

# Grants Newsletter

March/April 2010

Watch for news about 2010 MD  
Funding in the next newsletter!

## Upcoming Deadlines:

- ◆ Career Focus Internship Program Ongoing
- ◆ Community Initiatives Program March 31, 2010
- ◆ Community Facility Enhancement Program March 31, 2010

## *Cuts, cuts, cuts...*

In this age of economic upheaval, it is no surprise that the Alberta government has announced cuts to some popular Alberta government grant programs. The **Community Spirit Donation Grant Program** has been **cut by 20%** and the **Community Initiatives Program** has been **reduced by 9%**. Heritage funding has been **cut by 16%** and **Arts Foundation grants by 17%**. The one piece of good news is that the **Community Facility Enhancement Program has not been reduced** at all in the latest budget.

But this means that community groups, whose budgets may have been directly hit by the recession are now competing for fewer grant dollars. It is all the more important to make sure that your next proposal is well-written and well thought out, and meets the requirements of the funder. Call them for help with the proposal—or call the MD Grants Manager for help.

### Proposal-writing tip:

*Asking for funding is not begging!*

**You are inviting funders into a partnership that will enhance lives within the local community.**

As grant money becomes harder to find, it is important to open more doors in the hunt for money. Strike up a working relationship with some of the many corporations that work in our area so that they are happy to sponsor your efforts. Or, if your group is doing truly charitable work, think about applying for charitable status so that you can solicit more donations or apply for funding from private foundations.

**Alberta Foundation for the Arts funding is changing on April 2 with the creation of four new umbrella grant programs—check out their website for details: [www.affta.ab.ca](http://www.affta.ab.ca)!**

Will you miss the March 31 deadlines for **CFEP** or **CIP** Grants? Make sure your application is ready for the **next deadline on June 30, 2010!**

### *Did you miss the deadlines for STEP funding?*

Try applying for internship funding from the **Career Focus Internship Program** through the Alberta Community and Cooperative Association—visit [www.acca.coop/interns](http://www.acca.coop/interns), or call Dianne Schoepp at 780-963-3766. There is no fixed deadline for this program, but make sure the job you offer is a learning opportunity and a career benefit for an intern.

Municipal  
District  
of Big Lakes



Cathy Wilcox  
Grants Manager

Box 239  
High Prairie, Alberta  
T0G 1E0  
Phone: 780-523-5955  
Fax: 780-523-4227  
E-mail:  
[grants@mdbiglakes.ca](mailto:grants@mdbiglakes.ca)  
Website: [www.mdbiglakes.ca](http://www.mdbiglakes.ca)