

Belonging is Vital

Endow Manitoba
YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NETWORK



Selkirk+District
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

HERE FOR GOOD



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA

A swing where everyone belongs

Happy Thought School student Kyrie is excited to swing with her friends.



wheelchair to put them in the swing. With We Go, a ramp takes the person and their chair onto the swing, and a bar secures them in place.

And friends can be on the swing with them. They can sit across from each other, look at each other, smile and chat.

“That was the piece that really sold us on the swing, the independence and inclusiveness and our students can be together,” Caughell said.

“It’s an opportunity for those students to play, belong and thrive.”

Caughell hopes people from the region will use the swing as well. She says it would be wonderful if folks from seniors’ residences in Selkirk would come over.

The school’s PAC has been amazing she said, putting all its fundraising efforts towards the swing. Donations are still being accepted.

“We are so lucky to have a PAC that says, what’s your goal, how do you see this community and what can we do to support that. They have been fantastic,” Caughell said.

at Happy Thought, they move over to East Selkirk Middle School (ESMS) and still use our playground, so that’s K-8,” Caughell said.

“Beyond that, these families live in our community and what we’ve really been talking about lately is that Happy Thought and ESMS are the hub of East Selkirk. They always have been.”

There is no accessible playground equipment in East Selkirk and Caughell says as existing equipment ages out, the school is thinking how they can do better when they replace it.

The We Go Swing is an investment and will allow for true independence. The alternatives require someone to help the person out of the

Inclusion is about more than just removing physical barriers. It means creating an environment where everyone feels they belong and that they can reach their full potential and participate freely with respect and dignity.

Happy Thought School and its Parent Advisory Council (PAC) have been raising money to purchase a We Go Swing so that everyone can join in the fun. A SDCF spring grant has contributed \$15,000 to the effort.

Louise Caughell is the Vice Principal at the school, and she says in the past 10 years they’ve had six students who access wheelchairs for mobility.

“That means those six students still live in our community. Even if they’re not

The Selkirk & District Community Foundation supports and serves on Treaty One Land and the home of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, OjiCree, Dakota, Dene and Metis peoples. We acknowledge that our Indigenous peoples are the stewards and guardians of this land. As a community and workplace that embraces the values of diversity and inclusion, we honour and celebrate our Indigenous nations, their traditional knowledge and their contributions to all our communities. We acknowledge the harms of our shared history on Indigenous people, and that we pursue a path forward that is inclusive and supportive of reconciliation within all our communities.

Save the Date

Citizen of the Year 2026: Nomination deadline: Thursday, October 1, 2026

Endow Manitoba Giving Challenge Week: November 9 – 15, 2026

Grant Application Deadlines:

Thursday, October 1, 2026 + Monday, March 1, 2027



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Selkirk & District
Community
Foundation



Selkirk & District Community Foundation board and staff

Chair's Message

At the heart of every strong community is a simple but powerful truth: belonging matters. It is the thread that connects us, the foundation that allows individuals and groups to know they are supported and that the work they do matters.

As Chair of the Selkirk & District Community Foundation, I am continually inspired by the generosity and compassion that is at the heart of our regions. Together we are helping to build a community where everyone has the opportunity to find their place, purpose and ability to discover their true sense of belonging. When people feel seen, valued, and connected, communities grow stronger together.

The fall and spring granting cycles highlighted a variety of ways many are reaching out to foster a sense of belonging in our communities. Youth For Christ is well on its way to building a new and welcoming safe space for school age children. Happy Thought School's parent advisory committee identified the need for an inclusive We Go Swing that will make sure all its students will feel that sense of belonging.

And the Red River Basin Commission continues to care for our fine feathered friends by creating a healthy environment that supports a natural bird habitat.

Our most recent Vital Signs Report identified numerous ways we can all contribute to the wellbeing of our communities. That sense of belonging and collaboration has most recently been experienced in the lively and productive conversations that have been shared at our local Food Summits. Bringing together like minded groups has proven that together we can make a real difference to those who live with food insecurities.

