

20
23

[retrospect] Year in Review

RED DEER & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



RED DEER & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
all for community.

MISSION

The Red Deer & District Community Foundation is a community catalyst committed to growing a legacy which strengthens the quality of life in Red Deer and the surrounding area.

WHO WE ARE

We are the Community Savings Account.

We are an independent, community-based organization that focuses on philanthropy, grants and leadership. We work closely with our donors to invest in the people, projects and activities that continue to build and strengthen our communities by identifying long term needs and opportunities and focusing on sustainable solutions.

WHAT WE DO

We invest the donations we receive to be held forever in an endowment. Each year we disburse the income we make on that investment to charitable organizations and projects.

Currently, we have over \$19 million in pooled assets. The larger our pool grows, the more funding we can make available to respond to the needs within our communities. And because we never touch the principal, there will always be granting dollars available for Central Alberta charities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023

Krista Nymark VandenBrink: Chair, Doug Anderson: Vice-Chair, Stacey Poier: Treasurer, Lori Dufresne, Danielle Graham, Paul G. Harris, Maureen Janke, Patricia MacSween, Tanya Schur, Dax Williams

TREATY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Red Deer & District Community Foundation recognizes that we are on Treaty 6 & 7 Territory, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation.

A Message from Our ED



YEAR IN REVIEW WITH ERIN PEDEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Here at the Community Foundation, 2023 has been a year of both reflection and preparation. As a Community Foundation, we have always been focused on sustainable, long-term giving and growth. But this year we have shifted even more into looking at the ways that we can impact our community long into the future. This work of reflection has us rethinking everything from the ways we grant, to our internal processes and roles, and even down to the way we show up in Central Alberta communities.

This work has been cumbersome and sometimes difficult. But it's also been a revitalizing opportunity to put into practice so many things that we have learned over the last few years from connecting with agencies, listening to our peers, meeting with donors, and sharing with others across the sector. We are eager to put into practice all that we have discovered.



2023 saw the launch of our online scholarship portal, as part of our efforts to streamline Community Foundation processes. With relatively few hiccups, students, counsellors, and even parents rose to the challenge of navigating a new system so that our application process has become simpler for students and for adjudicators tasked with the difficult job of choosing scholarship recipients. This new system was able to facilitate over \$90,000 in financial awards for Central Alberta students in 2023.

Other highlights of 2023 include a Smiles Thru Lindsey initiative to transform mental health protocols in Central Alberta schools, and the creation of the Mothers for Recovery support group, made possible by a Community Foundation grant to Family Services of Central Alberta. Finally, I want to highlight our growth in the form of two new staff members, who you can read about below.

As we look ahead, we have some big announcements planned for 2024, which is also the Foundation's 35th anniversary. We are digging into ways that we can revitalize our work through innovation and changemaking, while we continue to work with donors, agencies, and community members who all share the goal of furthering our mission to strengthen the quality of life in Central Alberta.

Thank you for joining us to reflect on our 2023 growth.

Erin Peden, RDDCF Executive Director

INTERNAL GROWTH - NEW STAFF

As we move towards fulfilling the goals set out in our 2021-2023 Strategic Plan, the Community Foundation expanded our staff team in 2023. We were thrilled to welcome a new Administrative Services Coordinator, as well as a Fund Development Program Manager.

These positions will increase staff capacity to support the strategic goals of the Foundation.



Grantmaking in Action



VOLUNTEER CENTRAL GRANT

To celebrate National Volunteer Week, we were pleased to announce the first ever recipients of the new Volunteer Central Legacy Grant. For 2023 there were two grant recipients: the Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre and the Red Deer Public Library.

This grant was awarded to help to support Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre's 24 hour crisis line, and the Red Deer Public Library's Only the Good News project.

Created to carry on the mission of Volunteer Central, the Volunteer Central Legacy Grant supports volunteerism within the charitable sector here in Central Alberta, strengthening community connections and quality of life.



WOMEN & GIRLS GRANT

The Community Foundation was thrilled to announce that the 2023 Women & Girls Grant was awarded to the African Caribbean Centre of Central Alberta, in partnership with Central Alberta Immigrant Women's Association, for their project "Empowering Women & Girls Through Mentorship."

This project aimed to provide women and girls with mentorship, soft skills workshops, and referrals to resources here in our community.

COMMUNITY SERVICES RECOVERY FUNDING

The Red Deer & District Community Foundation was honoured to collaborate with community foundations across Canada, as well as the Canadian Red Cross and the United Way Centraide Canada, as part of the Community Services Recovery Fund.

