



## **The Kiwanis Club of Red Deer**

**“We Build”**

**60 + Years of Service  
To Our Community**

## ***Foreword***

Kiwanis is a worldwide service organization of about 288,000 members in 8,030 clubs in 70 nations. Being a member of Kiwanis provides an individual with opportunities to give of their time, talents and resources to help make their community and the world a better place in which to live and work. As a group Kiwanians can achieve what individuals cannot do alone. Thus the motto and cornerstone of Kiwanis: "We Build".

Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Calgary Downtown, the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer was chartered in 1951 with Fred Horn as its first President. We still benefit from the counsel of charter members Fred Horn, Dr. Stu Fleming and Dr. Harold Spencer, who were charter members of our club.

In turn, the Kiwanis Club of Waskasoo of Red Deer was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer on March 23, 1964 which continued to provide Kiwanis service until it merged with the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer in 1994. Today there is one Kiwanis Club in Red Deer and it continues the proud tradition of service to our community.

The club has about 50 men and women members residing in Red Deer and nearby communities. We meet twice monthly in evening dinner meetings at the Quality Inn in north Red Deer. The program for each meeting usually includes a guest speaker who briefly presents on a topic of current interest to members. At these meetings, club members socialize, decide on projects which the club will support or undertake and organize fund-raising activities.

Kiwanis is also a social organization so members of the club develop strong and lasting friendships. They come to enjoy the work of Kiwanis and profit from the support and strength they get from each other.

The work of the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer since its inception has taken many varied forms; all designed to make Red Deer a better place in which to live. Although we commemorate a milestone of the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer, this history is dedicated to the countless hours of service by committed men and women of both Kiwanis Clubs: Red Deer and Waskasoo. Our accomplishments are many, reflecting the real reasons for celebrating Kiwanis in Red Deer: 60 Years of Service.

## ***The Very Special Ongoing Project of Red Deer Kiwanis***

### **Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation**

In 1953 Kiwanis recognized the pressing need in Red Deer for senior citizens' housing and nursing home facilities since there were no decent facilities available.

A committee was formed under the chairmanship of George Sinclair to tackle the problem. From these modest beginnings grew the Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation, a society created by the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer, to build and operate facilities for senior citizens. Every member of the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer is automatically a member of the Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation.

The Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation is a registered society under the Alberta Societies Act. The Foundation is governed by a nine-member board of directors comprised of eight members of the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer and one member from the public-at-large.

The motto of Kiwanis is “We Build” and build we did:

- 1954 - 16 cottages with accommodation for 32 seniors
- 1956 - Twilight Lodge - the first facility of its kind in Alberta - accommodating 52 seniors.
- 1958/1966 - 32 more cottages accommodating 64 seniors.
- 1967/68 - Centennial Courts accommodating 24 seniors.
- 1972/73 - Centennial Courts & Additions - 36 seniors.
- 1976 - Addition to Twilight Lodge completed.
- 1976 - Pines Lodge opened with accommodations for 65 seniors.
- 1977 - Canyon View Place sod turned - 41 suites.
- 1980 - Barrett Place built - 108 suites.
- 1983 - Fleming Manor opened - 25 suites.

In each of these projects the Kiwanis Club provided leadership and volunteer support which brought together many diverse groups, individuals, and levels of government needed for planning, raising funds for construction and building the projects.

In 1980 the City of Red Deer took over full management of the two lodges - the Twilight Lodge and the Pines Lodge – which along with Parkvale Lodge, are now managed by the Piper Creek Lodge Foundation.

In 1985, the Government of Alberta purchased the seniors’ residences from the Twilight Homes Foundation and entered into a management agreement whereby the Foundation managed and operated these facilities.

The Foundation received a substantial sum of cash for the facilities and simultaneously received several large bequests and gifts from individuals who valued the good works of the Foundation and wished to support its activities. This added a new dimension to the purposes of the Foundation since now it had a sizeable cash endowment to manage and disburse the proceeds for worthy community causes.

