



**Grant Committee Report  
April 2024**

Grants Committee Members:

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

Guest Committee Member: Warren Neufeld, CFPD Board Chair

Staff: Kim Lavallee (Executive Director)

## **Spring 2024**

A total of 23 grant applications were received requesting \$502,528.39 and CFPD had allocated \$169,000.00 for this Grant Cycle. The Grants Committee met on April 3, 2024, to review & discuss the applications. Because there were so many excellent applications, the committee found it difficult to choose.

The following report from the grants committee includes the details on all applications evaluated as well as the 13 projects the committee is recommending for funding totaling \$155,615.00 and decided to move the additional \$13,385.00 to the Fall.

**Grant Summary Sheet - March 2024**

**CFPD DISBURSEMENT AMOUNT for Spring 2024 - \$169,000**

Organization Name	Previous Grant	Project Description	Sector	Requested \$	Recommended \$
Oakville Community Club Inc	Yes	Community Centre / Daycare Replacement	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$50,000.00	
Southport Aerospace Inc.	No	2024 Manitoba Airshow	Social Services	\$18,718.32	\$ 9,000.00
Centennial Community Club Inc.	Yes	Clamp Replacement	Physical Fitness and Health;	\$8,590.00	\$ 8,590.00
Portage Junk Yard Dogs	Yes	Junk Yard Activity Park	Physical Fitness and Health;	\$20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Crescentview Home & School Assoc.	Yes	Outdoor Multisport Court	Physical Fitness and Health;	\$80,337.34	
Prairie Vox Community Chior	no	Digital Piano, Stand & Bench	Arts and Cultural	\$1,779.95	\$ 1,800.00
Portage Handivan Inc.	Yes	Building Paint Project	Social Services	\$4,875.00	
Childrens Rehabilitation Found.	Yes	Adapted Equipment Program-lpad	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$1,844.00	
Portage Regional Library	Yes	Digital Signage	Social Services	\$1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
United Way	Yes	Financially Empowering Young Adults	Social Services	\$21,500.00	
Sunset Palliative Care	Yes	Finalization of Memory Garden	Social Services	\$15,206.80	
Family Resource Centre	Yes	Kitchen Skills	Social Services	\$4,300.00	
Portage Friendship Centre	Yes	Regalia Library	Social Services	\$10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Portage Community Revitalization	yes	Bida'Aana Basketball Courts	Physical Fitness & Health	\$75,142.00	
19 Portage, Royal Canadian Army Cadets	yes	Army Cadet Corps Programs	Social Services	\$6,550.00	\$ 5,000.00
Portage Minor Baseball Association	no	Diamond 6 Fencing at Rotary Republic Park	Physical Fitness & Health	\$21,229.98	
Herman Prior Activity Centre	yes	Digital Signage	Arts and Cultural	\$8,625.00	\$ 8,625.00
Metis Prairie Steppers	no	Teaching Cultural Dance to Youth	Arts and Cultural	\$3,100.00	\$ 3,100.00
Holiday Avenue Project	Yes	Enhanced lighting display for the causeway	Environmental	\$14,230.00	\$ 3,000.00
Prairie Fusion Arts and Entertainment	yes	Venue & Community Growth	Arts and Cultural	\$15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Westpark School	yes	School Playground	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Communities Building Youth Futures	no	Inkabah Youth Hub Renovations	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$50,000.00	
Rotary Club	Yes	Duck Pond Completion	Environmental	\$20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$502,528.39</b>	<b>\$ 155,615.00</b>

**Name of organization: Oakville Community Club Inc.**

**Background of Organization:**

The Oakville Community Club Inc is the umbrella organization within our community that owns, operates, and ensures the long-term viability of the cultural and sporting venues within the community for the general well-being of all community residents. These venues include the Community Hall, Arena, Curling Rink, and Morrison Sports Park. Each venue has a volunteer board that oversees its day-to-day operation and maintenance as well as setting user fees that cover those costs. Any community member can access these facilities through sporting user fees or rental fees. Our venues are not owned by the municipal government and have no full-time employees.

**Project Description:**

Oakville's existing community hall is nearing the end of its usable lifespan. Constructed in 1950 this building has long been a key part of the cultural fabric of our community. Unfortunately, the ravages of time have brought increasing costs of operations and maintenance along with declining structural integrity. Enhanced building codes for public buildings create a significant problem and cost to renovating this building. Our project will see the replacement of this building with a new structure of similar size with 21st century insulation and green energy technology (geothermal). Located beside our existing ice facilities, the new structure will also house a new 40 space preschool daycare center. This is a much-needed infrastructure item for the entire Portage plains area. Combining these two goals into one project offers some cost savings over having individual buildings. Together the dual purpose of this building aligns with our key part of our mission statement; "to promote and support cultural and sporting activities in community owned facilities". Construction began in May 2023 and is on track to be completed by May of 2024. Going forward the Childcare Centre will be self-supporting through fees and annual operating grants from the province. The Community Centre will earn rent from the Childcare Centre as well as rental fees from events.

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

**Amount recommended: 0**

**Comments:**

The application stated that they have enough money to cover the cost of the project but applied in order pay the RM back. Because of this and because they have just recently received substantial donations, CFPD has already given them \$70,000.00 as well. As a result, the committee decided not to approve this application.

