



Community Foundation

OF GREATER GRANDE PRAIRIE

A Foundation for All

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Greetings from the Chair, Owen A. Lewis



It has been an incredible experience working as chair of the Community Foundation of Greater Grande Prairie, a role in which I've been surrounded by a wonderful assortment of individuals. I have been afforded the opportunity to witness, first-hand, the excellent works accomplished through the efforts of numerous dedicated community members – individuals, families and businesses committed to making a lasting difference here in the Peace Country.

The Community Foundation is the ideal organization for bringing together donors and community charities through the establishment of endowment funds. Experience shows that people in this community want to give, and our talented Executive Director Tracey Vavrek makes it easy, helping potential donors find a plan that meets their charitable and financial goals. Gifts received today will continue to provide funds to the community forever.

Since its inception, the Foundation has experienced exponential growth, and my goal is to continue this growth while maintaining a high level of service for charitable donors and recipients. We're striving to increase our endowments to \$3.5 million by the end of 2010. These funds would allow us to provide support at a minimum of \$125,000 per year to community projects and programs. Our hope in the future is to expand the reach of the Foundation by establishing community funds specifically dedicated to Grande Prairie's outlying areas.

The Foundation has attracted many dynamic community-minded volunteers to chart the course of the organization and assist with its growth. Board members from both the city and outlying areas give selflessly of their time and expertise in supporting and promoting the Foundation's work on behalf of the entire region. I am pleased to say the Community Foundation of Greater Grande Prairie is truly an example of an effective cooperation between the volunteer Board, committee members and dedicated staff.

Sincerely,

Owen A. Lewis,
Chair of the
Board



“My sincere thanks to the Community Foundation and to the David and Susan Ainsworth Fund for your help in completing our library project. Without your help this would not have happened.”

Peter Gill, President, Friends of the Beaverlodge
Public Library Society

Ten reasons people choose to give through the



1. We are a **local organization** with deep roots in the community.
2. Our staff and volunteers have **broad expertise** regarding community issues and needs.
3. We provide highly **personalized service** tailored to meet your charitable and financial interests.
4. Our funds help people like you **invest in the causes** that you care about most.
5. We accept a wide **variety of assets** and can facilitate even the most complex forms of giving.
6. We partner with your **professional advisors** to create highly effective approaches to charitable giving.
7. We offer maximum **tax advantage** for most gifts under federal law.
8. We **multiply the impact** of your gift dollars by pooling them with other gifts and grants.
9. We build **endowment funds** that benefit the community forever and help you create personal legacy.
10. We are a **community leader**, fostering collaboration on issues of broad interest to create positive change.

Helping you make an
ongoing difference.

Ten Bucks to Take It All Off

Clyde Blackburn sported a signature bushel of facial hair for 29 years, but the 17-year Grande Prairie resident took it all off in the spirit of philanthropy. For years Blackburn heard people say they'd pay ten bucks to see him shave his infamous beard, so in September 2007 he responded with this challenge to his many friends: By Thanksgiving, show me 1,000 people who would pay ten bucks to see my beard shaved, and I'll show them a man willing to "take it all off" for a great cause.

Blackburn is a founding board member and long-time supporter of the Community Foundation of Greater Grande Prairie and his challenge boosted the foundation's community fund. Reluctant but true to his word, Blackburn went to the barber's chair for a revealing shave. "I can think of no better way to ensure my efforts will touch all areas of the community."

“ Grande Prairie gives us so much in the way of opportunity and support. We are thankful that the Foundation is here to help us 'pay it forward'.”

Clyde & Mary Blackburn,
Clyde & Mary Blackburn
Family Fund



A Touching Legacy

Single mother **Cassandra Jones**, a fourth-year psychology student at GPRC, became the first recipient of the **Devonne Norman Legacy Fund**, receiving \$1,000 to help pay for college. The Community Foundation fund was created by Norman's husband, Ken Norman and members of the legal community and firm where she worked as a lawyer before succumbing to cancer.

