



WOOD BUFFALO
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



working together
for a **VIBRANT, HEALTHY,**
and **JUST COMMUNITY.**

ABOUT WBCF

Since 2017, we have valued collaboration and creative solutions to issues facing our communities. We continue to build relationships with individuals, families, and organizations locally and across Canada to increase our impact through endowments and granting for Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo.

We offer a variety of Fund types including endowments for general community support; donor directed funds that support a specific social profit(s); donor advised which support general causes such as youth, homelessness, or arts and culture, etc. And, most recently, we have added the ability to accept non-endowed funds.

As a community foundation, we are flexible in how we receive donations (stocks, life insurance, real estate, bequests, etc.) and in specific requests from donors as to how those donations are to be used.

WBCF is proud to be a part of over 200 community foundations across Canada. This network allows us to tap into national funding programs and an array of community-centric approaches to build communities where everyone belongs.

HONOURARY PATRON OF WOOD BUFFALO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani, AOE B.Sc., LL.D (hon)
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta.

Wood Buffalo Community Foundation warmly welcomes the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Her Honour Salma Lakhani as the Honourary Patron of WBCF.

We look forward to hosting Her Honour in Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo in 2023.

VITAL PARTNERS

Relationships with partners are vital to continued growth and learning.

We value all the contributions and support that these organizations provide.

Thank you!

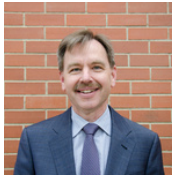


WBCF MESSAGE

We continue to grow our donor base and expand awareness of WBCF's mission to enhance the quality of life within Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo.

Last year, WBCF presented \$242,000 to 13 local social programs and initiatives. Social profits share outcomes of increased family connections; seniors feeling more secure and involved in community; and children enjoying sport and social activities.

One of the critical features of a community foundation is the flexibility to activate when community needs arise and to inspire philanthropy. The FMWB Ukrainian Support Fund is a great example, raising over \$48,000 to provide immediate support to Ukrainians making Fort McMurray home. Thank you to all who have given so generously in 2022.



Tony Mankowski
Board Chair

Endowed funds continue to grow and now total \$5.4 million. Although a moderate loss of just over 3 percent last year in the investment portfolio is not desirable, long-term gains put us in a good position to continue expanding the total endowment pool and increase annual community granting.



Gaylene Weidlich
Executive Director

Launched in October, the VitalSigns 2022 report and data hub (vitalsignsfmwb.com) provide a high-level view of the region and are currently used by social profits, organizations, and individuals to identify community issues, guide granting priorities, and inspire collective action and coordinated giving.

As we celebrate our sixth year, we are very pleased to welcome: four new Directors – Brad Lucier, Sandra Efu, Cynthia Shelley, and Nicole Bourque-Bouchier to strengthen the Board and WBCF's mission; and Lisa Vigilance to the Office and Community Liaison Coordinator role. The Board and staff are excited to build strong relationships within the region and strengthen community-based philanthropy.

On behalf of the Foundation and the communities we serve, thank you to all donors, social profits, and community supporters. Together, we are investing today, for a stronger tomorrow.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Wood Buffalo Community Foundation recognizes that we live, work and serve communities on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and traditional meeting grounds of the Cree, Dene, and Métis people. We honour and acknowledge the Indigenous ancestors who marked these lands for generations and whose languages, histories and cultures continue to influence this vibrant region. Together may we all be good stewards of the land.

2022 GRANTS

COMMUNITY GRANTS \$218,069.79

Fort McMurray Public School Division:
Regulation in Children & Youth

This was a wonderful opportunity for our staff to be trained and to now have such a greater understanding of how regulation impacts the classroom. The timing of this training was ideal in a post covid school system.

"I see the regulated classroom as one the best tools I've learned."

"The program has been powerful in helping me and the students regulate appropriately. My classroom is more connected and there are happy children as a result of the Regulated Classroom!"
- Administration and Teachers

Wood Buffalo Wellness Society:
Tawâw Cultural Program Supplies

Fort McMurray Golden Years Society:
Hot Meals Program

Funding provided from WBCF for our Hot Lunch program has allowed our patrons to feel a sense of belonging. They look forward to Wednesday hot lunch, both for the food and the fellowship."
- Executive Director, FM Golden Years

"I love seeing the ladies dress for the event and feel special."
- Senior Participant

The HUB Family Resource Centre:
Rural Community Outreach / HUB on Wheels

KidSport Wood Buffalo: Athlete Funding Program

Autism Society of RMWB: Social Respite Program

"(he) always wants to go to the Autism Society as he feels loved and included"
- Proud Parent

2022 GRANTS

DONOR DIRECTED GRANTS \$5,091.75

Centre of Hope
King's Kids Promotions Outreach
Northlife Church: Soup Kitchen
FMPSD: Dr. K.A. Clark School Breakfast Club Program
St. Aidan's House Society: Seniors Programs
Ft. McMurray Rotary Music Festival

"Being a part of music brings enormous benefits to young people. It is a gift to be able to provide opportunities for students to learn and perfect a musical instrument.

The Rotary Music Festival provides these opportunities for many musicians. They are able to perform for an audience; their music is adjudicated so they can learn ways to improve; and the shared experience of coming together to celebrate their musical achievements is a highlight for many.

We are proud to support this work through an endowment. The annual granting from the endowment is allocated to the Rotary Music Festival so that they can continue this festival for years to come." -- Teresa and Mark Shaw

SHELL ALBIAN SANDS ENVIRONMENT GRANT \$3,695.25

STANTEC CONSULTING \$3,000

FMPSD: Final Frontier AirMax Project

This Grant is generously provided by Edmonton Community Foundation each year. Thank you.