## **Name of organization: Southport Aerospace Inc.**

### **Background of Organization:**

Southport Aerospace Centre Inc. was established as a not-for-profit, non-share corporation in 1992 to manage the assets of the former Canadian Forces Base Portage la Prairie, which was originally established in 1940 as a training base for military pilots. After the transition from CFB Portage to Southport occurred, military pilot training continued through the 3 Canadian Forces Flying Training School which was being operated by Bombardier and succeeded by Allied Wings (now KF Aerospace) in 2005 until present.

As a property management and development company, Southport has diversified its tenant base to include health administration; education and training; manufacturing; addictions counselling; childcare; agriculture; and support services for the military flight contract.

Southport hosted the Manitoba Airshow for the first time in 2018. The Manitoba Airshow is a non-profit that donates part of the proceeds to military non-profits and non-profits in the community.

### **Project Description:**

Southport is proud to be hosting the 2024 Manitoba Airshow, marking a significant return after the last event in 2018. The success of the airshow heavily relies on the dedication of volunteers from the community. Notably, a large portion of the proceeds generated from this event are directed towards supporting various non-profit organizations, including Soldier On, RCAF Foundation, MFRC/Morale Welfare (15 Wing), our local Legion, and Air Cadets.

Excitingly, this year introduces a novel addition: the Young Aviators Tent. Designed to engage and inspire youth, this tent will showcase both non-profit and for-profit entities within the aviation sector. Their collective aim is to instill a passion for aviation among young enthusiasts and illuminate potential career paths within the industry. This endeavor will blend enjoyable activities with informative sessions, fostering a spirit of exploration and education.

Southport stands as more than just an event venue; it embodies a thriving airport community dedicated to advancing aerospace technology and providing diverse training opportunities. As a steadfast partner in vision with the Canadian military, Southport remains committed to excellence and innovation in aviation.

**Amount requested: \$18,718.32**

**Amount recommended: \$9,000.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee found this difficult because Southport is very supportive of CFPD, however they were in favor of partial funding as a portion did not fit within our policies and guidelines. As well, the City just granted them \$10,000.00 for the Airshow.

**Name of organization: Centennial Community Club Inc.**

**Background of Organization:**

We are in our 13th year of operating the facility known as the BDO Centre for the Community. We operate as a non-profit to provide a 3rd ice surface to help with the overflow of skating activities during the fall/winter months. We fund our rink by renting ice slots from mid-October to mid-March primarily to PMHA and Central Plains Regional teams, as well as Ringette and Adult hockey. We also rent out the facility in the off-season for Judo, ball practices and a summer camp. Our main income is the ice hockey and ringette rentals in the winter months. We also rent out the East side of the building for storage of RVs/Campers/ vehicles for 6 months of the year. We have started taking in summer rentals as well. The facility is open to all community members in the City and Municipality of Portage la Prairie.

**Project Description:**

We have been advised that the clamps are rusted and need to be replaced. We had planned on doing it prior to this ice season in 2023, however we had another project that required immediate attention, so this had to be put off until we finished this season. We need to get the clamps replaced this year in order to ensure that we are ready for the fall season. This should eliminate the possibility of having a mid-season breakdown and the facility would have to be closed to make the necessary repairs. We plan on starting June 1st (if fits with the company doing the work) or as late as Sept 1st to not disrupt our summer camp rental. All who use our ice in the winter months will benefit from having the work completed.

**Amount requested: \$8,590.00**

**Amount recommended: \$8,590.00**

**Comments:**

The committee felt this was a good investment as many residents use this facility.

**Name of organization: Portage Junk Yard Dogs Inc.**

**Background of Organization:**

The Portage Junk Yard Dogs (JYD) provides facilities for year-round outdoor activities (cycling, hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing). The Club has developed 12 kms of single-track cycling, hiking and snowshoe trails along the Assiniboine River. JYD also grooms 7 km of traditional cross country ski trails on the Portage Golf Course. The Club operates a Kids of Mud (KOM) program, which teaches kids how to ride and race mountain bikes. JYD is funded through the sale of memberships and currently has 355 members. Membership fees are \$40 for an individual and \$65 for a family. No fees will be charged to use the proposed Activity Park.

**Project Description:**

Junk Yard Dogs (JYD) and our partner the City of Portage la Prairie plan to construct an Activity Park on the decommissioned landfill site, which will be open to the public free of charge. The main objective of the project is to provide an outdoor facility to expand the opportunity for physical activity and interaction with nature twelve months of the year. The park will provide a unique cycling, hiking, and tobogganing outdoor experience that is easily accessible to all residents of Portage la Prairie regardless of age, ability and social status/wealth. The project includes a bike park and cycling trails, which will provide cyclists with features (berms, jumps, walls) that aren't available on Junk Yard Dogs' 12 km of single-track trails. These features will help develop a cyclist's skills, so they can confidently ride more difficult trails. In addition, a wheelchair accessible wilderness hiking trail, which goes through a wild habitat (woodlot and marsh) will be constructed. This trail will offer an excellent opportunity to view and be educated about the natural environment. The project will also repair and expand the existing tobogganing run, which is already a popular activity for local families. Toilets and a picnic shelter will be installed at the trailhead improving convenience and making it appealing to families. The City of Portage will be covering the ongoing expenses of operating the park. It is expected that the trail infrastructure will be completed in October 2024.

**Amount requested: \$20,000.00**

**Amount recommended: \$20,000.00**

**Comments:**

The committee felt this is a good project that several people will use, it is a good investment to the area. Their application was approved last year but because they had not yet received approval for the land, they returned the grant.

