



South
Saskatchewan
Community
Foundation

ISSUE 2 | 2020

COMMUNITY Corner

An update for the donors, friends, volunteers and beneficiaries of SSCF



Message from our Executive Director

Welcome to our second newsletter titled Community Corner! It is with great pleasure that the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation Board and staff bring you the highlights from the last few months.

In this issue you will find stories of our collaborative focus with charities, agencies and donors. We are working smarter with partners in efforts to provide more purpose-filled and effective experiences together.

2019 proved to be a very impactful year upon which to fulfil your hopes and dreams and build our future. In our 50th anniversary year and with your generosity, contributions of

\$4.4 million

went back into building stronger, more resilient and inclusive communities. The staff worked with donors to do good together and provide more possibilities and joy to

222 charities and qualified donees

– the most grantees in history!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Donna Ziegler
Executive Director



L to R: top - Gina McGinn, Duna and Janet Barber; middle - Melissa Coomber-Bendsten and Mo Bundon; bottom - Renu Kapoor and Bula Ghosh

FULFILLING DONORS' HOPES & DREAMS

Last year at this exact time you were asked to share your vision for community and why you choose to give back through this Foundation. Here are a few of our Fund owners' thoughts:

"I would like to see a kinder, better community. One where we do better at looking after the homeless, the hungry and abused person." Vern Fowke

"When I see STARS fly over – I smile! When I go to a function at St. Matthews, I smile! When I go to the Luther musical, I smile. Smiles are Good! I know Lloyd would be smiling at the effective use of his legacy. Thank you." Duna Barber

"I have been involved with two different charity foundations before. I am very pleased and grateful for the efficient and prompt service provided by the SSCF. I wish you well and pray for your continued success." Sandra Poon

IMPACT

Building Stronger More Inclusive Communities in Perpetuity

The Foundation makes it easy to fulfill my charitable goals and allows me to have a positive impact on my community.

In 1993, Drs. Lewis and Elisabeth Brandt created their Fund at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation. One of their wishes was to ensure that a portion of their Estate went to the University of Regina for a scholarship to a student preparing to teach young children in a Canadian Indigenous language and they set out selection criteria. It is with great impact that their Fund continues to provide much needed financial support to students at First Nations University of Canada. Last year, six students benefited from this ongoing legacy that continues to support community – forever. Here are a few of the stories of the students.



Deidre Herman, DTEP, La Loche

My name is Deidre Herman and I am a mother of three beautiful children ages 13, 7, and 3. I am a Dene woman born and raised in the northern community of La Loche, Saskatchewan. I am currently in my fourth year of university and starting my final internship, working toward my Bachelor of Education. I look forward to giving back to my community as a teacher upon completing my degree. Not only will I teach in my home town, but my mission is to help revive our Dene language for the children in our community and the surrounding communities.

I would like to thank Drs. Lewis and Elisabeth Brandt for their generous scholarships. This scholarship will help with my financial struggles and help me be more focused on my internship. You have no idea what this means to our family. I am forever thankful for your generosity. Merci cho.



Ashton Janvier, DTEP, La Loche

My name is Ashton Janvier from Clearwater River Dene Nation in northern Saskatchewan. I am currently in my final year for the Dene Teaching Education Program and will be going into my internship in January 2020. My academic goals once I obtain my teaching degree are to start programs for language revitalization, to teach High School Native Study courses and continue furthering my education to teach university levels. Throughout this program I have been growing as a person to become more professional in this career and learning my Indigenous identity and culture has made me aware of my overall well being. Receiving this award reminds me of all the hard work I put into this program and all of my dedication that I have put into my grades. It gives me confidence to continue to pursue my dreams towards helping people and by teaching I will be able to give back to the community. Thank you so much for this award, it means so much to me and my family.



Farris Lemaigre, DTEP, La Loche

My name is Farris Lemaigre and I am in the Dene Teacher Education Program happening in Clearwater River Dene Nation. This program is an Indigenous Education Program with a focus on the Denesuline language. I try to present myself in a positive manner to be an awesome role model for youth and others around me. I show great interest in giving back to the community by volunteering and helping out where it may be needed. My goal in life is to complete my education degree and continue my studies to become a high school math teacher.

