

Grant Committee Report & Application Summaries

April 2021 Applications

Grants Committee:

Blair Geisel (Chair), Jody Fletcher, Warren Neufeld, Winnie Pauch, Larry Muirhead, Lisa Kristof, Diane Van Aert, & Mandy Dubois (Executive Director)



Spring 2021

Prior to the Spring Granting cycle the Grants Committee Chair and the Executive Director met with four local non profits to help understand the local needs and learn how CFPD and our granting program could assist with Covid-19 related issues. A special one time grant program was offered and would include the possibility of funding for operations if the need was related to the pandemic and Health regulations.

A total of eighteen grant applications were received, three of which were for the special Covid-19 grants program, for a total of \$350,380. The Grants Committee met virtually on April 6th to review & discuss the applications received. All application documents were made available to the committee on dropbox, committee members relayed questions for the applicants and one zoom interview was scheduled with Portage Service for Seniors.

The following report from the grants committee is recommending funding for 7 projects for a total of \$90,000, none of which are through the special Covid-19 grant program.

FILE No.	Organization Name	Project Description	Sector	Requested \$	Recommended \$
2021-2(S)	Portage Family Abuse Prevention Centre Inc.	Resource Coordinator	Social Services	\$33,704.00	\$33,700
2021-3(S)	Sunset Palliative Care	Memory Garden Expansion	Other Activities or Facilities of a Charitable Nature	\$40,000.00	\$0
2021-4(S)	Youth for Christ	Renovations & Upgrade Grant	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$5,500.00	\$0
2021-5(S)	La Verendrye School	LVS Grows	Environment	\$630.00	\$600
2021-6(S)	Portage Service for Seniors	Kitchen Refurbishment	Social Services	\$15,260.42	\$15,000
2021-7(S)	Herman Prior Senior Services Centre	Fume Hoods for Back Kitchen	Social Services	\$41,960.00	\$0
2021-8(S)	United Way Central Plains	Executive Director Training	Social Services	\$8,232.00	\$8,200
2021-9(S)	Portage Community Revitalization Corp	Communities in Bloom-Cenotaph Project	Social Services	\$13,050.00	\$0

2021-10(S)	Delta Boat Launch Group	Delta Beach Marina	Environment	\$30,000.00	\$0
2021-11(S)	Portage Collegiate Institute	Ikwe/Wicasa	Education	\$8,000.00	\$0
2021-12(S)	Centennial Community Club Inc.	LED Lights & Shower Stall Upgrade	Physical Fitness and Health;	\$14,490.00	\$0
2021-13(S)	Delta Beach Association	The Hackberry Hub	Physical Fitness and Health;	\$30,000.00	\$0
2021-15(S)	Portage Learning & Literacy Centre - Summer Youth Engagement Program	Summer Youth Engagement Program	Arts and Cultural	\$4,000.00	\$4,000
2021-16(S)	Yellowquill School	Yellowquill Family Room	Child Welfare, Youth Development, Family Well-being	\$36,416.33	\$28,500
2021-17(S)	Portage Learning & Literacy Centre	RESET	Social Services	\$19,138.00	\$0
COVID GRANT PROGRAM APPLICAITONS					
2021-14(S)	Canadian Mental Health Association	Thrive Learning Centre Online Recovery College	Social Services	\$10,000.00	\$0
2021-18(S)	Prairie Fusion Arts & Entertainment	Home Series Virtual Programming	Arts and Cultural	\$5,000.00	\$0
2021-15(S)	Portage Community Revitalization Corp	Vehicle	Social Services	\$35,000.00	\$0
				\$350,380.75	\$90,000

Name of organization: Portage Family Abuse Prevention Centre Inc. – 2(S)

Background of Organization: Our Vision is "A Community Free from Abuse" and our Mission is to achieve this through an inclusive community approach based on safety, respect, trust & hope. Our Mandate is to provide services to women & their children fleeing abuse. We operate a shelter with 7 rooms and can accommodate up to 20 individuals. There is no cost to clients. We also operate a 24/7, 365 crisis line, provide counseling to residential and non-residential clients, one on one support, support groups, children's programming & activities, transportation, referrals, advocacy, community workshops & education, Anger Management classes. Our clients are individuals fleeing abuse. The majority of our funding comes from Province of Manitoba, Status of Women, Family Violence Prevention Program. We also receive some funding from the United Way, as well as donations.

