

CFPD's 8th Annual "150 Women Who Care" Program a Huge Success

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An Evening to Remember

The Community Foundation of Portage & District's 8th Annual "150 Women Who Care" Event happened on Feb. 19, and included good food, good company, and a lot of positivity and inspiration. We heard pitches from four local non-profit groups, who were vying for the \$10,000 Community Impact Grant to put toward their very important programs that seek to improve life for local citizens. The groups presenting included Portage Learning & Literacy Centre (looking to start a free women's driving program); Family



Resource Centre (proposing a free women's health workshop focused on menopause); Red River College—Portage Campus (hoping to implement a free women and girls' self-defense class); and the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Church (for kitchen renovations). Ultimately, it was the Ukrainian Church who walked away with the \$10,000 after the 150 women in

attendance voted for them, seeing the value in this important Community Hub—especially at a time when immigration from Ukraine is ever-increasing. Everyone walked away a winner though, as the runners-up each received \$1000 thanks to Community Futures Heartland and White Horse Plains.

\$10,000 Will Give Boost to St. Nicholas Ukrainian Church Kitchen Project

The Ukrainian Church is home to a kitchen that welcomes many Ukrainian and other community members in for cultural, social, and educational activities—the Church just celebrated their 120th anniversary and they hope to continue on their legacy for another 120 years and beyond. While the grant provided by CFPD will be instrumental in advancing their renovation project, they are still in need of further funding to fully complete their project.

The Salvation Army Receives Women Who Care Fund Grant for BRAVE Program

The recipient of the \$5400 Women Who Care Fund Grant was also announced at the Event—The Salvation Army will use the funds to implement the 'BRAVE' Program. This Program is a prevention-focused initiative committed to educating and empowering girls at risk, in order to reduce vulnerability to sexual exploitation and trafficking—a sad reality that does exist in our community. CFPD is pleased to be able to assist with this very important programming, investing in and

empowering local women and girls to avoid gender-based violence and exploitation.

Together, we Build Community

In the words of CFPD Executive Director Lorna Knight, the "150 Women Who Care" Event is one in which we gather as women, united as a team, by a shared belief—that when we come together, we can change the world, starting right here in our own community. The grants provided through the Women Who Care Program certainly contribute, year after year,



to creating positive and lasting change.

Help us Make a Difference

To support the "150 Women Who Care" Program and help improve life in your community, select the "Women Who Care Fund" from the drop-down of our website at www.cfpdi.ca/makeadonation by clicking the "Donate Now" button. More general donations can be made to the "Smart & Caring Community Fund", which is disbursed through our bi-annual Community Grants.



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The 2026 "150 Women Who Care" event was sponsored by BDO; Southport Aerospace; Stride Credit Union; Community Futures Heartland & White Horse Plains; Mayfair Print Shoppe; Westview Dental Centre; and What's the Scoop? Ice Cream Parlour.

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