I would like to thank Drs. Lewis and Elisabeth Brandt and the scholarship committee in selecting me to receive this scholarship. This scholarship will help me financially while I finish my studies in becoming an educator with a speciality in the Denesuline language. I have also decided that when I complete the Dene Teacher Education Program I would like to become a high school math teacher and work in my hometown, Clearwater River Dene Nation.



L to R - Shannon Lee Simmons with Donna Ziegler

WORKING SMARTER – COLLABORATION & BUILDING IMPACT TOGETHER

MOST NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS INCLUDE SOME FORM OF FINANCIAL REVIEW

Shannon Lee Simmons is a professional financial advisor, media personality and mother of two. SSCF partnered with the Regina Public Library to bring Shannon's fresh ideas around financial literacy and budgeting to an evening workshop that was relevant to all ages.

SSCF learned through its 50 VCC Report that communities recognize more needs to be done to address wellbeing and mental health. Financial stress contributes significantly to mental health. A recent poll by Scotia Bank found that most Canadians think about finances at least two hours every day.

Shannon Lee Simmons' presentation was focused on her latest book, *Worry Free Money*. She shared easy financial tips on how to calculate your spendable allowance, how to feel empowered by our choices and how to starve off financial triggers. She provided information to all ages on ways to reduce your stress and increase your worth by discussing reasons you might invest in RRSPs, TFSAs or consolidate and pay down your debt.

As an author of two financial books in two years, the founder of the online *New School of Finance* prides herself on helping personal and small business clients on the topic. More than 120 people came to the Central Public Library for an evening that was filled with stories, humor and great conversation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SSCF is sponsoring more professional development opportunities for non-profits organizations through a series of workshops with the Community Engagement and Research Centre at the University of Regina.

These sessions will be held at the Albert Library and Mâmwâyâtîtan Centre. With the generosity of specific donors at the SSCF, we are able to support key community leaders to share their useful insights into topics for non-profits like *Taking the Fear Out of Non-Profit Finance*, and *Risk Management*.

DOUBLING THE GIFT WITH MATCHING GRANTS

In 2019, 201,728 pounds of food was transported across the province with Food Banks of Saskatchewan's provincial food sharing program. The donation from the G. Murray and Edna Forbes Foundation Fund at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, will allow this important work to continue, and is part of the Holiday Matching Campaign by Nutrien.

The Forbes' decision to step forward to make a difference has created an impact that stretches right across our province.

Together with the Food Banks of Saskatchewan, we extend our deepest appreciation to these wonderful donors. Their contribution will allow the Food Banks of Saskatchewan to respond to the urgent call for emergency nutrition for over 30 communities in Saskatchewan.



SAVE THE DATE

Special Event for Fund Holders and Advisors

June 16, 2020

2:30 – 4:30 pm.

The focus will be on new tools for donors, understanding community impact from a donor and beneficiary perspective, and understanding the power of philanthropy. More details will be coming to you by the end of April.



FUND PORTAL LOGIN



L to R - Cleone Jeffreys, Lorna Sandberg and Gail Murray. Cleone and Gail are committee members of The Bill and Helen Davidson Foundation Fund.

FUND PORTAL Provides More Options

In November and December, Lorna Sandberg, SSCF's Donor Relations Administrator, trialed the new online Fund portal with the six current Fund owners. By creating opportunities for donors to trial the online system we were able to understand what aspects were important to donors. Initial focus groups found the site easy to use, were grateful to have past granting information readily available and looked forward to having access any day of the week.

For more information, contact our Donor Relations Administrator, Lorna at lorna.sandberg@sscf.ca

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of two very special individuals in December.

Saros Cowasjee 1931 - 2019. The Saros Cowasjee Small Animal Fund was established over a decade ago. While he was committed to teaching others during his time at the University, he had a passion to help small animals. He often donated the income from his Fund to Humane Societies throughout south Saskatchewan. His legacy to helping small animals will continue in perpetuity here at the Foundation.

Malcolm McLeod 1951 – 2019. Malcolm and his sisters are Fund Advisors to the Derril McLeod Family Foundation Fund. Malcolm was well known for his love of family. With the help of his sisters, Betty and Heather, the Fund will continue to honour the McLeod interests in community forever.



South Saskatchewan Community Foundation

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