Project Description: We would like to hire a Resource Coordinator. This individual would work with our residential & non residential clients and will assist clients with housing application and follow-up, EIA applications and follow-up, resumes preparation, job search, accompany clients to medical appointments, legal appointments, housing appointments, etc. This will benefit at least 2500 clients annually. We will keep looking for funding to continue this project after March 31, 2022.

Amount requested: \$33,704.00

Amount recommended: \$33,700.00

Comments: The committee discussed the value of the Portage Family Abuse Prevention Centre and the value of a Resource Coordinator. However, because there are organizations within our community who already provide these services, the question was posed as to why PFAPC would not just utilize those outside resources. PFAPC provided a very clear response including stories from clients who are either too scared or too injured to leave the facility for these services.

The committee determined this was a much needed pilot project for PFAPC, it will benefit the clients they serve as well as enable the centre to secure future funding for the position and for those reasons recommends full funding requested.

Name of organization: Sunset Palliative Care – 3(S)

Background of Organization:

Sunset Palliative Care is a non-profit organization. For the past for 27 years, we have been serving individuals with a life threatening or terminal illness and their families who live in Portage la Prairie and the surrounding communities. This is based on a philosophy of Hope, Dignity, Choice & Control. We are committed to providing compassionate care to all whether the client is in hospital, personal care home or their own residence as we have 36 active volunteers who are kind, dedicated and devoted to our organization and what it stands for. We have no fees for our volunteers as they are what keeps our organization existing. We have walking bereavement groups, lending library, grief support groups, Memory Garden, our annual Xmas dinner of Hope and the palliative care rooms at hospital with ongoing upkeep. Our funding comes only from fundraising, a small grant from United Way and donations when we are named in memory in kind.

Project Description:

Sunset Palliative Care Memory Garden Expansion will be 4 times larger than the garden is now, will also include a patio for small group Events such as Celebrations of Life, wedding ceremonies, family photos and more. We have secured the services of our local landscaper who redid the original garden in 2018 and knew that we would be doing an expansion when we had raised funds in future years, this is why we want her company again for continuity. It will be finished by September 2021 weather permitting. The entire community of 14,000 as well the visitors that come to Island Park will benefit. We have a lottery every year and the garden will be maintained by that fund raiser, it has secured us \$23,500 for the expansion, Reg Tomalin Estate \$15,500, Community Heartland Futures \$1000.00 for a total of \$40,000.00. The City of Portage la Prairie has given us the land for the garden as well as the land to the north as long as it's done in a timely and the agreement is that its maintained by Sunset.

Amount requested: \$40,000.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Although the committee sees the value of Sunset Palliative Care as an organization and the valuable services they provide; it was felt this project was more of a want than a need. Sunset has also shown they have a portion of the funds for this project and could potentially scale the project back if CFPD was unable to provide funding and for those reasons recommends no funding.

Name of organization: Youth for Christ - 4(S)

Background of Organization:

Youth for Christ-Youth Unlimited is an organization that seeks to offer a space for young people to belong, participate in meaningful activities, and build healthy relationships. We want to help youth realize that their present situation does not have to decide their future. Our tag line is "We see the hope and potential in every young person." We truly believe this about every youth we encounter and desire for them to see the same in themselves. Our team is made up of passionate youth workers who desire to see the young people of Portage thrive. We offer a variety of programs through our two locations. Our main location serves as an office, drop in space and skate park. We run many of our programs in the schools such as basketball drop in, floor hockey programs, and afterschool activities. We also run many programs out of our secondary space in a housing unit called The Door. Here we run many summer activities, cooking programs, and community gatherings. On average we have around 4000 youth contacts each year. We also support and work with many of their families We are funded completely by donations from community members. Each of our staff must fundraise their own salary and the everyday functioning costs are obtained through fundraiser events, community donors, and occasionally grants. Our programing is open to all students regardless of religion, gender, race, or beliefs. We offer all of our programs free of charge to the community.

