



South  
Saskatchewan  
Community  
Foundation

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SEPTEMBER

# COMMUNITY Corner

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



## Message from our Executive Director

**"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."** ~ Helen Keller

As we have reflected many times over these unprecedented months, the heart of Saskatchewan is its kind and generous people.

You've made history, southern Saskatchewan! With the generosity of our donors, the work of our charities and the collaboration amongst community, we've been able to quickly respond to the emergent needs of our most vulnerable people. In the last six months, together we have put more money back into the community than ever before. Money going back into the community helps nurture the spirit of doing more good for more people.

Now, as we turn the corner and refresh our focus into the final months of this unprecedented year, we are proud to consolidate some of the results within this newsletter. We hope you have time to reflect on the important impact being made from the good will right here in our community. Each highlight underscores the many positive results such as those for children learning remotely, youth struggling with mental health, parents securing food, and isolated seniors trying desperately to connect with family.

And while the COVID-19 pandemic has consumed notable focus this year, we are proud of the ongoing initiatives at SSCF. Our Smart and Caring Fund is a prime example of work that continues as part of our mandate to directly meet community needs. These needs, as identified through our 50 Vital Community Conversation outreach last year with "Belonging" as the top community indicator, include five emerging issues in south Saskatchewan: Sustaining rural communities; Drug abuse and addiction; Safety in communities; Racism towards new immigrants and Indigenous peoples; and Homelessness and affordable housing.

Within this context, we reflect that we need to find every means to build our diversity and inclusion focus. We believe in the power of varying perspectives and experiences. We are dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion in philanthropy, the non-profit sector, our own organization, and all the communities we serve across southern Saskatchewan. It is our intention to provide meaningful opportunities to people of all races, ethnicities, religions, gender identifications and abilities. Communities become greater when we embrace each other and celebrate our differences.

Please connect soon as we continue to accept donations that will help our charities respond, recover and rebuild. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

**Donna Ziegler**  
Executive Director



Rose, a resident of Eden Care Communities

Photo credit - Eden Care

## GRANT OFFERS COMMUNITY CONNECTION

**The grant received from the Emergency Response Fund through the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation made it possible to connect Elders and residents of Eden Care Communities with their families during a very difficult time.**

"What an incredible difference the grant from the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation made," says Bill Pratt, Chief Relationship Officer at Eden Care Communities. "When COVID-19 first landed, Elders and residents in our homes were no longer able to receive visitors. The money received was used to connect Elders and residents to their families through technology. What a difference it made! We were also able to use the money to provide three meals a days to those required to stay inside. It was amazing what the money did."



Rhonda Rosenberg

## RECOGNIZE AND REJECT RACISM

A webinar examining racism and creating a positive change was the focus of a special virtual presentation by Rhonda Rosenberg, Executive Director of the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS) in August.

Rhonda's message built on her vast experience in anti-racism education, youth leadership, experiential education, cross-cultural education, non-profit management, and policy governance. She has worked intensively using transformative drama with youth and adults to explore racism and discrimination and find opportunities for positive change.

The presentation provided detail on racism as a social construct, the four types of racism, understanding prejudice and discrimination, and the actions we can take to create positive change around us. It was developed for our Vital Sign Community Network (VSCN) and members of SSCF's staff and Board of Directors.

Karen Henders, SSCF's Director of Community and Grant Stewardship noted presentations like this contribute to SSCF's ongoing commitments to diversity, multiculturalism and inclusivity.

**"We learned steps to reject racism and be an active force of positive change in our communities,"** says Henders.

SSCF thanks Rhonda for leading this excellent session to help us work together and explore racism in our communities.

# Donors address community needs

Approximately **\$1 MILLION** raised by the community was granted to **34 ORGANIZATIONS** as recipients of the **Emergency Response Fund for Community Needs.**

This included a matching \$500,000 which was made available from the estate of a generous founding member of the Foundation.

This Fund addressed some of the urgent community requirements as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 50 applications were received and reviewed by a team of community stakeholders to address areas of food security, shelter shortages, helping with children's needs and those needs of the most vulnerable populations.

We are indebted for all efforts to help to ensure essential needs in our local communities are met.

