



# **Grant Committee Report November 2024**

Grants Committee Members:

Ken Brennan (Chair), Pat Nodrick, Garry Wright, Winnie Pauch and  
Bev Gradidge, Delorna Rice

Staff: Kim Lavalley (Executive Director)

## **Fall 2024**

A total of 24 grant applications were received, but only 17 were forwarded to the committee to review. The other 7 either missed the deadline or did not submit additional documentation as requested.

The amount requested from the 17 applications is \$247,355.94 and CFPD has allocated \$182,900.00 for this Grant Cycle. The Grants Committee met on October 23, 2024, to review & discuss the applications.

The following report from the grants committee includes the details on all applications evaluated as well as the 14 projects the committee is recommending for funding totaling \$182,964.73.

This was the first time the committee used a scoring matrix and although they found it useful, they want to streamline some of the questions. This will be done prior to the next grant cycle.

**Grant Summary Sheet - October 2024**

**CFPD DISBURSEMENT AMOUNT for Fall 2024 - \$182,900**

Organization Name	Project Description	Sector	Requested \$	Approved \$
01-(F) Child & Family Services Foundation	Chance 2 Programs	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$10,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
02-(F) Portage la Prairie Soup Kitchen	Feeding Vulnerable People	Social Services	\$23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
03-(F) High Bluff CC	Playground Development Project	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
04-(F) Peony Farm CC	Park Project	Physical Fitness and Health;	\$50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
05-(F) Service For Seniors	Dishwasher Replacements	Social Services	\$13,830.00	\$ 13,830.00
06-(F) Fort la Reine Museum	Museum Security System	Social Services	\$3,662.40	\$ 3,662.40
07-(F) Park Committee	Skate Park Lighting	Physical Fitness and Health;	\$13,445.00	\$ 13,445.00
09-(F) PCRC - Reaching Home	Food Sharing	Social Services	\$16,000.00	\$ 14,500.00
10-(F) Turning Leaf	Accessible Technology	Social Services	\$1,984.64	\$ 1,984.64
11-(F) Crescentview School	Outdoor Multiport Court	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$49,391.21	
12- (F) Sunset Palliative Care	Tech Upgrades	Social Services	\$6,760.00	\$ 6,760.00
13-(F) PLAP Bear Clan	Safety in Numbers	Social Services	\$7,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
14-(F) Herman Prior	Walkin Cooler Upgrade	Arts Cultural Activities	\$8,039.00	\$ 8,039.00
15-(F) Portage Learning & Literacy	Breakfast/Snack Program	Child Welfare, Youth Dev & Family Well-being	\$5,000.00	
16-(F) Holiday Avenue Project	Lighting of the trees in Vopni park	Enviroment	\$4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
17-(F) Portage Legion	Accessibility Ramp Upgrade	Other community activities or facilities of a charitable nature	\$24,443.69	\$ 24,443.69
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$247,355.94</b>	<b>\$ 182,964.73</b>

## **Name of organization: Child & Family Services Foundation**

### **Background of Organization:**

Our Mission is to work in partnership with the community to provide opportunities that will enhance the emotional, physical, social and intellectual well being of children.

With the support of United Way of Brandon and District, Stride Credit Union, CN Rail, Telus Communications, McCains Foundation, The Calgary Foundation, Winkler Community Foundation, Morden Area Foundation, Portage Mutual.

We provide opportunities for children to attend extracurricular activities that they would otherwise not be able to do. We have a cap of \$400 per child per year.

### **Project Description:**

The Chance 2 Programs are programs funded by our Foundation. Chance 2 Play, Chance 2 Learn, Chance 2 Camp and Chance 2 Grow are the 4 programs we offer. Chance 2 Grow and Chance 2 Camp are the Programs that I'm asking funding for. Chance 2 Grow gives children ages 5-17 the opportunity to participate in music lessons, swimming lessons, soccer, baseball, gymnastics, pottery, art classes, dance classes, and these are just a few that they can choose from. Chance 2 Camp gives children the opportunity to attend camps who would otherwise not have the opportunity due to financial circumstances.