Project Description:

For this project we would like to ask for support to repair our storage shed and replace the outdoor basketball hoop. We have a large -shed that houses much of our recreation equipment and supplies belonging to other organizations which are stored free of charge. Recently we noticed that the east wall is starting to give way and is in need of immediate attention. In addition to this the garage door is in need of some maintenance as it has difficulty opening. This building has offered so much space for us to be able to have canoes, bikes, skateboards, bouncy castles and a lot of other recreation equipment that are used with youth and the community. Many of these things are also rented out to community members for a small fee that act as fundraising money for basic organizational costs which help us be able to continue in serving the community. As mentioned above we would also like to replace the outdoor basketball hoop as it is in rough shape and becoming quite bent. One of our biggest programs is the basketball drop in run out of a school gym though has been moved to our outdoor space since the onset of Covid. We would like to get a new net so that we can continue to run the basketball drop-in outside this spring. These improvements would impact the 50+ youth who attend the basketball drop-in and many of the 4000 contacts we interact with throughout other programs and events using our recreation equipment that is stored in the shed.

Amount requested: \$5,500.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Unfortunately, there is just not enough funds to assist each application. This project does fall within the funding limits of the Portage Community Revitalization Community Grants and it will be recommended to YFC to apply since the committee is recommending no funding.

Name of organization: La Verendrye School - 5(S)

Background of Organization: La Verendrye Elementary School is a school made up of approximately 369 students that live in the north end of Portage la Prairie. Our school provides education and a safe space for students to learn, explore, and grow. A large portion of our students, however, come to school hungry or without equal access to nutritious food. Many of the families in our catchment area do not have reliable access to vehicles, have large families to provide for, and the nearest grocery store is over 2 kilometers away. Our families essentially live in a food desert and deserve equitable access to fresh produce. Our school offers food hampers, a breakfast program, and a lunch program to help meet the needs of our students and families, but we believe that we can do more.

Project Description: The project's goal is to create equitable access to fresh produce in the North end of Portage la Prairie, specifically in the neighborhoods of La Verendrye School and North Memorial School. We intend to teach students how to sustainably grow their own food and eat locally. The first phase of our program will focus on a total of 35 students in grade seven and eight. We will develop cross-curricular lessons that focus on sustainability, local economy, industrial arts, mathematics, science and activism. Students will research access to food in their community, plan and build two garden boxes, plant and care for their own garden dish and write letters to local food organizations and businesses asking for donations. The overarching goal is for students to become advocates for their community and for families to become self-sustainable long-term.

Amount requested: \$630.00

Amount recommended: \$630.00

Comments: The committee felt this was a feel good project that may teach the students some life lessons on gardening and for this reason recommends full funding requested. The hope is the students will be involved throughout the entire summer months to see the project in all stages.

Name of organization: Portage Service for Seniors – 6(S)

Background of Organization: Portage Service for Seniors provides services that assist older adults in maintaining an independent lifestyle. It is a charitable organization funded in part by Southern Health, Portage Plains United Way, and donations. Staff and volunteers are available to assist adults in transportation, socialization, nutrition, and safety needs. A major focus of our program is both congregate meals at seniors' apartments and our Meals on Wheels program. Due to limited funding, we have not been able to recruit and retain casual replacement cooks. With funds on hand, we are hoping to train casual cooks and allow them regular hours so they remain interested and available.

Project Description: We have been operating congregate meals and meals on wheels out of separate kitchens for many years. Much of our equipment is faulty and in need of replacement. Further, food storage containers for both dry goods and leftovers must meet a new health standard of being commercial grade (and therefore, very expensive). Our services are now concentrated in three separate kitchens in three separate apartment buildings. We would like to upgrade the equipment our cooks are using and must provide commercial grade packaging. In addition, better equipment will allow us to process donations efficiently and a new freezer will assist with proper storage of donated foods. We are currently serving in excess of 1200 meals per month through congregate delivery and meals on wheels format. We anticipate that congregate demand will increase when meals in a congregate setting resume. Better and more efficient equipment will allow staff to continue to prepare delicious and nutritious meals to our elderly and disabled populations, which is so deserving.

Amount requested: \$15,260.42

Amount recommended: \$15,000.00

Comments: A zoom interview was conducted to clarify a few details of the congregate meal program and to understand why Service for Seniors was not using the kitchen at the Herman Prior Centre, where they are now located. Hearing about the congregate meal programs and the purpose being to bring people together the committee understood the need for multiple kitchens. The committee also heard how outdated their equipment is and how commercial grade equipment would provide the right tools for the job. For these reasons the committee is recommending full funding of the project.

