

PATHWAYS TO PROGRESS

JOURNAL 2024



Welcome to the 2024 Pathways to Progress journal.

Inside we will highlight the transformative impact WCF has made in fostering stronger, more resilient communities. We will celebrate the grants we have distributed over two years that have been driving positive change across key areas such as economic recovery, and sustainability. Through real-life impact stories and data, this report showcases how WCF's grantmaking initiatives have uplifted individuals and organizations, laying the foundation for continued community progress.

Over the past two years, WCF has proudly distributed **\$531,932 for charitable purposes** through our grantmaking initiatives, capacity building program, and Vital Signs work. Reinforcing our commitment to investing in long-term, meaningful change.

What WCF Does: Building Stronger Communities

At WCF, we believe strong communities are built through collaboration, innovation, and a deep commitment to enhancing the well-being of all residents. Our mission is to foster growth and resilience by providing the resources and support necessary for local individuals and organizations to thrive. Guided by our core values of inclusivity, equity, and sustainability, WCF acts as a catalyst for positive change across our region.

WCF's role is to create lasting, positive impact in the community by focusing on six key areas:



Community Health & Wellness



Cultural Life



Lifelong Learning



Environment



Connections and Belonging



Abundant Living

Community Involvement & Collaboration: Whatever we do, we ensure community voices are always at the centre of our work.



Our Grantmaking Program: Catalyzing Local Change

We believe that transformative change happens at the local level, where organizations and individuals are uniquely positioned to understand and tackle the challenges their communities face. By providing critical funding and resources, WCF supports initiatives that foster community resilience, well-being, and sustainability.

\$145,650

Community Health & Wellness

\$110,850

Cultural Life

\$51,000

Lifelong Learning

\$6,000

Environment

\$134,600

Connections and Belonging

\$82,600

Abundant Living

Total number of projects funded: 26 Projects (2023-2024)

The Community Support and Recovery Fund (CSRF):

In 2023 the Community Support and Recovery Fund (CSRF) was established by the Government of Canada and a portion of that was administered by Westlock Community Foundation to address immediate and long-term challenges exacerbated by COVID-19 pandemic. Because of this, we were able to distribute \$210,000 to the community, that otherwise would not have made it to this region.

Through the CSRF, Westlock Community Foundation has supported a diverse range of projects.



The impact of CSRF funding is felt across the region, as these programs provide immediate relief and lay the foundation for sustainable community growth. By investing in recovery and resilience, WCF ensures that our communities can continue to flourish, no matter the challenges ahead.

CSRF Impact Stories: Uplifting Communities



Healthy Families Healthy Futures Society

Project Summary:

Through a \$12,250 investment, Healthy Families Healthy Futures (HFHF) upgraded its technology infrastructure, implementing a VOIP phone system and public computers. These enhancements reduced barriers to services for clients and allowed staff to manage virtual case conferences and trainings effectively. The project has modernized HFHF's operations, enabling better service delivery in a post-COVID world, improving outcomes for families in need



Jarvie Community Council

Project Summary:

Jarvie Community Council utilized a \$10,000 grant to offer technology training and equipment lending, benefiting residents with improved digital literacy and access to online government services. The project helped two individuals secure part-time employment, and local businesses enhanced operational tracking.



Progressive and Coordinating Organization Agricultural Society

Project Summary:

The Agricultural Society received \$40,000 to hire a Marketing Events Manager and purchase essential technology. The society re-established community events such as BINGO, farmers' markets, and sports viewing parties. Despite facing challenges with generating revenue to sustain long-term employment for the position, the project has revitalized local engagement and created a foundation for future growth.



Tawatinaw Valley Ski Club

Project Summary:

The Tawatinaw Valley Ski Club successfully leveraged a \$15,000 investment to modernize its communication channels and online presence, attracting new visitors from surrounding areas. By hiring marketing specialists, the club boosted its social media engagement, resulting in an increase in visitors. New staff uniforms and signage improved operational efficiency, ensuring a more professional and welcoming environment.



Westlock & District Tractor Museum Foundation

Project Summary:

The Westlock Heritage Sustainability Project, supported by \$40,000 in funding, modernized the Tractor Museum's digital infrastructure, upgraded museum software, and created a strategic framework for collaboration between local heritage institutions. These changes position the museum for long-term operational and financial sustainability, while enhancing its public engagement through updated websites and improved online donation options.



