



KENORA & LAKE OF THE WOODS REGIONAL

**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

Building Forever Together

celebrating
10
YEARS
2004 – 2014

2014 FALL NEWSLETTER



11th Annual Festival of Trees Deemed an Overwhelming Success

The Community Foundation's annual fundraiser netted over \$28,000 dollars in a revised format and at a new location. The event was presented by lead sponsors; Copperfin Credit Union, KMTS, and 89.5 the Lake. The success of the event was due in part, to the dedication and hard work of Committee Chair and Foundation Vice President, Megan Dokuchie and her volunteer committee. "We decided to change things up after 10 years at the same location, with the same format. So this year, we introduced the concept of a Holiday Cocktail Party at the Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre. The venue really helped to showcase all of the auction items, which were generously donated by decorator teams. We reduced the number of live trees for auction and increased the availability of smaller holiday items like centre pieces, wreaths, stockings and baskets", said Dokuchie. The event also invited businesses and groups to purchase corporate guest tables. "Our sponsorship level was the highest ever this year and we also sold out our corporate guest tables. We were pleased that we were also at capacity for the Friday Night Cocktail Party", she said.

New this year was Community Day, inviting seniors, families and everyone to attend a full day of musical entertainment. We welcomed over 500 guests and 10 different musical acts. As always, the hot apple cider and gingerbread cookies were the best part of the day. We thank all sponsors, decorator teams, auction item purchasers and guests, for helping to make this year's event so successful. Since 2004, the event has raised more than \$263,000 for the Community Foundation and is our only yearly fundraiser. Join us in December, 2015, for the 12th Annual Festival of Trees.

Photo Left: Guests gather to celebrate the Christmas season at the Holiday Cocktail Party.

Photo Top Right: A family enjoys refreshments in addition to viewing the beautifully decorated trees on Community Day.

Photo Bottom Right: The singing group, Enchanté, perform a medley of holiday favourites on stage at the Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre.

Paterson First Nations Youth Apprenticeship Program Gives Students Real Life Work Experience



Since 2007, First Nations' students have been enjoying summer work in the health care field, thanks to the generosity of Andrew and Lisa Paterson and family. Noted Philanthropist, Director Emeritus of the Community Foundation and fifth generation lake resident, Mr. Paterson established a \$500,000 endowment fund in support of apprenticeship programs for First Nations Youth. The Community Foundation provides a yearly grant from the endowment fund to Ne-Chee Friendship

Centre to administer and run the program. "Young people need an opportunity to prove to others that they can do it on their own. Everyone needs their first big break, and this program will give them this opportunity. Everyone will benefit from this program; the recipients, local businesses and the citizens of our community", said Paterson.

The 2014 grant recipients included; Stacey Hawes, employed by the Sunset Country Family Health Team, Joelle Mandamin, employed at the Paterson Medical Centre, and Joelle Redsky, employed at the Community Health Access Centre. The students felt that they gained hands-on experience in the health care environment, as well as developing front-line experience in assisting patients. Stacey Hawes' goal is to pursue a career as a registered nurse. She felt that this was an excellent program for her future employment opportunities. Joelle Mandamin has completed the Pre-Health Sciences Program at Confederation College in Kenora. She is enrolled in the nurses' entry program at Lakehead University. Her career goal is to become a nurse practitioner, then continue her studies to become a physician. She feels that this program has increased her level of confidence when working with patients. It also has given her an understanding of the overall operations of the Medical Centre. All the students agreed that the Paterson Program gave them an opportunity to learn and develop new skills in the Health Care Field.

Photo Caption: Joelle Mandamin was employed at the Paterson Medical Centre, during the summer of 2014.

Fall Granting Ceremony Distributes \$95,000 to the Region



Donors, grant recipients and volunteers, gathered together on November 5th, 2014, to highlight the positive work done by the region's charities. "This event is made possible by our generous donors", said Community Foundation President Don Parfitt. "We also congratulate the registered charities who are doing wonderful work in our region", said Parfitt. Grants were presented to arts and culture initiatives, as well as to organizations supporting social welfare, health and wellness, the general needs of the community and animal welfare. A first-time recipient was Lake Run, Kenora's new weekly run/walk 5K event, which takes place every Saturday morning. Volunteer organizer, Doctor Clay Hammett, was pleased to receive a \$2,000 grant. "We will be using the money to sustain our program, and hopefully even grow

it as well. We are working to improve the physical fitness and well-being of our residents", he said.

Kenora Tennis received a \$10,000 grant to upgrade the current facilities. "This grant will go a long way in improving the tennis experience for all of our users in the coming year", said Kenora Tennis Club Volunteer Director, Bart Bergman. He noted that many of the players are also lake residents. Several donors were on hand to personally hand out their grants, including the Knights of Columbus, who dedicated \$1,000 to bursaries for St. Thomas Aquinas students and \$1,250 toward the school's 2015 OFSAA Girls' Hockey Tournament. Canadian Pacific and Kenora Employees donated \$7,000 toward improving social welfare in the community. The Andrew Paterson Youth Fund provided \$13,000 to a variety of youth focused initiatives, including; food programs at Evergreen and Pope John Paul II Schools, food hamper programs at Jubilee Church and the Salvation Army, as well as separate amounts to Triple PLAY and Kenora Circus Kids. Anonymous Donors from the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls, distributed \$8,000 to a variety of projects in their communities, including; the Moose & Fiddle Festival, the Nestor Falls Public Library and the Nestor Falls Softball League. A canine spay and neuter clinic to be held at Onigaming First Nations, in partnership with the Grey Bruce Aboriginal Qimmiq Team, also received a \$2,500 grant.