Name of organization: Herman Prior Senior Services Centre Inc. – 7(S)

Background of Organization: Herman Prior Activity Centre (HPAC) is a not for profit, charitable organization opened in 1984. We are a fully accessible place where people can gather for activities, events and meals. It is important as people age to find economical ways for socialization. We offer medical equipment for short term rental at reasonable prices and there are professionals who come into the Centre to provide foot care, blood pressure and hearing aid clinics. A Community Volunteer Income Tax program is also available each year. We have two commercial kitchens. One is used full time for our congregate meal program, the other is used by renters, entrepreneurs and our volunteers as well as being used for activities by our members. Recently we have added a Tool Library which, when fully operational will provide hand and power tools for a nominal fee. The largest funding of our program comes from Southern Health-Sante Sud. This year they have included the congregate meal program in our funding (we have been working on obtaining this for the last five years). Other funding comes from the City of Portage la Prairie, fundraising events, donations and membership fees. We have 470 members. Membership cost is \$25/yr.

Project Description: We are needing to install a kitchen exhaust hood with fire suppression system into our back commercial kitchen. Manitoba Health has grandfathered our existing exhaust system, but as we are utilizing the kitchen more with volunteer baking, rentals, food preservation projects and the pre-COVID classes, we have discovered that the air flow is woefully inadequate. This is part of the make-up air/balancing that would be addressed with the fume hood installation. While we are not deep frying, a fire suppression system is recommended by the Fire Department. This new fume hood/exhaust system also requires ductwork to go out to the roof for exterior venting. As it is an extensive renovation on an older building, there needs to be Engineer stamped architectural drawings for the Planning District, and City to approve. Currently we have a young entrepreneur renting the kitchen four days a week. The other days our volunteers use it for baking desserts for our congregate meals. We do plan on having classes in there again, when we can open up more.

Amount requested: \$41,960.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Although the committee values the services and supports the Herman Prior Centre offers to our community, CFPD has funded a large portion of the past kitchen renovations and for this reason the committee is recommending no funding for the project and focus on helping other organizations with the available funding.

Name of organization: United Way Central Plains – 8(S)

Background of Organization: United Way Central Plains is an organization that works to provide sustainable funding to Agencies. We are funded by a Provincial Operating Grant, to cover administration costs, and donations to disperse among Agencies. We have 9 Agency Partners currently that we provide funding for.

Project Description: We are applying to get funding for Executive Director training through Leadership Plus. This will benefit 8 local Executive Directors directly, as well as being a benefit to the organizations they run, and therefore the people they help. We are able to start the training as soon as funding is secured.

Amount requested: \$8,232.00

Amount recommended: **\$8,200.00**

Comments: Our community has a number of non profit organizations with recently appointed Executive Directors. The committee feels providing this training to a multitude of organizations will only benefit our community as they grow in their positions and for this reason is recommending full funding.

Name of organization: Portage Community Revitalization Corp – 9(S)

Background of Organization: The PCRC is a multi-faceted, multi-functional entity whose inception came about with the purpose of using community to create community, and we do just that. While we are most known for our free public events, we consist of many layers that make up this whole NRC.

Many organizations silo themselves and in doing such narrow their focus and potential in what can be achieved with transparency and partnerships. Often times with such myopic views, resources and supports are overlooked. We sit on many committees and keep in tune with the current mood and atmosphere in Portage la Prairie. In doing this we can find out where gaps are, who can best fill those gaps and then work on bridging them. Often times that requires the PCRC to take a more supportive, less front stage role. The PCRC is funded through various provincial as well as federal contracts. PCRC offers administrative support to Communities In Bloom program which is committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility through community involvement. It provides a comprehensive evaluation beneficial to community development. The City of Portage la Prairie gives \$2000 for CIB program annual. Gardening Portage is a non-profit organization and the lead for the City of Portage la Prairie's Manitoba Communities in Bloom entry. Workshop funding is provided by the City of Portage la Prairie's Community Grants program in its efforts to promote our Communities in Bloom application and the tourism benefits.

Project Description: The Cenotaph Project will help in enhancing the war memorial site in Portage la Prairie by making it more visible and give noticeable impact and reach. We will like to give it a safe and accessible means for all citizens to visit, pay respects to war veterans by creating a smooth surface walkway making it wheelchair and walker accessible. Additionally, by adding a street clock inscribed with "Lest We Forget" this war memorial could potentially become a focal point in our town. The monument base would also get some concrete repairs. Other enhancement are benches, flower beds to replace planters, maple tree and an additional plaque in memory of war veterans from our city's closest First Nations groups: Long Plains, Dakota Tipi and Dakota Plains.

