



Giving Back

with the Battle River Community Foundation

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Camrose, Alberta

Christmas 2010

’Tis the Season!

...for giving - and receiving tax credits!

There’s never been a better time to set up a fund through the Battle River Community Foundation.

As the end of the year approaches, now is the perfect time set up a fund through the Foundation and, as an Alberta taxpayer, generate a tax saving of 50% of your gifted amount. Donations can be made in the form of:

- Cash;
- Securities (you are not required to pay the capital gains if the securities are being donated)

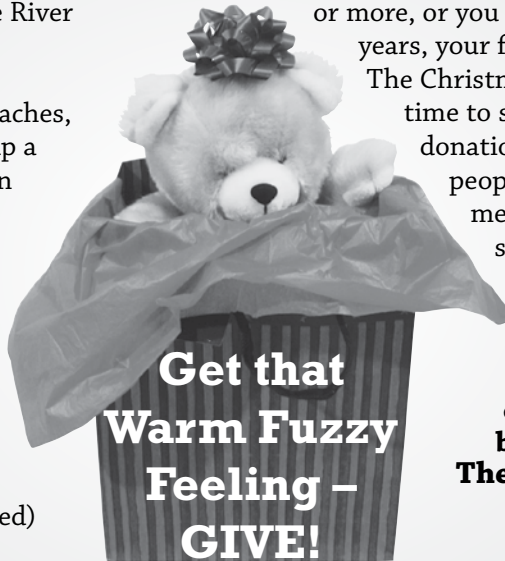
With a gift to the Foundation you can have input into how your donation is used, by establishing:

- A field-of-interest fund to support causes in fields that are important to you;
- A donor-advised fund, which allows you to have input into grant recipients;
- A designated fund, to support a specific organization or cause.

If you’d prefer, you can set up a fund within the Community Fund that will be directed to meet the greatest needs of your community on

an annual basis. If your donation is \$10,000 or more, or you pledge that sum over ten years, your fund can be named.

The Christmas season is also a perfect time to set up funds or make donations in honour of special people – in memory of family members, in celebration of special occasions or as a Christmas gift for those who have “everything”.



Start a fund or make a donation before December 31. There’s no better way to give and receive.

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NeighborAid relies on Foundation to help them help others

NeighborAid exists for the sole purpose of helping others.

The Camrose-based charitable organization is a unique mixture of churches and community groups working together to meet local needs.

NeighborAid operates the Camrose and District Food Bank, which gives out 200 hampers to local families every month; the Martha's Table soup kitchen program, which served 10,000 meals in 2009; and Breakfast Clubs at four local schools, where as many as 300 children eat every morning.



On behalf of the Battle River Community Foundation, Director, David Ofrim presents a cheque for \$6,000 to NeighborAid Executive Director Pat Hagen.

But that's only a portion of NeighborAid's role. The organization also provides financial assistance for families / individuals in dire straits to pay for rent, utilities, gas or prescriptions. Last year more than \$14,000 was provided for this purpose.

In addition, NeighborAid offers thousands of volunteer hours for the above services, as well as assisting local residents in need with everything from transportation to medical appointments, yard care and fun activities for disadvantaged children.

Pat Hagen has been the Program Director for NeighborAid for 15 years. Recently, she's witnessed an increasing level of need and a decreasing amount of government funding.

"Next year, we're expecting our budget shortfall to be about \$50,000 due to cuts in government funding," she says, "but we're not seeing any drop in need. In fact, we've noticed increases – even a 10% increase in the number of seniors accessing our services."

That's why Pat, and others at NeighborAid, feel so lucky to have support from the Battle River Community Foundation. "The Foundation is there for us," she explains. "We really appreciate knowing that it will help us continue to provide service, even in the face of funding cuts. A lot of communities don't have that security."

"The Foundation makes all the difference to us."



Wishing Pat Hagen well

After 15 years of service to the Camrose community, Pat Hagen has announced she will be retiring as Program Director of NeighborAid. While her exact departure date isn't known, she's expecting to leave her position by the spring of 2011.

Pat has been a stellar example of a true community builder – someone who gives her time and energy to make the community a better place for others.

