

Christmas comes early to Selkirk & District Community Foundation

Almost \$40,000 raised for the Foundation during 24 Hour Giving Challenge



Santa's helpers came a little early for the Selkirk and District Community Foundation this year.

The wonderful people of Selkirk, St. Andrews and St. Clements kicked off the

season of giving on Saturday November 19 in a big way by donating \$37,855 to the Foundation during Endow Manitoba's 24 Hour Giving Challenge. With a top up of \$2,000 from The Winnipeg Foundation, the day's grand total donated was \$39,855.

The Winnipeg Foundation offers \$1 for every \$5 donated to SDCF's Community Fund, to a maximum of \$2,000.

Kelly Lewis, Chairperson of SDCF, said once again, people showed their giving spirit and their dedication to their home communities.

"We know people in Selkirk, St. Andrews and St. Clements are proud of their communities and we know they are generous and caring, they prove it year in and year out," Lewis said.

"And when the Foundation takes part in the 24 Hour Giving Challenge, we know our friends in the community are going to show up. They show up because they care and they want to contribute to all the good causes the Foundation supports. We can't thank them enough."

Lewis said they received donations from people outside of Selkirk, and even from outside the province, and she's thankful to those people as well. She said there are people who have either left the community or who have some connection here and their generosity doesn't go unnoticed.

The SDCF has participated in Endow Manitoba's 24 Hour Giving Challenge for all three years of its existence, and for the first two, our communities raised the most money in the province. This year we were No. 2, behind a tremendous display of generosity in Pinawa, where their Foundation raised more than \$100,000.

Across the province, \$497,115 was raised, demonstrating that the people of Manitoba have retained their title as the most generous in Canada.

Lewis said it was a huge day, and the real winners are Manitobans who benefit from the work foundations across the province do to support groups and individuals.

The 24 Hour Giving Challenge was once again held at the Gaynor Family Regional Library and Lewis said the library is a perfect location for the Challenge. People enjoy the library and they like meeting up with others to socialize and enjoy a cup of coffee. It's a nice relaxed setting for those in a philanthropic mood, she said.

"We thank the Gaynor Family Regional Library once again for inviting us, and the public, into their warm and hospitable environment, to come together and raise not just money but community spirit," Lewis said.

"The Library plays a key role in the success of the 24 Hour Giving Challenge."

For more information contact the Selkirk & District community Foundation at 204-785-9755 or through email at selkirkfoundation@shaw.ca

Photo Cutline 1: Audrey Zieroth and Erna Iwanoczko, with SDCF Board Member Stan Halbesma, help the community by making a donation on 24 Hour Giving Challenge Day.

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 over \$1.9 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. Most recently SDCF granted nearly \$86,600 to 15 different organizations, ensuring that the funds touch a lot of people.