Amount requested: \$13,050.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: The Committee sees the value in the Cenotaph project and the revitalization of the area including making the area more accessible and would have considered funding these parts of the project. However, the Communities in Bloom already has enough funds for those portions of the project and would only require funding from CFPD for the installation of a clock, which the committee felt was not necessary and is recommending no funding for the project.

Name of organization: Portage & District Boat Launch Group – 10(S)

Background of Organization:

We are a group of invested diverse individuals who want to see Delta have a more permanent boat launching system. The group wishes to resolve the issue by building a small marina/boat launch adjacent to the existing channel. Location will provide sheltered launch/docks/parking. Benefactors will be multifold, recreation for Portage & District, tourists from Delta Beach Campground and other parts of Canada. As well as provide emergency access to the RCMP who have identified access an issue during the open house held in Jan 2021, as they had trouble during rescues during 2020. Funding is donations and grants. There are no fees to join.

Project Description:

Construction of about launch and marina, vehicle parking and install signage. This will provide a safe and reliable access for boat launching for emergency and recreational boaters. Timeline will be 2022 during the winter for most of it so that environmental permits are not required and this will save money. Once built the permanent boat docks will be leased and that money will be used for maintenance.

Amount requested: \$30,000.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Unfortunately the Delta Beach Boat Launch Project has yet to get started, therefore the \$50,000 CFPD granted to the project through the Manitoba Build 150 project has yet to be spent. The committee is recommending the Delta Beach Boat Launch Committee start the project and use the \$50,000 already granted prior to requesting further funding.

Name of organization: Portage Collegiate Institute -11 (S)

Background of Organization: The Ikwe/Wicasa groups were created 3 years ago to decrease the number of suspensions related to violence and bullying at Portage Collegiate Institute. Since then, our program has grown from a girls-only group to both girls and boy's groups that run during the school year. The program as an Indigenous and restorative justice focus to reduce negative attitudes, behaviours, reduce aggressive and violent attacks and to develop effective social interaction skills, community service ethic and positive problem solving skills. Our groups focus on positive role modeling and positive Indigenous identity and cultural focus. We provide students with a safe space and weekly/bi monthly meetings where we can talk openly about various subjects that are affecting the students.

Project Description: The purpose of the Ikwe/Wicasa groups has evolved for the past 3 years. Originally, the program intent was to reduce the number of suspensions during the school year at PCI. The program has grown and we now invite all and any students who would like to join (not just those who have been suspended). The program is beneficial to students because we are able to provide a safe space at PCI and provide consistent programming. The programming helps support students and creates positive relationships at PCI. This includes increasing students' perception of competence and self-worth, positive identity, increases knowledge of the impacts of violence, suspensions and missing school.

Amount requested: \$8,000.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Unfortunately CFPD provided funding for the pilot of the Ikwe/Wicasa program at PCI, and although the program was very successful and would benefit many students within PCI, CFPD is unable to fund ongoing operating costs and will suggest they seek other funders for this program.

Name of organization: Centennial Community Club Inc.-12(S)

Background of Organization: We provide a facility in the North end where residents with limited transportation can get to the arena for skating activities. The North end schools use it to run skating programs. ROK provides a free summer camp for families with limited means. As well as Free public skating and learn to skate programs during the winter. Portage Minor hockey and Ringette use the facility during the winters months on a regular basis as well we are the Home arena for the U18AAA male and female teams. We provide them with a workout area and their own dressing rooms. The fee is \$120.00 per hour of ice rental. In off-season we are used for ball practices and garage sales, Judo tournaments and The Farmers Market, when required. That fee is \$30.00 per hr of rental. We provide winter storage for campers/RVs/vehicles which is needed in our community.

Project Description: We would like to install 32 more light fixtures as we feel that we need the ice surface area to be brighter for the skating activities. We also need to repair and upgrade a shower stall in one of the dressing rooms. The project would be completed over the spring/summer to not disrupt regular activities. The City and RM of Portage la Prairie residents have ALL benefited and will continue, these include minor hockey/ringette/adult groups for skating, Judo, baseball, softball. ROK would not be able to provide all their programs without this arena. A much needed storage area for campers and trailers is provided. We support other groups when required such as rental of the area to the local Farmer's Market when they had no other spot to use.

