



Wills Week 2013 Wrap up...

The objective of Wills Week is to encourage individuals to have an up-to-date will.

Every October ECF offers free sessions to the community about why a properly prepared will is so important.

This was another successful year with 673 people attending 15 sessions across greater Edmonton. More women than men attended and largest age group was 65-plus. Most attendees told us they already have a will, but plan to update it.

Thank you to the lawyers and volunteers who made this service to the Edmonton community possible!



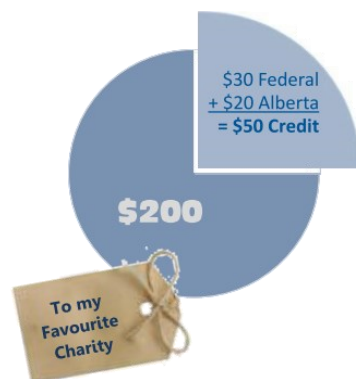
First-time donor *super credit*

First time donors who make a donation after March 20, 2013, will receive a higher tax credit for a gift to their favourite charity.

This new credit effectively adds 25 percent more in federal credits for donations up to \$1,000. As a result, a first-time donor will be allowed a combined 40 percent federal credit for donations of \$200 or less, and a 54 percent federal credit for the portion of donations over \$200 but less than \$1,000.

An individual will be considered a first-time donor in the taxation years of 2013 to 2017, if neither the individual nor their spouse or common-law partner has claimed the charitable donations tax credit (CDTC) in any of the five preceding tax years.

Now is a great time to introduce charitable giving to new donors as it benefits both the charity and the donor's tax status.



Regular tax credits for charitable gifts in Alberta



First-time donor tax credits for charitable gifts in Alberta



For change of address please advise:
Edmonton Community Foundation
9910-103 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2V7



Edmonton
Community
Foundation



CEO Message

As we near the end of 2013 it is a good time to thank ECF's generous donors.

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the appreciation event on Sept. 17 at CKUA. We enjoy the opportunity to acknowledge you who invest in making Edmonton stronger. For those who were not able to be with us, you can see a few of the photos from the evening on page 3.

It's been a busy summer working on ECF's very first Vital Signs® report. We released the six-page report on Oct. 1 in the Edmonton Journal. If you didn't see one, please view it on our website ecfoundation.org or call our office

(780.426.0015) and we will send you a copy. We also announced three years of special funding - \$100,000 each year for projects that improve food security in our community. The report was designed to be thought provoking and bring the issue of Edmonton's food to the forefront. Details can be found on page 2.

In 2014 ECF will be entering its 25th year. Watch for exciting news as we prepare to mark this milestone. Since ECF became active in 1989, your generosity has enabled more than \$150 million to be distributed to charities and students in Edmonton and beyond. Together we can make Edmonton even better in the next 25 years.

On Oct. 4th I made an announcement of a significant expansion in our social finance work by the creation of the Alberta Social Enterprise Venture Fund. We were challenged by the Canadian Task Force on Social Finance

to commit at least ten percent of our capital to mission-related investments by 2020. We're well on our way to meeting this target. The Venture Fund will enhance the ability of our Social Enterprise Fund to continue its leadership in social impact investing.

December marks the season of giving to family and friends, as well as to charities. In fact, more charitable gifts are made during the next six weeks than at any other time of the year. ECF is committed to meeting the needs of donors, tailoring each fund agreement to honour your philanthropic goals. If you are making a gift this season please contact our Donor Services Team with any questions or to help you set up or contribute to a fund.

Thank you again and very best wishes from staff and board for the holiday season!



December *deadline*, happier tax time!

A gift made now to support your community will mean tax savings when you file your 2013 tax return.

You may complete your 2013 donations to Edmonton Community Foundation by phoning in your Visa or MasterCard donation before **noon on Dec. 23rd, 2013** or online at CanadaHelps.org which is available until year end.

We will issue 2013 receipts for cheques made payable to ECF and delivered to our office by noon on Dec. 23, 2013 or mailed with a 2013 postmark stamped by Canada Post.

Gifts of marketable securities must be started by Nov. 30th. Please contact donor services first for more information by phoning 780.426.0015.

Holiday *Closure*

Our offices will be closed from noon on Christmas Eve until Monday, January 6, 2014.

Thank you for your continued friendship in 2013.

We wish you all the best for 2014!