As you read through this community report, we invite you to reflect on what belonging means to you and how together, we can continue to be Here For Good!

Regards,
Deborah Vitt

Activating Vital Signs in the community

When the Selkirk & District Community Foundation released its second Vital Signs report in October 2025, the goal was that the data and information contained within its pages would come alive through actions and decisions made by community organizations.

It's happening.

This past spring, the Foundation facilitated two Food Security Summits, bringing together organizations from throughout the Selkirk, St. Andrews and St. Clements region to promote partnerships and spark discussions about how those in need of food can be better served.

The Foundation's David Thorne was blown away by the participation, the caring and the desire for groups to come together for the greater good.

"I'm always thrilled to see the passion from the commitment of every single person in this room," Thorne said.

It's the people on the front lines who do the heavy lifting, Thorne said, and while the Foundation facilitated the summits, based on a Vital Signs recommendation, it is now passing into the capable hands of community leaders.

You can bet a copy of Vital Signs is sitting on Ashley Henry's desk at the Selkirk Community Renewal Corporation. Henry says she uses the report as a guiding document to assist in decisions for various funding applications.

Henry was a member of Vital Signs Steering Committee and she's now following the same data collection process as the Renewal Corporation works on its five-year Neighbourhood Renewal Plan.

"We will be utilizing similar methods of collecting feedback from the community through surveys and consultation and then reviewing the information received to see how it aligns with the Vital Signs Report," Henry said.

For SDCF Executive Director Meredith Boerchers, knowing that people are flipping through the pages of the report and making use of the data is a win.

"When someone picks up a Vital Signs report and uses it to inform decisions in their day-to-day work it's gratifying for everyone at the Foundation, as well as all the people who came together to make the report a reality."

If you need a copy of Vital Signs, email selkirkfoundation@shaw.ca.



SDCF's Food Security Summits have been direct results of the findings of the Vital Signs Report

Donate Today!

and be a part of the **HERE for GOOD** team
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OR with a cheque addressed to
Selkirk & District Community Foundation
200 Eaton Ave., Selkirk, MB R1A 0W6

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1.204.785.9755 or email
selkirkfoundation@shaw.ca



Teresa Galashan outside the new Youth for Christ building under construction on Clandeboye Avenue

Bigger and better new space for YFC

When a fire destroyed Selkirk's Youth for Christ (YFC) building in September 2024, there were many decisions to be made about the future, but one thing was certain – there would be a future for the hundreds of kids who found acceptance and belonging at the centre.

Teresa Galashan, Program Director at YFC, says an electrical fire in the kitchen meant the structure needed to be gutted but when a structural engineer determined the foundation was no good, the decision was made to build a new facility.

Since January 2025 they've been working towards raising enough money to do that, and she's happy to report they are almost at their goal. The Selkirk & District Community Foundation granted \$10,000 towards the new building through the generosity of the Gaynor Family Fund.

"We've been actively (applying for grants and fundraising) for a year and a few months. It's gone better than we could have hoped. We're so thankful," Galashan said.

"It means a lot to us that our community is standing behind what we're doing and sees the importance of it and wants to come alongside us."

Netley-Libau Marsh is for the birds, and that's a good thing

The Red River Basin Commission has been working hard to restore the health of the Netley-Libau Marsh. With 2.7 square kilometres of new habitat forming in recent years, Chris Adams, project coordinator of the renewal project with RRBC, says they're trying to reverse losses of vegetation that have occurred over the last hundred years.

"Our focus has been on the vegetation but ultimately it's based on this assumption that the vegetation is going to be used as habitat for birds and fish and mammals and amphibians," Adams said.

This spring, Selkirk & District Community Foundation granted \$6,620 for acoustic devices that Adams says will help identify birds in the restoration site.

