

Grants give local organizations a big boost

Selkirk and District Community Foundation hands out over \$249K

By Lindsey Enns

Brand new red carpets now help warmly welcome visitors to the Growing Years Family Resource Centre, thanks to a generous grant from the Selkirk and District Community Foundation (SDCF).

"We have about 17,000 visits to our centre every year," said Growing Years executive director Terrie Moar. "We actually got matching mats and when you walk in now it just feels so good."

Moar said when they found out the centre would be receiving a \$12,050 grant from the SDCF she couldn't say "thank you" enough.

"It means everything to us," Moar said with a smile. "Our organization has been around for about 19 years and because ... we rely on grants for everything those grants go to the absolute necessities."

Selkirk's Growing Years Family Resource Centre was among the 44 other local and area projects and organizations to receive a grant from the SDCF this year.

This year the foundation formally handed out grants totalling \$249,506 during their annual grant awards night at Selkirk United Church last Wednesday evening.

"It's one of the biggest years ever," SDCF executive director Beverley Clegg said adding the foundation is now entering its 22nd year.

Last year the foundation handed out \$243,305 to 43 different projects and organizations.

Although those in attendance last Wednesday evening already knew they would be receiving a grant, the event was all about bringing the donors and grant recipients together.

"It's always a great community event," Clegg said.

Moar said the funds they received are going towards helping spruce up their place, including purchasing new matching carpets, new towel dispens-

ers, furniture for the play areas and filing cabinets.

"Now we can better serve our families," she said.

Moar added the biggest misconception about Growing Years, which is located at 216 Manitoba Ave., is that they are a daycare, which they are not.

"We work with parents and children together," she said, adding all the programs they offer are free.

For more information, visit growing-years.info.

Other projects and organizations that received grants this year include the Manitoba Archeological Society, which received \$10,000 for their dig in Lockport, Centennial School received \$7,500 for the development of an outdoor playground and Nova House's Helping Kids Heal Program also received \$5,000 just to name a few.

For more information about the Selkirk and District Community Foundation, visit sdcf.ca.



RECORD PHOTOS BY LINDSEY ENNS

ABOVE: Growing Years Family Resource Centre executive director Terrie Moar stands in front of the Selkirk centre last Thursday morning. The local resource centre was among 44 projects and organizations to receive a grant from the Selkirk and District Community Foundation this year. BELOW: Grant recipients take the stage during the Selkirk and District Community Foundation's annual grant awards at Selkirk United Church last Wednesday evening.