The endowment *difference*

The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts is a place where individuals with developmental disabilities and barriers to the arts can go to create, socialize, and even *fall in love*.

Thanks to a recent gift from Dianne and Irving Kipnes the organization now has a new source of funding through an endowment fund with ECF.

After touring the centre and seeing the artists at work, the Kipneses made a gift that established the fund.

“It will provide a solid base for budgeting and make sure we are here 50 years from now.”

There are currently more than 160 active artists using the centre. John Wilson and Cheryl Anhel are two such artists who come to the centre on a daily basis. The couple met at the centre and fell in love. “It is almost our third anniversary,” Anhel said.

Anhel and Wilson now collaborate on their lino prints; a medium some felt be controversial as it involves carving



Cheryl Anhel and John Wilson work collaboratively on their art.

tools. The couple’s prints have been on display at the Edmonton Public Library and Steeps Tea House, as well as the Stollery Gallery where art from the centre is sold year-round.

“The endowment fund will help us provide future programming and allow us to plan for new types of expression for the artists.” says Rona Fraser, Director of Development for the organization.

Fraser and two other employees took the Endowment Sustainability Program (ESP) offered by ECF last spring. The five-session program was designed to teach charitable organizations how to begin their own endowment program.

Photos and story by Elizabeth Bonkink



“It was very beneficial. It helped us with day to day fundraising like how to begin conversations with donors and it showed us the difference an endowment can make”, says Fraser. “It will provide a solid base for budgeting and make sure we are here 50 years from now.”

Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts endowment fund welcomes donations from anyone who wishes to help it grow.

“It will make sure that artists, like Cheryl and John, will always have a place to go,” Fraser says.

Vital Signs® grants for *Food Security*

On Oct. 1, 2013, following the launch of the Vital Signs® Report on Edmonton’s food security, ECF was pleased to announce a new one-time, multi-year grant opportunity to support projects, programs, or organizations that address the issue of food security. ECF has allocated \$100,000 per year for 2014 through 2016.

Any registered charity in the Edmonton area can apply for funding of food security related initiatives.

Requests can be up to a maximum of \$40,000 per year for up to three years but applicants can only submit one request.

For more information, go to ecfoundation.org or contact the ECF Grants department at 780-426-0015 or grants@ecfoundation.org.



Who’s New at *ECF?*

ECF is pleased to welcome two new faces to our team:

Noel Xavier has joined our team as Donor Services Advisor, and **Anna Opryshko** joins us as the Student Awards Associate.

Stop by and say “hello” to those taking on new roles!

Building *Futures*

ECF provides a \$31,134 Smart and Caring Community Grant to Habitat for Humanity Edmonton for its tools training workshops.

Life was a little bumpy for Dayna Ewart in early 2013. As an admitting clerk at Sturgeon Hospital, she was raising two daughters on her own while living with her parents. Work was steady, but finding a place to call her own was just out of reach.

That’s until she became a member family with Habitat for Humanity Edmonton (HFHE) in July 2013. From there her life took a serious upswing, and by the end of August she received keys to her new three-bedroom condo-style duplex in St. Albert.

“The feeling I got when I received keys to my house was indescribable,” Ewart says. “Giving my daughters a place to call their own has made us so much more secure and comfortable and now being able to raise my daughters on my

own is a dream come true.”

Since 1991 HFHE has built 300 homes and has served families across Alberta. They require the partner families to make their down payment through “sweat equity,” which is a clever way of saying volunteer work building homes for other families using HFHE’s services.

This was intimidating for Ewart who had never set foot on a construction site before, much less help build a multi-unit housing development. But once again HFHE had her back with its Tool Training and Construction Workshops.

“We identified the need for the tool training sessions when some of our partner families and volunteers would show up at our site with uncertainty, lack of confidence, and lack of the basic construction knowledge,” Alfred Nikolai, President and CEO of HFHE says. “There is an increased sense of confidence in our volunteers and

Photo and story by Andrew Paul



Habitat families learn building skills

families, and there is less time spent training and more time building.”

The workshops teach the basics of worksite safety; how to operate power and various other tools that it takes to build a home. When she finally set foot on the construction site she was ready to give back to the community that had been there to support her.

“It’s amazing to see, it’s amazing to help people, it’s amazing to know that when I’m volunteering there’s a purpose and a cause we’re working toward and we get to see the final outcome,” she says.

Donor and Volunteer Appreciation at CKUA

SNAPshots

Photos by Lucas Boutiller