From 1985 to 2001, the Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation has made substantial donations to the Red Deer community, mainly designed to benefit seniors. The Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre and its Foundation has received about \$830,000 in grants with the most recent being a donation of \$250,000 to assist with purchasing a Magnetic Resonance Imaging unit

Among others:

<b>1.</b>	<b>Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre (approximately)</b>	
	1.1 Colour Doppler Ultra Sound Unit	145,000
	1.2 Lifeline Units	17,000
	1.3 Cardiac Telemetry Unit	25,000
	1.4 City Paramedic service	125,000
	1.5 Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Equip.	65,000
	1.6 Paco-emulsifier & Lithotriper for Ophthalmology & Urology	65,000
	1.7 Vasculab for Diagnosing Blocked Arteries	45,000
	1.8 Patients Lifts with Slings	18,000
	1.9 Miscellaneous Items	75,000
	1.10 Magnetic Resonance Imaging Unit	250,000
	1.11 Annual donations to Festival of Trees & Cattle drive	4,500
<b>2.</b>	<b>Major Donations to Other Causes in Red Deer</b>	
	2.1 Atrium at Red Deer Museum	40,000
	2.2 Elevator at the Westerner	60,000
	2.3 Spa Facility at the Red Deer Swimming Pool	135,000
	2.4 Red Deer Library Renovation	45,000
	2.5 Library - Large Print Books	13,000
	2.6 Action Van	10,100
	2.7 Golden Circle Renovations	10,000
	2.8 Hard of Hearing Devices for Red Deer College Arts Centre	18,000
	2.9 Senior Swim Program (annually)	6,000
	2.10 Red Deer Safety City Society	50,000
	2.11 Red Deer Sports Hall of Fame	50,000
	Ronal Macdonald House – Red Deer	125,000

<b>3.</b>	<b>Approximate Amounts Spent Annually on Programs for Residents in Our Seniors' Facilities</b>	
	3.1 Garden Competition	300
	3.2 Seniors' Christmas Dinners	2 ,500
	3.3 Transportation - Church Pick-up	3,000
	3.4 Bus Trips	3,000

Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation is no longer responsible for the management of the seniors' facilities comprising Centennial Courts, the Cottages, Barrett Place, Canyon View Place, Fleming Manor, and Waskasoo Towers, all of which were taken over by Piper Creek Lodge in 2010. Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation now exists as a benevolent society that, primarily support the well-being of seniors in Central Alberta.

## ***Our Support is Long Term***

### **Camp Sherbino - Girl Guide Camp**

In 1954 the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer purchased 80 acres near Sylvan Lake to develop a wilderness type camp for Girl Guides and Rangers. After clearing the site, over the years we built a cookhouse, two large assembly halls, cabins for sleeping, a Ranger's cabin and storage buildings. Each year Kiwanis members hold work parties to maintain and improve the facilities. Money donated by Kiwanis and modest rental fees for groups other than the Guides and cash rent receipts from a farmer who crops the unused land pays for upkeep and improvements. In recent years, the Girl Guides and their parents help to staff the Kiwanis bingo crews 3-4 times per year. They participate in the profits which the Guides use at their discretion to fund the camp's operation and to make improvements.

Each year about 800 Girl Guides ages 8 to 17, mostly from central Alberta, use the camp primarily during the winter season-September to May. It is the only wilderness type camp available to the Girl Guides so it is very important to them for earning their badges related to outdoor activities.

Camp Sherbino was named after Arnold and Pat Sherbino. Arnold was a devoted Kiwanian whose leadership and hard work was instrumental in starting the Camp and laying groundwork for its continued success. Pat Sherbino, Arnold's wife, was active in the Guide movement for many years.

The annual budget for upkeep, property taxes, insurance and improvements is approximately \$7,000.

## **The Red Deer Festival of the Performing Arts**

In 1964 the Kiwanis Club organized and held the first Kiwanis Music Festival with Dr. Stu Fleming as its founder and Chairman. In the first year, entries were mostly piano and vocal solos and a few school choruses. The only two bands came from Canadian Union College in Lacombe. The budget was approximately \$2,000.

The Kiwanis Club, in 1986, created the Red Deer Festival of the Performing Arts Society to operate the festival. Members of the Kiwanis Club still do much of the planning, organizing and fund raising but there is much more opportunity for the general public to be involved in the annual festival. In a typical year the Kiwanis Club and its members contribute about \$5,000 to the Society.