**Amount requested: \$10,000.00**

**Amount recommended: \$2,500.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee felt that because the majority of the children in this request live in different districts, such as Morden, Winkler and Carmen, those areas should cover more of the cost.

## **Name of organization: Portage la Prairie Soup Kitchen**

### **Background of Organization:**

We are the new soup kitchen at the west end of Portage. We provide a hot meal for lunch 5 days a week to approx. 40 individuals per day to assist with food relief in our community. The soup kitchen is funded by grants, donations and fundraisers. We are located in an area where there are many MB housing units, many of which are single parents with low income and deal with substance abuse and mental health illnesses. We are very inclusive and serve clients from 4 years of age and up to 90. Our clients are from all nationalities including many Indigenous people and newcomers, as well as people with physical disabilities. We are wheelchair accessible, and everyone is welcome.

### **Project Description:**

The funding will be used to purchase the much-needed appliances required to operate a food safe commercial kitchen to continue to feed the communities most vulnerable population. We will continue to apply for grants, seek donations and have fundraisers. Dufresne is the only company that sells commercial sized appliances, so they are our 1st choice. We require pots, Pan, dishes, utensils, etc and have provided quotes where we can.

**Amount requested:** \$23,000.00

**Amount recommended:** \$23,000.00

### **Comments:**

The committee felt that this is a good project and addresses several challenges identified in the Community assessment. and recommend granting the full amount as it is a one-time pilot project and provide meals to over 50 individuals per day including children from the area. They will be told that food will not be funded moving forward.

## **Name of organization: High Bluff Community Club Inc.**

### **Background of Organization:**

The High Bluff Co-operative Community Club Inc. is essential to village life. Our charity organization is tasked with organizing fundraising events and leading initiatives such as our playground development project, the cooperative plays a key role in supporting and promoting activities within the village. The Community Hall itself acts as a lively hub for diverse gatherings, hosting various youth clubs and serving as the heart of social connections and community development efforts. We aim to strengthen connections among residents and improve the overall quality of life in the village.

### **Project Description:**

The High Bluff Co-operative Community Club Inc. aims to revitalize this beloved space by replacing outdoor equipment with a modern, inclusive playground. This upgrade will ensure that the 80-100 families in High Bluff, as well as those from nearby areas, have access to recreational opportunities that support their well-being. We plan to complete our fundraising efforts by April 2025, with construction of the new playground scheduled to begin in July 2025.

**Amount requested:** \$10,000.00

**Amount recommended:** \$10,000.00

### **Comments:**

The committee felt there is a need for this project and the children in High Bluff are too far from any other playground.

## **Name of organization: Peony Farm Community Club**

### **Background of Organization:**

Peony Farm Community Club Inc. (PFCC) was formed on Jan 22, 1977, and has been responsible for planning community events, as well as operating and maintaining the Peony Farm public park and playground, centrally located at 34 Peony Bay, (land owned by R.M. of Portage). This green space is the only one within the community and is vital to the sustainability and life of the community. The PFCC committee is comprised of passionate residents of Peony Farm who strive to create a sense of belonging through the creation of fun events for neighbors to gather and connect.

### **Project Description:**

The proposed project is to construct an inclusive public playground at Peony Farm aimed at providing a central gathering area for families and the community. The playground equipment for ages 1.5 yrs to 12 years will be Phase 1, of our 3-phase project. The playground equipment will be designed, and maintained, following Manitoba School Boards Associations Public Playground Safety Manual. Phase 2 of the plan is to build a covered picnic shelter, add shade trees and benches for community gatherings. Phase 3 will be to construct a multipurpose pad for more active play, i.e., ball hockey, basketball, pickleball, which will also become the surface for our outdoor winter skating rink. Our intended timeline would be to secure funding for Phase 1 with a start date of spring 2025 and be completed in Spring 2026. Community fundraising, grant proposals, donor/sponsorship board, and volunteer sweat equity will be our plan to fund all phases of the project. The residents of Peony Farm and district benefit from this updated space. As mentioned earlier, there is one recent new development within Peony Farm and a second new development is in the planning stages which will increase our population significantly in the future.

