



Community Impact Grants 2011

The Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta is pleased to announce the awarding of grants to 59 community organizations totalling \$306,775. 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; Recreation and Leisure and Environment and Conservation.

A grant of **\$2,000** will assist volunteers of the **Allied Arts Council of Pincher Creek** to upgrade the entrance and gift shop area of the historic Lebel Mansion. This venue includes a gift shop specializing in local art and space for art classes for all ages.

A **\$3,000** grant will assist the **Boys and Girls Club of the Crowsnest Pass** with the purchase of 30 sets of ski equipment to be used in after school programs, especially on early dismissal days. Through collaboration with the schools and the Cross Country Ski Club, this service will promote a healthy lifestyle for students with limited opportunities.

A **\$5,000** grant will enable the **Canadian Mental Health Association** in Pincher Creek to cover the cost of printing surveys to inform students, school staff, and parents in the Pincher Creek, Crowsnest Pass, and Brocket region about the warning signs of teen suicide. Aimed at teenagers, the surveys are part of a proactive teen suicide prevention program.

A **\$7,500** grant will help the local volunteers of the **Canadian Search Dog Association** purchase new GPS systems to improve the accuracy of location information conveyed by the search dog team to rescuers. The association's primary goal is to save lives at no cost to communities, or requesting organizations, and to support the RCMP and local police.

A **\$2,000** grant will assist **Le Touche à Tout Daycare** purchase age-appropriate playground equipment. The daycare, located within the French cultural centre/school in Lethbridge, provides an early opportunity for children to learn French in a natural, play environment.

A **\$5,000** grant will assist with the purchase of a lift to enable staff and volunteers of the **Empress Theatre Society** to safely access lighting, props, and the event marquee at the historic Fort Macleod theatre. This popular venue features variety of musical and theatrical events throughout the year.

A **\$5,000** grant will assist **G.S. Lakie School** purchase an expandable lighting/dimmer panel for a planned Convertible Space Arts Centre. The West Lethbridge centre will be an arts hub where a variety of arts groups and schools will be able to present music, dance, and theatre productions and camps.

A **\$3,500** grant will enable **Galbraith School** to provide seating for approximately 70 volunteers and students to use during paired reading time to promote literacy. The chairs will also be used for community and special events at the school.

A **\$2,400** grant to repair the roof of the **Granum Museum** will assist volunteers in the preservation of the community's history at the Veterans Memorial and museum.



A **\$5,000** grant will enable the **Granum United Church** to install security doors, outdoor security lighting and safe entry stairs and landing. This will improve access to the hall which serves as Granum's community centre for a variety of recreational activities.

A **\$5,000** grant will enable the volunteers of the **Great Canadian Plains Railway Society** at Stirling to restore the roof of a 1920's CPR wooden caboos. The caboos will be turned into an educational resource centre for the heritage park, bringing to life the importance of the railways to the settlement and commerce of southern Alberta.

A **\$7,500** grant will enable the **Interfaith Food Bank** to purchase a fuel-efficient vehicle for pickup and delivery of food and donations. This will help the food bank manage the 88% increase in demand since 2008.

A **\$2,000** grant will assist the **Lethbridge and District Japanese Garden Society** with the development of an audio tour program to enhance visitors' experience of the Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden.

A **\$3,300** grant will assist the **Lethbridge and Region Community Housing Corporation** with the replacement of aging TV's and stands, and with the purchase of Nintendo Wii's for the community areas of three seniors' highrises. The goal is to promote socialization and physical fitness for the residents.

A **\$7,500** grant will assist **Lethbridge Family Services** purchase ceiling tracks and lifts for the DaCapo program. This equipment will enable staff and volunteers to safely help clients, who are unable to bear or transfer their own weight, to fully access the programs and facilities at the centre.

A **\$3,000** grant will purchase a 21 foot portable tipi to be available to all 19 schools in **Lethbridge School District #51** for use in the locally developed program *Niitoyis: The Blackfoot Tipi Program*. The tipi will provide hands on learning for students and community members to experience traditional Blackfoot knowledge about the tipi and the people who lived in these homes.

A **\$6,500** grant will help the **Lethbridge Therapeutic Riding Association** renovate its outdoor horse boarding pens to improve drainage and repair aging pens. The revenue from the boarding pens will provide ongoing support for the association's riding programs for the disabled.

A **\$10,000** grant will assist the Culture and Recreation Department of the **Municipality of Crowsnest Pass** develop a safe bicycle, wheelchair and pedestrian railway crossing for the 23 km non-motorized trail being developed to connect the communities of Crowsnest Pass.

A **\$5,000** grant will assist the volunteers of the **Nobleford Parks and Recreation Society** purchase and install the water spray apparatus for the new family-friendly recreation and fitness area being developed for all ages. The Village of Nobleford will match all funds raised by the society.

A **\$1,800** grant will enable **Park Meadows School** to purchase risers and performance rights for a musical production in 2011/2012, staged with the collaboration of University of Lethbridge drama students. The risers will provide a multi-use stage for ongoing school and community use.

A **\$1,725** grant will complete bathroom renovations for the **Pincher Creek Women's Shelter** which serves families in crisis, and will enable mothers to bathe children more easily.



A **\$6,000** grant will be combined with donations from local residents, service clubs and businesses to enable the Ladies Auxiliary of the **Prairie Rose Lodge** (Milk River) to purchase and install a walk-in bathtub for independence and accessibility for senior residents.

A **\$4,000** grant will enable **R.I. Baker Middle School** in Coaldale to purchase two treadmills and two exercise bikes for a fitness centre to complement the school gym. The fitness centre will add to the number of activities available at the school during noon hour and team practice times.

A **\$10,000** grant will assist the **Southern Alberta Self-Help Association** to install new flooring in one of its Lethbridge houses that provides transitional and long-term housing for adults with mental illness.

A **\$6,000** grant will assist **Scouts Canada - Chinook Council** with the purchase of a new high efficiency furnace for the Scouting Service Centre in Lethbridge.

A **\$4,000** grant will assist **St. Michael's Foundation** purchase an unlimited software licence for computer access to the Brain Training Rehabilitation Program. This program will be available to residents, clients and the community for brain recovery treatment of stroke and other injuries.

A **\$2,000** grant will assist the **Taber Public Library** purchase items for its reference, graphic novel, and children's fiction collections.

A **\$5,000** grant will assist the **Wilderness Ranch of Claresholm** to purchase a small hitch trailer to move stock between the camp's two locations which provide a back country riding and camping experience to over 200 young people every summer.

A **\$5,000** grant will assist the volunteers of the **Coaldale and District Soccer and Football Associations** with construction of a perimeter fence for two new dual-use sports fields of the Town of Coaldale Sports Complex.

A **\$3,000** grant will assist the **Town of Granum Library** replace water damaged carpet and collections in the Young Readers' Room.

A **\$4,000** grant will assist the **Town of Raymond** construct a concession/restroom building for the sports field complex used extensively by town and area residents, and by those who will attend the Alberta Summer Games in 2012.

A **\$4,000** grant will assist the **Village of Warner** complete the Athletes' Fitness Centre at the Warner Community Hockey School. The exercise room is available to the community-at-large, as well as serving students and minor hockey players.

A **\$7,500** grant will enable the **Warner School** to purchase two ride-glide playground pieces to help upgrade the school's aging playground.



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.