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Community Foundation Celebrates their 20th Anniversary with a Feature Film and \$121,789 in Grants to the Community

Medicine Hat, Alberta (June 22, 2012) – To celebrate the Spring Grants and the Foundation’s 20th Anniversary an invited guest list enjoyed the feature film, “The Ultimate Gift”. The film is based on the novel by Jim Stovall and is a story about one young man’s journey to discover philanthropy.

“We wanted to celebrate our anniversary with a story about philanthropy,” said Chair Cory Baksa. “Philanthropy is the heart of the organization and we wanted to bring our donors, volunteers and grant recipients together to share a passionate story.”

In continuing its rich history of supporting charitable organizations in the region, the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta today announced a grants distribution totaling \$121,789. Nine community groups will benefit from the Foundation’s community grants program. Groups applied for these funds in March and the Foundation’s grants committee undertook the process of choosing the grant recipients. These community groups will receive \$46,704 of the funds while the other \$75,085 is allocated to pre-determined designated grants for charitable organizations in the region.

The Community Foundation has now awarded 804 grants in its 20-year history, worth over \$3 million.

“We are proud to be able to help build our community into an even better place,” said executive director Mike Christie. “This spring’s grants enable our foundation to support many facets of the community and continue our long-standing efforts to be a 360-degree grant maker.”

The grants announced today include funds to support Youth, Health & Social Services, Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education and Environment.

Community grants this spring include:

CORE – Clients Ongoing Rehabilitation and Equality <i>~\$1990 from the Claude Bishop Fund</i>	Cafeteria Expansion	\$10,000
Camp McCoy Association <i>~\$5550 from the Rural, Youth and Recreation Fund</i>	Staff Quarters	\$10,000

Medicine Hat Symphonic Society <i>~\$3500 Medicine Hat 2008 Alberta Summer Games Fund</i>	Scholarships and Tuition Assistance	\$3500
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Society of Alberta <i>~\$735 Methanex Social Investment Fund</i>	Equipment Lending Program Capital Assets	\$4784
Big/Big Sisters Association of Medicine Hat	New Case Management System & Computer Upgrade	\$5000
Girl Guides of Canada	Elkwater Guide Camp – Upgrading and Equipment	\$2582
Canadian Red Cross	Crisis Connections	\$4784
Miywasin Society of Aboriginal Services (Medicine Hat)	Youth Development Program	\$2392
Habitat for Humanity Medicine Hat Society	2012 Tool Up	\$3662
TOTAL CF GRANTS		\$46,704
<i>Includes from Field of Interest Funds as noted above</i>		<i>\$11,775</i>

The Foundation received applications totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars, but grant giving is limited as it is based on the investment performance of its endowments. Current endowments to the Foundation total over \$7.1 million.

“We look forward to the day when a larger endowment allows us to fund more charitable requests,” Christie said. “Every year we are overwhelmed with requests that average six or seven times our capacity to provide grants. So there are many organizations in the community in need of funds and we hope to do more for them in the future.”

The Community Foundation holds two grant cycles each year, one in spring and one in fall. The next grant application deadline will be September 15, 2012.

A complete list of grant recipients is attached. For more information, please contact Mike Christie at (403) 527-9038.

Community Foundation Grant Summary – Spring 2012

Organization	Project	Amount
<i>Community Foundation Grants</i>		
CORE – Clients Ongoing Rehabilitation and Equality <i>~\$1990 from the Claude Bishop Fund</i>	Cafeteria Expansion	\$10,000
Camp McCoy Association <i>~\$5550 from the Rural, Youth and Recreation Fund</i>	Staff Quarters	\$10,000
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Organization	Project	Amount
<i>Vital Impact Grant</i>		
Poverty Reduction Community Roundtable	Living Wage Study	\$8500
Medicine Hat Public Library	Tic Tac Program Meals	\$1500
TOTAL VI GRANTS		\$10,000

Organization	Project	Amount
<i>Youth in Philanthropy Grants</i>		
Grasslands Regional School Division #6	Newell Community Action Group – Transitions Program	\$1050

	Brooks & District Women's Safe Shelter Society – General Operations	\$1050
Prairie Rose School Division # 8 (Eagle Butte High School)	Habitat for Humanity – General Operations	\$2100
TOTAL YIP GRANTS		\$4200

Designated Grants

Predetermined designated grants

Legal Archives Society of Alberta	Alberta Legal History	\$225
Donna McLean, Bill Morrison, Peter Armstrong, Orv Kope	Communities in Bloom	\$280
Donna McLean Grasslands Naturalists Fund	Grasslands Naturalists	\$550
Donna McLean Library Fund	Medicine Hat Public Library purchase of art instructional material	\$590
Donna McLean Museum Fund	Medicine Hat Museum and Art Gallery school art annual award	\$550
Donna McLean SPCA Fund	Medicine Hat SPCA	\$180
Donna McLean Participation House – Toronto Fund	Participation House in Markham, their choice-use of funds	\$410
Donna McLean Southern Alberta Medic-Air Society Fund	Emergency medical helicopter for Southern Alberta	\$820
Donna McLean War Amp Fund	CHAMP program	\$820
Donna McLean Ontario College of Art and Design Fund	Scholarship to support life and portrait study	\$820
Thomas and Constance Sissons	Salvation Army	\$250
TX Ranches (John Ignatius)	MH Big League Baseball Association	\$6019
DESIGNATED TOTAL		\$11,514

Donor Advised Grants

Frost Family Fund	Selected by Family	\$680
Niwa Family Fund	Acadia Valley Arena	\$10,000
DONOR ADVISED TOTAL		\$10,680

Field of Interest		
Medicine Hat 2008 Alberta Summer Games	As decided by the committee – Hockey Day Bid (\$1545)	\$1545
Saamis Teepee Association	Support for Aboriginal Cultural Events	\$1610
Total Grants allocated through Community Grants Program		\$11,775
TOTAL FIELD OF INTEREST		\$14,930

Agency Funds		
Friends of Medalta	General Operating Expenses	\$810
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	General Use	\$70
Friends of the Family Foundation	General Use	\$38
United Way	General Use	\$38
YMCA	General Use	\$1735
CORE	General Use	\$45
CORE – Jason Mauch Scholarship	Support for Art Program	\$210
Medicine Hat Public Library	General Use – Harry & Lucy Cyster Trust	\$185
Canadian Mental Health	General Use	\$365
AGENCY TOTAL		\$3496

Scholarships		
Zirca Ukrainian Dance Ensemble	MHSD#76/MHCBE	\$790
Lions Club of Irvine	Irvine School	\$180
DR. F.W. & Harriet Gershaw Fund	Scholarship chosen by the family	\$480
Valli Family Scholarship Fund	Grasslands Public Schools	\$2075
Drowing Ford Grazing Association	Prairie Rose School Division	\$850
James and John McConnell	Chinook School Division – Nursing and Trades	\$13,440
Baseball Canada Cup	To be awarded in September	\$1321
French Immersion	MHSD#76	\$49
Chief Gord Earl Leadership Legacy Fund	Scholarships to all Medicine Hat Area School Districts	\$1080
SCHOLARSHIP TOTAL		\$20,265

TOTAL DESIGNATED GRANTS = \$86,860

TOTAL SPRING GRANTS = \$121,789