**Amount requested:** \$50,000

**Amount recommended:** \$50,000.00

### **Comments:**

The committee felt this is a good project as there is a huge gap and a need as there is no other playground that children can access close to their community.

## **Name of organization: Service for Seniors**

### **Background of Organization:**

Portage Service for Seniors provides services that assist older adults and persons with disabilities in maintaining an independent lifestyle. We are a charitable organization funded in part by Southern Health, Portage Plains United Way, and donations. Staff and volunteers are available to assist adults in transportation, socialization, nutrition, and safety needs. A major focus of our program is both congregate meals at seniors' apartments and our Meals on Wheels program.

### **Project Description:**

We currently offer congregate meals and two Meals on Wheels programs at Oaktree Towers. The dishwasher in the kitchen no longer is operational, and after having 2 companies come to fix it, both told us that it is not able to be fixed and replacing it is the only option. Cobbe's Plumbing and Heating is the only company who was able and willing to provide us with a quote for a new high temperature commercial dishwasher, updating the plumbing and electrical for the dishwasher, installation, and removal of the broken dishwasher. We were not able to obtain a quote from any other company, as they advised us that they do not deal with commercial equipment (installation, plumbing or electrical). A high temperature commercial dishwasher is the standard that Manitoba Health requires.

**Amount requested:** \$13,830.00

**Amount recommended:** \$13,830.00

### **Comments:**

The committee felt this is a good project to support because many meals are prepared here for Portage's seniors and MB Housing will not replace the dishwasher.



**Name of organization: Fort la Reine Museum**

**Background of Organization:**

The Fort la Reine Museum, Pioneer Village and Tourist Bureau Inc. was established in 1967 to celebrate and preserve the history and heritage of Portage la Prairie and District from 1738 to the Present. Our responsibility and mission are to exhibit and provide educational opportunities relating to our prairie heritage for local inhabitants and visitors of Portage la Prairie and District.

The Museum houses 5000 objects in 25 heritage buildings and exhibit spaces. Repairs and conservation are ongoing at the Museum, and priority is given to artefacts, and buildings deemed most at risk of deterioration.

**Project Description:**

We need a one-time system upgrade, which is hard to cover with our annual security budget. Installing cameras and motion lights will help keep the museum property and staff safe. We are taking steps to reinforce building locks and doors, however, with such a large space, nightly patrols and video surveillance are essential to keep all heritage homes monitored. We plan to install approximately nine security cameras and motion detectors in critical areas throughout the museum. The monitoring will be outsourced to our security company, allowing the director and board to check up on the property virtually when it is vacant. This is especially important during winter when the museum can be dormant for weeks. The Museum can pay for monitoring services/ in-person patrols with our annual security budget, which is currently approximately \$500. While it is unfortunate that crime has increased in our area, we want to safeguard our collection and ensure that staff feel safe when opening and closing the museum daily. We welcome hundreds of tourists and children on tours here annually and feel this improvement is overdue as a public tourism destination for Portage.

**Amount requested: \$3,662.40**

**Amount recommended: \$3,662.40**

**Comments:**

The committee felt that for security reasons, this is a good project to support.

## **Name of organization: Parks Committee**

### **Background of Organization:**

The Parks committee is a group of residents/volunteers from Portage la Prairie committed to maintaining, expanding and building Parks and green space in all of Portage la Prairie. The mission of the Parks Committee is to create safe, accessible parks for everyone in our community. With 12 active committee members, we are committed to ensuring that our parks are welcoming and inclusive. Our committee is open to anyone in the community who would like to join or volunteer to support our efforts.