This funding was provided to Community Service Organizations, including non-profit organizations, Indigenous Governing Bodies or Registered Charities located in Canada.

The Community Foundation was responsible for administering funding through the System and Processes Stream.

INVESTMENT READINESS PROGRAM

This funding from the Government of Canada was designed to support social purpose organizations as they contribute to solving pressing social, cultural and environmental challenges across Canada.

The goal was to help social purpose organizations build their capacity to participate in Canada's growing social finance market and prepare themselves to be able to take on investments. The Investment Readiness Program supports social purpose organizations to build more resilient communities for the future.

Scholarships



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS MOVED ONLINE FOR 2023 SCHOLARSHIP SEASON

In 2023, the Community Foundation facilitated scholarships to more than 20 students living in Central Alberta, distributing over \$90,000 in total to support students expanding their education into a variety of fields and industries.

The Ford Family Scholarship, targeting students attending Penhold Crossing Secondary School, distributed a record \$30,000 to six students. The William Arthur Bower Memorial Scholarship, in its second year, distributed \$25,000 to five students from Red Deer high schools.

With the addition of a new online application portal this year, the Community Foundation has made applying for scholarships even easier for students.

"One of our goals has been to increase accessibility and ease for students," said Krista Nymark VandenBrink, RDDCF Board Chair. "We recognize the importance of scholarships as the rising cost of post-secondary education continues to be a barrier for students. The online portal streamlines applications for students looking for financial support."

With the addition of more scholarships this year, the Community Foundation now offers 12 different scholarships, to support students in a wide variety of fields.

**"I CANNOT WAIT TO DISCOVER
WHAT THE NEXT DECADE OR SO OF
MY EDUCATIONAL CAREER HAS TO
OFFER ME - BUT I KNOW WITH
CERTAINTY THAT I WILL ALWAYS
LOOK BACK WITH GRATITUDE ON
THOSE WHO HAVE SO GENEROUSLY
SUPPORTED ME ALONG THE WAY."**

Rotary Career Opportunity Award Recipient

A young Black male student is shown in profile, looking intently at a computer monitor in a classroom or library setting. Other students and computer monitors are visible in the background.

**OVER
\$90,000**

Total scholarships
awarded for all RDDCF
scholarship funds in 2023

Building Resilience



SMILES THRU LINDSEY

Smiles Thru Lindsey, a fund held at the Red Deer & District Community Foundation, has distributed \$20,000 to Chinook's Edge School Division and Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools for the development of two protocols to support students who are struggling with self-injury and suicidal ideation. This donation will help to train staff in identifying signs and symptoms of non-suicidal self-injury and suicidal ideation, as well as consistent response protocols.



"Our goal is to ensure staff have the resources and procedures in place to ensure support for youth who are self-harming or have suicide ideation," said Marcie Perdue, Associate Superintendent, Chinook's Edge. "We are excited to work collaboratively with Red Deer Catholic to make a significant impact for students," Perdue continued.

Smiles Thru Lindsey was started by Rick and Cindy More, in honour of their daughter, Lindsey, who died by suicide nearly 8 years ago. Since its inception, Smiles Thru Lindsey has contributed over \$100,000 to mental health initiatives for youth in Central Alberta. The More Family are dedicated to spreading awareness about mental health, and supporting services and programs needed to create change, creating a beautiful legacy of hope.

"When Chinook's Edge and Red Deer Catholic first approached us with this idea, Rick couldn't stop smiling," said Cindy More. Rick More said, "Teachers have so much of an impact with kids. It's possible students will first confide in a teacher before they talk with their parents about their concerns in this area. Also, teachers experience pressure with everything that is expected of them in their work. We are excited about this project because we can see it making a difference."

The hope with this initiative is that the development and implementation of these protocols will create a culture of knowledge and understanding that will decrease risk to students.

MOTHERS FOR RECOVERY

A \$30,000 community grant went to Family Services of Central Alberta (FSCA) for the creation of a new support group for mothers living with substance use disorder. This initiative seeks to provide mothers with the support they need to overcome addiction while also ensuring that childcare needs are met during programming.



Mothers for Recovery provides an opportunity for mothers who are seeking or maintaining recovery from substance use to receive non-judgmental support in a safe and confidential space. The program involves weekly meetings co-facilitated by a social worker and a mother in recovery herself, modeled after the idea that the best teachers for mothers with addiction are individuals who have recovered from addiction themselves. The program encourages mothers to share their experiences, strengths, and hopes in recovery while amongst peers with similar past and present experiences.

