



KENORA & LAKE OF THE WOODS REGIONAL

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Building Forever Together

2015 SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Philanthropists Andrew and Lisa Paterson recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Region

The Kenora and Lake of the Woods Regional Community Foundation is pleased to recognize the continued outstanding contributions of philanthropists Andrew and Lisa Paterson, to the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Region. Over the last eleven years, Mr. and Mrs. Paterson have been instrumental in the establishment and growth of the region's Community Foundation as well as being its major donors with a \$500,000 endowment donation for an apprenticeship program for First Nation's Youth. Mr. Paterson became a Director Emeritus of the Community Foundation in 2011. Mr. and Mrs. Paterson, through the Paterson Foundation, have also donated over \$1 Million to the Paterson Medical Centre in Kenora.

Mr. and Mrs. Paterson and their family have been residents on Lake of the Woods for five generations and are keenly aware of the needs of their local community. It is for that reason that they chose to establish a program benefiting local First Nations youth to help them gain valuable job skills. "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 that opportunity," said Andrew Paterson. "Everyone will benefit from this program; the recipients, local businesses and the

citizens of our community," he added. "You can't downplay the improvement to the lives of the thirty students who have gone through the program so far," said the Foundation's Executive Director Darlene MacGillivray. "Several of the students have told us that without the Paterson program, they would be sitting at home," she said.

The Paterson Family is also dedicated to improving health care in our region. In 2007, the Kenora Medical Centre became the Paterson Medical Centre, with a gift of \$1 Million from the Paterson Foundation.

Photo Left: Andrew and Lisa Paterson are joined by Kenora physicians, Rudi Ramchander, left and Jim Beveridge right and Community Foundation President, Don Parfitt, second from right, in the naming of the Paterson Medical Centre in 2007

Photo Right: Andrew Paterson is recognized at a luncheon in Kenora on July 20, 2015.

Don Parfitt Awarded Director Emeritus Title



After 11 years as President of the Community Foundation, Don Parfitt was awarded the title of Director Emeritus at the June 17, 2015 Granting Ceremony, by incoming president Dennis Alvestad. "I am very pleased to have contributed to this organization over the years and watched it grow from basically 0 assets, to now having over \$ 4 million. The amount that is being granted to the charitable sector in our region is significant", said Parfitt.

Alvestad thanked Parfitt for his dedication and caring in all of his work with the Community Foundation. "You have inspired us to continue making a difference to our community", said Alvestad. The achievements that Parfitt amassed are numerous: Laying the groundwork from 1989 to 2004, to ensure the viability of establishing a Community Foundation in the region, securing an endowment gift of \$280,000 from the City of Kenora and a \$100,000 endowment fund gift from the Thomas Sill Foundation in 2005. Parfitt was also responsible for securing many agency endowment fund gifts and family fund endowment gifts over the years. " Don Parfitt has consistently displayed leadership and dedication in his role as President of our Community Foundation. He has gone well above the call of duty to ensure the continued success of our Community Foundation in the Kenora and LOW Region ", added Darlene MacGillivray, Executive Director.

Photo Caption: Incoming President Dennis Alvestad, right presents a photo collage to outgoing President and Director Emeritus, Don Parfitt.

Breakfast Club Endowment Fund Supports Charitable Projects in Sioux Narrows



A men's club is helping to ensure that charitable projects will continue to receive financial support today and into the future. The Sioux Narrows Men's Breakfast Club established an endowment fund, with the help of the Township of Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls, in 2012. The group consists of local residents and US citizens, who call Sioux Narrows their second home. They have developed their philanthropic spirit over the past twenty five years and have assisted with such projects as the purchase of the Township's first defibrillator, a spreading arm for the Jaws of Life and the "Esme Louise" fire rescue boat.

"This is a group of generous gentlemen who want to give back to their community forever. They enjoy fishing here and they love spending time at their summer homes", explained Community Foundation Executive Director, Darlene MacGillivray. "Their first endowment fund grant helped to purchase equipment for the Sioux Narrows Community Centre. They decided that this year's amount will be used to create a family- friendly space behind the Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre", she added. The decision to partner with the Community Foundation was supported by the late Jim Johansen and the late Donald Pohlman, who both held leadership positions within the group. "These individuals understood that the larger the fund grows, the more grants will be distributed back to the Sioux Narrows region", said MacGillivray. "The Community Foundation, through a partnership with the Winnipeg Foundation, can also issue US charitable receipts for US donations.