### **Project Description:**

Simplot Park is a vibrant community space featuring playground equipment, a newly developed skate park, and a popular water feature, making it a central hub for families, youth, and community members of all ages. However, the park currently lacks adequate safety lighting, which poses a concern for users, especially during evening hours. Community safety studies consistently highlight the importance of proper lighting as a proven deterrent for criminal activity, enhancing overall public safety.

Installing safety lighting at Simplot Park will not only reduce the potential for crime but also provide park users with a sense of security, encouraging greater use of the space after dark. With improved lighting, the park will become a safer and more welcoming environment for all, promoting extended recreational use and fostering a greater sense of community. This grant would significantly contribute to the park's safety infrastructure, helping create a safer and more accessible public space for everyone.

**Amount requested:** \$13,445.00

**Amount recommended:** \$13,445.00

### **Comments:**

The committee felt that security for children using this facility is a huge need.

## **Name of organization: PCRC Reaching Home**

### **Background of Organization:**

Reaching Home is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness for families, adults and youth. Reaching Home creates a support team for each of its participants that is personalized to their needs. They work together with the participant and landlords to find safe, stable and affordable housing for the client.

### **Project Description:**

We are seeking funding to enhance the food security efforts of our Reaching Home, Urban Indigenous Seniors/Elders, and Wawokiya/Medicine Wheel programs. These programs serve a critical role in supporting community members facing addictions, mental health challenges, poverty, and homelessness, helping at least 275 people per year. Our support includes helping individuals find housing, providing clothing, offering counseling, seeking employment and arranging transportation to essential resources like grocery shopping, cultural events and appointments.

One of the most urgent needs we address is food security. Currently, Reaching Home provides snacks for at least 15 people per day at our office, many of whom are in immediate need of nourishment. However, the local soup kitchen is only open for one hour on weekdays, and the local food bank is only accessible one morning per week, with extensive forms and ID requirements that create barriers for the people we support. Connecting People to Resources: We will also continue to connect the people we support with food banks, the soup kitchen, grocery shopping and other local resources, offering rides when necessary and helping them budget to make the most of their resources.

Local Soup Kitchen: Our local soup kitchen gives us leftover sandwiches to hand out to people we support before the weekend. We would provide some gift cards or food supplies to them

**Amount requested:** \$16,000.00

**Amount recommended:** \$14,500.00

### **Comments:**

This project addresses many challenges identified in the Community Assessment, so the committee felt it is important to support.

## **Name of organization: Turning Leaf**

### **Background of Organization:**

Turning Leaf is designed to provide crisis intervention, treatment and support services to people living with mental illness and intellectual challenge. Turning Leaf customizes assistance for every individual's needs and risk level. We offer community, day and residential support (including emergency housing, 24-hour staffed homes, and shared models of support), a harm reduction program, clinical services, Indigenous services and more. Trauma, homelessness, poverty, addictions, discrimination, sexual exploitation, societal stigmas, and lack of access to resources are some of the barriers our participants face every day. Turning Leaf aims to enhance the lives of those living with intellectual challenge and mental illness through unconditional acceptance and empowering change. In Manitoba, we are funded by: CLOS, PASS, WRHA, & CFS1. Participants who receive service do not pay a fee directly to us, but rather their care is referred to our agency by these1 Government entities for intake consideration.

### **Project Description:**

Turning Leaf wishes to implement universal security systems at our properties to enhance safety for participants, staff, & communities. We support 15 individuals in Portage. Phase 1: Acquisition of firewalls and Wireless Access Points (WAP). Phase 2: Add security cameras, linked to the firewalls. Firewalls allow remote management & improve efficiency of our 3 person IT team in Wpg, MB. Once installed, these devices provide immediate access to information to management and our IT team, supporting timely crisis response, enhancing safety for participants and the public. Our security tools would continue to assist external officials as they have historically. Phase 1 completion projected for 2026. We seek regional grants to support investment costs & contribute to the overall project costs

**Amount requested:** \$1,984.64

**Amount recommended:** \$1,984.64

### **Comments:**

The committee feels this is a great project and there is a need for safety and security for residents and staff.

