

# Community Corner

### Issue: November 2021

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

# A Message from our **Executive Director**





L to R: Karen Henders, George Butt and Donna Ziegler at St. Andrews Church in Arcola.

Community impact starts with a story about the people, their passion and the dedication to meeting shared needs. Thank you for your efforts in working to identify local priorities and tackling many issues together in 2021.

While future-focused, we'll never forget our roots.

We were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of two extraordinary people in our community.

Murray Grant was a founding member of the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation. Many of our Foundation's Board and staff members met with Murray over the years. We would always love hearing him speak so passionately about the history and opportunities ahead.

Betty McLeod was a wonderful friend of the Foundation, long-time donor and fundholder of the Derril McLeod Family Foundation Fund held at SSCF and she will be greatly missed.

Throughout each year, we welcome opportunities to meet with community leaders, convene partners like our Vital Signs Community Network, and conduct research to understand those pressing needs. This year's report, *Through COVID-19 and Beyond*, speaks boldly to the new leading issue of concern – the mental health needs of our public, the need for unrestricted funding for organizations, and the vital need for charities to support the community's wellbeing.

At our annual donor event held virtually in October, we heard from guest speaker Rick Frost, retired CEO of the Winnipeg Foundation. Rick underscored the importance of pooling resources for the best impact. A timely example of our related work is partnering with the Canadian Association of Gift Planners and the "Will Power" campaign. The national campaign aims to help individuals and charities do more social good and address society's most pressing needs, through collective efforts. Additional information about ways to support your favourite causes while at the same time your loved ones, through "Will Power" is available on our website.

A few weeks ago, our team visited Arcola to catch up with a generous donor, George Butt. George created his endowed Fund at SSCF in 2008 that gives back to his hometown of Arcola each year. His Fund offers stable funding towards initiatives in the town that will continue to be enjoyed by many. We were humbled and grateful to sit down with George and learn about his life and the places he cherishes in Arcola. Please check out our video of that visit here: sscf.ca/george-butt-story

As we look forward to 2022, we will be providing more details about our Board's committed resources towards the areas of Truth and Reconciliation, supporting our Indigenous communities and Indigenous-led organizations.

Meanwhile, if you have not already advised us of your grant wishes this year, please give us a call to get the process initiated before December 1.

We always look forward to connecting with you. Take care.

Anna Giegler

Acknowledging SSCF's **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.

#### The Lorne and Evelyn Johnson Foundation

## 14 Programs Supported with Over \$157K

This fall, SSCF and Lorne and Evelyn Johnson Foundation (LEJF) supported 14 charitable programs for a total of \$157,798.44. The purpose of the Lorne and Evelyn Johnson Foundation is to promote social, cultural, religious and other activities deemed beneficial to communities in southern Saskatchewan with priority given to the City of Regina.

Congratulations to the successful applicants. They are:

ORGANIZATIONS	FUNDS
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Regina and Area Inc.	\$15,000
Carmichael Outreach Inc.	\$15,000
Creative Kids Canada Inc.	\$15,000
Diabetes Canada	\$5,000
Ignite Adult Learning Corporation	\$15,000
Learning Disabilities Association of Saskatchewan - Regina Branch	\$15,000
Muscular Dystrophy Canada - Western Canada Regional Office	\$5,000
North Central Family Centre Inc.	\$15,000
Regina Food For Learning	\$5,000
Scientists in School	\$13,000
The Big Sky Centre for Learning and Being Astonished Inc.	\$7,500
The Salvation Army (Regina)	\$7,298.44
YMCA of Regina	\$10,000
YWCA Regina	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$157,798.44

#### The Smart & Caring Fund

# Over \$46K to Address Community Need

SSCF has selected the recipients for the fall 2021 SSCF Smart & Caring Fund grants. This fall, SSCF supported 15 charitable programs for a total of \$46,600. The purpose of the Smart & Caring Fund is to allow the SSCF to respond in southern Saskatchewan to areas of focus identified in its annual Vital Signs© report.

We congratulate all of the successful applicants.

# The Smart & Caring Fund is Becoming *the Vital Community Fund in 2022*

In 2022, the Smart & Caring Fund will be known as the **South Saskatchewan Vital Community Fund**. This change is being made to create closer alignment between the Fund and SSCF's Vital Signs research. To apply for a grant, stay tuned to SSCF for more information regarding the **South Saskatchewan Vital Community Grant Program** in 2022.