Members of the Kiwanis Club, their spouses and friends of the festival donate hundreds of hours of work planning, fund raising and operating the festival, held in April each year. The 2011 festival was our 48<sup>th</sup> annual, with about 6,000 participants – among the largest ever. Financial support is actively solicited by Kiwanis members from businesses, professionals and individuals, and is complemented with entry and admission fees and funding directly from the Kiwanis Club. In 1991 the Society was recognized as a registered charity for income tax purposes so donations are tax deductible.

Competitions, which are professionally adjudicated, are held in band, choral, instrumental, orchestra, piano, strings, speech arts, and voice, with the venues being at Red Deer College and Living Stones Church. The event is open to the general public, typically runs for a week and is followed by a “Performer’s Showcase” highlighting top performances

## **The Golden Circle**

In 1977, as an anniversary project to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of Kiwanis in Red Deer, the Kiwanis Club spearheaded a drive to fund and build the Golden Circle, a social and recreational centre for seniors. In what became phase one of the project, the Kiwanis club raised \$116,000 in a 24-hour telethon. The second phase, a 4000 square foot addition, was completed in 1980/81 and again Kiwanis played a leadership role in fundraising, in its construction and also contributed \$15,000. Stu Fleming, a member of Kiwanis, was the chairman of the Building Committee. He successfully brought together the resources of the three levels of government (City, Provincial and Federal), local service clubs and other organizations, to provide the funds needed to construct and furnish both phases of the facility. The Kiwanis Club continues to be involved on the Management Board of the Golden Circle and has periodically donated funds from Twilight Homes Foundation to purchase office equipment, print its service directory and to fund renovations.

## **Red Deer Kiwanis Safety City**

On April 23, 2001 Red Deer Kiwanis Safety City, located at 55<sup>th</sup> Street and 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue, opened to its first class of primary school children.

Based on a concept originating in Illinois in 1972, Safety City is a mini streetscape, with paved streets and avenues situated on 3.5 acres of land leased from the Government of Alberta. Adding realism to the site, are small buildings, called kiosks, leased and built by businesses in Red Deer which pay an annual rental to be part of Safety City.

These community minded businesses have exclusive right to distribute promotional materials to the estimated 3,000 pupils, 500 teachers and parents, and hundreds of others who visit the site during the year. But their involvement goes beyond this. Our kiosk partners are also involved because the owners feel a commitment to enhancing safety for children in Red Deer and Central Alberta.

The goal of Safety City is to improve safety in the community by providing training facilities, safety resources and professional expertise to reduce or eliminate accidents, injuries or deaths. The motto of "Help Prevent Injuries Now – Not When We Have to Mend the Hurt", became a hallmark during an ambitious capital campaign. Safety City's programs are geared towards children in the very impressionable ages from four to ten years. In the classrooms and under supervision on the streets and avenues of Safety City, children learn pedestrian and traffic safety, bicycle safety, fire and home safety and acreage and farm safety. Safety oriented birthday parties and summer camps are also offered.:-

Fund raising and construction of Safety City was a joint millennium project of Red Deer Safety City Society and the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer. Supported by major corporate contributions, service clubs and individuals, as well as foundations and lottery funding, Safety City has raised more than \$550,000 in cash and "in kind" goods and service donations. Operation of the facility and its programs is under the jurisdiction of a 12-member board of directors on which the Kiwanis club has 3 appointees. Day-to-day administration and instruction is carried out by a paid Executive Director, and two summer students operate the programs during summer.

## **Christmas Carol Festival**

Annually, the Kiwanis Club sponsors and organizes a Christmas Carol Festival, held at Gaetz Memorial United Church in early December. Members of Kiwanis chair and organize the event by arranging for performers, providing the ushers and emcee, leading the carol singing by the audience, passing out song sheets and taking a collection each event..

Local church and youth choirs, vocal groups, bands and orchestras, and individuals are invited to participate and sing or play songs of Christmas. Proceeds from the collection go to the Christmas Bureau and the Red Deer Food Bank, and typically about \$1,100 cash and hundreds of dollars worth of food is collected.