"We're really interested in using these devices to figure out what

birds are using which parts of this new habitat and at what times, in a way that's accessible to the public and hopefully helps to inspire people's appreciation and understanding." Adams said.

The devices will upload audio to Birdweather, an online map that anyone can access. You click on the Netley-Libau Marsh location and you'll see what birds have been there on a specific date and hear their calls.

The grant is supported by the Parker Sutherland Memorial Fund, and for Brandon Sutherland, Parker's son and SDCF board member, the project is impactful.

"This initiative holds a special place in our hearts, as the marsh, the Red River, and the south basin of Lake Winnipeg have been woven into many of our family's most cherished memories over the years," Brandon said.

"We know Parker would be looking down on us with a smile, proud that his memory can play a small part in helping restore and protect the marsh and beaches he loved. Dad had a deep appreciation for the outdoors and for the natural beauty of our region, and it is incredibly important to our family that his legacy continues through initiatives that create a lasting and positive impact."



Adams, left, and the RRBC have been restoring the marsh in recent years.

2025-2026 COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM



The Foundation has provided a grant to *Hearthstone Community Group* to improve its community garden space

Belonging is Vital

2025-2026 was another amazing year of supporting vital charitable projects with community grants. This year, 142 projects/scholarships and bursaries received a combined total of **\$798,267** including immediate granting. Two times a year we welcome charitable organizations in our region – the R.M. of St. Andrews, the R.M. of St. Clements, and the City of Selkirk – to submit proposals with details on how the Foundation can help them succeed in the work they do to make our community vital.

Organization & Project	Awarded
Bud & Doreen Oliver Fund and Roy & June Gilbert Family Fund, Homes for All Fund and Community Fund	
Nova House – Long Term Housing Initiative	\$ 19,467
Children's Fund & Community Fund	
Hand in Hand Daycare – Equipment Enhancements	\$ 1,931
Curtis Niemi Legacy Fund & Community Fund	
Gaynor Family Regional Library – Expansion Project	\$ 936
Endowment for the Arts Fund	
City of Selkirk – Garry Theatre (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,356
Helen and Wayne Sutherland Fund (Immediate Giving) & Community Fund	
Marine Museum of Manitoba (Selkirk) Inc. – Security Enhancement	\$ 2,800

Organization & Project	Awarded
Community Fund	
Lakeshore Height Cottage Association – Accessibility Enhancements	\$ 15,000
Seasonal Food Security Programs – Charity of Choice	\$ 15,000
East Beaches Regional Complex – Outdoor Improvements	\$ 10,500
Hearthstone Community Group – Community Garden Social Hub	\$ 10,000
Nova House – Nova House Office Relocation	\$ 8,070
Twice Over Inc. – Relocation and Development Project	\$ 8,070
Stony Point Community Centre – Efficiency Upgrades	\$ 6,664
Red River North Tourism – Gidoojjaakominaan onjii Dibaajimowinan – From Our Spirits Come Stories	\$ 5,000
LSEC Adult Learning Centre – Employability Training	\$ 4,750
Ronald McDonald House Manitoba – HVAC Improvements	\$ 4,800
Knox Presbyterian Church – Knox Community Table	\$ 2,760
Selkirk Community Renewal Corporation – Mastermind Network	\$ 2,500
Betel Home Foundation – Hygienic Bulletin Boards	\$ 2,485
Youth Connections (Charity of Choice) – Take Action Plans	\$ 2,000
Children's Rehabilitation Foundation – Adaptive Equipment	\$ 1,659
St. Andrews Heritage Centre – Point of Sale Equipment	\$ 850