**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 give consideration to 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. We have 65 staff employed to facilitate the free MB public school Curriculum including music, home economics and physical education along with staffing for resource, guidance, and reading recovery. There is a Speech and Language Pathologist and Librarian. The school also provides extracurricular opportunities such as a breakfast club, competitive and intramural sports, an Outdoors Club, and Student Leadership groups.

**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: \$80,337.34****Amount recommended: 0****Comments:**

CFPD has provided the School Division with many grants over the past 10 years and basically we just did not have enough funding for this project.



## **Name of organization: Prairie Vox Community Choir**

### **Background of Organization:**

Prairie Vox Community Choir is a non-auditioned secular choir for those people who are 18 years and older and live in Portage la Prairie and surrounding communities. Rehearsals are held weekly to provide adults with the opportunity to sing together in a relaxed collegial atmosphere. Each session is facilitated by a choir director who helps participants learn new music and polish vocal technique. Currently, Prairie Vox Community Choir is a volunteer organization with decisions made collaboratively between the choir director and the managing director. Piano accompaniment and choral directing services are provided on a volunteer basis. Practice space is provided at no cost by Prairie Vineyard Church. Suggested fees are on a sliding scale with \$3 per drop-in session, or \$20 for eight weeks. However, there is no financial barrier to anyone joining the group.

### **Project Description:**

This project is a one-time purchase of a portable digital piano, piano stand and bench which will be used during choir rehearsals and performances. The purchase of the equipment will allow for improved communication between the choir director and the accompanist during choir sessions. The practice space can be set up to suit the singing group's needs if the piano can be moved to different locations within a space or to a different space if the primary is not available. Prairie Vox would also use the equipment when performing for groups at outreach events. For example, the group has been approached to perform at Dufferin Villa, but due to equipment constraints, the opportunity to share music and song with community members was not pursued.

**Amount requested: \$1,779.95**

**Amount recommended: 1,800.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee felt this is a good project. They have never applied.

**Name of organization: Portage Handivan Inc.**

**Background of Organization:**

The purpose of the Portage la Prairie Handivan Inc. is to provide safe, affordable transportation in the most effective and efficient manner by meeting the needs of persons age 55 or older or, any age who may have mobility limitations or a disability.

We are funded by the City of Portage la Prairie and the Mobility Disadvantage provincial program.

The Portage la Prairie Handivan provides transportation service to the City of Portage la Prairie, The RM of Portage la Prairie, and surrounding local First Nations communities.

**Project Description:**

We are planning to paint the building and revitalize its appearance, fostering community pride and cohesion. It will inspire neighborhood beautification efforts and enhance ambiance and economic vitality of the area and the community will benefit from it. The building is at 1015 Saskatchewan Ave, which is home to our buses. This is a one-time ask.

**Amount requested: \$4,875.00**

**Amount recommended: 0**

**Comments:**

Because they do not own the building or have a long term lease, they committee denied their application.

## **Name of organization: Childrens Rehabilitation Foundation Inc.**

### **Background of Organization:**

Children's Rehabilitation Foundation's (CRF) mission is to raise funds to improve the lives of children and youth from birth to 21 who access services through the Rehabilitation Centre for Children. The Centre supports children with physical and/or developmental disabilities in Manitoba and surrounding areas (including Nunavut and NW Ontario) in achieving their goals. Our shared vision is for all children to receive the support required to realize their abilities and enhance their potential. We are dedicated to helping children and youth with disabilities live as independently as possible. Through the generosity of donors, the Foundation invests in essential inclusive therapeutic and recreational programs, services, leading-edge technology, and specialized/adapted equipment to enable children and youth to actively participate in their communities. Our guiding principle is youth living with physical and cognitive challenges should have the same opportunities as other children to learn, play, develop and thrive. Children's Rehabilitation Foundation encourages, promotes and supports diversity, equity and inclusion.

### **Project Description:**

The Children's Rehabilitation Foundation's Adapted Equipment Program aids Manitoba's children/youth with physical and/or developmental disabilities. It funds communication devices (iPads, Eye Gaze), smart technology, mobility devices (customized bikes, walkers), and sensory tools (chill-out-chairs) to enhance their quality of life and participation. As context, in 2022/23, CRF allocated over \$450,000 to adapted equipment, over \$60,000 of which was for communication technology. Facing a pandemic-induced backlog, CRF incurred a deficit, jeopardizing program stability. With no government support, CRF relies on external support (donors, businesses, granting organizations). CRF is seeking \$1844 from the Community Foundation of Portage and District for an iPad communication device benefiting a child under five in the Rural Municipality of Portage La Prairie. The child, receiving speech-language pathology and occupational therapy, communicates minimally using gestures, vocalizations, and limited words. A speech-generating iPad would expand her vocabulary, promote longer utterances, and foster social interaction, aiding in daycare, family life and community engagement. Delays in equipment procurement due to insufficient funding, significantly impact a child's well-being and development. The requested funding is a one-time purchase, critical for the child's development and inclusion.

**Amount requested: \$1,844.00**

**Amount recommended: 0**

### **Comments:**

The committee felt that if this is approved, it would set a precedence. Also, the Childrens Rehabilitation Foundation Inc. has a large surplus.