"Just to be a recipient of that specific fund was a great honour," said Jones, "Because I am a single parent, it is very touching to receive that fund, and it helps."

In building Devonne Norman's legacy, her family consulted with the Foundation about how and to whom the money should be given. Norman herself became a mother at just 18 and was able to use financial support to pursue her education and eventually attain a law degree. The fund is designed to help others to achieve the same goals and dreams.



Devonne Norman



Working together to provide a lasting impact for the Peace Country Region

A special thank you to the following fund holders for giving gifts that will give forever

- 20/20 VISION FOR THE COMMUNITY FUND
- ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATING FUND
- AINSWORTH COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND
- ALBERTA LEGAL HERITAGE FUND
- ALEX BROOKS MEMORIAL FUND**
- ANONYMOUS DONOR FUND
- AQUATERA ENVIRONMENT FUND*
- ATKINS/CURTIS FAMILY FUND
- BEAL/ROY FAMILY FUND
- BMO BANK OF MONTREAL COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND
- BRYDEN SPARKS MEMORIAL ARTS FUND
- CARDON HOMES FUND
- CARMEN AND GAIL HAAKSTAD FAMILY FUND
- CHOMIK FAMILY TRUMPETER HOTEL FUND
- CHRENEK & DION INVESTMENT ADVISORS FUND
- CHRISTINE AND WAYNE AYLING FAMILY FUND
- CLYDE AND MARY BLACKBURN FAMILY FUND
- COLTON DRAKE ATHLETIC MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND**
- COME FLY WITH ME FOUNDATION FUND
- COMMUNITY DONOR FUND*
- COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND
- COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OPERATING ENDOWMENT FUND
- DARRELL AND JOAN RADBOURNE FAMILY FUND
- DAVID AND SUSAN AINSWORTH FUND
- DEVONNE NORMAN LEGACY FUND
- DRS. DAVID AND KAREN CHUNG FUND*
- EVASKEVICH FAMILY FUND
- FIRE WALK FUND
- FLETCHER MUDRYK & CO. LLP CA'S FUND
- FUKUSHIMA FAMILY FUND*
- GENERAL FUND
- GIB POPKEY LEGACY FUND
- GRANDE PRAIRIE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LEGACY FUND
- GRANDE PRAIRIE AND AREA SAFE COMMUNITIES FUND
- GRANDE PRAIRIE LIVE THEATRE ENDOWMENT FUND
- GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND
- GRANDE PRAIRIE ROTARY CLUB MEMORIAL FUND
- GREG LANCASTER MEMORIAL FUND
- GS MINHAS FAMILY EDUCATION FUND
- HABERMAN FAMILY FUND
- HOPE TODAY TOMORROW: THE SIDE/MUNRO FAMILY FUND
- JEFF TOEWS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION FUND*
- KAY MCVEY SMITH & CARLSTROM FUND
- KEN AND CYNDY HALBERT FAMILY FUND
- KEVIN AND KAREN WILLSEY FAMILY FUND
- KEVIN AND WENDY SZAKACS FAMILY FUND
- LOGAN FAMILY FUND
- MCLEVIN FAMILY FUND
- MENZIES FAMILY FUND
- MERV & DAWN MARIE CROUSE FAMILY FUND**
- MORRIS FINANCIAL GROUP
- NORTHERNSPIRIT FUND
- NORTHEY/WIEBE FAMILY FUND
- NURCOMBE FAMILY ENVIRONMENTAL FUND
- OPDAHL/MICHAUD FAMILY FUND
- PAT AND JOHN REID FAMILY FUND
- PEACE COUNTRY LAND LTD. FUND*
- PEARCY FAMILY FUND
- PETE AND LORI MERLO FAMILY FUND
- PRAIRIE ART GALLERY EMERGENCY FUND*
- RBC PEACE COUNTRY STAFF FUND*
- SHEEHAN FLINT FAMILY FUND*
- SIMPSON/PHILLIPS FAMILY FUND
- STAN AND HELEN NEUFELD ENVIRONMENTAL FUND*
- STANFORD HOTELS & RESORTS COMMUNITY FUND*
- STORM "STAY IN SCHOOL" JUNIOR "A" HOCKEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
- SWAN CITY ROTARY CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE ABOVE SELF FUND
- TALISMAN ENERGY FUND
- THE 2000 ALBERTA SUMMER GAMES LEGACY FUND
- THE FUND FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PURPOSES
- THE GLENN & JUDITH KEDDIE FUND
- THE GRANDE PRAIRIE KEG STEAKHOUSE & BAR KIDS WITH CANCER FUND
- THE GRANDE PRAIRIE KEG STEAKHOUSE & BAR PARDS FUND
- THE GRANDE PRAIRIE KEG STEAKHOUSE & BAR PREGNANT TEEN PROGRAM FUND
- THE GRANDE PRAIRIE KEG STEAKHOUSE & BAR QUEEN ELIZABETH II HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FUND
- TISSINGTON FAMILY FUND
- TRAVIS PIERLOT FAMILY EDUCATION FUND*
- VINCENT VAVREK FAMILY FUND
- WINNICKY/LEWIS FAMILY EDUCATION FUND
- WINNICKY/LEWIS FAMILY PALLIATIVE CARE FUND
- WOLVES MINOR BASKETBALL FUND