Organization & Project	Awarded
Gaynor Family Fund & Community Fund	
Happy Thought School Parent Advisory Council – Inclusive We-Go Swing	\$ 15,000
Selkirk Community Renewal Corporation – Youth Life Skills Program	\$ 10,000
Jeanne & Dexter Harvey Fund and Rob Cox Memorial Fund & Community Fund	
Inclusion Selkirk – Riverside Grill Clean Air	\$ 25,000
Kinsmen, Kinnette & K-40 Clubs of Selkirk Fund and Community Fund	
Red River Churches Refugee Team – Refugee Family Reunification	\$ 10,000
Kirstin's Walk for Kids Fund	
East Selkirk Early Learning Centre – Program Enhancements	\$ 1,710
Gaynor Family Regional Library – Expansion Project (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,500

Organization & Project	Awarded
Gaynor Family Fund	
United for Literacy – Youth Literacy and Numeracy Program	\$ 15,000
Youth For Christ Selkirk – Drop-In Centre Building Expenses	\$ 10,000
Growing Years Family Resource Centre – Safety Updates	\$ 7,459
Hand in Hand Daycare – Storage and Equipment Upgrades	\$ 5,746
St. Andrews Childcare Inc. – Play Yard Enhancement	\$ 5,000
Lockport School – Life Skills Kitchen	\$ 5,000
East Selkirk Early Learning Centre – Equipment Enhancements	\$ 3,075
Interlake Eastern Health Foundation – Camp Stepping Stones 2026	\$ 2,500
Lord Selkirk Education Centre – Food Security Program (Charity of Choice)	\$ 2,500
Nova House – Food Security Program (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,500
Nova House – Power of PJ's (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,500

Organization & Project	Awarded
Kurt Fey Memorial Fund (Immediate Giving)	
Lord Selkirk School Division – Royals Varsity Basketball Program	\$ 500

Organization & Project	Awarded
Kusner Family Fund (Immediate Giving)	
St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church – Cemetery (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,000



Holiday Alley is back and its 2026 program of meaningful Indigenous cultural experiences will be supported by a Foundation grant. Photo: Red River North Tourism

Organization & Project	Awarded
Local Environmental Action Fund	
City of Selkirk – Environmental Projects (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,899
Local Leaders Fund	
Manitoba Municipal Administrators (Charity of Choice) – Capacity Building for Local Leaders	\$ 2,145
McLeary Family Fund with Immediate Giving	
All Saints Anglican Church (Whytefold) (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,400
Michele & Gary Polinuk Promoting Health Fund & Community Fund	
Lions Foundation of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario – Mobile Vision and Hearing Screening	\$ 5,000
Richard & Ruth Konzelman Fund and Olive & Bill, Joseph and Michael Cholosky Music Fund & Community Fund	
Artists in Healthcare Manitoba Inc. – Music for Mental Health	\$ 12,000
Parker Sutherland Memorial Fund & Community Fund	
Red River Basin Commission – Netley-Libau Marsh Bird Initiative	\$ 6,620
Polinuk Family Fund	
Selkirk & District Curling Club – Facility Flooring Renewal	\$ 34,000
Altered Minds Inc. – Smartphones for Seniors	\$ 10,000
City of Selkirk Fire Department – Thermal Imaging Camera	\$ 7,000
Gordon Howard Centre – Website Build	\$ 4,000
Prince & Holly & Harry Legacy for Dogs Fund (Immediate Giving)	
Manitoba Underdogs Rescue (Charity of Choice)	\$ 1,000
RM of St. Andrews Fund	
St. Andrews Community Club – Canteen Renovation	\$ 15,000
RM of St. Andrews Fund & Community Fund	
Clandeboye Community Club – Flooring and Seating Upgrade	\$ 8,950
RM of St. Clements Fund with Immediate Giving	
Manitoba Highland Gathering – Market Equipment Upgrade	\$ 3,321
Sean Nicol Legacy Fund	
Gaynor Family Regional Library – Expansion Project (Charity of Choice)	\$ 6,645
Thomas Sill Manitoba Fund (Immediate Giving) & Community Fund	
Gaynor Family Regional Library – Expansion Project (first of two years)	\$ 50,000