## **Name of organization: Portage la Prairie Regional Library**

### **Background of Organization:**

The Portage la Prairie Regional Library's goal is to support learning, social connections, and personal growth for the people of the City and Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie. We offer a welcoming space in downtown Portage where everyone can gather, learn, and unwind for free. Our range of activities and programs, provided both independently and in collaboration with local community groups, cater to people of all ages and all walks of life. With nearly 8,000 members and 55,000 visits in 2023, our library serves as a hub for the community. Membership is free for residents of the region and available starting at \$10 for residents outside the area. Additionally, we offer complimentary Internet access and use of the space to all.

### **Project Description:**

We plan to acquire three smart TVs to showcase library information, including program details, book launches, and important updates, as well as community information. Our aim is to have these TVs procured and set up by the summer. The introduction of digital signage will enhance the experience for all library visitors, as these screens will be strategically placed in public areas, continuously displaying informative slideshows. The funds will cover the purchase of the TVs, while ongoing expenses related to Wi-Fi and maintenance will be factored into our annual budget.

**Amount requested: \$1,500.00**

**Amount recommended: 1,500.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee was in favor of supporting this project and felt it is a good investment in the community.

## **Name of organization: United Way**

### **Background of Organization:**

Our organization, inspired by United Way's vision and mission, is a non-profit dedicated to fostering inclusive and thriving communities. Our purpose is to empower individuals from all backgrounds to reach their full potential and create strong, resilient communities. We achieve this through a range of services, including social programs, educational initiatives, and community development projects.

We are funded through a combination of private donations, corporate sponsorships, and government grants. Our diverse group of members and clients consists of volunteers, community leaders, local businesses, and individuals seeking assistance and opportunities to give back to their communities. Our programs are utilized by those seeking to advance their community connections and those in financial need.

The United Way's principles of trust, integrity, respect, inclusivity, and transparency fuel our work. We also actively promote volunteerism, innovation, partnerships, and non-partisan leadership, while embracing the richness of diversity in all our endeavors. Together, we strive to make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of those we serve and the communities we support. There are no fees to join our organization.

### **Project Description:**

The Financially Empowering Young Adults (FEYA) program is a vital initiative aimed at providing financial assistance to employed young adults aged 18 to 29, ensuring basic needs for groceries, fuel, and prescription medication are met.

To qualify for FEYA, applicants must be employed for a minimum of 20 hours per week, earning no more than \$1,500 bi-weekly, must have a lease agreement in their name, as well as confirmation of Canadian citizenship or Permanent Resident status. Applicants must rely solely on employment earnings as their source of income, fostering accountability and dedication to self-sustainability. Valid photo identification is mandatory, with the address matching the lease agreement, confirming the applicant's residency status and validating information provided.

Once financing has been secured, we intend to launch this program in the Fall of 2024. We will partner with other organizations like Portage LIP, Communities Building Youth Futures, Portage Community Revitalization Corporation, and Portage Learning and Literacy Centre to ensure the young adult demographic is aware of this program. With a \$25,000 budget, we can assist up to 250 young adults in the Central Plains region. In the future, we will source funding for FEYA through government and community grants, corporate sponsorships, and individual donations.

FEYA also fosters financial literacy and stability among young adults, empowering them to navigate their financial futures confidently.

**Amount requested: \$21,500.00**

**Amount recommended: 0**

### **Comments:**

This project does not fit within CFPD's policies.

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

### **Background of Organization:**

Sunset Palliative Care is a non-profit organization. For the past 30 years, we have been serving individuals with a life threatening or terminal illness and their families who live in Portage la Prairie and the surrounding communities. This is based on a philosophy of Hope, Dignity, Choice & Control. We are committed to providing compassionate care to all whether the client is in hospital, personal care home or their own residence as we have 36 active volunteers who are kind, dedicated and devoted to our organization and what it stands for. We have no fees for our volunteers as they are what keeps our organization existing. We have walking bereavement groups, lending library, grief support groups, Memory Garden, our annual Xmas Dinner of Hope and the palliative care rooms at the present hospital with ongoing upkeep and in the very soon future we have committed to furnishing 6 palliative care rooms. Family room and roof top garden as this is in a separate area away from the other wards . Our funding comes only from fundraising, a small grant from United Way and donations when we are named in memory in kind.

### **Project Description:**

Sunset Palliative Care Memory Garden was expanded in 2021 for a total cost of just over \$105,000.00 which resulted in an expansion of 4 times larger than the original garden it included a patio for small group events such as Celebrations of Life, wedding ceremonies, family photos and more and has been used extensively in the last 3 years at no cost to reserve it for functions. We now need to do the finishing touches, which includes a Pergola and permanent signage. We have secured the services of 2 local businesses. The entire community of 14,000 as well as the visitors that come to Island Park benefit from the usage of this garden. We have a lottery every year and the garden are maintained by that fundraiser.

**Amount requested: \$15,206.80**

**Amount recommended: 0**

### **Comments:**

Sunset Palliative Care did not provide updated financial statements. In the statements they did provide, they have a surplus of \$400,000.00. The committee felt that because CFPD has granted them over \$10,000.00 twice before, for the garden, they could not approve this application.

## **Name of organization: Portage Family Resource Centre**

### **Background of Organization:**

Vision: To be a support for all families in Portage la Prairie & surrounding area. Mission: We do this by: -Providing a safe and welcoming place for all -Empowering families to enhance their wellness -Providing meaningful and educational programming -Bringing families together -Being a source of trusted information

Our scope is large and flexible to allow us to meet the needs of families in our community. From pregnancy and breastfeeding, through child development and parenting we aim to be educators and a place of support for families as they navigate their parenting journey. We also provide opportunities to families in the area of wellness through nutrition, recreation, mental health and arts & culture programming and services.