## **Eliminate Project :**

With The Eliminate Project, Kiwanis International and UNICEF have joined forces to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. This deadly disease steals the lives of nearly 60,000 innocent babies and a significant number of women each year. The effects of the disease are excruciating — tiny newborns suffer repeated, painful convulsions and extreme sensitivity to light and touch. Our Red Deer Club has pledged \$2000.00 for 5 years for a total of \$10,000.00

## **Red Deer Ronald MacDonald House:**

The Kiwanis Club of Red Deer in conjunction with the Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation have pledged \$125,000.00 to this worthy cause. A suite has been named in our honor for this.

# ***Our Support is Ongoing For Schools And Education***

## **The Terrific Kids Program**

In the spring of 1991, Kiwanis started a program called "Terrific Kids" at North Hill Elementary School and Central School. When North Hill and Central Elementary Schools closed, Fairview and G.H. Dawe Elementary Schools became replacements in the program. Terrific Kids is designed to enhance the self-esteem of elementary school pupils. The awards and individual recognition built into the program help these children to feel good about themselves, thereby improving both their academic performance and their relations with other children and adults. The program now includes six elementary schools in Red Deer.

Each month a "Terrific Kid" is selected by the teacher from each classroom in the two schools. Every student selected receives a T-shirt, pencil and Certificate, imprinted with the words; "I am a Terrific Kid". Kiwanis members at a school assembly held monthly in each school present these awards.

Parents of the children being recognized are also invited. This helps all participants gain a renewed appreciation for pupils, teachers and the important work carried out by our schools. Teachers and principals are enthusiastic about the program and have urged that it continue for it has had a very positive impact upon student attitudes in both schools. The Kiwanis Club budgets approximately \$6,000 annually to fund this program.

## **Scholarships and Awards**

The Kiwanis Club donates funds to Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School, Notre Dame High School, Hunting Hills High School for annual scholarships and awards to deserving students. Each scholarship is named after a deceased or current member of Kiwanis to recognize the contributions that these individuals have made to our community. The budget for these awards is \$1,200.

## **A Broad Range of Educational Support**

Kiwanis routinely supports a wide variety of school initiatives, such as music programs, elementary school breakfast programs and the P.A.R.T.Y. Program. We've provided financial assistance to the Young Writers' Workshop and supported attendance of students at additional workshops on multiculturalism. Noteworthy among these was the 1990 purchase of books for use in the special education classrooms in Red Deer Public and Catholic schools at a cost of \$2,700.

The Central Alberta Regional Science Fair, the Red Deer Royals, The Red Deer Minor Soccer Association and a handball team at the Alberta Winter Games, are only some of the organizations that we've assisted. Summer camps for special needs children, minor football; midget boy's baseball and girls' fastball have also benefited from the efforts of Kiwanis.



# ***Our Past Support Has Made Red Deer A Better Community***

## **Red Deer Library Expansion and Renovations (1993/95)**

In addition to \$45,000 donated by the Red Deer Twilight Homes Foundation, an additional \$35,000 was contributed by the Kiwanis Club of Waskasoo - a total contribution of \$80,000 from Kiwanis. A meeting room and an auditorium in the library are named to recognize Kiwanis.

## **Alberta Special Olympics**

In the early 1980's, Waskasoo Kiwanis provided the financing for an individual to travel around Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon and the N.W.T to establish Special Olympics chapters in these regions, in line with International Special Olympics requirements. The Alberta Regional Special Olympics headquarters were initially established in Red Deer, with the board consisting primarily of Kiwanis members. Consequently, the sponsored individual received the Special Olympics Harry "Red" Foster Award in recognition of his outstanding service to Special Olympics. It was only the second such award granted in Canada, with the initial recipient being retired NHL player Lanny MacDonald. Special Olympics is now well established and Alberta, B.C. and N.W.T./Yukon, each operating now as separate regions in the Canadian organization.

## **Red Deer Youth & Volunteer Centre**

In 1993, Waskasoo Kiwanis purchased a property on 49th Street at a cost of \$55,000, which was provided, to the Boys and Girls Club to serve as the base for their Red Deer activities. The Red Deer Youth and Volunteer Centre continues to operate out of its newly expanded facilities at this location. As a commitment to the capital campaign initiated by the Rotary Club of Downtown Red Deer, Kiwanis transferred title for \$1.00 to the Youth and Volunteer Centre.