Organization & Project	Awarded
Designated and Agency Funds	
Selkirk Heritage Endowment Fund	\$ 50,258
Edith Schofield Estate – Supporting the St. Amant Centre	\$ 49,175
Selkirk Hospital Fund	\$ 46,656
Lord Selkirk School Division Scholarship Foundation Fund	\$ 19,658
Chief Peguis Heritage Park Fund	\$ 16,851
Selkirk Parks Endowment Fund	\$ 13,060
SDCF Administrative Support Fund- Buhr Family Endowment Initiative	\$ 12,108
Palliative Care Fund	\$ 11,875
Selkirk Recreation Endowment Fund	\$ 7,306
Selkirk Accessible Transit Endowment Fund	\$ 6,556
Marine Museum of MB- Selkirk Fund (Agency)	\$ 6,499
Our Daily Bread Endowment Fund	\$ 6,114
Lawrence Paquin Estate Fund	\$ 5,043
Selkirk Youth Hockey Association – Supporting KidSport Manitoba East	\$ 2,194
St. George Wakefield Anglican Church Fund (Agency)	\$ 2,074
Amma's Bookshelf Fund – a gift of the book "Good Night Moon" for every baby born at the SRHC	\$ 1,665
Mooring-Griffioen Library Fund – Supporting Gaynor Family Regional Library	\$ 1,620
Inclusion Selkirk Futures Fund (Agency)	\$ 1,555
Travel Kit Fund- Supporting LSSD students/ classrooms with learning opportunities through travel	\$ 1,319

*A Foundation grant will support Selkirk Community Renewal Program's Youth Life Skills Program.
Photo: Selkirk Community Renewal Corporation*



Organization & Project	Awarded
Designated and Agency Funds (continued)	
Libri Fund – Supporting the Gaynor Family Regional Library	\$ 1,291
Leslie & Marguerite McRae Fund- Cemetery Fund of St. George's Wakefield Anglican Church	\$ 965
John Mytz Memorial Fund- Supporting Gaynor Family Regional Library	\$ 577
Youth in Philanthropy Fund	\$ 428

Western Canada Summer Games Legacy Fund	
Selkirk Canoe and Kayak Centre – Racing Kayaks	\$ 7,218
KidSport – East (Charity of Choice)	\$ 5,429
St Andrews Gymnastics – Equipment	\$ 3,337
Basketball Manitoba – Targeted Athlete Program – East (Female)	\$ 3,000

Scholarships & Bursaries	
Gaynor Family Education Fund (27)	\$ 52,218
Vicki Cielen Education Fund (2)	\$ 6,750
Gilhuly Family Education Fund	\$ 6,750
Dare to Dream Education Bursary (Nova House)	\$ 4,000
Bob Jefferson Century 21 - Jefferson & Associates Realty Ltd. Bursary	\$ 3,650
Selkirk Youth Hockey Association Education Fund (2)	\$ 2,800
Micky Hannesson Scholarship Fund	\$ 2,750
Rotary Anns Education Fund (2)	\$ 2,000
Fred Jensen Memorial Welding Program Bursary (Includes Immediate Giving)	\$ 1,650
Knights of Columbus Selkirk Council #6150 Education Fund	\$ 1,400
St. Andrews Airport Aviation Fund	\$ 1,350
McLeary Family Education Fund	\$ 1,350
Ernest & Helga Kromrei Memorial Bursary	\$ 1,100
Robert John Jefferson Education Fund	\$ 1,100
Elizabeth Neskar Bursary	\$ 1,000
Selkirk & District Community Foundation Bursary	\$ 1,000
Lily Pad Cruisers Car Club Fund	\$ 1,000
LSSD Trustee's Bursary (Immediate Giving)	\$ 750
LSRCS Parents for Safe Grad Bursary/ Scholarship	\$ 750
Sharon Chanas Memorial Scholarship	\$ 500
Murray Hamm Memorial Bursary (Immediate Giving)	\$ 500
Graeme H. Lowden Memorial Bursary	\$ 500