## **Name of organization: Crescentview Home & School Association**

**Background of Organization:** Prairie School Division is to provide, or make provision for, appropriate schooling opportunities for students eligible to attend The Portage la Prairie School Division. The mission of The Portage la Prairie School Division is to recognize the individual needs and potential of our students and to provide these students with the opportunity to undertake schooling experiences that will contribute to the development of their full potential. Schooling experiences will consider the future demands that will be placed upon society by our rapidly changing world. Crescentview School specifically has 435 students from K-8, with 25 students needing 1:1 support, 65 EAL students and ~150 students who would be considered low income.

**Project Description:** We intend to build a 94x60 ft asphalt pad on the west side of Crescentview School grounds, large enough to accommodate a basketball court, overlapping with 2 pickleball courts. Our hope is to start work on this as soon as possible, starting in the summer of 2024, completing it by summer of 2025. This outdoor multisport court will provide an outdoor space for our students and community while encouraging a focus on low/no equipment activities such as basketball, pickleball, four square and hopscotch. In general, this court will increase visibility and accessibility of sport, physical activity and healthy lifestyles in our catchment area for upwards of 3000 people. Our students at Crescentview School (435 kids aged 4-14), will be the main beneficiaries, having full access to the space and equipment during school hours. Any maintenance and funding required in the future will be coordinated between Crescentview School, PLPSD and the Crescentview Home and School Association.

**Amount requested: \$49,391.21**

**Amount recommended: 0**

### **Comments:**

There are currently two basketball courts within 100 yards of the school as well as three playgrounds, so the committee felt the need is low.

## **Name of organization: Sunset Palliative Care**

### **Background of Organization:**

Palliative Care focuses on meeting the needs of individuals and families who are faced with a life-threatening illness. It is based on a philosophy of hope, dignity, choice and control.

Sunset Palliative Care can offer volunteer support from thirty-six volunteers; respite for family; right to choice and respect for individual choices; acknowledgment that living well continues during dying; respect for cultural and religious differences, and confidentiality of client and family; information and resources available for palliative care at home for patients and family members; bereavement follow up & grief support groups. Palliative care is available at no cost to the individual or their family. Grants and donations are needed for Sunset Palliative Care and are used to support the local palliative care program. We also hold several fundraising events including a cash lottery, Rainbow Auction. Programs include Grief Support groups 3-4 times a year, Companion care both in homes and hospitals care homes, Memory Garden Dinner of Hope Lending Library.

### **Project Description:**

We are looking to upgrade our computer hardware and software to compete in today's challenging non-profit marketplace. We need to update/upgrade our website and have a strong social media presence in order to provide our services to those in need.

**Amount requested:** \$6,760.00

**Amount recommended:** \$6,760.00

### **Comments:**

They're updating their technology so that donors can donate on their website, which they hope will increase donations.

## **Name of organization: Portage Bear Clan**

### **Background of Organization:**

The purpose of the Bear Clan is to help people and prevent the need for police and authority interventions. We achieve this in a non-violent, non-threatening supportive manner primarily through relationship building and reconciliation. We offer help, information, supplies, education, and respect to all community members. We do weekly patrols where we provide medical support, food, water, and safety supplies. We offer 7-day-a-week needle pickup, and look to support people in need at our Bear Den. We provide support at large community events such as community BBQs, parades, cultural events, and more. The Bear Clan is funded through donations, applying for grants, and receiving honorariums for providing services to the community. We support all community members in Portage la Prairie, including vulnerable individuals, organizations, and businesses. There is no membership fee to volunteer.