We at the Battle River Community Foundation salute Pat Hagen and wish her well.

Two long-time Board members set to retire



Gerry Davis

Gerry Davis served one term on the Battle River Community Foundation Board in the late 90s, when the organization was just a few years old. Then, after a year hiatus, he returned in 2001 and has now served nine more years – the maximum time allowed, including one term as board chair.

“There certainly have been lots of changes since the 90s, when we had \$300,000 in the bank,” Gerry recalls. “Seeing our endowment funds grow from 0 to \$5 million has been very rewarding for me.”

Gerry has always served on the grants committee – reviewing applications and awarding dollars. “There’s no doubt the Foundation has helped lots of not-for-profit organizations. Over the past fifteen years we’ve given back more than \$1 million to the communities we serve.”

Gerry has been pleased to be part of creating the Battle River Community Foundation’s Community Builders’ dinners. “It’s been nice to see the Foundation step up and recognize so many deserving people from across east central Alberta.”

Gerry believes the future will be strong for the Foundation.

“It’s hard to argue the value of a community foundation. There will always be a need and the Foundation will always be there to fill it.”



Tom Kuntz

When Tom Kuntz joined the Board of the Battle River Community Foundation nine years ago, it was because he believed in what it was doing and wanted to be part of it. Now, having

served the maximum time allowed, Tom will be stepping down from the Board secure in the knowledge that he’s been involved with a very good organization that truly makes a difference.

“I’ve learned the great power that putting a little money in the right place can have,” he says. “Sometimes a small amount of money can have a big impact.”

The Foundation has grown tremendously during Tom’s time and he believes there will be more growth ahead. “The Foundation does such important work and receives support from such a range of people – it’s going to continue to do great things.”

Tom is particularly pleased to have played a role in the Board’s decision to become pro-active about choosing programs to support, as well as responding to requests. Reading University, for example, was spear-headed by the Foundation. “The impact on those children’s future is so significant,” he says. “I think that’s the most important thing we’ve ever done.”

Tom says he is honoured and humbled to have been part of the Foundation and will continue to play a supporting role in the organization in the future.

How are Board members selected?

The Battle River Community Foundation exists to serve the needs of the community. When a vacancy occurs on the Board, input from the community is an important part of the process of selecting the right members to carry on this work.

The committee of nominators which includes the Mayor of Camrose, Reeve of Camrose County, Chief of Staff at St. Mary’s Hospital, Dean of the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta, and the President of the Chamber of Commerce appoints new board members. Board members may serve a maximum of three three-year terms.



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It's been a busy year

2010 has been a busy year for the Battle River Community Foundation.

Recovery from the global recession of 2008 continued and the Foundation was also fortunate to receive a number of flow-through grants that allowed us to support important local projects.

A total of \$577,847 has been received by the Foundation so far this year – and we're not done yet!

Thirteen new funds have been created, with gifts of \$10,000 or more. Those include

Named and Designated Funds:

- The Ray and Betty Adamson Fund for Equine Studies;
- The Camrose Flying Club Fund;
- The Camrose Sport Development Society Fund;
- The Cliff and Vickie Cullum Fund;
- The Cliff and Bev Drever Fund;
- The Dale and Shelley Drever Fund;
- The Roy and Lynn Fixsen Fund;
- The Norman Johnston Memorial Fund;
- The Daryl and Judy Larson Fund;
- The Alice Ofrim Fund;
- The Lee and Gene Penman Fund;
- The Dave and Gail Stolee Literacy Fund;
- The Dick and Pat Gillespie Fund;

Administration Endowment Fund

Knaut Johnson Fund

Reading University was, once again, a highlight of the year, with 46 grade 2 and 3 children in Camrose and Tofield benefiting from a summer program designed to help them improve their literacy levels.

In addition, we were also able to fund 25 other projects, stretching across east central Alberta.

Two copies of the newsletter?

If you received the Giving Back newsletter in the mail, you will have two copies of the latest edition in your envelope. Our hope is that you will share the second copy with someone who may be interested in the work we do. After all, if you feel the Foundation is worthy of support, your friends will probably think so as well. We appreciate your assistance in helping to raise awareness of the Foundation throughout east central Alberta.