

Get in on the Community Fund for Canada's 150th

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

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As Canada celebrates its 150th birthday the Selkirk and District Community Foundation (SDCF) is looking for your ideas on how to mark the historic occasion in a truly Canadian way.

To do that, the Foundation is seeking applicants for the Community Fund for Canada's 150th – a 50-50 matching grant that will be awarded to one or more

Canada Revenue Agency registered charities who submit their plan for a local project that recognizes the milestone year.

Bev Clegg, SDCF Executive Director, said the one-time fund will support projects that build, inspire and encourage.

"It's not about a party," Clegg said.

"The Community Fund for Canada's 150th is more about building community than it is about throwing a party at the local community centre."

Projects should aim to build vibrant and healthy communities with the broadest possible engagement of all Canadians. They should inspire a deeper understanding about the people, places and events that shape our communities and country and they should encourage participation in community initiatives, activities and events to mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

Ultimately, the selected projects will lead to a multitude of outcomes including increased belonging, inclusion, reconciliation and connection within communities and throughout Canada.

Kelly Lewis, SDCF chairperson, said she's confident Selkirk, St. Andrews and St. Clements residents will be able to put together projects that align with the Fund's requirements.

"Every part of Canada is unique and offers its own chapter in the country's wonderful story and this region has plenty to contribute to that story," Lewis said.



“The people that call Selkirk, St. Andrews and St. Clements home are a diverse and welcoming bunch, people who have deep roots here and others who are just planting their seed now. I’m confident some of them will come forward with projects that celebrate our spirit, our sense of belonging and our commitment to community.”

Clegg said local groups might already be working on a project that fits the criteria and she encouraged them to apply.

“It doesn’t have to be something that you thought up specifically for this Fund,” she said.

“You might already be working on a project that fits in nicely with these parameters. If that’s the case, groups should apply.”

The Community Fund for Canada’s 150th are matching grants. The applicant must provide, in cash or in kind, the matching amount of the grant. For example, if you apply for a \$2,000 grant, you must contribute \$2,000 as well, either in cash or in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours, donated space or equipment, professional services or other contributions, valued at a reasonable market rate.

For more information on the Community Fund for Canada’s 150th, or to fill out an online application, go to www.communityfoundations.ca/cfc150.

Deadline for applications is Feb. 28. Projects must be completed by the end of January 2018.

For more information:

Contact SDCF Executive Director - Bev Clegg; 204-785-9755 or selkirkfoundation@shaw.ca

The SDCF: Here for Good was founded in 1995. It has \$8.9 million in assets and provides grants to community organizations from the interest off the assets. Since inception the interest has allowed the SDCF to give nearly \$2 million to over 125 local non-profit organizations throughout Selkirk, St. Andrews and St. Clements. The SDCF creates different ways for people to donate by offering a range of different funds that support everything from books for babies to furniture for palliative care patients. SDCF also helps connect donors with community wishes and dreams by allowing families or organizations to create their own endowment funds dedicated to a specific service, issue or project they care about and want to support for a long time. In December 2016 SDCF granted \$86,595 to 16 local organizations, ensuring that the funds touch a lot of people.