



Edmonton
Community
Foundation

HOLD THE DATE

**Edmonton Community
Foundation invites you
to join us at the
Westin Hotel Edmonton
10135 100 Street NW
11:50 am - 1:30 pm
June 13th, 2013**

Keynote speaker will be the internationally renowned **Jeremy Isles**, Chief Executive of Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens, UK.

Jeremy will speak about urban spaces that address the lack of green space, a desire to encourage strong community relationships, and an awareness of gardening and city farming.

To RSVP, please email **rsvp@ecfoundation.org** or call the rsvp line at **780-423-4956**.



inTOUCH

SPRING 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Trusting that spring will eventually arrive, we are already making preparations for our Annual General Meeting on June 13th, 2013 at the Westin Hotel Edmonton, from 11:50 am - 1:30 pm. Please plan to join us for a review of the many things we have accomplished together in 2012.

To help us look ahead, the keynote speaker this year will be Jeremy Isles, Chief Executive of Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens, UK. Jeremy will be talking to us about his experiences in setting up city farms and food security. His organization works with communities to make a positive impact on their surrounding environment by promoting community-managed farms, gardens, and other green spaces that create opportunities for local communities to grow.

We will get into the spirit of the topic by lunching on a menu of locally sourced foods. This topic is particularly relevant as Edmonton continues to grow into and over what has been excellent, local farmland.

Jeremy's talk will be a great introduction to our first Vital Signs® report that will focus on community food security. Watch for the release of this community "check-up" in October.

Before we close off 2012, I would invite you to remember Barbara Poole, one of Edmonton's most gracious givers. With her passing in December we lost the last of ECF's first generation of founders. Barbara's giving spirit is a shining example of what philanthropy is all about – giving back to your community without expectation of recognition. Barbara's passions were dance and art, and her care for the community was evident in all she did. The several Poole family funds will continue to support her passions in perpetuity.

I would invite you to consider making a lasting impact on your community through ECF. Donate to one of the more than 500 endowment funds that already exist, leave a gift in your will, or start your own endowment fund. ECF can assist by ensuring that the causes that move you are effectively supported. As you know, our door is always open and ECF staff are available to meet with you. There is much that you can do for your community's future!





Richard Lee and Gerry Morita perform Mile Zero Dance's (un)static motions in electricity at the 2013 Expanse Festival. Photo by Ernest, Studio E Photography.

DANCE OUTREACH

Murray Utas, Artistic Producer of the Expanse Festival, sits behind his desk inside the Azimuth Theatre with a giant grin on his face – he has a lot of reasons to be happy these days.

March was a big month for Expanse. Not only did the festival wrap up its ninth and most successful season yet, a \$30,000 Community Grant also enabled Expanse to grow its audience and extend its outreach programs throughout the year.

“Our team has doubled in size and the sheer amount of activity we’ve brought to the festival has grown to the point where we’ve almost ran out of room in our four-day festival,” Utas says. “We also targeted students that we will provide workshops to on an ongoing basis.”

The Expanse Festival was created in 2004 by Utas and local dancer/choreographer Amber Borotsik partially in response to the closure of the Grant MacEwan Dance Program.

The closure meant that there was one less place for next-generation dancers to explore the art form. Since then, young talent has been forced to move out of Edmonton to pursue their education and careers.

Though Expanse is not a replacement for the former program, it provides work for local and national dancers when it

presents four days of movement every March including dance, physical theatre and circus performance inside the TransAlta Arts Barns.

That’s a big deal for Edmonton’s dance scene including local companies like Mile Zero Dance and the Good Women Dance Collective. Expanse also offers the added benefit of workshops and educational programming in local elementary, junior high and high schools, which helps ensure the ongoing health of Edmonton’s dance community.

“Introducing students to art, to dance and to theatre is vital. It’s ingrained into our cultural fabric and necessary that students get that exposure,” Utas says. “They’ll gain an appreciation for the art form; they might go on to become a super star or at the very least a patron.”

And that’s why Utas sits behind his desk grinning ear-to-ear. Expanse is fulfilling its mandate to bring dance to the next generation of performers.

“Because of the support from ECF we’ve now established a relationship where we’re back in the schools again and serving our Edmonton community.”

THE LEARNING FORUM

In February, ECF hosted donors at the second Donor Learning Forum. This event, *Screen Time vs. Play Time*, featured Kim Sanderson as the guest speaker. Sanderson, who has 30 years experience both locally and internationally in play and play design, spoke about the need to “up the ante” to encourage children to play outside.

Sanderson highlighted results from the 2012 Active Healthy Kids Report which stated that “the average child spends 7.43 hours a day in front a screen” and contrasts that against “92% of Canadian children said they would choose playing with friends over watching TV.” Sanderson spoke about the importance of children being outside to connect to the environment and each other, stimulating their creativity and enhancing their understanding of where food comes from. Since computers are here to stay, the challenge is to make outside play increasingly attractive and interactive. Sanderson showed inspiring pictures of play initiatives from around the world and around our community.

The Donor Learning Forum series is designed to provide donors and friends with behind the scenes, in depth information about the areas ECF funds through grants.

