property and calling the area his home. The Thomas Bories Memorial Fund will support youth education and recreational needs within the Village of Foremost.



“We are extremely grateful to receive our first bequest to the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile. This bequest is a true game changer for charities in the County of Forty Mile. Thomas Bories will be forever remembered as a generous philanthropist in our region, specifically to the community of Foremost where he lived.”

– Clint Thacker, Chair of the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile Advisory Committee

Fall 2023 Community Grants

Organization	Grant Amount
Medicine Hat	
Firekeeper's Women's Society	\$4,500
Medicine Hat Family Service	\$20,000
Medicine Hat and District Food Bank (Root Cellar)	\$20,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Medicine Hat	\$15,000
Medicine Hat Pregnancy Support Society	\$4,000
Kerby Assembly - Veiner Centre	\$9,693.50
Be YOUth Centre	\$3,500
Brooks and District Community Fund	
Silver Sage Agricultural Society	\$10,000
Rosemary Community Agricultural Society	\$10,000
City of Brooks	\$1,400
Prairie Crocus Community Fund	
Oyen and District Food Bank	\$6,560
Hannah Food Bank Association	\$3,075
Empress Friendship Centre	\$3,180
Chinook Applied Research Society	\$10,000
Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile	
Forty Mile Regional FCSS	\$3,324
Cypress County Community Fund	
Irvine and District Agricultural Society	\$9,275
Dunmore Equestrian Society	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$138,507.50

Community Grants support communities across Southeastern Alberta by enhancing belonging of all citizens and strengthening the nonprofit and voluntary sectors. Donors choose this fund as a way to support the community's greatest needs.

In awarding grants, we conduct a comprehensive procedure to determine the most crucial community needs through annual Vital Events.

Grants are then awarded based on potential impact and fund availability. These grants are awarded twice a year, in the spring and fall.

Congratulations to the 17 organizations who received a total of \$138,507.50



The virtual Spring Grant Writing Workshop is on **February 6th, 2024 at noon**. If you are considering applying for a spring grant, we invite you to attend. RSVP to grants@cfsea.ca

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The Grants Committee had the challenging job of evaluating 31 grant applications with a total request over four times more than what we had available to distribute this fall. Robust discussions were had regarding emergent needs, community-specific challenges, and how to responsibly allocate funds. I want to applaud and thank the Grants Committee for respectfully having these tough conversations that impact our region.

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Vital Signs Event and Publication

On October 30th CFSEA launched the **2023 Vital Signs Publication** at a community event held in the Beverage Building. At this event, we heard from four impact speakers sharing insight into various issue areas highlighted in the report. Impact speakers discussed the topics of Connection and Belonging, Mental Health, Work and Economy, and rural issue areas including economic development and housing. You can watch the full launch event on CFSEA's YouTube channel [here](#).

“I would like to thank our Vital Signs Committee for their contribution to the 2023 Vital Signs report. We encourage everyone to join us in the 2024 Vital Conversations, where we will delve even deeper into communities across SE AB by encouraging dialogue around the insights from this report to chart our course of action for the years ahead.”

- Lauren Friesen, Vital Signs Research & Project Coordinator



Introducing Top 7 Over 70

The **Top 7 over 70 Awards** celebrate the remarkable achievements of individuals who continue to make significant contributions to their respective fields well into their 70s and beyond. The Top 7 over 70 Awards recognize outstanding accomplishments in areas such as science, literature, philanthropy, the arts, and public service - showcasing the ongoing impact of seasoned individuals who defy age norms and continue to shape our world. Each award honours a diverse range of talents, from groundbreaking scientific discoveries to influential literary works or exemplary humanitarian efforts. The Top 7 over 70 awards emphasize that age is not a barrier to innovation, creativity, and positive societal impact.

The Top 7 Over 70 Awards was founded in 2017 by Jim Gray, a renowned Calgarian philanthropist. The Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta is thrilled to partner with the Top 7 Over 70 organization in Calgary to launch a Top 7 Over 70 program across Southeast Alberta. Nominations will be accepted for outstanding individuals in the Spring and Summer of 2024 with an Awards Gala to be held in October.

Thank you to the Committee Volunteers:

- David Andrews
- Myrna Stark
- Frances Barnes
- Todd O'Reilly
- Peter Donnelly
- Jim MacArthur
- Niki Gray



CFSEA's Vital Signs

We envision this report as a catalyst for the years ahead.

Printed copies of the report are available at the office.

Read the full Vital Signs Report at cfsea.ca today.

The Federal Government's recent changes to the Budget regarding the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) has created great concern and will be detrimental for charities and their donors across the country. The Federal Government has proposed an increase to the inclusion rate on donations of publicly traded securities from 0% to 30% as of January 1, 2024.

If you are looking for an opportunity to give to the charity of your choice through a security transfer prior to these changes, reach out to our team or your Financial Advisor to learn more.



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Simple Ways to Give to CFSEA

HOW TO DONATE TO CFSEA:

Online: cfsea.ca

E-Transfer:

donations@cfsea.ca

In-Person or Mail:

104,430 - 6th Ave SE

Medicine Hat T1A 2S8

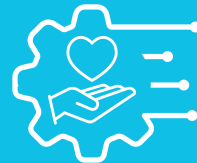


Agency Fund

Choose this option to support the needs at the Community Foundation.

Any existing Agency Fund

Choose this option to support an Agency you select to further their charitable purpose.



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Agency Fund options!



Community Grants Fund

Choose this option to support charities that apply for Community Grants (projects and programs that support the community's greatest needs).

Youth in Philanthropy Fund

Choose this option to support the YiP program allowing youth to experience philanthropy and the grant-making process.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of Southeastern Alberta



A gift today, impacts generations tomorrow.



The Board and Staff of the Community Foundation would like to wish you a joyful and safe Holiday Season!

We look back at 2023 with gratitude, and look forward to the possibilities that await us in 2024.

Please note, the CFSEA Office will be Closed on December 11, 25, 26, and January 1.