We are primarily funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada's CAPC Program, ROK and United Way but they only provide just over half of our annual budget. We rely on grants and donations to help us provide additional programs and services and to grow and accomplish our strategic plan initiatives. Our members/clients are families in the community. Our goal is to not charge for programs or access to services apart from our social enterprises involving childcare, in which case we work with families who need it to determine reasonable cost for their situation.

### **Project Description:**

At the FRC we want to empower families to thrive. We have found that youth and adults are not equipped to prepare healthy, nutritious meals on a budget for themselves/their family. We want to pilot sharing this information with new audiences. With the rising cost of groceries, it has never been a better time because we have a more attentive audience.

The program is designed to help youth and adults feel confident in the kitchen by giving them tools and skills to prepare nutritious food. -Provide participants with an opportunity to learn:

- The skills to prepare nutritious food
- How to use basic kitchen tools
- Simple cooking terms
- Food safety
- Kitchen safety
- Encourage healthy eating
- Provide complete meal ideas made from simple budget friendly recipes
- Have fun!

**Amount requested: \$4,300.00**

**Amount recommended: 0**

### **Comments:**

The committee did not approve this project because this type of project is offered at Eagles Fire Youth Centre, Friendship Centre, Youth for Christ, and PCRC. CFPD has given them several grants in the past few years. The city just granted them \$70,000.00.

## **Name of organization: Portage Friendship Centre**

### **Background of Organization:**

For 56 years that the Friendship Centre has been operating in the Portage providing many different services to the indigenous people in our city. Current programming: Eagles Fire Youth Centre, providing a safe place for youth ages 12-29 to meet and take part in many cultural activities and teachings. Assists youth with pre-employment skills training, workshops covering resume building, job search and interviewing skills, training opportunities or information regarding education, volunteering opportunities, anything that can help the client become successful in obtaining their independence. The Parent/Child Program provides a variety of resources, activities, and programming for families in our community with children from 0 to 12. Including an after-school program, summer day camp and early years mom and tot weekly drop-in session. The Insight Mentoring program offers support and resources to mother with children 0-3 years old who may be living with addictions, providing these families, family enhancement through Traditional Parenting workshops, healthy relation workshops and lessons in basic life skills. Subsidized Housing for families and seniors. We are funded federally and provincially through MAC. Our membership includes all ages and cultures who have interest, with a 2\$ a year fee, with 55+ free membership.

### **Project Description:**

The Portage Friendship Centre came up with the idea several years ago to create a regalia library for families to access and sign out regalia for their families to use for cultural events and ceremonies. This is allowing families to participate in those cultural activities where they may not be able to participate due to barriers like lack of funds. Basic Pow wow regalia for a small child, say a jingle dress can cost up to 200.00 for simply the fabric ribbons and jingles. That is an insurmountable cost for many of our families. And if they have more than one child who wished to participate, participating would be out of the question. Here at the Portage Friendship Centre, we have several knowledge holders in staff and our valuable volunteers who carry these teachings and would like to share their skills and knowledge with the community. We would invite any adult family members interested in learning these skills to participate in creating this library. Therefor learning the teachings and the process to perhaps one day share it with someone else, while helping to create a public access store of regalia. We would hold these sewing sessions once or twice a month to allow us to have the library fully created in a year. We will as always continue to apply for funding where available and do fundraisers to continue and refresh the library annually. The whole community would benefit.

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

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

### **Comments:**

The Committee thought this was a great application and project. They pitched at the 150 WWC event and it was so nice to see young children (2-10 years of age) practice their culture.



**Name of organization: Portage Community Revitalization Corp.**

**Background of Organization:**

PCRC works with the community to create community. We believe that regardless of the issue, community is the answer. Working together with the community of Portage la Prairie we empower citizens, enhance neighborhoods, foster community spirit and build the capacity of community organizations. PCRC is a nonprofit organization which is mainly funded by all three levels of government. PCRC also organizes numerous fundraisers to help offset the costs of supporting vulnerable people in our community. PCRC has several programs which support our community. Programs include Reaching Home, Community Building Youth Futures, Local Immigrant Partnership, Wawokiya, Urban Indigenous and Urban Indigenous Seniors. Our Community Engagement Coordinator and Facilitator assist with numerous committees and events in our community, such as the Bear Clan, Active Transportation and Parks Committee.

**Project Description:**

Our plan is to refurbish the old skate park (behind BDO/Centennial Arena) into two basketball courts. Youth who reside north of the tracks will have access to these new basketball courts. Basketball courts can be utilized by all ages. Visitors to our community can also utilize the basketball courts. We anticipate at least 30-60 people will utilize the courts daily. Our timeline is hopefully to start the project by June 1,2024. We intend to fund the project with support from the city (regular maintenance), fundraisers, applying for additional grants, sponsorship, donations, and volunteers assisting with clean up.

**Amount requested: \$75,142.00**

**Amount recommended: 0**

**Comments:**

CFPD did not have the resources to fund large projects this year. There are 3 basketball courts in the Northend that residents can use as well as a brand new one at PCI and Fort La Reine schools.

