

Record Number of Grant Applicants Indicates Community Need

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CFPD Community Grants Program

Every year, twice a year, the Community Foundation of Portage and District opens up applications for Community Grants, whereby community groups can apply for funding for their various programs and projects. A wide variety of projects are considered, and as of 2024, groups do not have to be registered charities to apply. However, the project must support one of the following objectives:



Physical fitness & health; Arts & cultural activities; Education; Medical services; Environment; Child welfare, youth development, and family well-being; and Other activities of a charitable nature. The Granting Committee meets to review applications, and while any supporting the above objectives are considered, they do try to give preference to the projects that address

one or more local challenges identified in the 2023 Community Assessment. These challenges include: Alcohol & substance abuse; Poverty; Crime & safety; Mental illness; Housing; Transportation; Racism; and Childcare.

Record Number of Applications Received in the Fall 2025 Intake

While previous intakes have typically seen more requested funding than is available for granting, the latest intake saw 36 applications come in, with over \$760,000 in requested funding—but just over \$200,000 available for granting. This indicates that local community groups are struggling to run programs and projects they feel are important to the citizens of Portage la Prairie and area, and heavily rely on available grants and outside funding. With such a gap in needs being met, this highlights just how important the community's donations are at growing the Smart & Caring Community Fund to try to meet these needs. In addition to this general fund, there are a number of other funds held at CFPD that also contribute to the Community Grants Program. For anyone who wants to either start their own undesignated fund, or donate to one of the existing ones, they can be assured that their generous contributions will be going to very worthy causes right in their own community.

CFPD Grants Have Helped Numerous Local Organizations Over the Years

Through grants obtained by CFPD, numerous groups have been able to improve life for local community members, from providing recreation and leisure opportunities, to reducing crime and increasing safety, supporting cultural activities and the arts, increasing accessibility for people of all abilities, increasing food security, connecting people to services, and so much more.

Help us Make a Difference

If you wish to support local projects and help improve life in your community, please select "Smart & Caring Community Fund" (or any of our undesignated funds) from the drop-down of our website at www.cfpdi.ca/makeadonation by clicking the "Donate Online" button (connect with QR code below).



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Thanks to the ongoing support from Southport, the Community Foundation of Portage & District is able to share this story and show how your donations make an impact on Portage la Prairie & area.