"Our adjudication committee recognized that mothers with substance use disorder face unique challenges, including stigma and shame," said Erin Peden, RDDCF Executive Director. "The Mothers for Recovery program makes sense as an evidence-based early intervention strategy to support not only mothers, but also their children."

To reduce barriers to attendance, young children can participate in the Mothers for Recovery Child Development program which is designed to provide a nurturing environment for children while their mothers attend the support group sessions.

"This concept grew from the lack of addiction services available for women that they could bring their children to and that also dealt with the sensitive parenting issues that accompany substance use disorder," said Judy Scott, FSCA Executive Director. "We want to make it as easy as possible for mothers to attend our meetings and get the support they need, without the barrier of finding reliable childcare."

2023 Grants



Spring Grants - \$55,000

Book Clubs for Inmates

ChIRP: Connecting Families Through the Joy of Reading
\$3,000

Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre

24 Hour Phone, Chat, and Web Crisis Line
\$20,000

Fairview Elementary School

Library Renovation
\$5,000

Olds & District Hospice Society

Hospice & Bereavement Client Support Through Volunteers
\$7,000

Scientists in School

Increasing Access to STEM Learning for Vulnerable Children and Youth in Red Deer & District
\$5,000

Team Jigger Foundation

Sledge Hockey Equipment Purchases
\$15,000

Fall Grants - \$70,000

Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre

Toys for Play Therapy
\$5,000

Family Services of Central Alberta

Mothers for Recovery Support Group
\$30,000

Leftovers Foundation

Rescue Food YQF
\$10,000

Olds & District Hospice

Volunteer Driving & Support Program
\$5,000

YMCA of Northern Alberta – Northside Community Centre

Keeping the Youth Centre Open for YOUTH!
\$20,000

2023 Totals

**TOTAL
DISBURSEMENTS:**

\$1,850,301.60

Scholarship
Funds:
\$92,492.32

Field of Interest
Funds:
\$54,025.68

Designated
Funds:
\$113,542.85

Agency Funds:
\$85,874.11

Flow Through
Funds:
\$1,460,366.64

Donor Advised
Funds:
\$44,000.00

2023 Disbursements



A LOOK AT

2023 DISBURSEMENTS

A listing of Red Deer & District Community Foundation funds and disbursement amounts.

FIELD OF INTEREST

Fund	Organization Supported	Amount
Anita Scott Memorial Fund	Red Deer Community Band Society	\$2,900.00
Care for Kids (Fee Assistance Program)	The City of Red Deer	\$14,762.81
Children and Families	Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre	\$1,209.31
	Scientists in School	\$5,000.00
	YMCA of Northern Alberta	\$3,000.00
Conservation of Blue Birds, Swallows, Nesting Birds	Ellis Bird Farm Ltd.	\$5,000.00
Leadership Development	Olds & District Hospice Society	\$1,353.56
Olds Institute Community Legacy Fund	Town of Olds	\$2,500.00
Summer Employment for Students	Ellis Bird Farm Ltd.	\$5,000.00
Sylvan Lake Extended Care Society	Bethany Care Foundation	\$2,000.00
	Canadian Adaptive Snowsport Alberta Association	\$3,500.00
	Sylvan Lake Community Partners Association	\$1,800.00
Volunteer Central Society	Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre	\$500.00
	Red Deer Public Library	\$500.00
Women & Girls Endowment Fund	Central Alberta Immigrant Women's Association	\$5,000.00

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Fund	Grant Recipient	Amount
Anderson Family Endowment	Bridges Community Living	\$10,000.00
	Red Deer Cultural Heritage Society	\$10,000.00
	Whisker Rescue Society	\$4,000.00
Smiles Thru Lindsey	Chinook's Edge School Division	\$20,000.00