## **Name of organization: 19 Portage Army Cadets**

### **Background of Organization:**

19 Royal Canadian Army Cadets was established in 1909 and is the longest serving Cadet Corps in Western Canada. The aim of the Canadian Cadet program is to develop in youth the attributes of good citizenship, leadership, and discipline; promote physical fitness; and captivate the interests of youth in the sea, land and air activities of the Canadian Forces. The Army Cadets do not pay any fees to join and all equipment is supplied. The Army Cadets are funded by a Support Committee which helps in raising funds to assist in operating the Corps. The Army Cadet program is administered by an agreement between the Army Cadet League of Canada and the Department of National Defense. Support Committees of the Army Cadet Leagues provide accommodation, insurance, transportation and other items from time to time not provided by the Department of National Defense.

### **Project Description:**

- 1) Military History Day ~ To take the Cadet Corps to Camp Hughes to view and learn about WW1 trench training of soldiers. Then on to the Royal Canadian Artillery Museum in Shilo, MB. This will be a learning experience of some of the rich Military History of Canadian Forces.
- 2) Reconciliation Project~ We are specialized in the in-person learning experience. We will invite 30 First Nation individuals for a course in orienteering (commonly known as Map and Compass Course). We will provide food as well as provide them with the materials and equipment required. We believe that this will assist us to promote friendly relations with our First Nations. This is our motion forward to assist in reconciliation. We look forward to learning with and from our First Nation partners.
- 3) Creativity Lab Training ~ The Cadets will be encouraged and given the opportunity to attend Red River College Polytechnic Creativity Lab to learn and use their lab equipment and supplies. They will certainly benefit from a visit to a local Community College to give them a taste of what it would be like to attend a Post Secondary Education School.
- 4) Signage ~ advertising yard style signage to target neighborhoods in our community with basic information about Army Cadets and becoming involved.

**Amount requested: \$6,550.00**

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

### **Comments:**

The reason for partial funding is because a portion of this application goes against our Granting Policy.

**Name of organization: Portage Minor Baseball Association.**

**Background of Organization:**

PMBA is an association dedicated to bringing baseball to Portage la Prairie and surrounding areas for young children, youth, and young adults from the ages of 4 to 18. Baseball teaches these athletes to have fun, respect for all, dedication, and hard work while playing a sport we love. Our association is funded by support/sponsorships from local business. Our athletes pay a small registration fee which varies from age group to age group.

**Project Description:**

Diamond 6 currently has no fencing down the baselines or outfield. This causes many balls to be lost and puts spectators in danger watching. This diamond is one of two diamonds where we can host 11U & 13U games due to field dimensions & pitching mounds. These two age groups have approximately 95-110 registered athletes each year. Without the diamond fenced in we can not host major tournaments and ultimately provincials, which will provide further funding for our association. We hope to start this project as soon as frost is out of the ground and be completed within 30 days.

**Amount requested: \$21,229.98**

**Amount recommended: 0**

**Comments:**

The committee felt that this is something PRRA or the City should fund.

## **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. The Herman Prior Activity Centre currently has 689 members.

HPAC is a meeting place to help sustain friendships, make new friends, and stay active both mentally and physically. For many seniors in the community, the HPAC is a home away from home where they have a sense of belonging and adds a purpose to their daily lives.

Bus tours are arranged to attend plays, music, dinner theatres and more. These tours are greatly appreciated by the seniors as they are either not comfortable driving to Winnipeg, or they are not able to. Without this service, many seniors would be missing out on trips they once enjoyed. Yearly fundraising events provide opportunities for the seniors to be involved in planning, preparing, and implementing these events which in turn helps with one's sense of worth. The Centre's major funding comes from Southern Health & the City of Portage. Other income comes from facility rentals & membership fees which are \$30/year.

### **Project Description:**

With the number of activities, programs, and rentals that the HPAC has, it is imperative to provide consistent communication to all members, renters, and visitors of the center. The three main areas where Smart TV's will be situated: the main entrance, the auditorium, and the crocus room.

The digital signage displays will include (but not limited to): Upcoming Events, monthly menu, monthly birthdays, donor thank you, weather forecasts and any other pertinent information.

The digital signage displays will improve, enhance, and facilitate communication in a professional manner as well as engage visitors, capture attention, and enable us to provide important announcements including alerts for financial frauds and scams to prevent this from happening to seniors & relevant information to members, renters and visitors. The digital displays will enable us to have all information in one place as opposed to numerous static posters and signs. Communication will stream consistently and effectively throughout the Centre. Consistent and appropriate fonts will improve the ability of the aging population to read and understand messages more effectively. Having better communication throughout the Centre will improve experiences with consistent updated information. Any maintenance and/or costs on the system will be incurred by the Centre.

**Amount requested: \$8,625.00.**

**Amount recommended: \$8,625.00.**

### **Comments:**

This facility is used by many seniors in our community and as such the committee felt this was a good investment.

## **Name of organization: Metis Prairie Steppers**

**Background of Organization:** Metis Prairie Steppers We are a Metis square dance group consisting of 8 full time dancers, and 1 part time. The purpose of our group is to educate and share the dance of our culture to keep it alive and thriving throughout the country as well as others around the world who are educating themselves on what the Metis culture is. Our dance group provides high energy square dances, as well as workshops for any school, organization, or workplace interested in the lessons. In the spring of 2024, we are expanding the group and will start instructing regular dance lessons to youth in the public from ages 7 and up. As of right now and years prior, our dance group thrives through donations and honorariums for services when performances or workshops are provided. Our dance group members are Jenna Lambert, Demi Cote, Kelsey McLennan, Janelle Houle, Seth Puddicombe, Sara Lambert, Nick Lambert, Melissa St Goddard, and our current part time dancer is Sasha Thorsteinson.

