

Issue: Spring 2024

CommunityNews



Chris Christie

A Message from our Executive Director

It is so wonderful to be back at the Community Foundation! The past three and a half years of retirement have been full of grandchildren (finally!), travel, volunteering and more time with friends and family. But I have missed the staff, donors, agencies, and being connected

to what is happening across our SE region - so I was excited for the opportunity to fill in for Niki on her parental leave. Much is wonderfully the same - and the young 'uns help me with all the new fandangled technological advancements!

If you ever want to stop by for a visit, the coffee is always on - and I hope to see you eventually at one of our many community events over 2024.

Gratefully,
Chris Christie
Interim Executive Director

► ***What's Inside***

- Donor and Fund Highlights
- Grants - Now Open
- Rural Development
- Vital Signs
- Top 7 Over 70

► ***Important Dates***

March 15th - Community Grants Deadline

March 29 & April 1st - Closed for Easter

April 15th - Community Impact Award Deadline

April 15th - Board Member Application Deadline

May 28 - Founder's Day Picnic & Grants Distributed



Board Recruitment

CFSEA's Board Recruitment

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

Kyle Pudwell at board@cfsea.ca by Friday, April 15.

Grants - Community Grants

Community Grants support communities across Southeastern Alberta by enhancing the belonging of all citizens and strengthening the nonprofit and voluntary sectors. CFSEA must grant to a qualified donee or a non-profit group partnering with a qualified donee (including registered charities, municipalities, and school divisions). CFSEA prioritizes impact and regional support when reviewing grant applications. Additionally, they consider the alignment with CFSEA's Vital Signs Priority areas

- Up to \$25,000 in funding per grant
- Funding available for programs and projects that support a vibrant, healthy, and caring community
- Equipment or construction based projects up to \$10,000 of funding available

APPLY NOW



Deadline: Friday March 15th 2024

Grants - Community Impact Award



Are you a registered charity with a game-changing idea that has the potential to create positive, lasting change in our region? The CFSEA's Community Impact Award is one, \$25,000 grant, designed for agencies with innovative project ideas that show creativity and leadership in supporting a vibrant, healthy, and caring community. Projects that address the Vital Signs priority areas are invited to apply.

Opens: March 18th, 2024

Webinar: March 19th at 11am

(Register by emailing admin@cfsea.ca)

Deadline: April 15th, 2024

NEW!

Grants - Lanfine Wind Community Grants

Established by Pattern Energy Group LP, a leader in renewable energy and transmission infrastructure. Charities and Non-Profit groups are invited to apply for one grant each cycle. Organizations **MUST** be located within the boundaries of Special Area 3, the Town of Oyen, or the MD of Acadia.

Grants may be used to support capital, operating, programs, or special one-time costs within the following priority focus areas: First Nations and Metis, Local Communities, Environmental, Youth and Education, Health and Wellness.



Grant Application Timeline:

- Opens: June 1st 2024
- Deadline: July 2nd at 12:00 pm

Questions about grants? Connect with Sydney at grants@cfsea.ca

Agency Fund Highlight

CFSEA is grateful to have received an initial donation of \$5,000 from Dunmore Equestrian Society's (DES) President, Kelly Creasy, and his wife Sandy. **The Dunmore Equestrian Society Legacy Fund** was established with this donation.

The Dunmore Equestrian Society is a non-profit organization with a Board of Directors consisting entirely of volunteers. DES is committed to building a world-class agricultural / equestrian facility. To ensure Dunmore Equestrian's financial sustainability, the Board of Directors recognized the importance of establishing a Legacy Fund with the CFSEA.

To learn more or donate to the DES Legacy Fund, connect with CFSEA by calling 403.527.9038 or donate here: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/99284>



Sydney and Helene (CFSEA Staff), Kelly and Sandy Creasy (DES Legacy Fund donors), Gerald Sept (Cypress County Fund Representative)
– Photo by Susan Rex, The Buckin' Photographer

“Sandy and I are proud to be the first contributors to the DES Legacy Fund. We encourage the community to support the Dunmore Equestrian facility with ongoing funding. It is our dream that the Fund will keep the facility operating, improving, and providing community programs and services forever.”