2023 Disbursements



SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Fund	Educational Institution	Amount
A. Bernard & Mary Dixon Scholarship Endowment	Mount Royal University	\$5,319.62
	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$2,833.50
Bev & Glen Buchwald Scholarship	Olds College	\$1,367.93
Brady van der Heide Citizenship Fund	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$1,000.00
Central AB Human Resources Scholarship	Grant MacEwan University	\$1,000.00
	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$1,000.00
Charles Snell Scholarship Fund	The City of Red Deer	\$473.27
County of Red Deer Educational Fund	Red Deer County	\$393.25
Don Church Scholarship	University of Calgary	\$2,000.00
Dr. Ethel Taylor Bursary	Maskwacis Cult. College Fdn.	\$604.75
Ford Family Scholarship Fund	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$20,000.00
	University of British Columbia	\$5,000.00
	University of Lethbridge	\$5,000.00
Murray Family Endowment Fund	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$2,200.00
	University of Regina	\$2,200.00
Red Deer Golf & Country Club Endowment	University of British Columbia Okanagan	\$1,000.00
Rex Turple Education Fund	Mount Royal University	\$750.00
	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$1,350.00
Rotary Career Opp. Awards Fund	Grant MacEwan University	\$2,000.00
	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$4,000.00
	University of Alberta	\$6,000.00
Trey Purdie - Endowment Fund	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$1,000.00
	University of Lethbridge	\$1,000.00
William Arthur Bower Memorial Scholarship	Southern Alberta Institute of Technology	\$5,000.00
	University of Alberta	\$10,000.00
	University of Lethbridge	\$5,000.00
	University of Regina	\$5,000.00

2023 Disbursements



AGENCY FUNDS

Fund	Organization Supported	Amount
Alberta Legal Heritage Fund	Legal Archives Society of Alberta	\$294.57
Alberta Wildlife and Habitat	Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation	\$989.68
Aspire Special Needs Resource Centre	Aspire Fee Assistance Program Endowment	\$1,107.33
Bridges Community Living	Bridges Community Living	\$674.46
Canadian Arts & Heritage Sustainability Fund	Red Deer Symphony Orchestra Association	\$3,734.09
Canadian Red Cross Fund	Canadian Red Cross Society	\$3,993.63
Central Alberta Housing Society	Central Alberta Safe Harbour Society	\$1,923.24
Central Alberta Humane Society	Central Alberta Humane Society	\$965.30
Central Alberta Women's Shelter	Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter	\$648.45
CNIB Red Deer Endowment Fund	CNIB Red Deer	\$232.03
Easter Seal Ability Council	Alberta Easter Seals Society	\$3,003.94
Ellis Bird Farm	Ellis Bird Farm Ltd.	\$5,563.04
Friends of the RD Public Library	Society of Friends of the RD Public Library	\$1,842.62
Grand Prairie United Way	United Way of Alberta North West	\$494.84
J.J. Collett Foundation	J.J. Collett Foundation	\$1,922.01
Keith Mann Memorial Fund	Red Deer Community Band Society	\$1,470.44
Kerry Wood Nature Centre	Waskasoo Environmental Education Society	\$5,822.51
Lacombe & District Historical Society Fund	Lacombe & District Historical Society	\$382.32
Lapalme Legacy Fund	Red Deer Symphony Orchestra Association	\$5,919.80
Legacy Land Trust Endowment	Legacy Land Trust Society	\$8,369.06
Margaret Bolze Memorial Fund	Big Brothers & Big Sisters of RD & District	\$6,980.47
Medicine River Wildlife Rehab Centre	Medicine River Wildlife Centre	\$3,044.74
Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship Fund	Red Deer Regional Health Foundation	\$540.06
Red Deer & Dist. Allied Arts Council	Red Deer Arts Council	\$1,259.86
Red Deer & District Museum	Red Deer & District Museum Society	\$5,824.96
Red Deer Catholic Education Foundation	RDCRS #39	\$11,381.71
Red Deer Food Bank	Red Deer Food Bank Society	\$482.34
Red Deer Hospice Society Fund	Red Deer Hospice Society	\$1,278.72
Red Deer River Naturalists Society	Red Deer River Naturalists	\$2,952.32
Safe Communities Endowment Fund	Safe Communities Coalition of Central Alberta	\$547.39
Salvation Army Fund	Salvation Army RD - Church & Community	\$989.85
Schizophrenia Society Hope Endowment	Schizophrenia Society of Alberta	\$471.72
Sylvan Lake Lodge Legacy Fund	Sylvan Lake Foundation	\$260.57
Vantage Community Services Society Fund	Vantage Community Services	\$506.04

