

### **CIF Approves \$3.9 Million in Funding in Support of 358 Projects**

Saskatchewan communities will benefit from **358** grants totaling **\$3,985,127** from the Community Initiatives Fund's (CIF) February 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> deadlines. These grants will contribute to the wellbeing of 133 communities across Saskatchewan. For the health and safety of all, programs are to adhere to current provincial public health orders and recommendations.

Through its **Community Grant Program's** April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, CIF approved **\$2,966,134** in support of **122** grants, for programs that contribute to the wellbeing of children and youth, families, and communities, benefiting an estimated 205,000 participants. These programs are crucial, as they provide opportunities for children and youth to gain knowledge, skills, and supports to develop positive mental health, self-esteem, and healthy lifestyle behaviours, and ensure families have access to supports and resources to create healthy and caring environments. Additionally, **236 Summer Grant** programs were approved totaling **\$1,018,993**, to support camps and day programs offering positive recreation, arts, culture, and learning opportunities for an estimated 59,000 children and youth during the summer months.

Community organizations are critical contributors to quality of life and wellbeing in our province, providing a broad range of programs, services, and opportunities available to individuals of all ages and their families. Our world looks very different as communities respond to the many unforeseen challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonprofits across the province have been busy adapting their programming in order to continue to provide these imperative services and supports to communities.

"At a time like this, the Community Initiatives Fund can have an immediate and profound impact on individuals, families and their communities across the province," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Gene Makowsky said. "Getting this funding out as community nonprofits and volunteers are adapting and revising their plans, means that many children and their families across our province will have a much brighter summer to look forward to."

"The pandemic has affected all people and sectors in Saskatchewan, including the nonprofit sector. We extend our sincere gratitude to all of the dedicated staff and volunteers navigating these unexpected challenges presented by the pandemic," shared Tracey Mann, Executive Director of the Community Initiatives Fund. "We recognize the efforts that have gone in to dramatically adapting programming and continuing to provide services and supports to communities across Saskatchewan."

The CIF is a Special Purpose Fund created through *The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act* and managed by a government appointed Board of community volunteers.

A complete list of the grant recipients and their projects, as well as information about the Community Initiatives Fund can be found at [www.cifsask.org](http://www.cifsask.org).

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