* Created in 2007 ** Created in early 2008

Community Granting Program

The Community Foundation of Greater Grande Prairie supports a wide range of projects that impact the Peace County Region.
To learn more about how to apply for a grant, visit us online at www.buildingtomorrowtoday.com

AQUATERA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

NAIT Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,500.00

COME FLY WITH ME FOUNDATION FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Awards \$ 6,000.00

COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Sunrise House, Youth Emergency Shelter
Support of Positive Choices Program \$ 1,000.00

DARE PROGRAM

City Of Grande Prairie
Purchase DARE Vehicle and support program \$ 37,500.00

DAVID & SUSAN AINSWORTH FUND

Beaverlodge Child Development Society
Construction of New Daycare for Beaverlodge \$ 3,622.00

Camp Tamarack
Seminar Cabin Retrofit \$ 10,000.00

City of Grande Prairie
Youth Festival 2007 \$ 750.00

Community Foundation
Street Performers Festival \$ 3,500.00

Friends of the Beaverlodge Library
Construction of New Beaverlodge Public Library \$ 2,914.00

Grande Prairie & District Grief Support
Support of Camp He-A-He programs for bereaved children \$ 1,500.00

Grande Prairie And District United Way
Campaign and operations \$ 6,000.00

Grande Prairie Friendship Centre
Spirit Seekers Conference \$ 1,000.00

Grande Prairie Live Theatre
Summer Drama Youth Camps \$ 2,000.00

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Sports Performance Community Conference \$ 1,000.00

Grande Prairie School District #2357
Elementary School Forest Educator Program \$ 10,000.00

Habitat For Humanity
Construction of new duplex to house two families \$ 1,615.00

Peace Wapiti School Division #76
School playground replacement for Rycroft \$ 2,500.00

Prairie Art Gallery
Building Collapse Emergency Fund \$ 8,000.00

Prairie Art Gallery
Building Collapse Emergency Fund \$ 2,000.00

Queen Elizabeth II Hospital Foundation
CT Scanner \$ 7,800.00

South Peace Centennial Museum
Boiler replacement for steam engine \$ 1,500.00

Stars Foundation
Vision Critical Campaign and Education Programs \$ 5,000.00

Town Of Sexsmith
Chautauqua Day \$ 500.00

Town Of Wembley
New skateboard park for Wembley \$ 2,500.00

Village Of Rycroft
Playground and skateboard park retrofit \$ 2,000.00

DEVONNE NORMAN LEGACY FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,000.00

