



BROKENHEAD RIVER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Growing our Community. Together. Forever!



Fall 2025

BEAUSEJOUR BROKENHEAD VITAL SIGNS REPORT

In summer 2024, the Brokenhead River Community Foundation (BRCF) Board of Directors voted to proceed with a Vital Signs project in Beausejour Brokenhead. The BRCF was chosen as one of six Manitoba Community Foundations to be supported by Endow Manitoba and Manitoba Blue Cross in this valuable pilot project for the Province.

Vital Signs is a community check-up conducted by community foundations across Canada and is coordinated nationally by Community Foundations of Canada. The purpose of the report is to give a snapshot of the Beausejour Brokenhead community well-being and to help guide efforts to:

- Enhance community programs
- Support funding decisions
- Foster partnerships that address local needs
- Inform decision making
- Support applications to other levels of government
- Aid in planning for a better future

A Vital Signs Committee was formed of BRCF Board & Staff and other community members. Local focus groups were conducted along with a community survey being distributed for all adults and students in grades 10, 11 and 12. All the information gathered has been incorporated into the Vital Signs Community Report.

The BRCF Board of Directors and the Vital Signs Committee are

pleased to share that the report has now been published and is available for everyone to read on the website!

Within the report pages you will find information that gives insights and perspectives into the fabric of our community. We hope that it can be a valuable tool to building the better future that awaits our community.

There are so many people who made this report happen. The Board and Committee can't thank you enough. Extra thanks to the Town of Beausejour and the RM of Brokenhead councils for their continuous support and seeing the value in this project. To everyone who helped make this happen, in any capacity, thank you!

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Jarrett Powers (BRCF Board Director) presents the BRCF Scholarship to Kéla Haskins



Holly Madden (BRCF Board Treasurer) presents the BRCF Bursary to Elizabeth Barrett



Carla Mroz (BRCF Board Director) presents the BRCF Bursary to Judy Abousetta



Jarrett Powers (Beausejour Curling Club President) presents the Beausejour Curling Club Scholarship to William Koze



Jarrett Powers (BRCF Board Director) presents the Brokenhead ~ Thalberg North ~ Mars ~ Brokenhead East Scholarship to Nyah Côté



Leone Rondeau (BRCF Board Secretary) presents the Eric Lefko Memorial Bursary to Elizabeth Barrett



Doug Tirschmann (Fund Holder) presents the Ernie Tirschmann Memorial Bursary to Elizabeth Barrett



Holly Madden (BRCF Board Treasurer) presents the Gerald & Dr. Pamela Hawranik Bursary for Nursing to Karly Ramsden



Holly Madden & Scott Bodnarchuk (Fund Holders) present the Madden-Bodnarchuk Sports Bursary to Dante Molina



Reg Black (BRCF Board Chairperson) presents the Radford Math Scholarship to Nicholas Geith



Holly Madden (BRCF Board Treasurer) presents the Radford Science Scholarship to Kéla Haskins



Leone Rondeau (Fund Holder) presents the Robert Rondeau Memorial Scholarship to Kéla Haskins



Scholarship & Bursary Recipients 2025

Clinton Orr & Jodi Ruta (Fund Holders) present the Clinton Orr & Jodi Ruta Community Builder Scholarships to Kéla Haskins & Judy Abousetta

Steph Jack & Dean Mineault (Beausejour Brokenhead Fire Department) present the Robert Rittwage Memorial Scholarship to Serena Gorski





Youth in Philanthropy (YiP)



The BRCF is pleased to announce that the Youth in Philanthropy Program is back!!

The Brokenhead River Community Foundation (BRCF) is very excited to announce the Youth in Philanthropy (YiP) Program is back!! Students in Grades 9 through 12 who live in the BRCF Catchment are encouraged to get involved!

What is YiP?

YiP is for young people who envision a safe, strong community where everyone from any culture and background can work together. It is designed to introduce motivated young people to philanthropy and local

community development. The program gives youth hands-on experience working as a team and with local charitable organizations. It's a one-of-a-kind experience.

Youth in Philanthropy is a youth-led program designed to introduce motivated high school-aged young people to philanthropy and local community development. It aims to empower youth to make change in their community through educational opportunities in the form of site visits, events, volunteering and grantmaking.

