

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Muskoka Community Foundation Offers Collaborative Granting Opportunity

Muskoka (February 6, 2015) – Muskoka Community Foundation (MCF) is initiating an innovative granting approach for 2015. The Foundation is inviting Muskoka’s charities and their community partners to apply for “Spirit of Wasan Island Grants” for highly visible and collaborative projects that have an immediate impact in building a smart & caring Muskoka.

The inspiration for this granting opportunity is an outcome of MCF’s September 2014 symposium at Wasan Island, “Building a Smart & Caring Muskoka”, which was attended by thirty people representing Muskoka Community Foundation, donors, Muskoka charities, not-for-profit organizations and community and municipal leaders. The “Spirit of Wasan Island Grants” grew out of these conversations.

The report that summarizes this symposium is available on the homepage of the Foundation’s website: muskokacommunityfoundation.ca.

“This conversation about philanthropy in Muskoka, which began at Wasan Island, has inspired Muskoka Community Foundation, with the support of one of our most significant donors, to pilot a new granting approach focused on fostering a smart and caring Muskoka,” says MCFs Board Chair, Marg French. “We wanted to create an opportunity for the Foundation and Muskoka’s charities to work together to collectively address the challenges that Muskoka faces and to build a smart and caring community.”

A total of \$22,000 is available for one or more projects. Multiple projects with smaller budgets may be given preference, if greater impact can be achieved. The project must be a specific, tangible and doable project with a well-defined purpose that results in an impact that continues the spirit and energy initiated at Wasan Island, and contributes to building a smart and caring Muskoka.

Each project must involve a collaboration of more than one organization that is led by a charity. Each project’s outcome must have high visibility that benefits all members of the collaborative group and the Muskoka Community Foundation. The project or projects must be completed in 2015.

Information about the grants, as well as a copy of the application are available at muskokacommunityfoundation.ca, under the ‘Applying for Grants’ tab. The application deadline is Friday, March 13, 2015 at 4:00 pm Eastern Time.

If you have any questions, or would like more information please call 705-646-1220, or email margaret@muskokacommunityfoundation.ca.

About Muskoka Community Foundation

Muskoka Community Foundation is a registered charity founded in 2007 by a group of dedicated volunteers to create permanent endowment funds that will benefit Muskoka's charities and their important work, now and forever. With the help of Caring Donors MCF has granted almost \$150,000 directly to Muskoka's registered charities to help build a smart & caring Muskoka. MCF's partnership with Muskoka's charities allows the Foundation to contribute time, leadership and financial support to help them address the key issues facing Muskoka.

For more information on Muskoka Community Foundation please call 705-646-1220 or visit muskokacommunityfoundation.ca,

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