Photo Caption: Members of the Sioux Narrows Men's Breakfast Club proudly present a \$2,000 contribution to Darlene MacGillivray, Executive Director of the Community Foundation. The donation will be added to their endowment fund, established in 2012, in support of the charitable projects in Sioux Narrows.

Celebrating Our Generous Donors and Sponsors, Worthy Recipients and Dedicated Volunteers



■ A desire to give back to their community, prompted staff at the Northwestern Ontario Health Unit to create an Endowment Fund, in support of Social Welfare Needs. "We had applied to the Community Foundation in the past and received funding for a few community projects. That was great. But then we thought, why don't we encourage our staff members to create an endowment fund, for today and for the future", said Judy Underwood, a Health Educator at the Health Unit. "Staff members started making contributions and the fund just came together. It was easy to set up and we know that we are helping to support worthwhile social welfare projects", she added.



■ Hook, Seller & Lundin LLP have proudly supported the work of the Community Foundation since its inception, but recently have taken on the sponsorship of the Annual Report as well. "We know that the Annual Report is a signature piece for the Foundation. It introduces potential donors to the organization and reinforces their impact on the charitable sector. It is something that we can do to support our community and we are proud to help out", said Randy Seller, a Grants Committee volunteer and past Board Member.

Left to right are the firm's partners: Stephen Lundin, Beth White, Jim Hook, Cheryl Siran and Randall Seller.



■ A group of dedicated volunteers known as the Pinecrest Family Council, are working hard to improve the life experience for the residents of the Kenora District Home for the Aged. They have proceeded with a rejuvenation of the Japanese Tea Garden in 2014 and continued their efforts in 2015, with grants of \$4,900 from the Community Foundation. "Residents benefit from being outside and are able to watch vegetables growing and flowers blooming. They also enjoy hearing the birds and watching the squirrels scamper about. The atmosphere in the garden is very soothing for everyone and the project is coming along nicely", said volunteer Carolyn Comstock.

Left to right: Carolyn Comstock, Pat Warnick, Cindy Burnell, Donna Coulter and Ruth Bowiec.



■ On the occasion of Jack Martin's retirement after 30 years in the field of Children's Services, his family, friends and co-workers established an endowment fund in his honour. The Jack Martin Endowment Fund for Community Kids, is the embodiment of Jack's career: caring for kids and caring for community. Jack was the driving force behind the establishment of TRIPLE P.L.A.Y. and the Circus Kids movement, bringing self esteem to children in need. Jack was also a founding member of the Community Foundation and a volunteer for many years. To date, over fifty donors have contributed to Jack's fund.

Left to right: Community builder, Jack Martin, joins volunteers Pat Alvestad and Robin Bowes in making a gift to his fund.

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■ Kenora Rotarians supported the Community Foundation's 10 Hour Giving Challenge by hosting a noon hour Charity BBQ on Friday May 29, in support of the Kenora Rotary Endowment Fund. Rotarians braving the cold weather that day included: John Dahl, President Patti McLeod, Lloyd Mack, Jim Retson, Steve Walker and Susan Lemay. Everyone attending the Giving Challenge appreciated having a hot lunch for a good cause. The Rotary endowment fund has now reached over \$34,000 and supports a variety of community projects.



■ **Brave City of Kenora employees:** Casey Pyykka, Jenn Meyers and Colleen Neil took a plunge for charity literally, during our 10 Hour Giving Challenge at the end of May. Despite near freezing temperatures, the trio spent the afternoon raising dollars by being dunked in very cold water. Their bone chilling experience raised over \$300 and earned them the title of "Most Dedicated to a Fundraising Cause". We extend our thanks to them for their inspirational performance!



■ Community Foundation President Dennis Alvestad, third from right, joined The Standard Partners in celebrating 118 years of service to Kenora and region. The Standard and Wawanesa were the presenting sponsors of the Kenora Dragon Boat Festival from 2007 until 2012 and continue to provide financial resources, as year round operating sponsors. Their support is greatly appreciated.

From left to right: Jerome Delorme, Garry Forsyth, Barry Marmus, Wade Robertson, Dennis Alvestad, Sean Hughes and Gord McCool.



■ Members of the Anishinaabe Cultural and Language Centre promoted cultural education, through the production of posters, over the past year. The group attended various cultural events, including a stop at Harbourfest 2015. A grant of \$7,000 from the Community Foundation, assisted the organization with increasing their visibility to the general public. It is hoped that the

awareness will lead to an increase in visits to Cultural Celebrations, including powwows. A blueberry and bannock cook off also took place over the August long weekend.