



InTouch

Spring 2015

Timeless contributions.
Endless possibilities.

Spotlight on *Grants*

In honour of ECF's 25th anniversary, 25 one-time legacy grants, of \$25,000 each, have been given to help build our community over the next 25 years.

The Foundation used its knowledge of the community to select organizations and projects that would continue to build Edmonton over the next 25 years.

As a result, the grants focus on skill-building, disadvantaged communities, children and youth, and community asset building across all sectors. The recipients are:

Recreation

- Special Olympics Edmonton
- Kidsport Edmonton

Health and Wellness

- Boyle McCauley Health Centre

- Compass Centre for Sexual Wellness
- Canadian Mental Health Association – Edmonton Chapter

Education and Learning

- Centre for Family Literacy
- Edmonton Public Library
- Métis Child and Family Services Society
- Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers
- The Learning Centre Literacy Association

Human and Social Services

- Terra Centre
- Boyle Street Community Services
- Catholic Social Services
- YOUCAN
- Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton
- Edmonton John Howard Society

- YWCA of Edmonton
- E4C

Arts, Culture, and Heritage

- Friends of Royal Alberta Museum Society
- Varscona Theatre Alliance
- Good Women Dance Collective
- Wecan Society Trust – Harcourt House
- Edmonton Arts Council – Public Art

Environment

- Valley Zoo
- Wildlife Rehabilitation Society

For more information on the specific projects the grants will fund, go to: ecfoundation.org.

Edmonton Community Foundation



ecfoundation.org 780.426.0015



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Martin Garber-Conrad

CEO Message

Welcome to the Spring Edition of our *InTouch* newsletter. As we trade in our snow shovels for garden trowels, we can't help but look forward to the exciting projects we're working on in 2015.

On March 25th we launched the ECF Speaker Series with Dr. Roberta Bondar, Canada's first woman in space. It was a pleasure to listen to Dr. Bondar discuss the challenges she's faced and to hear the audience's response. That is the goal of the Speaker Series: to engage Edmontonians in thoughtful conversation. You can find some of the highlights from Dr. Bondar's talk on page 3.

Our Speaker Series continues on June 16th with Professor Timothy Caulfield, author of *Is Gwyneth Paltrow Wrong About Everything?: When Celebrity Culture and Science Clash*. And on October 7th with actress Georgina Lightning and recording artist Susan Aglukark who'll share their experiences as Aboriginal women in the arts.

2015 will also be an exciting year as we watch our 25th Anniversary Legacy Grants take root. Last year we provided 25 organizations with 25 one-time grants of \$25,000 to grow their capacity and strengthen Edmonton. You can find a list of the recipients on page 4. We also concluded our 25th anniversary in January this year with a Chairman's Reception at the Shaw Conference Centre. More than 600 community members attended to mix, mingle and meet a handful of agencies in the city that make Edmonton such a great place to live.

Lastly, it's almost time again for our Annual Meeting. Please join us for the luncheon on June 11 at the Westin Hotel. I very much look forward to seeing you all there. This year's speaker is Judge John Reilly, who will offer a unique perspective into the relationship between Indigenous people and the justice system. The theme of his talk coincides with our upcoming Vital Signs report which will look at our Edmonton indicators focusing on our Aboriginal citizens.

All the best



HOLD THE DATE!

Edmonton Community Foundation's Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2015,
11:50 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Westin Hotel
- 10135 100 Street NW

Judge John Reilly will deliver his presentation called "My Aboriginal Education" based on his experiences from the justice system.

Please RSVP your attendance:
Annualmeeting@ecfoundation.org
or 780.702.7628



Artwork by Kathleen Slavin: EMMA SHAMELESS
A/C, 48x36 in www.artistsincanada.com/slavin

Edmonton Community Foundation



ecfoundation.org 780.426.0015

What was old is *new again*

Charitable Giving Tax Updates

April 21, 2015 was a good day for Alberta donors and charities!

First, the Alberta government reversed its budget proposal to reduce the Alberta charitable donation tax credit (the “tax credit”) from 21% to 12.75% to be effective starting in 2016. Having the tax credit remain at 21% is very good news but this situation demonstrates that taxes and incentives can be changed and shouldn’t be taken for granted.

Donors and charities did not see the tax credit as a “use it or lose it” prospect. Yet, the provincial government cited its limited success in encouraging larger total donations to charity as its basis for a reduction. Given that many larger gifts are planned to fit with life events and estate plans, it is difficult to accurately measure the real effect of the tax credit at this time.