Amount requested: \$14,490.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Although the committee values the Centennial Community Clubs work and the opportunities the BDO Centre for the Community offers, during the pandemic, this facility has been relatively unused. Since CFPD does not have enough funds to grant to all projects, the committee is recommending no funding for the project at this time, since the project is not an immediate need and will encourage the committee to reapply in the fall.

Name of organization: Delta Beach Association – 13(S)

Background of Organization: The Delta Beach Association (DBA) represents the people of Delta Beach and surrounding area. We are non-profit whose goal is to advance the use of Delta Beach as a recreational area for all to enjoy. There are no fees to be a member, it is run by volunteers and is funded through taxes through the RM of Portage and through fundraising efforts.

Project Description: The DBA owns a large parcel of land which has a fenced in court area and an old playground. The area was severely damaged by the floods of 2011. The DBA plans to rehabilitate this area to provide athletic options for organized sports as well as individual use by people of all ages. The major cost will be the court. Building a suitable court can cost well over \$100,000. However, we have found an economical solution which will leverage the existing stone and tar surface, which is still in place, but damaged. The solution is called Versacourt, which is a high impact Copolymer Polypropylene which is interlocking, designed to survive Canadian Winters, and has a lifetime warranty. The system is also removable, incase a flood should re-occur. It is in use in several community facilities throughout Manitoba & Canada and has a good reputation. The court will be able to be used for Tennis, Basketball, volleyball, pickleball, street hockey and a location to host other organized activities such as yoga etc. Beyond the repair of the court area, we need to remove all old/dangerous playground equipment and would like to see that area turn into a beach volleyball court and a covered picnic shelter where community events could be held. Delta Beach has an approximate summertime population of 650 people along with many who visit the public beach. We hope for the project to be self-sustaining once complete and have a green team summer staff person to take care of the grounds.

Amount requested: \$30,000.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: The committee sees the value in this project and it would be nice to see the area revitalized however the committee would feel more comfortable funding the project if there were already other sources of funding and if the RM of Portage was also helping with the project or the maintenance of the area. The committee is recommending no funding at this time however once the group has secured other revenue for the project they are encouraged to reapply to CFPD.

Name of organization: Canadian Mental Health Assoc. – Central Region – 14(S)

Background of Organization: CMHA Central is dedicated to promoting and enhancing the mental, emotional, and physical well-being of our communities across Southern Manitoba. Our organization offers a variety of programs through public education/training, collaboration, advocacy, and psychosocial rehabilitation services, including:

- Free mental health referral services and systems navigation
- Self-help resources & peer support programming
- occupational services and training in daily living skills
- stress management, crisis counselling, and suicide prevention
- emergency and transitional housing services

Project Description: Thrive Learning Centre is a virtually-adapted recovery college dedicated specifically to support the mental health and wellbeing of all individuals within South-Central Manitoba. Each course we offer is designed to facilitate a supportive, engaging learning environment where everyone feels included, whatever your mental health goals may be. Each course delivers psychoeducation about mental illness, resources, maintaining good mental health, and ultimately, the opportunity to rediscover passions, hope, and meaning. Developed in collaboration with mental health practitioners, our Thrive Learning Centre complements professional assessment and treatment by fostering a sense of resiliency through capacity building objectives. All of our courses are FREE and accessible to anyone with a wifi-enabled device. Our goal is to foster a welcoming and educational environment that helps people feel emotionally safe and socially connected.

Amount requested: \$10,000.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Unfortunately, the committee had a number of questions in regards to this grant including how many people they projected to use the program in our area, where would the facilitators be located and will accessibility with technology be an issue, and the applicant did not respond to our request for further information until after the grants committee meeting. For that reason, the committee is recommending no funding for the project.

Name of organization: Portage Learning & Literacy Centre – Summer Youth Engagement Program – 15(S)

Background of Organization: The PLLC is a not-for-profit agency offering many programs, including Mature Grade 12, Adult Literacy, computers, upgrading, on-site daycare for students, Work Experience Program (for youth), Employment Assistant Services, Money Management Training, and Settlement Services and Language Training for newcomers to Canada. Our settlement program offers a variety of activities, for individuals, families, seniors, women and youth, including a Summer Youth Engagement Program. We have been a pivotal part of the community for over 25 years, helping thousands of people (currently at over 1,200 per year) who have walked through our doors, either on their own or referred by other community and/or government agencies. Our partners/funders include: Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology, Manitoba Education and Training, Manitoba Training and Employment Services, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada, United Way Central Plains, and SEED Winnipeg.