2023 Disbursements



FLOW THROUGH FUNDS

Fund	Organization Supported	Amount
100 Men Red Deer FT	Canadian Mental Health Association	\$4,120.45
	Red Deer Dream Centre	\$5,310.80
	Red Deer Public Schools - Unified Sport	\$6,786.70
	Shalom Counselling Centre of Alberta	\$88.85
100 Women Red Deer FT	Canadian Mental Health Association	\$10,523.40
	Mamas for Mamas	\$11,715.60
	Red Deer Food Bank Society	\$11,493.17
	Red Deer Regional Health Foundation	\$1,761.61
Broom Tree Foundation FT	City of Lacombe	\$75,000.00
Community Services Recovery Fund	Aspire Special Needs Resource Centre	\$99,974.00
	Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Lacombe & District	\$40,350.00
	Golden Circle Senior Resource Centre	\$62,000.00
	Habitat for Humanity Red Deer Region Society	\$22,000.00
	The Lending Cupboard Society of Alberta	\$31,900.00
	Red Deer Symphony Orchestra Association	\$69,000.00
	Shining Mountains Living Community Services	\$100,000.00
Daughters of Wisdom FT	Red Deer Catholic Regional Division No. 39	\$250.00
Echo Lacombe-Lacombe Performing Arts Centre	City of Lacombe	\$8,800.00
General FT Fund	Holy Trinity Pine Lake	\$5,768.06
Investment Readiness Program 2023	Bethany Care Foundation	\$25,000.00
	Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley	\$25,000.00
	Blackfoot Family Lodge Society	\$21,000.00
	Bridges Social Development	\$24,300.00
	Camrose Women's Shelter	\$25,000.00
	Canadian Adaptive Snowsport Alberta Associatio	\$75,000.00
	Carya Society of Calgary	\$25,000.00
	Centre for Sexuality	\$50,000.00
	Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations	\$25,000.00
	Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers	\$25,000.00
	IFSSA	\$75,000.00
	Kaleo Collective Ltd.	\$24,300.00
	Société La Cité des Rocheuses	\$25,000.00
	Southeastern AB Sexual Assault Response Committee	\$20,000.00
	The Children's Link Society	\$65,000.00
Jason Stephan FT	United Way of Central Alberta	\$1,200.00
Jenkins FT	Red Deer Food Bank Society	\$500.00
	Red Deer Public Schools	\$250.00
MNP FT Fund	Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre	\$300,000.00
Smiles Thru Lindsey FT	Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre	\$50,000.00
Together Initiative FT Fund	Red Deer Festival of the Performing Arts	\$10,000.00
Youth in Philanthropy FT	Paws And Claws Animal Rescue	\$774.00
	Central Alberta Humane Society	\$600.00
	The Mustard Seed	\$600.00

2023 Disbursements



DESIGNATED FUNDS

Fund	Organization Supported	Amount
Alberta Summer Games Legacy Fund	Red Deer Polytechnic	\$18,613.05
Arthur Teague Hub Memorial Fund	Red Deer County	\$1,065.89
Care for Kids (Fee Assistance Program)	The City of Red Deer	\$14,762.81
Chapman Literacy Fund	Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools	\$15,277.05
Eva Schmidt Memorial Endowment	Ponoka Jubilee Library	\$860.59
Friends of Waskasoo Park	The City of Red Deer	\$966.41
Grand Prairie Hospital Seniors Care	Queen Elizabeth II Hospital Foundation	\$1,150.41
Helen M. Dawe Memorial Fund	Red Deer Public Library	\$311.22
James Berg Endowment Fund	Town of Sylvan Lake	\$1,156.39
John & Anna Olson Memorial Fund	Red Deer Public Library	\$1,048.21
John & Margaret Dickson Fund	Red Deer Public Library	\$12,067.76
John and Reima Klancher Fund	Schizophrenia Society of Alberta	\$9,783.06
Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund	City of Lacombe	\$11,914.96
Lloyd & Evelyn McNeil Endowment	Red Deer Public Library	\$2,735.82
Murray Rairdan Memorial Fund	4-H Foundation of Alberta	\$647.28
Normandeau School Library	Normandeau Elementary School	\$941.95
Nurturing Our Future Generations	Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'i of Red Deer	\$10,056.23
Princess Margaret Scholarship	The City of Red Deer	\$308.37
Red Deer Heritage Fund	The City of Red Deer	\$5,003.48
Red Deer Public Library Concert End	Red Deer Public Library	\$715.70
Red Deer Rail Bridge Endowment Fund	The City of Red Deer	\$1,460.41
Red Deer Safety City Society	Red Deer Safety City Society	\$305.12
Travis Moore Endowment Fund	Safe Harbour Society	\$2,390.68

HOW CAN YOU HELP TO BUILD A
COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE
BELONGS?

P 403.341.6911
E erinpeden@rddcf.ca
W www.rddcf.ca

Suite 503, Parkland Square
4901-48 Street
Red Deer, AB T4N 6M4