Through YiP, youth will gain skills that will last a lifetime and learn about some amazing people and organizations doing powerful work to make our community better. YiP helps everyone in our community! If you (or someone you know) would like more information or to be a part of the BRCF YiP Program, call/text/email Debbie Majeau at 431-343-2723 or brcf@brcfoundation.ca



Volunteering is a huge component of bursary & scholarship applications! It's never too early to start...but it can be too late! Don't wait! Get involved now!

Interested in advertising in the newsletter? Please reach out to inquire about future editions.

Wayne Ewasko
MLA for Lac du Bonnet

204.268.3282
wayne@wayneewasko.com





BROKENHEAD RIVER
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Growing our Community. Together. Forever!

Major Milestone for the Foundation

\$2,000,000 in Gifted Funds

The Brokenhead River Community Foundation (BRCF) is thrilled to announce that through the incredible support of donors, it has recently surpassed \$2,000,000 in gifted funds to date! ***"This milestone is a testament to both community and non-community members recognizing and believing in the good work the community foundation is doing in our community,"*** said Debbie Majeau, Administration and Marketing Coordinator for the BRCF. ***"It is so gratifying and rewarding to see what the community can accomplish – together."***

The Community Foundation model is unique in that all funds gifted (donated) to it are never spent. Instead, funds are pooled to various endowment funds and sustainably invested with a portion of the interest earned annually given back to the community every year. That giving back happens by way of grants to local groups for projects to make the community a better place to live, work and play, and to scholarships & bursaries to graduating students from the community going on to post-secondary education.

"Less than 30 months ago the Foundation reached \$1,000,000 in gifted funds", acknowledged Foundation President Reg Black. ***"Reaching \$2,000,000 means the Foundation can double***



the support it provides to the community. To put the benefit of \$2,000,000 into context for the community, it means that approximately \$80,000 flows back into the community – every year – forever!"

Black was quick to add that the improved recognition and growth of the Foundation would not have been possible if not for the ongoing support of both the Town of Beausejour and RM of Brokenhead. ***"Both Councils understand and believe in the Foundation and its benefit to the community. The Foundation would not be where it is today without their support."***

(continued next page)

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Brokenhead River Community Foundation



Milestone Continued...

Donations to the Foundation – of any size – can be made at any time and in several ways. Besides monetary donations, the Foundation recently has had a number of donors transfer securities (shares) to it which provide significant tax benefits to the donor. Donations are also received through wills and estates.

A large number of donations received go to the general community fund which assists in the community's current needs through granting to local groups. Donors also have the option to choose an area of interest to them such as education, recreation, arts & culture, environment – all areas of the community's wellbeing. They can also opt to create their own endowment fund.

“Within the last five years, community members and organizations have created 15 new endowment funds to provide benefit to numerous different causes in the community” offered Foundation Treasurer Holly Madden. ***“Many of those donors are committed to growing those endowment funds, to further benefit the community. And the Foundation is having meaningful conversations with others interested in supporting their community.”***

Giving is not just
about make a donation,
it's about
making a difference.