### **Project Description:**

The Portage Bear Clan is seeking funding to enhance our community safety and support initiatives. The project will benefit our local community by improving safety, increasing awareness of needle disposal, and supporting those in need through food distribution. We also engage in social media outreach for missing persons, offer educational workshops on needle pickup, and promote cultural awareness. Our timeline for this project spans one year, during which we will implement these activities weekly during patrol. To ensure sustainability, we will continue to apply for additional grants and seek partnerships within the community. Additionally, our volunteers participate in local events, providing safety and receiving honorariums for Bear Clan, which helps incentivize their ongoing commitment to the project. This funding will not only enhance our immediate efforts but also lay the groundwork for future initiatives to promote community safety and well-being.

**Amount requested:** \$7,000.00

Amount recommended: \$6,000.00

### **Comments:**

The committee felt this is a good project as they provide safety for the community, however deducted \$1,000.00 for honorariums as we do not fund wages or any type.

## **Name of organization: Herman Prior Activity Centre**

### **Background of Organization:**

The Herman Prior Activity Centre (HPAC) is a Not-for-Profit organization opened in 1984. It is centrally located, and the building is fully accessible and barrier free. The HPAC is a gathering place for seniors in the community and surrounding areas where 27 programs and activities are offered along with a congregate noon meal Monday-Friday. All programs, activities and meals are provided at affordable costs so that all can participate to assist in social, physical and mental health well-being. We currently have 717 members! The membership fee is \$30.00/year which is among the lowest in Manitoba.

HPAC is a meeting place to help sustain friendships, make new friends, and stay active both mentally and physically. Our organization receives funding from Southern Health for the meal program as well as senior activities. The City of Portage also provides funds for general operating costs. The remainder of our funding comes from grants and fundraising activities.

### **Project Description:**

The walk-in cooler in our main kitchen is outdated, not energy efficient and barely meets Public Health Standards. The shelving is made of wood covered with a thick plastic which makes it difficult to keep clean and sanitary. Our plan is to remove the old cooler compressor and wiring, remove two doors and jams, and remove the upper wall segment between the doors to create a counter-to-counter opening. The new 2 door cooler will be held in this space beside the existing 2 door freezer. Wire shelving will be installed on either side of the units as well as above the units for storage space.

This will also provide more floor space in the kitchen. This project will benefit several groups at the Centre. Please see attached document.

**Amount requested:** \$8,039.00

**Amount recommended:** \$8,039.00

### **Comments:**

The committee felt this is a good project. The city will not replace the cooler.



## **Name of organization: Portage Learning & Literacy Centre**

### **Background of Organization:**

The Portage Learning and Literacy Centre (PLLC) is a dynamic non-profit organization dedicated to supporting individuals in the Central Plains region by providing a wide range of programs and services to help them achieve their personal and professional goals. PLLC offers Adult Education programs, including a Mature Student High School Diploma and Adult Literacy, with the convenience of on-site daycare. As a settlement service provider, PLLC assists newcomers in adapting to life in Canada, promoting their full participation in society. Our Employment Assistance Services support those seeking employment, while our skills development programs focus on youth and persons with disabilities, helping to reduce barriers to employment. Additionally, PLLC provides valuable services in money management, tax filing, food security, and ID services. With a commitment to innovation, fairness, and integrity, PLLC continues to serve as a thriving hub for lifelong learning and community support, having assisted close to 4,000 individuals last year.

### **Project Description:**

Our project aims to enhance the educational experience of our students by providing breakfast and snacks to support their learning. While the government has recently funded breakfast programs for K-12 schools, adult education programs like ours have not received the same support. We currently run a food security program through which we receive rescued food, such as bagels, from Second Harvest. We plan to supplement these items with condiments, fresh fruits and vegetables, and wrapped snacks. This program will run from November 1, 2024, to August 31, 2025, benefiting over 100 students. Many of our students face food security challenges, which can impact their ability to focus and succeed in their studies. By offering nutritious breakfast options, we aim to alleviate this barrier, enabling students to better engage in their learning. Due to stagnant funding for our education programs over the past decade, we will continue seeking additional grants to sustain the program unless there is an increase in provincial funding.

