



December 2, 2011

The tax credit's ripple effect: how organizations in Calgary and area benefit from charitable donations

Donations to registered charities help them to do their important work – but they don't stop there. Those donations can go one step further when they allow the charities to apply for a donation grant from the Community Spirit Program. Below are some examples of nonprofits and charities benefitting from the ripple effect in Calgary and area.

Stephen's Backpacks for Children in Need Society (Airdrie)

Stephen's Backpacks for Children in Need Society distributes backpacks filled with toys, clothing, hygiene products, and blankets to children in need. Over the past five years, over 14,000 children have benefitted from Stephen's passion. The society has received a total of \$31,114.86 in donation grants over the past two years, which have been used to purchase clothing, shoes, backpacks, and other items for children in Alberta.

Contact: James or Nancy McPhee, 403-852-9308

Young Women's Christian Association of Banff

Young Women's Christian Association of Banff builds a healthy community by helping to stop domestic violence, provide affordable housing, and serving people at critical turning points in their lives. The association has received a total of \$47,769.87 in donation grants over the past two years, which have been used to support the provision of permanent, affordable housing for low-income residents of Banff.

Contact: Steven Woollard, 403-760-3212

Community Kitchen Program of Calgary Society

The Community Kitchen Program of Calgary Society enhances the capacity of adults, children, and families to eat healthier at lower costs. Through instruction on preparing affordable meals and developing sound economic management practices, the society operates a self-empowering model to address the needs of marginalized Calgarians. The society has received a total of \$50,000 in donation grants over the past three years, which have been used to assist in the delivery of programs and services.

Contact: Marilyn Gunn, 403-538-7378

Camp Okotoks Society

Camp Okotoks plans, hosts, and operates summer camps for children and youth ages 5-18. The camp strives to maintain low registration fees to allow individuals the opportunity to have a summer camp experience regardless of their socio-economic status. The society has received a \$13,732.63 donation grant this past year, which has been used for camper transportation, food, and staff expenses.

Contact: Jonathan Bateman, 403-826-8624

Calgary Immigrant Women's Association

Calgary Immigrant Women's Association addresses the needs and concerns of immigrant and refugee women and their families through its all-female programs. The association has received total of \$38,818.30 in donation grants over the past three years, which have been used for operations and client support.

Contact: Beba Svirig, 403-444-1755

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Editor's Note: A full list of the Community Spirit Program donation grant recipients from across the province by community can be found at www.communityspiritprogram.ca.

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