GET SOCIAL WITH ECF

Photos, videos, live tweeting oh my! Our social media sites are the best way for you to see your community foundation in action. Check out our Facebook page for photos, videos and updates on ECF projects and follow us on Twitter @TheECF for live tweeting from ECF supported events. Come join the fun and let us know what you’re up to.



threeSOURCE

It is said that knowledge is power, and if this is true, the Edmonton Social Planning Council (ESPC) has created a powerful tool. **threeSOURCE**, a free, accessible database for research from Alberta's third sector on social justice topics is one of the projects supported by a community grant from the Edmonton Community Foundation. ECF is providing \$30,000 per year for three years to expand the research and resource centre's activities.

threeSOURCE also includes an opt-in notification system to let users know when new material is available. Stephen MacDonald, Resources Coordinator for ESPC says, "There has been nothing like this before – the ability to research social justice topics from your desktop. It brings all the research together into one place." MacDonald's background in Library science from Dalhousie University as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science serves him well as he coordinates the information that is fed into threeSOURCE.

In addition to providing cost effective research, the database also serves to profile the work that Alberta non-profit organizations are releasing. MacDonald tells us, "The Global WE Initiative, a

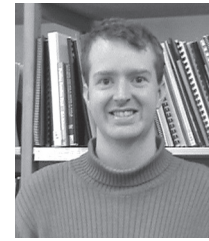
community group dedicated to fighting poverty, recently published a report that summarized a public consultation process addressing poverty in their community. Through threeSOURCE, it reached a Canada-wide database on homelessness and from there the report has been added to a US government source. This is evidence of threeSOURCE's significant promotional power."

Sources for the material include university libraries, ESPC produced information like *Tracking the Trends*, and an extensive collection of resources published by the third sector. Statistics show that threeSOURCE is regularly used by local non-profit organizations, universities and colleges, and employees in the municipal and provincial public sectors across Alberta.

The Lunch and Learn Series is an additional effort provided through this funding. It is designed to inspire thought and discussion among community members. Held at the Stanley A. Milner Library, guest speakers are invited to share their thoughts and experiences regarding social issues and their work with front-line organizations.



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ESPC is focused on social research - particularly in the areas of low income and poverty and provides a voice for the disenfranchised

and others facing barriers. Through research it addresses social issues, informs public discussion, and influences social policy at various government levels. ESPC will be assisting ECF in preparing the Vital Signs® report for Edmonton this fall. Vital Signs® is a community check-up conducted by community foundations across Canada.

For more information on threeSOURCE or the Lunch and Learn Series go to www.edmontonsocialplanning.ca.



SMART & CARING COMMUNITIES

Canada will celebrate its 150th birthday in 2017! The Right Honourable David Johnston, Canada's Governor General and patron of Community Foundations of Canada has inspired community foundations across the country to join him in his mission to make Canada a smarter and more caring nation.

Edmonton Community Foundation has answered his nation-wide call by establishing a Smart & Caring Community Fund. This fund will impact five key areas of our greater Edmonton community: human and community services, arts and culture, education, health, environment, and recreation and leisure.

Contributions of any amount are welcome to build the Smart & Caring Community Fund. Donors wishing to contribute \$10,000 or more may add their name or that of a loved one to a new fund within our Smart & Caring Community Fund family.



"...Join me in imagining our country as it could be...a smart and caring nation, where all Canadians can succeed, contribute, and develop their talents to the fullest potential."

SMART & CARING
COMMUNITIES



NEW FACES AND NEW ROLES AT ECF

ECF is pleased to welcome four new faces to our roster. Chris Quinn has taken over as director of finance & operations. Elizabeth Bonkink has joined our communications department as communications coordinator. Christine Bishop is a new donor services advisor and Lil Zeilke has assumed the roles of donor services assistant and executive assistant to Martin Garber-Conrad, ECF's CEO. We would also like to note that Kerri De Luca has moved from the donor services department to become our new grants administrator. Stop by and say "hello" to those taking on new roles!

ERNESTO B. LEJANO MEMORIAL AWARD



Michelle Santiago wants to pay it forward. Together with friends and former students of Dr. Ernest B. Lejano a permanent endowment fund has been established to provide music awards to students demonstrating exceptional talent in classical music performance.

Born in Edmonton, Santiago began her music studies at the Alberta College Conservatory of Music (Early Childhood Program) and studied with Dr. Lejano from 1993-2000. She and other students

of Dr. Lejano want to acknowledge his contribution to their success with this bursary that will be given to the winner of a University of Alberta (U of A) music competition. It is anticipated that a \$500 scholarship will be available each year.

Dr. Lejano (1933-2000) became the first Filipino to earn his doctorate as a Fulbright scholar at the prestigious Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. He joined the U of A faculty in 1967 and his students consistently won international, national, and provincial awards. He was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award (Excellency Category) in 1987 by the Alberta government.

The "Ernesto B. Lejano Music Award Fund" will support the arts in the greater Edmonton community by providing an award to students demonstrating exceptional talent in classical music performance and giving highest priority to supporting students who are pianists.

Although Santiago now lives in Montreal, she wanted to see other U of A students benefit from Dr. Lejano as she had and felt this was a significant way to honour him. She was a recipient of several ECF student assistance grants from the Winspear Fund as a music student.



PLANT A BRIGHT FUTURE WITH MONTHLY DONATIONS!

Sow the seeds of a legacy by setting up a recurring donation to ECF! Building your fund through monthly giving is easy.

Here's how it works:

1. Set up a new recurring donation to any fund at Edmonton Community Foundation
2. Use your Visa or MasterCard or voided cheque for pre-authorized withdrawal.
3. Contact Lil at **780-426-0015**

From small seeds bloom great things.

inTOUCH - SPRING 2013

www.ecfoundation.org



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