### Emergency Response Fund Recipients:

Part One recipients previously noted  
Announced – **PART TWO**

ORGANIZATION	FUNDS
All Nations Hope Network*	\$30,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Regina and Area Inc.	\$50,000
Canadian Mental Health Association - Saskatchewan Division	\$50,000
Caring Hearts Counselling Inc.*	\$25,000
Eden Care Communities	\$50,000
Family Service Regina	\$25,000
Joe's Place Youth Centre - Generation Hope Youth Inc.	\$6,000
Mother Teresa Middle School Inc.	\$50,000
Nēwo Yōtina Friendship Centre	\$50,000
Oxbow Emergency Support Program	\$5,000
Oxford House Saskatchewan Incorporated	\$20,000
REALM Foundation Inc.	\$4,750
South West Crisis Services Inc.	\$5,000
Spinal Cord Injury Saskatchewan Inc.	\$25,000
Swift Current Community Youth Initiative	\$30,000
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind	\$9,317
The Caring Place Regina Inc.	\$43,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$478,967</b>

\*additional amount from the initial grant to fulfil application request

### Announced – **PART THREE** - Final

ORGANIZATION	FUNDS
Saskatchewan Association for Rehabilitation for the Brain Injured	\$30,000
Saskatchewan Voice of People with Disabilities	\$30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>

## ACKNOWLEDGING PRESENCE ON TREATY LAND

South Saskatchewan Community Foundation acknowledges our presence on Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 territories; the original lands of the Cree, Dene, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. In the spirit of reconciliation, we have an ongoing commitment to work together to uplift Indigenous communities with guidance from Indigenous representatives.



## DONORS – SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, October 20 – 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. (via Zoom)

## Unlock the Secrets of Personal Philanthropy: Tax Smart Gifts From the Heart

Zoom presentation by Paul Nazareth, VP of Canadian Association of Gift Planners. Please RSVP via email to [info@sscf.ca](mailto:info@sscf.ca) with your name, email address and telephone number and we will send a reply email with the Zoom link.

## KRAMER LTD. ENGINEERING GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD



Back row (L to R): Award recipient Reza Gharraei Khosroshahi, his supervisor Dr. Daniel Chen, Sima Baheri Islami, Front row (L to R): Tim Kramer and James Kramer.

Congratulations to Reza Gharraei Khosroshahi, the recipient for the Kramer Ltd. Engineering Graduate Student Award for 2019-2020. Reza is a graduate student pursuing research advancements in the field of biomedical engineering to benefit community members at large. This award helps students thrive in their studies and reach their full potential as engineers.

It has a tremendous impact on the student's academic, professional and personal journey.

*"Receiving the Kramer Ltd. award scholarship reminded me that people care for each other," says Reza. "This bolsters my courage to provide patients with new ideas enhancing the quality of their life that was my aim when I opted to pursue Biomedical engineering."*

The award was presented at the College of Engineering 60th Awards Ceremony on March 9 in Saskatoon.



Elder Michael Lonechild assisting student at workshop.

## GRANT HELPS TO CONNECT STUDENTS WITH NATURE

With support of the SSCF Smart and Caring Fund, Nature Conservancy of Canada and Treaty Education Alliance helped 32 grade 6 students from Maple Creek Composite School connect with nature. Through hands-on activities, students learned about stewardship practices and the importance of connecting with the land.

"Thanks to SSCF's support, students had the opportunity to learn about native prairie, species at risk and what they can do to protect the plants and animals that call native prairie home," says Kayla Burak, Engagement Manager for Nature Conservancy of Canada.

"During this three-day workshop with Treaty Education Alliance, students took part in a native prairie presentation and trivia game, built bird and bat houses, and participated in a species at risk mural painting project with well-known Indigenous painter (and Elder) Michael Lonechild."

This grant opportunity also provided students with the opportunity to become citizen scientists and build career skills in the environmental field.

To find out more about the Learning the Land program, visit [www.learningtheland.ca](http://www.learningtheland.ca)



## PROGRAM CONFIRMS SOCIAL INVESTMENT

In July, the Government of Canada Investment Readiness Program (IRP) awarded its first round of funding including \$403,350 to 11 social purpose organizations within Saskatchewan.

Applications for the second and final round of funding for the IRP program will be accepted starting September 8, 2020 until October 9, 2020.

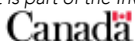
The IRP is designed to help social purpose organizations scale up their social enterprises to prepare to accept investments. The eventual goal is for these organizations to be able to participate in the social finance market and generate a return for investors while having a positive impact on their communities.

**"By providing support to help develop business plans and financial modelling, the IRP funding ensures that the YWCA has sustainable and impactful opportunities for women to gain employment experience,"** says Melissa Coomber-Bendtsen, CEO of YWCA Regina.

Of the recipients supported by Community Foundations of Canada's Saskatchewan Consortium, nine were distributed by SSCF for a total of \$348,350. They are listed below:

ORGANIZATION	FUNDS
Community Living Saskatoon	\$38,350
Métis Additions Council of Saskatchewan Inc.	\$30,000
Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan (PATHS)	\$50,000
Prince Albert Métis Women's Association Inc.	\$40,000
READ Saskatoon	\$20,000
Saskatoon Community Youth Arts Programming Inc.	\$50,000
Street Culture Project Inc.	\$50,000
YWCA Regina	\$60,000
Cowessess First Nation	\$10,000

This project is part of the Investment Readiness Program.