– Kelly Creasy, Dunmore Equestrian President

Fund Highlight

“The Community Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy (YiP) program engaged 7 schools and distributed over \$10,000 across Southeastern Alberta last year! We could not have run this program without the forethought of our donors, who chose to contribute to the Youth Endowment Fund. Thank you! Consider helping us grow this fund so even more youth groups can participate in the coming years.”

– Sydney Ratzlaff, Community Engagement Coordinator



Youth Endowment Fund

Supports the Youth in Philanthropy Program allowing students to engage in the world of philanthropy, leadership, and learn about critical issues and charitable work in their community.

Donate Now



e-transfer: donations@cfsea.ca

Rural Development & Volunteer Highlights

Thank you to our Committee Members!

Clint Thacker – *Chair*
Curtis Gouw
John VanTryp
Joseph Eisenlohr

Larry Robinson
Nathan Kiffiak
Stephanie Hlady
Tyson Ormann

*Seeking more
Committee
Members!*



\$167,697

CFSEA and the Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile has distributed \$167,697 since 2019!



Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Southeastern Alberta

GROW. GIVE. INSPIRE.

● Helene Nicholson - Regional Development Coordinator | 403.866.8901

Prairie Crocus Community Fund

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Southeastern Alberta

GROW. GIVE. INSPIRE.



Thank you to our Committee Members!

Cindy Goodine - *Chair*
Allison Stammers
Elaine Michaels

Linda Bingeman
Lois Bedwell
Lucille Hertz

Jenifer Heeg
Michelle Haag



\$215,494

CFSEA and the Prairie Crocus Community Fund has distributed \$215,494 since 2019!

● Helene Nicholson - Regional Development Coordinator | 403.866.8901

Thank you to our Committee Members!

David Andrews - *Chair*
Ahmed Kassem
Brian Petersen
Debbie Piper

Inge Ellefson
Joe Chomistek
Karen Kallen
Leona Ferguson

Lisa Tiffin
Matthew Lofgren
Nicole Gardner
Zane Shaw



\$324,205

CFSEA and the Brooks and District Community Fund has distributed \$324,205 since 2019!



Brooks & District Community Fund

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Southeastern Alberta

GROW. GIVE. INSPIRE.

● Nicole Nichols - Community Fund Coordinator | 403.403.376.8884

Cypress County Community Fund

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Southeastern Alberta

GROW. GIVE. INSPIRE.



Thank you to our Committee Members!

Gerald Sept – *Chair*
Audrey Skoog
Barry Neubauer
Cathy Schnell

Colton Weisgerber
Dan Hamilton
Della Burkitt

Don McLennan
Gerald Maser
Richard Oster



\$47,575

CFSEA and the Cypress County Community Fund has distributed \$47,575 since 2021!

● Helene Nicholson - Regional Development Coordinator | 403.866.8901

Introducing *Top 7 Over 70*

CFSEA is the first community in Alberta to follow in the footsteps of the Calgary Top 7 over 70 Awards program. The **Top 7 Over 70** program recognizes the remarkable achievements of 7 individuals from across Southeast Alberta who have started a new adventure or reprised an existing one **after the age of 70**. These individuals will have accomplished a milestone or vision that inspires Albertans of all ages while defying age norms and shaping 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 not only applaud remarkable accomplishments but also serve as an inspiration for generations to come, emphasizing that age is not a barrier to innovation, creativity, and positive societal impacts.

Nominations for outstanding individuals from across Southeast Alberta are now being accepted through the Community Foundation with an **Awards Gala** to be held **October 10th, 2024** at Medalta in the Historic Clay District.

Nominate worthy candidates and learn more here: <https://cfsea.ca/top-7-70/>

Questions? Email **7Over70@cfsea.ca**.

For Sponsorship Opportunities, call Todd O'Reilly **403-548-5410**.

Gearing up for *Vital Conversations*

In 2023, CFSEA released the Vital Signs publication, offering a comprehensive overview of Southeast Alberta. Covering seven key areas—Health and Wellness, Housing, Work & Economy, Food Security, Safety, Connection & Belonging, and Creative & Active Living—the report aimed to present a holistic snapshot of the region. In 2024, Vital Conversations will **build upon this foundation**, focusing on recognizing the **unique needs in rural areas**.

We are seeking feedback from rural residents on the most critical issues in your area. If you wish to participate in the 2024 Vital Conversations in YOUR rural region or share your thoughts, please reach out to Lauren Friesen, the Vital Signs Research & Project Coordinator.