EVASKEVICH FAMILY FUND

Hythe & District Pioneer Home
Pioneer Senior Home expansion \$ 500.00

G.S. MINHAS FAMILY EDUCATION FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 500.00

NAIT Foundation
Student Award \$ 500.00

GENERAL FUND

Odyssey House
Emergency Women's Shelter and programs \$ 1,000.00

The Salvation Army
Local food bank and community services \$ 1,000.00

GIB POPKEY LEGACY FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,000.00

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 500.00

University Of Alberta Foundation
Student Award \$ 500.00

GRANDE PRAIRIE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LEGACY FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,500.00

NAIT Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,500.00

GRANDE PRAIRIE ROTARY CLUB MEMORIAL FUND

Grande Prairie & District Grief Support
Support of Camp He-A-He programs for bereaved children \$ 1,100.00

LOGAN FAMILY FUND

Centre For Creative Arts
Healing Arts Program Initiative \$ 500.00

PEACE COUNTRY LAND LTD. FUND

NAIT Foundation
Student Award \$ 500.00

PEARCY FAMILY FUND

University Of Alberta Foundation
Student Award \$ 500.00

PRAIRIE ART GALLERY EMERGENCY FUND

Prairie Art Gallery
Building Collapse Emergency Fund \$ 15,697.00

STORM "STAY IN SCHOOL" JUNIOR "A" HOCKEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

City Of Grande Prairie
Student Award \$ 1,750.00

Grant Mcewan Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,750.00

SWAN CITY ROTARY CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE ABOVE SELF FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,500.00

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,750.00

University Of Alberta Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,750.00

University Of Alberta Foundation
Student Award \$ 500.00

TALISMAN ENERGY FUND

Beaverlodge Child Development Society
New Day Care facility construction \$ 10,000.00

Camp Tamarack
Youth Science Camp \$ 1,000.00

Community Foundation
Street Performers Festival \$ 300.00

Grande Prairie Friendship Centre
Spirit Seekers Youth Conference \$ 1,500.00

Grande Prairie Live Theatre
Summer Drama Camps \$ 1,000.00

South Peace Centennial Museum
Boiler replacement for steam engine \$ 1,500.00

Village Of Rycroft
Arena upgrades including dressing rooms \$ 1,000.00

THE 2000 ALBERTA SUMMER GAMES LEGACY FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,000.00

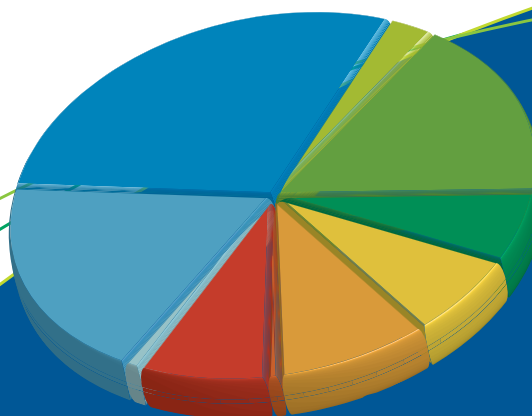
University Of Alberta Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,000.00

University Of Alberta Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,000.00

University Of Alberta Foundation
Student Award \$ 1,000.00

WOLVES MINOR BASKETBALL FUND

Grande Prairie Regional College Foundation
Student Award \$ 400.00



Grant Disbursements

- 3% Community Economic Development
- 17% Education & Scholarships
- 6% Environmental
- 7% Health
- 9% Heritage & Restoration
- 1% Senior Citizens
- 8% Social Services
- 1% Sports & Recreation
- 19% Arts & Culture
- 29% Children & Youth