**Total Grants Awarded:
\$ 798,267**

Thank you to all donors

Donations received April 1, 2025–March 31, 2026

For a full listing of donations made in Honour Of and In Memory Of, to the donors fund of choice, please visit our website at sdcf.ca



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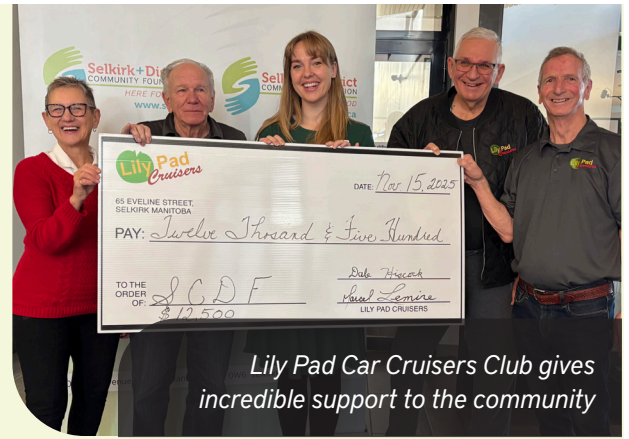
Every newly created fund makes a difference in our communities by bringing sustainable support to projects and organizations in our region. Those new funds and gifts made through a will or an estate are:

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- Sherry Kaniuga
- Shirley Kocay
- Shirley Kowalchuk
- Shirley Muir
- Siegfried & Angelica Banmann
- St. Andrews Airport Inc.
- St. George Anglican Church Wakefield
- Stan Halbesma
- Stanley Rybuck
- Stefan & Mona Jones
- Stephen McMillan
- Susan Claire Johnson
- Susan Gear
- Susan Rusk
- Sutherland Ave. Neighbors
- Tataryn Brother's Inc.
- Ted Muir
- Teri Starsiak
- Terry Christiansen
- Terry Zamatis
- The Frank H. Hori Charitable Foundation
- Thomas Beggs
- Thomas Muir
- Tom & Pat Foulis
- Tracy Slyker
- Tristan Dreilich
- United Way Agencies
- Walter & Agnes Janzen
- Wanitta Stewart
- Wayne & Linda Adams
- Wendy & Hugh Ross
- Wendy Stephenson
- Wes & Leanne Gilbert
- William & Gail Bodman
- William & Peg Findlater
- William & Shirley Jefferson
- William Burbank
- Wilma Ratkowski
- Winnipeg Foundation
- Zelda Greenwood

**Passed away during this giving year*

In Memory of You

- Russell Skalesky
- Donald Gordon
- Eric Davidson
- Roy Whawell
- Evelyn Bracken
- Ronald Corrigan
- Glen "Michael" Burzuik
- John (Curly) Domitruk

This past year the communities of Selkirk, R.M. of St Andrews and R.M. of St Clements lost some very special citizens, loving leaders, volunteers, philanthropist and friends. Their thoughtful families asked that donations be made in their memory to the Selkirk & District Community Foundation. We honour their memories and we are forever thankful for their gifts.

Fun Foundation Facts

Belonging is Vital and it all start with donors whose gifts lead to grants, that ensures the community will be "Here for Good"

368

Number of Donors
April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

\$798,267

Grants and Scholarships Awarded
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

80

and growing
Number of Funds

142

Number of projects and students awards supported

\$20.8 Million

Net Assets
June 30, 2025

\$623,519

Donations Received
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

The annual financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2025 have been reviewed by BDO Canada LLP, Chartered Accountants. These annual financial statements, along with accompanying notes and the review engagement, can be found on the Foundation website at sdcf.ca | To have a copy please call 204-785-9755 or email fm.manager@sdcf.ca