



Community Impact Grants – Fall 2011

The Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta is pleased to announce the awarding of grants to 26 community organizations totaling \$154,650. Grants are provided through endowment funds established by generous donors and support a broad range of community services in the areas of Arts, Culture and Heritage; Human and Social Services; Health and Wellness; and Recreation, Leisure and the Environment.

A **\$2,050** grant will enable the **ALS Society of Alberta** to purchase a bathing chair and two bidet seats for the society's lending program. These personal care items will be lent free of charge and in a timely manner to individuals in southwestern Alberta who are living with ALS, thus reducing the huge financial impact of the disease on family and friends.

With a **\$4,000** grant, the **Blackfoot Family Lodge** will purchase a photocopier and literacy materials for their Aboriginal Literacy and Parenting Skills Program. This new program aims to assist both parents and children with literacy skills while covering topics such as self-esteem, healthy lifestyle, nutrition, conflict resolution, parenting, cultural and spiritual roots, and community involvement.

A grant of **\$5,000** will buy 10 new radios for the **Canadian Ski Patrol System – Southern Alberta Zone** as part of a project to upgrade search and rescue equipment. The grant will assist many volunteers in responding efficiently to emergency situations at the Castle Mountain ski facility.

The **Chinook Arch Regional Library System** will apply a **\$5,000** grant to the cost of creating a significant core collection of downloadable e-books. The project will assist 31 libraries in meeting the needs of library users, who have indicated in a recent survey that access to downloadable e-books is a very high priority for library service.

A grant of **\$5,000** will assist the **Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation** to offset the costs of furniture and a theatre system for the common area of the Guest House at Alberta Rose Lodge. The guesthouse provides affordable accommodations for adults from outside of Lethbridge who are receiving outpatient treatments at the hospital and Jack Ady Cancer Centre.

A **\$4,450** grant will assist the **Galt Museum and Archives** with a special project to arrange and describe records of several local community organizations so that these important historical documents will be available to academic researchers, genealogists, media and the general public.

The **Crowsnest Historical Society** will use a **\$3,000** grant to help with the cost of producing a promotional brochure for the museum. This is being planned in collaboration with the Crowsnest Heritage Initiative to develop a new self-guided walking tour of Coleman.

The **Fort Macleod Historical Association** will apply a **\$5,000** grant to the purchase and development of three new animated, interactive, talking mannequins representing Haultain, Macleod and Crowfoot, Pioneers of the Wild Wild West. They will be used as a teaching tool for school children as well as an interactive exhibit within the museum.

A **\$3,000** grant will assist the **Galt #8 Mine Historical Site Society** to cover the cost of a plexi-glass display case for a historically accurate model of the Galt #8 mine site. The case will enable transportation of a model to different locations for public viewing, creating an opportunity for learning about the beginnings of Lethbridge and its rich coal history.

A **\$5,000** grant will assist the **L'Arche Association of Lethbridge** with the purchase of three washers and two dryers for their St. Monica's Project, a new group home for persons with developmental disabilities. This home will help alleviate the growing need for quality, accessible, permanent housing for persons with developmental disabilities in southwestern Alberta.

A grant of **\$6,000** will purchase new band instruments for **Lethbridge Collegiate Institute** so that more students will have enhanced opportunities for learning and music making. The new instruments will improve the quality of music the band shares with the community.

Westminster Elementary School will use a **\$5,000** grant to buy specialized equipment for their new Snoezelin Room, designed to allow special needs students to engage in self-directed, sensory-oriented, hands-on activities. The calming effects of the room's environment will help students focus on communication, socialization and skill development.

The **Lethbridge Youth Foundation** will use a grant of **\$3,050** to purchase up-to-date software for 40 donated, newer computers at 5th on 5th Youth Centre. The new software will make it possible to give youth entering the workforce instruction in current computer skills, and to help them prepare electronic resumes compatible with workplace software.

A grant of **\$15,000** will assist the **Barons School**, which has no playground at present, to build a playground for children over 4 years of age. The playground will be available to the school's 169 students and will complement the town's tot lot as a community play area.

An **\$8,000** grant will help **County Central School, Vulcan**, to purchase a grand drape, projector and screen for the school's main stage. The upgrades will enhance student and community participation in theatre, band, dance, local celebrations, and movie nights.

A grant of **\$7,500** will assist **Kate Andrews High School, Coaldale**, purchase new band instruments for the school's burgeoning band program. Building the school's instrument inventory will enable the school to provide a wider selection of instruments to students who otherwise could not afford their own.

The **Pincher Creek and District Historical Society** will apply a **\$10,000** grant to the 1920s Expansion Project at the Kootenai Brown Pioneer Village, Pincher Creek. Funds will be used to develop boardwalks, electrical upgrades, security, landscaping, and exhibit development.

A **\$5,000** grant will help **Pincher Creek Community Centre Hall Society** purchase new chairs to better accommodate the many community groups using this large capacity facility.

The **Rainbow Literacy Society of Vulcan** will use a grant of **\$5,600** to install a digital wall monitor in the Vulcan Hospital waiting area, and to buy materials for the new Alphabet Soup program. The monitor will use visual pictures, sound, and words to convey understandable information about health and health services for ESL and basic literacy learners. The Alphabet Soup Program will work with ESL children and their parents to teach about nutrition and child development.

A grant of **\$2,000** will enable the **Safe Haven Women's Shelter Society, Taber**, to replace a worn carpet with new linoleum flooring in the playroom and child support office, creating a more pleasant, hygienic environment for the estimated 250 people who use the space annually.

A **\$5,000** grant to the **Society of the Friends of the Pincher Creek Library** will assist with creating a separate but accessible multi-purpose room in the library. The new soundproof room will be used for video conferencing and small group meetings by a variety of community organizations.

A **\$7,500** grant will enable the **Lethbridge Community Network** to reconfigure the public area of the office for easier community access to computers and for more private, efficient working conditions for staff. The organization offers public access to computers and internet for 3 communities in Southern Alberta, provides IT support for the not-for-profit sector, and trains people on social assistance.

A grant of **\$5,000** will assist with the renovation of decrepit showers at **Southern Alcare Manor, Lethbridge**, which provides programs and residential services for recovering male drug, alcohol and gambling addicts. Approximately 25 men use the three existing showers each day, and will benefit both psychologically and physically from the much-needed upgrade.

Claresholm and District Family Community Support Services will use a grant of **\$3,500** to purchase furnishings for the Claresholm Teen Centre as part of an upgrading project to provide a safe meeting place for approximately 550 area teens.

A **\$15,000** grant to **The University of Lethbridge Music Conservatory** is part of a commitment to a \$25,000 sponsorship, with the remaining \$10,000 to be granted over several years from the William and Phyllis McDonell Music Endowment Fund. The grant will be used to develop a public space within the conservatory that will assist in expanding its community outreach capacity.

Champion Skating Rink Association will use a grant of **\$10,000** to get started on a complete renovation of the lobby of the facility that is shared with the swimming pool. The renovation will include new changing rooms, as well as new flooring, paint, doors, etc.