**Project Description:** We are excited to propose the revitalization of a Metis dance group aimed at sharing our rich cultural heritage with the youth in our community. This initiative seeks to promote cultural awareness, foster a sense of identity, and provide a platform for artistic expression through traditional dance forms. The dance group will offer weekly classes in traditional Metis dance styles, including the Red River Jig, traditional and modern square dances, and the Sash Dance. Classes will be open to youth aged 7-18 and will be divided into beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels to accommodate varying skill levels Experienced instructors will lead the classes, providing cultural context and guidance on technique and performance. The program will be primarily funded through registration fees charged to participants. These fees will cover facility rentals, costume expenses, and administrative costs. In addition to registration fees, the program will seek financial support from donations and honorariums from performances. Participants will develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of Metis culture, fostering a sense of pride and belonging within the community. The program will provide a positive outlet for youth to express themselves creatively, build confidence, and develop valuable life skills such as discipline, perseverance, and teamwork. Public performances and cultural events will raise awareness about Metis culture and contribute to the cultural vibrancy of the community.

**Amount requested: \$3,097.00**

**Amount recommended: \$3,100.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee felt that 20-30 youth learning their cultural dance was a great thing. This group pitched at the 150 WWC event and were great.

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

### **Background of Organization:**

Our organization, Holiday Avenue Project (HAP) comprises of community volunteers, including seven volunteers who are board members. HAP began in 2020 when community members noted there were only summer flowers placed in the Saskatchewan meridian containers. The remainder of the year, these containers sat empty. Community members voiced disappointment for the lack of seasonal decor. In 2020 a group of ladies from the community brought their own winter decorations and created beautiful arrangements in the Saskatchewan meridian containers. In 2022 efforts were expanded and the Saskatchewan meridian containers were decorated for fall, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and St Patrick Day. HAP's wish for our community, particularly Saskatchewan Avenue, is to look like an adorned street seen in a Hallmark Movie. Our volunteers have decorated Saskatchewan meridian containers with seasonal decor, store front decor, pre-lit wreaths adorning lamp posts, and most recently, HAP purchased the shooting stars displayed on the causeway. In addition, planter boxes are seasonally decorated at Lion's Prairie Manor and Douglas Campbell Lodge for residents, visitors, and staff to enjoy. We wish to continue decorating, warming hearts, and nourishing souls. As a non-profit organization, we rely on grants and donations from local businesses to continue to decorate, spread joy and light.

### **Project Description:**

The project HAP is planning, is to add an additional three pre-lit shooting star designs to complete the shooting star lighting display on the causeway. HAP received excellent feedback from community members, and visitors, regarding the present display of the pre-lit shooting stars on the causeway. In addition, in collaboration with the mayor, Sharilyn Knox, HAP is planning to decorate the trees in Vopni park with Christmas lights. These projects will beautify the area and benefit those of any age. Both sites will offer a unique pedestrian experience. If approved for this grant, HAP would purchase the three shooting pre-lit stars and coordinate with the city to have the stars attached this fall, 2024. The lights to the trees in Vopni park would also be set up this fall, 2024. As a non-profit organization, any future decorating projects would be funded through the generous support of donations received by local businesses and local grants.

**Amount requested: \$14,230.00**

**Amount recommended: \$3,000.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee approved partial funding for the purchase the three shooting pre-lit stars to finish the Causeway. HAP has received several donations from others.

## **Name of organization: Prairie Fusion Arts & Entertainment**

### **Background of Organization:**

PFAE is an inclusive Centre of excellence for performing and visual arts in our community. We are an exciting and vibrant hub with a focus on the arts while simultaneously being dedicated to teaching, sharing, and celebrating artistic expression through our programs, performances and exhibitions.

Our programming and performances are chosen to reflect our unique position as the sole Centre for the arts in our region.

PFAE strives to bring a wide variety of performances and arts education to our audience, to ensure we are providing accessible and diverse opportunities to the public, while maintaining affordable fees in order to try to eliminate as many socioeconomic barriers as possible.

We are funded by all three levels of government as well as other funders and grants. We must supplement our funding with ticket sales, class registration and venue rentals as our funding is not sufficient on its own to sustain our operations. We have four levels of membership options (individual, family, artist and organization) which ranges from \$40-\$120/annual fee.

### **Project Description:**

The plan is to purchase multi-event (foldable) chairs in order to:

- 1) reduce wear and tear on the current theatre seating which was never intended for event seating
- 2) increase our capacity by 2 seats per table and
- 3) to reduce the arduous set-up and take down time with the larger, heavier chairs-thus reducing valuable staff and volunteer time.

Everyone will benefit from this project as it is intended mainly for PFAE to continue to provide quality venue space that can be adapted to the multitude of functions that are hosted each year. By increasing our rental capacity, we remain as a relevant, local and central location for non-profit and business enterprises. Many of our larger functions are expanding beyond our capacity and by matching event needs, we are helping them to achieve the maximum success (through ticket sales, fundraising etc.), which in turn only benefits the community as a whole. As the premier venue in Portage for rental space, we bring in folks who spend their dollars locally and help keep our economy vibrant and we can do so by continuing to adapt to a growing need for meeting/conference/performance and event space. The chairs have up to a 10 year warranty and individual chair sponsorship will be considered for future chair purchases. Chairs may also be available for non-profit organizations to rent for their off-site events to bring in revenue to sustain this capital purchase.