#### The G. Murray and Edna Forbes Foundation Fund

# Over \$227K Granted this Fall

SSCF is pleased to announce the recipients of the fall 2021 G. Murray and Edna Forbes Foundation Fund grants. This year the Fund supported 19 charitable programs for a total of \$227,670. The purpose of this Fund is to support general charitable purposes in the south Saskatchewan area.

We would like to congratulate all of the successful applicants. They are:

ORGANIZATIONS	FUNDS
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Yorkton and Area Inc.	\$25,000
Canadian Red Cross – Saskatchewan	\$25,195
Diabetes Canada	\$5,000
Do It With Class Young People's Theatre	\$10,000
Estevan Area Literacy Group Inc	\$9,000
Farmland Legacies GTC Inc.	\$10,000
Fort Qu'Appelle Community Outreach Management Centre Inc.	\$7,000
Globe Theatre Society	\$25,000
Hope Air	\$5,000
Ignite Adult Learning Corporation	\$30,000
Inclusion Weyburn	\$9,200
Moose Jaw and District Food Bank Inc.	\$14,225
Moose Jaw Literacy Network	\$8,000
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD Canada)	\$6,000
Phoenix Residential Society	\$8,550
Saskatchewan Polytechnic	\$7,500
Scientists in School	\$13,000
The Saskatchewan 4-H Foundation	\$5,000
United Church Housing Corporation of Regina	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$227,670

ORGANIZATIONS	FUNDS
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Yorkton and Area Inc.	\$5,000
Caring Hearts Counselling Inc.	\$2,000
Carmichael Outreach Inc.	\$2,000
Ignite Adult Learning Corporation	\$5,000
Moose Jaw Family Services Inc.	\$5,000
North Central Family Centre Inc.	\$5,000
Osteoporosis Canada	\$2,000
Safe & Healthy Communities	\$2,000
Saskatchewan Abilities Council Inc	\$5,000
SCEP CENTRE Society (Regina)	\$2,000
Southwest Homes Inc.	\$2,000
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind	\$5,000
The Saskatchewan 4-H Foundation	\$600
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church	\$2,000
YWCA Regina	\$2,000
ΤΟΤΑ	\$46.600



## Through COVID-19 and Beyond Charities at the Heart of Our Communities

Supporting timely needs of our communities is important to us as a community foundation. We know COVID-19 has had an impact on our communities and the organizations that serve them, and that we could play a role in reporting on those impacts and how the impacts affect community needs. March 12, 2021 marked the one-year anniversary of the pandemic in Saskatchewan. The anniversary provided the opportunity to reach out to our south Saskatchewan community by way of a short survey to ask organizations to reflect on the past year and share how COVID-19 has affected their ability to support their communities.

#### Our survey revealed three important insights.

- The leading issue of concern in our communities is addressing the mental health needs of our public.
- 2. Our community organizations showed resiliency by being innovative in delivering their programs and sustaining their operations between March 2020 and March 2021. *However, to recover from the impact of COVID-19 organizations need unrestricted funding and more volunteers and staff.*
- 3. Charities are vital in supporting the wellbeing of our communities.

This report, <u>Through COVID-19 and Beyond: Charities at</u> <u>the Heart of Our Communities</u>, shows what we learned from that collective input.

Read the full report here: sscf.ca/vital-signs-reports



## Common Weal Community Arts: Youth Online Bridging Youth Arts Program *Responds to Racism*

Common Weal Community Arts is the only provincial arts organization dedicated solely to socially-engaged arts, creating programming in collaboration with Saskatchewan artists and communities in pursuit of an equitable and just society.

The organization received \$5,000 as part of SSCF's Smart & Caring Fund in 2020.

In the spirit of education, outreach, and access to the arts, the project, 'Youth Online Bridging' aimed to bridge rural and reserve youth through school partnerships with Nakoda Oyade Education Centre (Ceg-A-Kin) and Indian Head High School and community partnerships with the Grand Theatre and South East District for Sport, Culture, and Recreation.

Charles Umeh, Southern Artistic Director, says the results were encouraging, with the participants interested in continuing the bridging program.