This debate about the tax credit has raised the profile of charitable giving – which is a great thing. Wonderfully, Albertans have strongly affirmed its importance to community wellbeing when the tax credit was threatened. It is, therefore, a call to action for donors and charities to make unquestionable good use of “the tax credit” before another threat arises.

Second, the Federal Budget promises new tax incentives for some gifts of real estate and private company shares made after 2016. Starting in 2017, the budget proposes a capital gains exemption for real estate and / or private company shares if:

- the proceeds of sale are donated to an arm’s length charity;
- the gift of the proceeds is made within 30 days of the sale.

If only a portion of the proceeds is donated, the federal budget proposes to provide a partial exemption from the capital gains tax.

As draft legislation is introduced and / or more details are provided, Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF) will put together an information sheet for donors, advisors and their clients.

If you have questions about charities or charitable gifts, ECF is a great resource. Please contact our donor

services team: Noel Xavier or Kathy Hawkesworth at 780-426-0015 or via email to nxavier@ecfoundation.org or khawkesworth@ecfoundation.org.

Sometimes dubbed “the real Alberta Advantage”, the combined federal/provincial tax credit in Alberta, has not only been the highest in Canada (currently tied with Nova Scotia) since 2007, it is elegantly simple in its application.

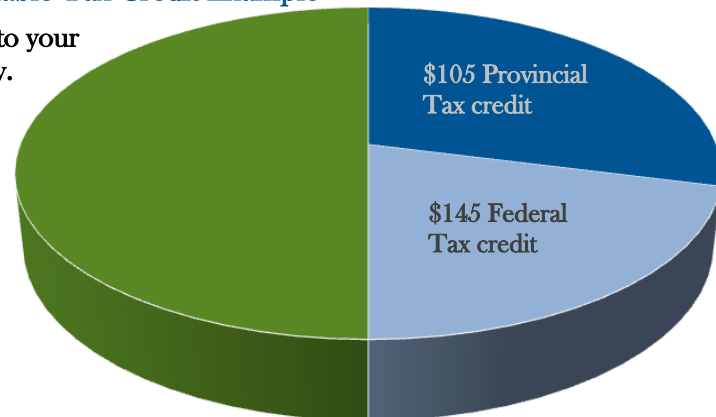
At 50% it is easy to calculate that a charitable gift in Alberta costs an individual donor only half of the gift amount, once the tax savings are considered.

A “50% off” sale, so to speak!

Alberta Charitable Tax Credit Example

\$500 donation to your favourite charity.

= \$250 in taxable credits



Article by Kathy Hawkesworth

Roberta Bondar the first of ECF’s *Speaker Series*

On March 25th Dr. Roberta Bondar, Canada’s first woman in space, kicked off ECF’s Speaker Series at Telus World of Science. Dr. Bondar’s inspirational talk highlighted her trailblazing career as astronaut, physician, photographer, and scientist.

Dr. Bondar’s unique career includes being the first neurologist in space studying the connection between microgravity and neurological illness here on Earth.

Dr. Bondar engaged the audience by sharing life lessons, and how she managed the challenges of being a woman in this male-dominated field.

The ECF Speaker Series is designed to provoke thought and discussion about some of the issues highlighted in 2014 Vital Signs report.

The next speaker in the series is Professor Timothy Caulfield author of *Is Gwyneth Paltrow Wrong About Everything?* Professor Caulfield will be debunking myths around celebrity endorsed health regimes. This fall we will round out the series with two Aboriginal women in the arts; actress, director and Edmontonian Georgina Lightning and singer, songwriter Susan Aglukark.

Tickets are \$25 each (\$20 for seniors and students). For tickets or more information go to Ecfoundation.org.

Photos by Lucas Boutillier



ECF Speaker Series

Engaging Edmonton in thoughtful conversation

Tickets: \$25 each, \$20 for students or seniors



June 16, 2015
Prof. Timothy Caulfield

Professor of Health Law & Science Policy, Author of *Is Gwyneth Paltrow Wrong About Everything?* He will be debunking myths around celebrity endorsed health regimes.



October 7, 2015
Susan Aglukark & Georgina Lightning

Susan Aglukark
Inuit singer, songwriter and champion of our Northern communities

Georgina Lightning
Cree actress, film director and screen-writer

Speaking and performing at an evening highlighting Aboriginal women and the arts.

The Citadel, Maclab Theatre - 9828 101 A Ave NW

For more information go to: ecfoundation.org