**Amount requested: \$15,000.00**

**Amount recommended: \$15,000.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee felt because many residents, agencies, etc use this facility, it is a good investment.

## **Name of organization: Westpark School**

### **Background of Organization:**

Westpark school is a privately funded independent school accredited by the Province of Manitoba. The school was established in 1987 and provides K-12 education for 237 students at present. Westpark is dedicated to preparing students for lifelong learning and service in the community, post-secondary studies, and society through a holistic educational experience focusing on physical well-being and academic excellence within a spiritual framework. The school has an athletics and music department to support physical health and the arts. Students attending Westpark are expected to participate in monthly service opportunities, with an option to participate in global impact opportunities at higher grade levels, including a mission trip to Mexico. Westpark School is a faith-based school but is open to everyone regardless of their personal beliefs. The school has a close relationship with local reserves namely Long Plain First Nation and Dakota Plains First Nation and approximately one-third of the students identify as First Nation. The school has tuition fees for its students but also a bursary program for those that need financial assistance. The bursary is funded by donations given to the school and through Prairie Alliance Church.

### **Project Description:**

The current play structure is in need of replacement. There are safety concerns including but not limited to rusting, fraying, splinters, and general wear. A new structure would be targeted for use by preschool to middle years children and have inclusive elements for people with different abilities. In addition, there is constant demand during recess for the two belt swings the school currently has. We want to expand this to four belt swings and a saucer swing. Everything would be placed on top of engineered wood fiber, which is a safe, durable, accessible, and cost-effective material. While the students at Westpark would most benefit from this project, we hope the space would also be used by the wider community outside of regular school hours. The west end of town currently lacks recreational space. There is a bike path along the north side of Portage la Prairie and a C3 zoned land less than a kilometer north of the school. This space being developed will only increase the need for a green space and play structure. We intend to start and complete construction during the summer of 2024. The removal of the existing play structure, excavation, grading, and supervised building of the structures is estimated to take 7 days with 6-10 volunteers. There are other grants being applied for and the school is also actively fundraising for the playground and reaching out to alumni and local businesses for support.

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

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

### **Comments:**

The committee felt this was a good project and supports many children who attend the school. CFPD has not given them much funding in the past.



## **Name of organization: Communities Building Youth Futures**

### **Background of Organization:**

Communities Building Youth Futures (CBYF) in Portage la Prairie launched in 2020 and is based out of the Portage la Prairie Community Revitalization Corporation (PCRC). Our vision is a youth-oriented, inclusive, and diverse community, where every young person thrives, feels supported and looks forward to the bright future. CBYF is funded by Tamarack Institute and the Government of Canada through the Goal Getters Program. The goal of the CBYF project is to improve the lives of youth aged 15-30 in Portage la Prairie and the surrounding area.

### **Project Description:**

CBYF and the Inkabah Youth Hub, aimed at creating a vibrant and inclusive space for young people in our community. The proposed renovations will transform the current facility into a dynamic hub that offers a wide range of programs, services, and resources tailored to meet the diverse needs of youth aged 15-30.

The project includes refurbishing the existing space to accommodate various activities such as mentoring programs, educational workshops, recreational activities, and community events. Additionally, we plan to upgrade the infrastructure to ensure accessibility and safety for all participants.

Through this project, we anticipate benefiting approximately 200 youth annually, providing them with a supportive environment where they can learn, grow, and connect with peers and mentors. The timeline for the renovations is projected to span six months, with completion expected by October 1, 2024.

Funding for the project will be sourced through a combination of grants, and in-kind contributions. We are committed to establishing sustainable funding streams to support the ongoing operations and maintenance of the youth hub, including seeking partnerships with local businesses and securing government funding opportunities.

Overall, our goal is to create a welcoming and empowering space that fosters the personal and social development of young people in our community, promoting positive outcomes and opportunities for success.

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

**Amount recommended: 0**

### **Comments:**

This application was incomplete after several requests, and they had no financial statements or quotes. The committee also felt because there are many other organizations that support youth, it is a duplication of services.

## **Name of organization: Rotary Club**

### **Background of Organization:**

Local community-based service organization with a strong volunteer base dedicated to community projects. The club is funded by membership dues and year-round fundraising. Support a number of local initiatives as well as national and international activities. A strong executive meets monthly and club meetings are weekly with a few events throughout the year.

### **Project Description:**

The Rotary Duck Pond was a project envisioned by the Rotary Club of Portage la Prairie in 2019. It began as a 4 year project in 2020 to rejuvenate a beloved community space. Phase 1, 2 and 3 have been completed, see attached progress report. The project is hands on with the club members and incorporates several community volunteers and stake holders. The benefits of the first 3 phases have been many. Increased wildlife presence, a backdrop for countless photography events - graduations, family pictures etc...). There have been numerous events that have taken place on the Rotary Deck with the pond as a background including many weddings and a citizenship ceremony. Phase 4 (2024) will complete the project by adding cemented bump outs, further signage, planting improvements and a display naming wall separating the current duck pond on the south from the natural duck pond nesting area to the north. The timeline to complete the project is Sept 30 2024. The Rotary Club of Portage is dedicated to maintaining the area with a 10-year MOU with the City of Portage la Prairie. Although used extensively throughout the summer, one only has to go for a walk on the weekends to see the amount and diversity of citizens and tourists using the area.

**Amount requested: \$20,000.00**

**Amount recommended: \$20,000.00**

### **Comments:**

The committee liked this project, and this will now finish this Duck Pond Project off.