Funded by: 



## ANNUAL REPORT AMENDMENT

You were recently sent a notification of an amendment that has been made to our 2019 Annual Report.

The amendment addresses a copy duplication block within page 9 of the report, which has now been updated to highlight the correct numbers. This updated Annual Report is available on our website at <https://sscf.ca/about-sscf/sscf-reports/>. If you would like to receive a physical copy of the updated Annual Report, please let us know by email [info@sscf.ca](mailto:info@sscf.ca)

*We sincerely apologize for this error and thank our stakeholder who notified us. We appreciate your understanding and your continued support.*



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND ADDRESSES NEEDS

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased stresses in all our lives, so imagine the adversities that our most vulnerable populations are now facing. We acted swiftly and responsibly to award \$902,450 in grants to support vulnerable people when they need it most through essential community programming. These grants are part of the Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF) funded by the Government of Canada and include the following recipients:

ORGANIZATION	GRANT AMOUNT
AIDS Programs South Saskatchewan (APSS)	\$32,300
Canadian National Institute for the Blind, south Saskatchewan	\$58,508
Caring Hearts Counselling Inc, south Saskatchewan	\$50,000
Catholic Family Service Society Regina, Regina	\$68,129
Common Weal Community Arts, Regina	\$29,000
Envision Counselling and Support Centre Inc, Estevan	\$49,000
Family Service Regina, Regina	\$50,000
Inclusion Weyburn, Weyburn	\$7,000
Moose Jaw Association for Community Living Inc., Moose Jaw	\$15,620
Neil Squire Society, Regina	\$5,000
North Central Family Centre Inc., Regina	\$75,000
Phoenix Residential Society, Regina	\$70,200
Prairie Wind Estate Inc., Herbert	\$40,000
Qu'Appelle & District Volunteer Fire Department, Qu'Appelle	\$5,000
Regina Early Learning Centre, Regina	\$43,100
Regina Public Library Board, Regina	\$12,099
Saskatchewan Abilities Council Inc., Regina, Swift Current	\$37,500
SOFIA House, Regina	\$75,000
South East Cornerstone Public School Division, Weyburn	\$30,000
The Caring Place Inc., Regina	\$75,000
YWCA Regina, Regina	\$74,994



## 2020 WILSON SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Congratulations to Jaidyn Gieni, recipient of the 2020 (and 2019) Sylvia Wilson Scholarship for Vocalists. Jaidyn has been enrolled in the St. Clair College Music Theatre Performance Program in Windsor, Ontario.

The Larry Wilson Scholarship Program has been in place since 2006. After his contribution to the restoration of the Capitol Theatre in Moose Jaw (renamed the Mae Wilson Theatre in honour of his mother), Larry Wilson wanted his five siblings – Dorothy, Gerald, Kathleen, Sylvia and Marlene – to be remembered as well. As such, he created a scholarship in each of their names and one in his own. These scholarships are administered by the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation on behalf of the Wilson Family.

**"I am so thankful for the financial support from the Larry Wilson Scholarship program and want to ensure that I respect that honor by doing well in the Music Theatre Program,"** says Jaidyn.

Eligible applicants: Students who are 17 years of age and over and who have a permanent residence in Moose Jaw or the South Saskatchewan Enterprise Region, for an eligible program of study in the artistic disciplines of Drama, Dance (Contemporary or Traditional), Musical Theatre (live voice and dance), Instrumental, Vocal, Literature (including writing, journalism, screen writing).

## IN MEMORIAM



**Elder Norma Jean Byrd** gave blessings at SSCF's first "Vital Conversation" called "Pursuing Reconciliation" in October 2017. Elder Byrd's historical presence helped us create momentum in our commitments to Truth and Reconciliation. It was humbling to be in her presence as she emanated gentleness, love, kindness and strength in her soft-spoken, thoughtful and immensely powerful way. Elder Norma Jean Bird passed away on April 23, 2020. She will be missed by our community and always remembered for her legacy including important contributions and touching countless hearts.

**Laura Murray** was a long-time friend of SSCF and an active member of the Vital Signs Community Network (VSCN). She was always ready to help and knew how to put a smile on anyone's face. We will remember her for always going above and beyond expectations to host our VSCN meetings when they were held at the Regina Food Bank. Friendly with a great sense of humour, she brightened up the room and made any activity we were doing more enjoyable. Laura Murray passed away on July 29, 2020. SSCF with VSCN members acknowledged and honoured her life at our August VSCN meeting.



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