Project Description: The Summer Youth Engagement Program is designed to provide newcomer youth with opportunities to connect with their peers and with their community. The program also provides participants with recreational and educational activities that develop team-building skills, leadership, and overall wellness. Participants also learn to explore their creativity through crafts and musical activities, and they take part in activities that help them learn more about cultural and heritage sites around the city. The target for the project is to serve at least 40 newcomer youth between ages 6-15 years, and the project runs from first week in July through to end of August, at least 4 hours per day, 4 days per week. This program is currently budgeted to support only 15 to 20 youth participants, but over the past couple of years, our registration numbers are close to 40 and we are forced to turn some away while also splitting the participants into smaller groups. This adds additional costs (staff, resource materials, snacks, admission fees, etc.). We intend to support the full funding of this program through applying for more grants and other community funding in the future.

Amount requested: \$4,000.00

Amount recommended: \$4,000.00

Comments: The committee was impressed with the concept of this program and felt it was a needed service that was not currently offered in our community and for that reason the committee is recommending full funding of their request.

Name of organization: Yellowquill School – 16(S)

Background of Organization: Yellowquill School is part of the Portage la Prairie School Division, it is a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school that is located in the southwest area of Portage la Prairie. Every year Yellowquill educates approximately 350-400 students. Yellowquill Strives to assist each child to reach his/her potential and to give each student the opportunity to grow in a variety of ways and become the most useful and responsible citizen possible. The Portage la Prairie School Division has 8 board members and are elected in. The Division is provincially funded as well as receives funds from taxes collected from residents in Portage.

Project Description: With the ever changing education system, Portage la Prairie School Division is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence. With the being said many internal changes happen to better suit the needs of our students. This year the Home Economics & Nutrition, Sewing, Visual arts and Metals programs were streamlined and Yellowquill School became the Hub to all the Grade 7 and 8 classes in the Division. The Breakfast Program was previously being served out of the Home Economics lab however with it becoming a lot busier a new home for the Breakfast Program was needed. As technology has also changed the school has moved from using the computer lab to bringing technology to the classroom with chrome carts, this leaving the computer lab empty. This is where the idea of creating a family room in the space came about. The family room will house the breakfast program as well as several groups and programming for students and parents. It will also be available to community members and outside agencies who come in and meet with our students. This room will benefit the whole school population, their families and the surrounding community members. We would like the project to start this Spring with it being ready for Fall. In the future grants from the Breakfast Club of Canada, Child Nutrition Council, school funding will be used to fund activities that occur in the family room.

Amount requested: \$36,416.33

Amount recommended: **\$28,500.00**

Comments: The committee understands the benefits a room like this within a school provides considering we have funded similar projects at La Verendrye, North Memorial and Fort la Reine schools. With the changing demographics of Yellowquill School and the increased need for supports within the school for families and students the committee is recommending \$28,500 for the project.

Name of organization: Portage Learning & Literacy Centre – RESET – 17(S)

Background of Organization: The PLLC is a not-for-profit agency offering many programs, including Mature Grade 12, Adult Literacy, computers, upgrading, on-site daycare for our students, Work Experience Program (for youth), Employment Assistant Services, Money Management Training, and Settlement Services and Language Training for newcomers to Canada. We have been a pivotal part of the community for over 25 years, helping thousands of people (currently at over 1,200 per year) who have walked through our doors, either on their own or referred by other community and/or government agencies. Our partners/funders include: Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology, Manitoba Education and Training, Manitoba Training and Employment Services, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada, United Way Central Plains, and SEED Winnipeg. The PLLC works closely with each of our students and clients to ensure they are successful in whatever goals they have while attending our programs, classes, and workshops. There are no fees for clients to join any of our programs, except there is a small fee for high school registration, although we can accommodate students if this fee is a barrier.