- Kathy Calvin

Bursary/Scholarship

BRCF Bursary

BRCF Scholarship

Beausejour Curling Club Scholarship

Brokenhead ~Thalberg North~ Mars~ Brokenhead East Scholarship

Clinton Orr/Jodi Ruta Community Builder

Eric Lefko Memorial Bursary

Ernie Tirschmann Memorial Bursary

Gerald & Dr. Pamela Hawranik Bursary for Nursing

Ken Matchizen Memorial Scholarship

Larrie Somerville Chemistry Fund

Madden-Bodnarchuk Sports Bursary

Radford Math Scholarship

Radford Science Scholarship

Robert Rittwage Memorial Scholarship

Robert Rondeau Memorial Scholarship



Community

BRCF Admin Fund

BRCF General Fund

BRCF Sports Fund

BRCF Yourh in Philanthropy (YiP) Fund

2006 Winter Games Fund

Beausejour Hospital/East Gate Lodge Fund

Best Community Fund

Big Beausejour Book Sale Fund

CPIC Community Fund

Cherrey Family Trust Fund

Don Grieg Fund

Elizabeth Schreyer Archive Fund

Ina Gibson Fund

Michael Hamende Memorial Fund

Nieckarz/Hill Community Fund

Tarantism Sports, Arts & Recreation Fund



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Giving Week

November 10 - 16, 2025

Every year in November, The Endow Manitoba Giving Challenge is your opportunity to help your community foundation grow exponentially. This year is no exception. The Brokenhead River Community Foundation is thrilled to share this week once again with you! Gifts made to the BRCF "Unrestricted Funds" between November 10-16 will be "stretched" through the combined efforts of the Manitoba government and The Winnipeg Foundation. This increases the amount the Foundation receives with your donation.

What does this mean?

The Winnipeg Foundation and the Manitoba government are committed to the growth of community foundations across Manitoba, each providing a maximum stretch of \$2,000 per foundation. This means the BRCF can receive up to \$4,000 in stretch funding. For every dollar donated (up to \$10,000) the Winnipeg Foundation and the Manitoba Government will add a total \$.40 on the dollar donated. This means more money being invested in our communities! Making a donation during Giving Week is easy! One of the easiest ways is to head over to the Foundation website at www.brcfoundation.ca. If you click on the "Donate Today" header, you will find a direct link to all the ways you can donate (including online through "The Winnipeg Foundation portal"). The Winnipeg Foundation partners and supports rural foundations like the BRCF.

As always, if you have any questions or need assistance, you can contact the BRCF via all the methods posted in this newsletter!

BROKENHEAD RIVER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Reg Black
President



Duane Versluis
Vice President



Holly Madden
Treasurer



Leone Rondeau
Secretary



Jarrett Powers
Director



Bonnie Stefansson
Director



Carla Mroz
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Brenda Wilgosh
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Debbie Majeau
Administration &
Marketing
Coordinator

Wishing Zane Hunter all the best on his retirement from the BRCF Board of Directors! Thank you for more than 10 years of service.

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BRCF/Thomas Sill Foundation Grant Recipients



The Thomas Sill Foundation was established in 1987 by the last will of Thomas Sill, a Manitoba resident and chartered accountant with offices across the province. For decades, the Thomas Sill Foundation supported charitable activities in Manitoba, awarding grants to many communities with the vision that these communities would continue to grow and prosper.

At the end of 2023, the Thomas Sill Foundation wound down operations but wanted to ensure its longstanding legacy of supporting Manitoba continued. With some of the remaining resources, the Thomas Sill Manitoba Fund was established at The Winnipeg Foundation to benefit Endow Manitoba community foundation member communities.

As a community foundation in good standing with Endow Manitoba, the BRCF was awarded \$22,903.32 in funding to distribute within its granting guidelines.

THE FOLLOWING WERE AWARDED FUNDING THANKS TO THE THOMAS SILL FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE BRCF

Brokenhead River Game & Fish Association

**Archery
Rejuvenation
Project
\$2,000**



Pioneer Village Museum/Broken-Beau Historical Society

**Wheelchair
Accessible
Picnic Tables
\$2,400**



Brokenhead River Recreation Commission



**Community
Loaning
Program
\$3,750**

Royal Canadian Legion ~ Beausejour Branch 132



**Front
Entrance
Renovations
\$4,466.45**

Brokenhead River Regional Library



**Lighting
Upgrades
\$4,725**

Sandy- Saulteaux Spiritual Centre

**New
Signage
\$4345.00**



Interlake Eastman Health Foundation

Sara Steady Standing Aid \$1216.87

Do you know of a local community organization in need of grant funding?

Contact the BRCF to ensure their contact information is in the database.

The BRCF provides community grants, scholarships & bursaries to enhance the quality of life in the Beausejour Brokenhead community.



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WHAT IS THE



BROKENHEAD RIVER
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FOUNDATION



It is a local volunteer run organization that accepts gifts and donations for sustainable investment to generate revenue.



Revenue is put directly back into the community by way of grants, scholarships and bursaries.

The principal balance is never spent and allows the Foundation to continually give back to the Beausejour Brokenhead community - forever!



The Foundation relies on the generous financial gifts from donors to continue its mission to give back to our community

Please consider making a *forever* gift.

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