**Amount requested: \$5,000.00**

**Amount recommended: 0**

### **Comments:**

There was no plan for sustainability.

## **Name of organization: Holiday Avenue Project**

### **Background of Organization:**

HAP began in 2020. Community members voiced disappointment that there were only summer flowers placed by the city in the Saskatchewan meridian containers. The remainder of the year, these containers sat empty. In 2020 a group of ladies from the community brought their own winter decorations and created beautiful arrangements in the meridian containers. In 2022 efforts were expanded and the meridian containers were decorated for fall, Christmas, Valentine Day, and St Patrick Day. In 2023, HAP purchased shooting star lights for the light posts on the causeway. In February, Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) asked HAP volunteers to decorate the containers in front of the MMF building and City Hall for Louis Riel celebration. HAP collaborated with the city of Portage la Prairie and MMF to set up and display canoes filled with flowers, at the east and west entranceway of Portage la Prairie. HAP would also like to add lights to trees in Vopni Park. In May, HAP volunteers participated in our local "Spring Beautification Days". The annual HAP Garden Tour took place in July. This fall, HAP applied for a charitable gaming license in hopes of planning a cash calendar, 50/50 fundraiser and a soup and sandwich luncheon. HAP's goal it to continue to fundraise to "beautify" Portage La Prairie.

### **Project Description:**

In collaboration with Portage la Prairie mayor, Sharilyn Knox, HAP is planning to decorate the trees in Vopni park with clear LED lights this fall. Vopni park is in the core area of Portage La Prairie and this piece of land is a green space for all to enjoy. There are presently 6 central trees, three historical landmarks and a pathway located in this park. With lighting in this park, these historical landmarks would be better highlighted, park traffic may increase, and in turn, may strengthen community ties.

Lighting in Vopni park would also be visually appealing, enhance safety, and would make a real statement for the core area of Portage la Prairie.

**Amount requested:** \$4,800.00

**Amount recommended:** \$4,800.00

### **Comments:**

The committee loves the work HAP does and feels this project may add extra security to the downtown with this park having lights.

## **Name of organization: Portage Legion Branch #65**

### **Background of Organization:**

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #65's mission is to serve Veterans, which includes currently serving military and RCMP members, and their families; to promote Remembrance; and to serve our communities and our country.

Our primary activities involve providing a social space for Veterans and community members, with our clientele generally being 55+. Examples of these activities are weekly bingo, dart and shuffleboard tournaments, karaoke, craft sales, and dinners. Other organizations use our building for special events, such as the Manitoba 55+ Games, who used it as their headquarters in 2023.

### **Project Description:**

The Portage Legion intends to upgrade the accessibility ramp inside the building. The carpet on the ramp is worn and spongy, and it needs replacing for safety and useability. New flooring needs to be installed over the ramp and in the two side corridors connected to the ramps.

All members and non-members coming to the Legion will benefit from a safety upgrade to the ramp, as improved building accessibility will improve inclusivity, and our membership base is largely 55+ and includes a higher number of people with mobility issues requiring the use of the ramp and adjoining area.

The timeline for the ramp upgrade is dependent on acquiring the funds to complete the project. When we have the necessary capital, Irwin Flooring and Tile Limited can begin work on the ramp and adjacent flooring as soon as possible.

With the carpet removed and the sub-floor replaced, maintenance and repair of the ramp and area flooring in the future will be easier and less expensive. We only require grant funds for this project as a one-time cost.

**Amount requested:** \$24, 443.69

**Amount recommended:** \$24,443.69

### **Comments:**

Many different groups and people use this facility, and addresses safety so the committee felt it was a good project.