Thank you also to Stantec for your donation to support environment initiatives and educational opportunities.

FMWB UKRAINIAN SUPPORT FUND



This Fund received over \$48,000 in donations and granted over \$10,000 to support kids camps and rent relief.

BRANDY SIMON SCHOLARSHIP



\$2,500 was awarded to a Trinity High School graduating student. Donations to this scholarship were over \$9,800.

LIST OF FUNDS

WOOD BUFFALO COMMUNITY FUND

Richard L. George Family Fund
John and Leslie Wilson Family Fund
Kearney Family Fund
Nabholz Family Fund
Mike and Annette MacSween Fund
Galachiuk Family Fund

DONOR ADVISED OR FIELD OF INTEREST

Erskine Family Fund
Ball Family Fund
Cormier Jackson Family Fund
Powell Family Fund
Nayef and Petek Mahgoub Fund
Efu Family Fund

AGENCY ENDOWMENTS

St. Aidan's House Society Fund
Arts Council of Wood Buffalo Fund
WBCF Operating Fund
Girls Inc. of Northern Alberta Fund

DONOR DIRECTED

Little Family Fund
Teresa & Mark Shaw Family Fund
Dr. Lawley Family Fund

NON-ENDOWED FUNDS

FMWB Ukrainian Support Fund
Brandy Simon Scholarship Fund

THE FOUNDERS CIRCLE

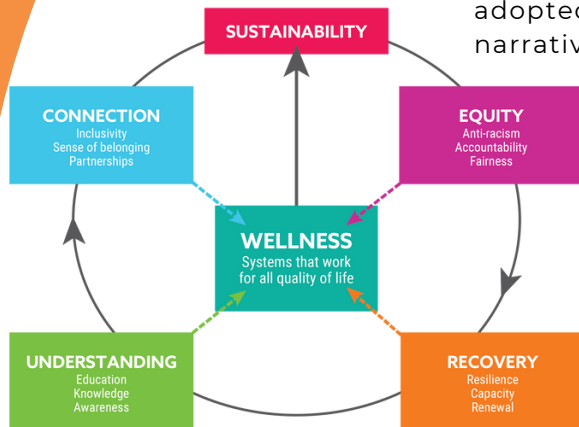
We wish to acknowledge and thank the Founders Circle Members who played a critical role in the establishment of the Wood Buffalo Community Foundation. Please visit our website for a full list and a few of their reasons "Why".

"We have lived in the region for over two decades, raising our family and growing with the community. We want to give back as we have benefited from our time here. Hopefully our donation will, in some way, help others realize their goals and aspirations."

-Mike and Jill Agnew



Launched in October, VitalSigns FMWB presents a snapshot of community vitality through data. We adopted a values-based framework to weave a broader narrative from the data.



We held a Vital Conversation: Supports for Immigrants and Newcomers, bringing local social profits and community members together to discuss what we, as a community, are doing well, what can be improved upon, and existing gaps.

This was a direct result of the FMWB Ukrainian Support Fund and the gaps we saw with Ukrainian evacuees making their home here.

The conversation will continue in 2023 culminating in the establishment of the Immigrant and Newcomer Support Fund -- an endowed fund that will provide funding to social profits working together to ensure that all newcomers to Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo are welcomed and feel at home. We are excited about this new Fund using VitalSigns data, and raising donations through community-based philanthropy.

WBCF will work with local partners to incorporate more local and relevant data. Topics and conversations will include Cultural Revitalization, Mental Health, Reconciliation, etc. By 2026, the goal is to have a more wholesome view of Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo, including rural communities, and to share the story of what this region has accomplished together and highlighting the future ahead.

This work can only continue with dedicated, collaborative community partners. WBCF thanks the commitment of FuseSocial, YMCA of Northern Alberta, Salvation Army, and the Ukrainian Cultural Society.

VitalSigns funding partners are Leith Wheeler for the Vital Conversation sessions, and in 2023 we welcome Cenovus Energy's commitment to supporting the collection and sharing of community data for everyone within Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo to use.



You can read the full report and access the data hub at www.vitalsignsfmwb.com

“You make a living by what you get.
You make a life by what you give.”
~Winston Churchill

We could not do any of what we do without amazing volunteers! Your dedication to serving the region deserves recognition.

WBCF extends heartfelt gratitude to:

COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE:

Chair: Gaylene Weidlich	Melissa Blake	Graig Walsh	Katie Erb (2023)
Dr. Tom Lawley	Anna Seinen	Michelle Velez	Mariko Kerr (2023)
Liana Wheeldon	Tammie Tuccaro	Cynthia Shelley	

WBCF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tony Mankowski, Chair (Outgoing in 2023)	Joshua Gogo
Maureen Cormier Jackson (Founding Chair)	Emma Thorpe
Kathy Schleen, Treasurer (Outgoing in 2023)	Brad Lucier
Anna Seinen, Secretary	Dr. Sandra Efu (2023)
Nayef Mahgoub	Cynthia Shelley (2023)
Shaun Moore	Nicole Bourque-Bouchier (2023)

Giving back never felt so good.

**SEE THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT AND BECOME
A COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR TODAY!**

Contributions can be made at www.wbcfoundation.ca; by etransfer to donations@wbcfoundation.ca; or connect with us to arrange a specific gift such as a stock transfer, bequest, real estate, etc.

And remember: it's easy to get started on your own endowment fund today for community support tomorrow!



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