Photo caption: Donors, recipients and volunteers gathered to enjoy the Fall Granting Ceremony held on November 5, 2014.

Celebrating Our Generous Donors, Worthy Recipients and Dedicated Volunteers



■ **Ladies Luncheon Supports Saakaate House:** Since 2011, the Women's Shelter Saakaate House Endowment Fund has received \$17,000 in contributions from the Ladies' Luncheon Event at the Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club. "Donations from the local business community helped to boost this year's donation to \$4,000", said co-chairs Karen Dunlop and Charlotte Sytnyk. "Local businesses all worked together during this difficult summer of construction in the downtown core, to really support this event", they added. "We were also very pleased to receive many donations from Kenora's year-round residents and lake residents as well", they noted.

Photo Caption: Event co – chairs Charlotte and Karen, present a cheque to Kendall Trembath, Saakaate House and Don Parfitt Community Foundation President.



■ **Sioux Narrows Men's Breakfast Club:** A group of gregarious gentlemen have met for breakfast every Tuesday morning in Sioux Narrows for over 25 years. The group consists of local residents and many U.S. citizens who call Sioux Narrows their second home. Their initial goal of fun and fellowship has now extended to charitable giving. The group established an endowment fund with the Community Foundation in 2012 to help support important charitable projects in the Sioux Narrows community. Their recent generous gift resulted from a variety of fundraising initiatives throughout the summer months.

Photo Caption: Jack Lamano, Fort Myers, Florida, Darlene MacGillivray, Executive Director, Dick Sunbland, Urbandale, Iowa, and Clare Hansen, Sun City, Arizona. The group presented a \$1,000 donation to the Community Foundation, for the Sioux Narrows Men's Breakfast Club Endowment Fund.



■ **Mike Richards Charity Golf Tournament Continues to Support Community Needs:** The 5th Annual Mike Richards Charity Golf Tournament raised over \$35,000 for the Community Foundation and the Canadian Cancer Society. Since 2011, Mike's local Hockey Camp and Charity Golf Tournament have contributed over \$152,000 to an endowment fund benefitting community needs. "When you see a Stanley Cup winner, an Olympic Gold Medalist, and NHL veteran, coming back to his hometown and leading events that help to grow our community, it is truly inspiring", said Community Foundation President, Don Parfitt. Special thanks are also extended to the tournament's Co-sponsors, RBC and Tbaytel, all sponsors and volunteers.

Photo Caption: Mike Richards, centre, with teammates at his annual tournament on July 14, with Mack Hall Community Foundation Marketing Coordinator.



■ **Endowment Fund Supports Buck's Legacy:** Buck Matiowski spent over 20 years helping to make Kenora a better place to live. Through his vision, passion and huge heart, he touched many lives and initiated Matiowski's Farmers' Market, the Green Team, and Buck's Brigade. He was the recipient of several awards for his dedicated public service, including the Queen Elizabeth the Second Diamond Jubilee Medal. At the time of his passing on July 1, 2014, friends and family established an endowment fund with the Community Foundation to ensure that Buck's legacy and love of Kenora would never be forgotten. The Buck Matiowski Memorial Fund in Support of Social Welfare, will provide yearly grants to projects benefitting individuals and families in need.

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■ **Ongoing Mentorship from the Winnipeg Foundation:** As we celebrate our 10th year of operation in the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Region, we have to acknowledge the tremendous mentorship that we have received from the Winnipeg Foundation. They have included us in all educational opportunities provided to Manitoba Community Foundations. This includes the development of grant application criteria, the establishment of our Youth in Philanthropy program, donor stewardship, marketing advice, to name a few. Executive Director Darlene MacGillivray, presents a plaque of appreciation to Winnipeg Foundation CEO, Rick Frost, at a training session in Selkirk, Manitoba, in September 2014.



■ **Community Foundation Welcomes Incoming Directors:** On June 30th, 2014, the Community Foundation was pleased to announce that the following individuals have joined their Board of Directors: Lori Nelson, Director of the Lake of the Woods Museum, Tracy McDonald, President, Lake of the Woods Insurance, and Paul Reishel, Executive Financial Consultant, Investors Group Financial Services. All three individuals are committed community builders, and will bring a wealth of talent, experience and dedication to their roles.



■ **Muskies on Main a Summer Hit:** A grant of \$5,000 to the Lake of the Woods Art Community (LOWAC) helped to ensure the success of this unique project. Over 40 artists created vastly different and stunning art pieces that were displayed on Main Street in Kenora from June, until August 2014. Each muskie was created in the medium of the artist's choosing. Artist Bill McFarlane from Nestor Falls, created 'Sweet Charity', for the Community Foundation. "The left flank represents the outflow of financial support from the hands of donors. The right flank illustrates the outpouring of charity into the hands of various social, cultural and community causes in the Lake of the Woods region", he stated.



■ **Environmental Endowment Fund receives a boost:** Teika and Mike Newton, together with their children Maya and Sam, made a recent generous gift to the Community Foundation's Environmental Endowment Fund, in celebration of the teaching staff at Valleyview School. Maya and Sam attend Valleyview and their parents appreciate the dedication of the teachers and staff. Teika and Maya, pose for a photo at Matiwski's Farmers' Market, in front of beautiful Lake of the Woods.