## **People With Special Needs**

In June and July 1991, the Kiwanis Club spent \$5,300.00 to remove and replace furnishings in a family residence to which a 19-month-old child was extremely allergic. These changes made it possible for this special child to start living at home with her family, having been confined to the Red Deer Regional hospital from birth. The Waskasoo club also spent \$5,600 for a similar circumstance, purchasing a home air purification system for a child with severe allergies in a family with limited means.

In 1985, the Waskasoo club purchased a battery driven scooter for a disabled young man living on his own. Our assistance enabled this person to no longer be housebound, moving around town with much greater freedom and self-sufficiency.

## **Paediatric Unit at the Red Deer Regional Hospital**

In 1987, Kiwanis were the first to commit financial support to this project with the Waskasoo Club covering the approximate \$20,000 cost of constructing the Paediatric Unit's children's play area which bears the club's name

## **Picnic Area at Little Chief Park**

With financing provided by Waskasoo Kiwanis, in 1980 the City of Red Deer constructed cooking facilities and a picnic area at Little Chief Park, which continue to be used by our citizens.

## **Crime Prevention**

In the early 1970's, Waskasoo Kiwanis sponsored the design and construction of a crime prevention trailer at a cost of \$14,000, for use by the rural detachment of the R.C.M.P. This custom built unit was used for several years by the R.C.M.P. as they travelled to schools, trade fairs, rodeos and shopping centres with a variety of displays on home security and drug awareness.

The R.C.M.P. eventually re-directed this outreach initiative, so the trailer was returned to Kiwanis and donated to the Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization, which continue to use it at the Camp Alexo retreat near Nordegg.

The Red Deer Kiwanis club also provided financial support to the R.C.M.P. "Victims of Crime" project. This project was designed to aid victims of crime in Red Deer with the \$4,000 Kiwanis donation being directed to the purchase of a computer to increase the program's effectiveness.

## **The Salvation Army**

Kiwanis has long provided support to the Salvation Army in Red Deer, primarily by assisting in their spring door to door and Christmas kettle funding drives. Kiwanis members also volunteered their time and funding by constructing three cabins at the Salvation Army's Pine Lake summer camp.

## **Red Deer Loaves and Fishes:**

Over the course of 3 years our Red Deer Kiwanis Club donated \$10,000.00 towards the Children's Lunch Program.

## **Miscellaneous Community Support Projects**

Kiwanis donated \$750.00 to the fund established by the United Way for the purchase of a computer to enable it to operate more efficiently. Over the years, significant funds also have been donated by Kiwanis to support miscellaneous community projects. Examples in recent years include a blood-warming unit at the Red Deer Regional Hospital, the Central Alberta Women's Shelter and Women's Outreach Society. Kiwanis helped fund the purchase of a computer by the Genealogical Society, the purchase of songbooks for a senior's residence and support to the Red Deer Fire Emergency Fund.

Each year we donate to the Red Deer Royals Golf Tournament where, funds go to assist youth members of this band. We also donate yearly to the Foundations Striving for Excellence dinner

held yearly by the Red Deer Public Schools District to celebrate the wonderful youth of today.

## ***Fund Raising by Kiwanis***

In order to carry out the many good works of Kiwanis, our members raise thousands of dollars each year. The major fund raising activities fall into several categories:

### **Annual Apple Sales Campaign**

During late September each year, our members, spouses and friends sell baskets of fancy McIntosh apples at the Farmers' Market, raising about \$3000.

### **Bingos & Casinos**

The Club operates 12 bingos each year through the Red Deer Bingo Association. For each bingo we must have at least 9 workers. Bingos raise about \$18,000 annually.

The Club also holds one casino approximately every 30 months when granted a license. We presently raise about \$22,000 from each casino, which requires a 2-day commitment by Kiwanis members as volunteers.

### **Golf Tournament**

When the Waskasoo Kiwanis Club merged with the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer, we continued to operate their annual golf tournament, which has been ongoing for 48 years. The tournament is held in August/September at the Sylvan Lake Golf and Country Club. We endeavour to get a full contingent of 144 golfers and earn about \$18,000 annually.

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This history commemorates 60 years of service by the Kiwanis Club of Red Deer and is a tribute to Kiwanis and our members. But as well, it is a tribute to the people and businesses of Red Deer and Central Alberta, who have consistently and fully supported our projects, helping us achieve the success we've enjoyed. For that we say thank you, very much.

