



For Immediate Release:
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CIF Approves \$2.6 Million in Funding in Support of 271 Projects

Saskatchewan communities will benefit from **271** grants totaling **\$2,617,814** from the Community Initiatives Fund's (CIF) February 1st and April 1st deadlines. These grants will contribute to the wellbeing of 40 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 1st deadline, CIF approved **\$1,872,244** in support of **105** grants, for programs that contribute to the wellbeing of children and youth, families, and communities, benefiting an estimated 39,832 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. Programs also provide support for nonprofit staff, Board members, and volunteers to improve program delivery, governance and leadership, and for individuals to become involved as active citizens, volunteers, and community leaders.

Additionally, **166 Summer Grant programs** were approved totaling **\$745,570** to support camps and day programs offering positive recreation, arts, culture, and learning opportunities for an estimated 41,251 children and youth during the summer months.

The CIF is extremely grateful to the Government of Saskatchewan for providing an Emergency Pandemic Response Gaming Grant of \$4 million for the 2021-22 fiscal year, allowing CIF to continue to support community-based organizations in their delivery of programs and services across Saskatchewan. This grant will help offset the loss of more than \$8 million the CIF would normally receive due to the temporary closure of Casinos Regina and Moose Jaw from COVID-19.

"The Community Initiatives Fund has an immediate financial impact on individuals, families and their communities across the province," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Laura Ross said. "Distributing this funding while community nonprofits and volunteers are adapting and revising their plans, means that many children and their families across Saskatchewan will be able to enjoy an eventful summer as our province is set to reopen."

"Community organizations are critical contributors to wellbeing in our province, providing programs, services, and opportunities to individuals of all ages and their families," shared Tracey Mann, Executive Director of the Community Initiatives Fund. "With the many challenges of the past year, accessibility to those programs and services is especially important, and CIF funding ensures organizations can continue to offer programming in response to community needs."

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.

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