Westlock & District Community Hall Society

Project Summary:

With a \$20,000 investment, the Community Hall Society hired a new manager, resulting in significant improvements in operational efficiency. The manager streamlined event management processes and helped recover lost ground following COVID-19 disruptions. The project has prepared the society for long-term resilience and a brighter future for the community hall's activities.



Westlock Cultural Arts Theatre Society

Project Summary:

The Cultural Arts Theatre Society utilized a \$32,614 grant to modernize its sound equipment, creating a better acoustic experience for audiences and equipping local technicians with new skills. The theatre can now support more complex productions, ensuring its relevance and ability to continue offering high-quality performances in the rural community for years to come.



Westlock Golf Course

Project Summary:

The Westlock Golf Course invested \$13,400 to improve its IT and digital infrastructure, enhancing its booking system, and communications processes. The improvements ensure a safer, more efficient experience for patrons, especially post-COVID. Despite challenges with budget allocation for a website redesign, the project succeeded in its primary goal of modernizing operations and increasing accessibility.

Support Your Community with the Westlock Community Foundation (WCF)

Your Continued Support Makes a Difference

At WCF, we believe in the power of community-driven change. Every project we support, every initiative we launch, and every impact story we share is possible because of people like you. With your continued support, we can create more opportunities, enhance local services, and build a brighter future for everyone in Westlock.



How You Can Get Involved

There are many ways you can make a lasting impact. Whether as a donor, a partner, or a volunteer, your involvement can transform lives and strengthen our community. Visit www.westlockfoundation.ca for more information.



Your contributions fuel the programs that make a difference in Westlock. By donating to WCF, you are directly supporting local initiatives that matter, from youth services to senior care, education to economic development.

- Make a one-time donation: Every contribution counts, no matter the size.
- Join our monthly giving program: Help sustain community programs with regular support.
- Leave a legacy: Consider WCF in your estate planning to ensure that your commitment to Westlock continues for generations.

Visit our Donor Page www.westlockfoundation.ca/donate to learn more about how your generosity can shape the future of our community.

Partner with Us

Are you a local business or organization looking to make a meaningful impact? By partnering with WCF, you can amplify your efforts and work alongside us to create positive change. We collaborate with like-minded organizations to deliver impactful projects that benefit the entire community.

Contact us to discuss partnership opportunities and how we can work together to support our shared vision of a vibrant, thriving Westlock.



Volunteer Your Time

Do you want to be directly involved in creating change? Volunteering with WCF gives you the chance to contribute your time and skills to initiatives that uplift our community. Whether it's assisting at events, providing professional expertise, or serving on a committee, there are many ways to get involved.

Join our team of dedicated volunteers and make a difference today.

Get Started

Visit www.westlockfoundation.ca to learn more about how you can become part of the WCF family as a donor, partner, or volunteer. Together, we can make Westlock a stronger, more connected community.

Together, we build a better future.

Funds

Funds at Westlock Community Foundation (2024 YTD)

Here is a list of funds currently available that you can give to. If you wish to start your own fund, contact us or visit www.westlockfoundation.ca/donate

Flow-Through Fund

- 100 Women Who Care, Westlock
- Westlock Compassionate Fund
- Community Services Recovery Fund (2023)

Legacy (Endowed) Funds

- Westlock Literacy & Learning Fund
- Board Legacy Fund

Legacy (Internally Restricted) Funds

- Community Priorities Fund
- Rural Resiliency Fund
- Youth in Action Fund
- Creative Projects Fund

Donor Advised Funds

- Dwight and Terry Brown Foundation

Agency Funds

- Westlock Health Care Auxiliary Society

Scholarship Funds

- Albert & Florence Miller Agricultural Scholarship
- Albert Miller Scholarship Fund
- Arista Haas Scholarship
- Belle Lowe Scholarship Fund
- Fawcett PACO (Progressive & Coordinating Organization Agriculture Society) Scholarship
- Friesen Viney Scholarship
- Jim Shaffer Memorial Scholarship
- Rainbow Pastoral Charge Scholarship Fund
- RF Parent Grad Committee
- Westlock Educational Scholarship Fund
- Westlock Health Care Auxiliary Society
- Zeny Blanchette Memorial Scholarship