2007 Financial Highlights

Year ending December 31, 2007

Total value of endowment funds = **\$1,930,432**

Contributions received = **\$603,938**

New funds created in 2007 = **12**

Total disbursement to local charities = **\$179,198**

Total disbursements since 1996 = **\$3.6 Million**

“ This year’s annual report endeavors to tell the Foundation’s story, both financial and historical, and to illustrate how the broad range of support we enjoy has allowed us to make a positive impact across the Greater Grande Prairie area. To this end, we recognize and salute members of the community – local charitable organizations for their commendable work, and donors for their willingness to get involved – as key elements that enable the Community Foundation to make a difference. ”

Tracey Vavrek, Executive Director

How You Can Get Involved

The Community Foundation of Greater Grande Prairie has a giving plan to suit your charitable and financial goals, and your generosity can help your community today. You can:

1. Set up a Fund and start giving through the Foundation right now.
2. Contribute to any of the existing Funds that support wonderful charitable works every day.
3. Promise a gift that the Foundation will receive in the future.

Our staff or your professional advisor will be happy to assist you in creating a giving plan. To learn more, contact the Community Foundation of Greater Grande Prairie:

2nd Floor, Centre 2000, 200, 11330-106 Street
Grande Prairie, AB T8V 7X9
Phone: 780-538-2820 Fax: 780-532-0672
Website: www.buildingtomorrowtoday.com
E-Mail: info@buildingtomorrowtoday.com

The Community Foundation of Greater Grande Prairie is publicly accountable and governed by a volunteer Board of Directors drawn from the communities served.

Registered Charitable # 896544343RR0001



Students getting a glimpse of the past, thanks to many generous donors and the Community Foundation.



Community Foundation

OF GREATER GRANDE PRAIRIE

Building tomorrow today

Leaders

People give in many ways including volunteering their time. We are grateful to those who help strengthen the Peace Country region by providing their time, talent and expertise to the Community Foundation.

Board of Directors

Executive

Owen Lewis, *Chair*

Eve Lepinski, *Vice Chair*

Bernd Manz, *Secretary*

Allan Kuechle, *Treasurer*

Keith Curtis, *Past Chair*

Directors of the Board

Andy Beal

Don Blonke

Pat Cyr**

Sean Doerkson

Pat Downs

Mary Ann Eckstrom

Randy Galbreath**

Jim Hoeschen*

Emma Lambert

Drew Lamont*

Linda Side

Doug Morris*

Fred Rinne

Ron Regnier**

Scott Sargent*

Linda Side

Len Wangen

Community members who volunteer on committees

Frank Appel

Jackie Clayton

Dave Dunsworth

Donna Durnford *

Tina Gaylard*

Jacqueline Hutton*

Janis Kaban

Shelley Lazenby*

Kim Logan

Carol McLevin

Arlene Miller

Rob Pape*

Karen Pascut*

Tab Pollock

Dave Sawchuk

Jim Smith

Gil Sonnenberg

Rick Willey

Kevin Chrenek,

Financial Advisor

Ambassadors

Wayne Ayling

Clyde Blackburn

Lyle Carlstrom

Kevin Chrenek

Dave Gourlay

Gordon Graydon

Carmen Haakstad

Kim Logan

Pete Merlo

Gordon Meyers

Dan Percy

Gordon Percy

Harry Schneider

Kari Speaker-Smith

Terry Tissington

Vince Vavrek

Staff

Tracey Vavrek,
Executive Director

Louise Chambers,
Administrative Director

Shannon Shomody,
Marketing Coordinator

* Retired in 2007 ** Joined in 2008



“ Our family has been very blessed by everything we have received from our Community, we feel morally compelled to give back so that these blessings can continue for others. This is a value that we have instilled in our children and the Community Foundation is the best avenue to reach the broadest sector of society for continuing support. ”

Vince Vavrek Family Fund

Thank you to the following for supporting our publication:

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Design: imageDESIGN 

Printing & Distribution:



Photography:



Sponsorship:

