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Sheila Taylor

March 23, 2023

Councillor Sean Chu
Ward 4, Office of the Councillors
PO Box 2100 Stn M, Mailcode: 8001
Calgary AB, T2P 2M5

Dear Councillor Chu,

This letter is your annual update on the outcomes of Parks Foundation's grant programs in 2022. Much has happened over the last year at Parks Foundation Calgary, in our city, and around the globe. Regardless of current events, the past few years have proven that the value of parks and sport, and access to nature, cannot be overemphasized. Parks are cherished spaces that allow individuals of all backgrounds to connect with one another, improve mental and physical health, and thrive in an increasingly digital world.

In 2022, Parks Foundation awarded over \$1M in funding to support park development, sport, and activities to encourage Calgarians to spend time outdoors.

This letter and the attached package provide information on projects and organizations that were supported in 2022 by at least one of our 6 granting programs. Below is a short description of our core granting programs and new programs that launched in 2022.

The Amateur Sport Grant Program is made possible by a partnership between Parks Foundation, the Saddledome Foundation, and the Calgary Flames Hockey Club. The program supports the development of new sport facilities, expanding or renovating existing facilities, or for purchasing sport-related equipment.

The Calgary Flames Rink Award is administered through the Amateur Sport Program. The Rink Award grants \$60,000 per year to community rink projects who either do not have a rink or require an upgrade or refurbishment of their current rink. In addition, the Calgary Flames Foundation also supports one playground project per year through Parks Foundation's Building Communities Program.

The Building Communities Program helps to support a variety of community-led park initiatives by awarding grants up to \$30,000. This grant program was created to support the development of outdoor community park spaces allowing people to stay active, learn and build connections.

The Stella Conceptual Drawing Grant Program helps support a community's unique vision for their park space. The program provides



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seed money for communities to develop a design for their unique project ideas. This program was made possible by a generous donation from Mario Stella, a local businessman, philanthropist, and Rotarian who passed away in early 2013.

The Embrace the Outdoors Grant Program, first launched in 2020 and followed by subsequent intakes, was back by popular demand in 2022. The program supported outdoor space improvements that allowed Calgarians to experience public parks in new ways. Awards of up to \$5,000 supported the direct cost of capital improvements that drew Calgarians outdoors during the winter months. Eligible projects included outdoor equipment pools, art installations, seating and/or lighting improvements, or holiday displays.

The Activate Parks YYC Grant Program allowed organizations to hold creative, outdoor events that increase safety, community optimism, and gathering opportunities for Calgarians visiting or living in the area surrounding Central Memorial Parks and Haultain Park. Recipients included the Pride Calgary Planning Committee, The Arusha Centre, 4th Street Lilac Festival Society, Sustainable Calgary Society, and more.

GRANT PROGRAM 2022 SUMMARY

2022 Amateur Sport Program:

\$407,457 granted to 15 different sport organizations
\$16+ million dollars awarded since the program began in 1987

2022 Calgary Flames Rink Award:

\$60,000 granted to Crescent Heights Community Association for the construction of a community-rink project

2022 Building Communities Program:

\$325,000 granted to 13 different school and community organizations
\$4 million dollars awarded since the program began in 1987

2022 Stella Conceptual Drawing Program:

\$30,000 granted to 6 community organizations with innovative projects
\$409,362 since the program began in 2009

2022 Embrace the Outdoors Program:

\$90,000 granted to 20 organizations
\$345,000 granted since the initial launch in 2020

2022 NEW ActivateParks YYC Program:

\$92,723 granted to 9 organizations



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Please refer to the attached impact report for further details regarding Parks Foundation's impact in 2022. The 2022 grant recipients specific to your ward include:

- **Collingwood School Parent Association-** Collingwood School Naturalization Project
- **North Haven Parent Association-** North Haven Learning Grounds
- **Dalhousie Community Association-** Dalhousie Community Garden & Food Forest
- **North Haven Community Association-** Ice Sculptures & Outdoor Rink
- **Dalhousie Community Association-** DeLIGHTS of Dalhousie
- **Cambrian Heights Community Association-** CHCA Ice Sweeper Replacement

We encourage you to promote these grant programs to your constituents, community associations and non-profit organizations in your ward. Detailed information on our grants and programs can be found on our website at www.parksfdn.com.

Parks Foundation Calgary remains committed to our mission of providing accessible and unique sport and greenspaces by supporting community leaders and organizations through our programs. We are continually encouraged by the resilience of Calgarians as they build and enhance meaningful outdoor spaces in their communities. Like our team at Parks Foundation, they too know that parks will always matter.

Sincerely,

Sheila Taylor
Chief Executive Officer