Project Description: Portage Learning & Literacy Centre would like to create a new pilot project called Regional Essential Skills for Employment Training (RESET). With this program, we will be able to provide significant support to clients and students with multiple or high barriers to employment and lack of training/skills that are needed for finding sustainable employment. Our goal would be to provide pre-employment skills training and direct support to 40 individuals within a ten-month pilot project. These individuals will be referred from other PLLC programs and from other agencies in the community. The target clientele would be any individual with barriers to employment, including not having the financial means to pay for short-term training required for certain jobs and those with barriers to finding opportunities for training and employment. With this pilot project, we plan to use the statistics collected from the clients served to apply for provincial funding to provide this program starting next year and into the future. With our current funding at the PLLC, we would be able to cover most of the major costs for this project, such as support staff, insurance, overhead - rent for office and training space, utilities, office equipment, supplies, and all costs for training provided by PLLC staff.

Amount requested: \$19,138.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Although the committee sees the value of this project, it cannot be classified as a pilot project as it is a replacement for the services previously provided by Project Soar which has now closed due to lack of funding, and because the funding would offset operational expenses CFPD is unable to fund the program.

Name of organization: Prairie Fusion Arts & Entertainment – 18(S)

Background of Organization:

Prairie Fusion Arts & Entertainment is dedicated to teaching, sharing, and celebrating artistic expression for Portage and district through programs, performances, and exhibitions in a welcoming, supportive community environment. We are the artistic hub of the community, providing an inclusive environment where all people can experience, learn, create, and celebrate the arts.

Project Description:

PFAE was fortunate enough to be a recipient of the MB Safe at Home Grant, which gave us the boost we needed to be able to facilitate virtual classes and live stream 4 concerts from the Glesby Theatre, which has otherwise sat empty since March of last year. We have used the grant to pay instructor fees, purchase streaming equipment such as webcams, microphones, video cameras, a laptop, and several other necessary items. This has assisted us greatly in finding hope for our organization moving forward, and gave us a much-needed boost in workplace morale. However, while certainly generous, this grant is just a starting point for PFAE as we continue to adapt, and reframe our organization's purpose in serving our community.

It is well documented that having access to the arts is directly related to one's mental and physical health and well-being. PFAE's virtual programming has shown its ability to provide a creative and social outlet, allowing artists, both aspiring and established, a platform to connect and share their desire to create. It has provided opportunities for shared learning and networking, and it is our goal to continue forging this new path for our organization.

PFAE is asking for a grant of \$5,000 to continue to implement our virtual programming series.

Amount requested: \$5,000.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Although the committee sees the value to having these free virtual programs Prairie Fusion has not shown a significant financial impact from the pandemic to warrant the need for this funding under our special emergency granting program and for that reason the committee is recommending no funding for the project but will encourage them to apply through the PCRC Grants Program as it falls within the funding limits.

Name of organization: Portage Community Revitalization Corp- 19(S)

Background of Organization:

PCRC is a Neighborhood Renewal Corporation which was established in 2008 as a community development office. PCRC works with the community to create community. We believe that regardless of the issue, community is the answer. Working together with the community of Portage la Prairie we empower citizens, enhance neighborhoods, foster community spirit and build the capacity of community organizations.

Project Description:

PCRC is seeking \$35,000 to purchase a passenger van to support the transportation of urban indigenous clients to vaccine clinics and medical appointments in the area.

PCRC is currently working with the Province of Manitoba to find a solution to vaccine access as the "super-site" for our regional health authority is currently located in Morden Manitoba making it nearly impossible for our most vulnerable population to access.

PCRC is currently in negotiations with the Province to potentially open a pop-up site but this has yet to be confirmed as it is currently before Treasury Board for final approval. If approved, PCRC will hire new employees to coordinate a pop-up location with the Province at a City owned facility. We would cover the costs of staffing, facility rental, food etc but we will need access to reliable, safe transportation. PCRC will cover the costs of fuel and insurance for the vehicle as well as provide drivers for the project. If this project is not approved, we will coordinate transportation to our RHAs super-site.

We anticipate the pop-up site to be open for several months. When COVID-19 ends, the van will be put to great use by continuing to transport vulnerable clients to school, medical appointments, shelter, food banks etc.

Amount requested: \$35,000.00

Amount recommended: 0

Comments: Unfortunately, this is a very large ask for a solution to a hopefully temporary problem, i.e. Covid 19 vaccinations, and because of that reason the committee does not recommend any funding for the project