"The programming created a means for participants to speak out and helped to showcase themselves," says Umeh. "Many finally opened up, feeling free to trust others and to be themselves. We are grateful to the project's lead artists Kris Alvarez, Zoey Roy, and Judy Wensel whose leadership and expertise made the project a success."

One of the students from the program summed it up this way: "I had a mind-opening experience and absolutely loved working with the artists. I have learned a lot."



#### Betty McLeod - June 23, 1954 to September 12, 2021

Betty was the daughter of the late Margaret and Derril McLeod and a fundholder of the Derril McLeod Family Foundation Fund held at SSCF. After Margaret and Derril's passing, Betty, along with her siblings, carried on the family legacy by recommending charities to benefit from the Fund each year.

SSCF would like to send our condolences to the McLeod family regarding the passing of Betty McLeod on September 12, 2021.

#### Robert "Murray" Grant - October 17, 1927 to October 6, 2021

Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of Robert "Murray" Grant who passed away peacefully on October 6, 2021. Murray was fundamental to the creation and growth of SSCF as one of its founding leaders. He was there at the beginning, in 1968, and helped plant the seed of around \$60,000 to establish SSCF and create better and stronger communities across south Saskatchewan. That seed has since grown to assets of over \$90 million and donors have since given back more than \$50 million to communities. Murray will be missed by his loved ones, but his impact on this community will continue to grow forever.

Watch Murray's words regarding the founding of SSCF in our videos here: **sscf.ca/remembering-murray-grant** 



# George Butt Supporting *the Heart of Arcola*

In 2008, George Butt created an endowed Fund through SSCF to benefit his hometown of Arcola for generations to come. Each year, the George Butt Foundation Fund provides support to Prairie Place Hall, Arcola Curling Club, St. Andrews United Church, and Arcola Cemetery.

Because George's gift is endowed, it will continue to grow over time. This means his donation will continue to provide stable and consistent yearly funding to his hometown, forever.

Christie Hislop, Town of Arcola Administrator, expressed the importance of George's donation to the community. She explained,

#### "Having someone like George give back to our community is so huge and beneficial for us... The curling rink and the hall are really the heart of our community and all of those facilities are non-profit, so having donations towards them really does help plan for the future."

When the Mayor of Arcola, Scott Tessier, was asked about the impact of George's donation, he said, "It's really important to be able to have stable funding in order to operate and keep things going. If there were more Funds like [George's] that brought in more stable funding for us it would help a lot."

Endowed funding, or "forever" funding, can empower donors to support the places they cherish far into the future.

"People who want to give back right where they live, where their business is, or where they grew up can work with SSCF to ensure their community benefits, forever, from their gifts. Thank you, George, for making a difference in Arcola," said Donna Ziegler, Executive Director at SSCF.

Watch the video of George Butt's donaton story here: **sscf.ca/george-butt-story** 

### Your Will is Powerful

Change the world with a charitable gift in your Will, while still supporting those you love.

See how you can support your favourite causes and loved ones in your Will. SSCF is a proud partner in the Will Power movement and you can visit our Will Power page here:



willpower.ca/charities/south-saskatchewan-community-foundation



# Important Reminder *for Donors*

#### Our team is ready and excited to assist you with your decisions about this year's donation and granting wishes.

If you are considering a non-cash gift, please contact us as soon as possible. *Non-cash gifts received after December 1 may not be processed for charitable receipting in 2021.* Cash gifts received before December 31 will be provided with receipts into January. Please do not hesitate to give us a call prior to December 1 to ensure that your requests are managed on schedule for 2021.

# SSCF'S Online **Donation Calculator**

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Discover how your donations brings real value to you. See the impact of your donation with SSCF's online donation calculator.

Estimate your giving potential with appreciated assets such as stocks, mutual funds and RRSPs/RRIFs. SSCF will walk you through the best ways to give with pretax dollars to optimize your end of the year tax savings.

With SSCF's online donation calculator, you can quickly envision your possibilities to give now, give later, or plan your endowed giving.

Explore SSCF's online donation calculator here: sscf.giftabulatornow.com

# SSCF's Holiday Hours

Our physical office and remote offices will be closed from

### Friday, December 24, 2021 until Monday, January 3, 2022.

Our offices will return to regular operating hours on January 4, 2022. If you require assistance during the holidays, feel free to email SSCF's Executive Director, Donna Ziegler at Donna.Ziegler@sscf.ca



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