Impact of Giving

With an Initial
One-Time Donation of
\$100,000 to your Legacy Fund

After
First Year
Total Grant
Amount
\$3,500



Fund
Balance
\$102,000

After
10 Years
Total Grant
Amount
\$38,324



Fund
Balance
\$121,889

After
25 Years
Total Grant
Amount
\$112,106



Fund
Balance
\$164,061

After
50 Years
Total Grant
Amount
\$296,028



Fund
Balance
\$269,159

After
100 Years
Total Grant
Amount
\$1,092,813



Fund
Balance
\$724,465

**Example uses a 3.5% disbursement rate and assumes only a one-time donation. Rate of returns and all fees are based on actual 15 year data from 2008 to 2022, from another Community Foundation.*

Donors Continued:

Donors (2023):

Katie Robertson;
Direct Energy;
Deneen Ducharme;
Royal LePage;
Maureen Kubinec;
Anonymous (1);
Westlock Learning and
Literacy Centre

Donors (2024 YTD):

100 Women Who Care (Flow Through)
Katie Robertson
Government of Canada
Westlock Educational Scholarship Society
Round, Tammy Lynn
Pidsadowski's IDA Pharmacy
Lawrence, Jim Forbes
McCoy, Debbie
Morie, Laura
Seguin, Bonnie, in memory of Lawrence Leimert
Haas, Helen, Arista Haas Scholarship
Progressive and Co-ordinating Organization Agricultural Society
Town of Westlock
Government of Alberta
Leith Wheeler
Beck, Pat, Jim Shaffer Memorial Scholarship
Friesen Viney Stasiuk Chartered Professional Accountant
Edmonton Community Foundation, David & Janet Bentley Family Fund
Pickardville United Church
Pam and Joe Murphy
Blanchette, Clement
Westlock Health Care Auxiliary Society
Doherty, Ms Herta
Boisvert, Maureen, In Memory of Clem Fagnan
Brown, Terry, In Memory of Dwight Brown
Van Malsen, HENRY, in memory of Clem Fagnan
Wold, Randy, in Memory of Clem Fagnan

Acknowledgments

The progress we've made at the Westlock Community Foundation (WCF) is a direct result of the collaboration, generosity, and dedication of many individuals and organizations. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the following key donors and partners who played an integral role in making this progress possible:

Partners and Funders:



Government of Canada

Government of Canada: We are grateful for the Government of Canada's funding for the CSRF program, which has empowered us to expand our services and build capacity within our community.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF CANADA

Community Foundations of Canada: Our partnership with the Community Foundations of Canada has strengthened our reach and impact, enabling us to collaborate on national-level programs, including CSRF, while tailoring initiatives to local needs.



TOWN OF Westlock

Town of Westlock: As both a partner and funder, the Town of Westlock has provided crucial support to our initiatives, working hand-in-hand with WCF to uplift residents and enhance community services.



Westlock County: Our collaboration with Westlock County has been vital in extending the reach of our programs to more rural areas, ensuring that all residents benefit from the services we provide.

Major Donors:



Westlock Learning and Literacy Centre: Your generous contributions have enabled us to fund educational programs that are empowering individuals in our community, improving literacy rates and creating opportunities for lifelong learning.



The Millers: Albert and Florence are the reason we exist. They created a legacy by entrusting the Town of Westlock to use their gift to support the community. At the time of the gift, Former Mayor Leriger and Council chose to direct the funds to the creation of the Community Foundation. It is with the long-term thinking, creativity, and love for the community, that this organization was made possible.



Westlock Educational Scholarship Society: The first scholarships fund was established at Westlock Community Foundation because of the society's generosity and desire to create a lasting legacy.



Dwight & Terry Brown: Terry Brown has started a new Donor Advised Fund called the Dwight & Terry Brown Foundation in memory of her late husband (Dwight) to honour his legacy and create a way to give back to the community the both love so dearly, forever.



Westlock Health Care Auxiliary Society: Started the first agency fund with WCF. This fund provides a lasting legacy and ongoing support for the mission of the Westlock Health Care Auxiliary Society.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we are building a brighter future for our community.