



The
Morris Area Foundation
Inc.
BUILDING A LEGACY FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

2024

Annual Report

MAF foundation was registered as a charity in 2013.
The Foundation started receiving donations in 2014.

Total donations:

\$668,443.78

(In 2024 there were 102 donors and \$71,903.38 in donations.)

Total Grants Approved:

\$202,050.00 (This includes Covid grants)

Total Youth in Philanthropy grants:
\$14,860.00



Chairperson's Message

"2024, What an eventful year! Along with the other 56 community foundations in Manitoba, the Morris Area Foundation was pleased to be notified of the initial contribution towards our granting program from the proceeds of The Thomas Sill Foundation. The Thomas Sill Foundation was highly instrumental in the foundation movement throughout the years in our Province. The gift of approximately \$23,000 annually goes directly to our granting program, doubling the amount we are able to grant in our area: the Town of Morris and the entire Rural Municipality of Morris, including the communities of Rosenort, Lowe Farm, Aubigny and Sperling.

The MAF strives to increase the linkages between our fabulous donors and the excellent organizations in this area that do the work on the ground to make our area better every day. Forever – for good! We remain committed to our mission to identify and understand our area needs, create and maintain partnerships, engage and steward the caring investors who fund our endowments and grants. Some donor / granting stories follow.

Thank you and all the best in 2025."

- MAF Chair Curtis Evenson

Freedom Concepts, a local Manitoba manufacturer of adapted equipment built a DCR16 Tricycle (with a frog animal horn attached) to enable a six year old with Autism Spectrum Disorder to ride a bike. A young boy at the Morris school now has use of the tricycle.

The total tricycle cost was \$4,177.50 and MAF contributed a \$2,100 grant to Children's Rehabilitation

Foundation for their Adapted Equipment Program to assist with the purchase.



MAF provided a \$10,000 cheque to the Morris School for their kitchen project. This was a multi-year granting project. \$5000 for year 2023 and \$5000 for 2024.



"The new kitchen makes a big difference in our school. Students have better access to healthy meals, including free snacks and lunches. It's a welcoming space for everyone, including those with mobility needs. Students learn cooking skills; the kitchen brings our whole community together through shared meals and events. The support of the Morris Area Foundation was a critical step in making our dream a reality."

Mike Watson
Principal
Morris School



Did you know?

Morris Area Health & Wellness Fund is a permanent endowment fund that supports initiatives through grants for health and wellness projects benefiting our area.

The foundation permanently invests all gifts. The original contributions are never spent, only the interest that is earned when invested, ensuring a lasting legacy for donors and a continuous source of support that will improve life here for generations to come.

Presenting the new Health and Wellness Fund poster in the Morris Clinic waiting room to Morris Clinic CEO Mathew Norris by MAF directors Shelley Stupnisky and Midge Anderson.

Out and About

Chairman of the MAF challenged the board to raise community awareness of the foundation. Hot Dogs at the Car Show, MAF volunteers cooking and serving! Board members attending a home game of the Pembina Valley Twisters hockey club.

Make it rain?

Morris Fire Department attended a community event to put water to the crowd.





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2024 GRANTS IN REVIEW

Applicant	Project	Location	Amount Awarded
Sperling Community Centre	Replacement & installation of eaves troughs at Sperling Arena	Sperling	\$2,000.00
Morris Manor	Outdoor tables for resident & guest use	Morris	\$1,750.00
Morris School	Gym bleachers	Morris	\$1,500.00
Valley Ag Society	Repair 2 Barn roofs	Morris	\$5,000.00
Children's Rehabilitation Foundation	Customized DC-16 Tricycle	Morris	\$2,100.00
Red River Palliative Care	Training for palliative, grief & bereavement care for Coordinator & 4 volunteers	Morris	\$1,500.00
Morris Early Learning Centre	Main St location renovation costs to become school age centre (6-12 yrs old)	Morris	\$5,000.00
Valley Regional Library	Material to expand free program for tax filing service for marginalized individuals	Morris	\$800.00
Morris & District Centennial Museum	Museum signage south & east of town	Morris	\$1,500.00
Red River Valley Food Bank	Dyson stick vacuum	Morris	\$1,100.00
Morris School	Playground equipment for individuals with disabilities	Morris	\$10,000.00
Rosenort School	Volleyball Referee Stand	Rosenort	\$1,200.00
			\$33,450.00

**Endow
Manitoba**
YOUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NETWORK



**GIVING
CHALLENGE WEEK**

Donors- 87

Donations - \$41,084.00



” Morris Garden Project

“The community garden is an off shoot of the Red River Valley Food Bank” said spokesperson and garden owner herself Claudia Schmidt. “The Morris United Church allows us to use their space free and provides water for the gardens from an underground line and hose setup.”

“The aim was to have growers augment their income and actually produce some of their own food. The original ‘Wonder Garden’ beds were made of wood and rotted away. More durable ‘Community Garden’ metal beds were purchased with a grant from the Morris Area Foundation. We are so grateful for the help we receive from the community and especially the MAF.”

“One year an intrepid (and adventurous) gardener decides more beauty and less bounty. They planted mostly sunflowers with some wild flowers and no vegetables. The flower garden was beautiful and attracted birds and insects to the benefit of the vegetable growers. To satisfy all, gardeners are asked to plant Marigolds (one row only) to ward off deer.”



DONOR LIST 2024

A BIG THANK YOU to each and every one of you. Your gift lasts forever. Our very first donation of \$100.00 in 2014 is still granting out 4% each and every year.

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B D Gregory Law Office
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Canada Helps
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Community Helps Canada
Conway S
Dickson J & A
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Erickson I
Evenson C & P
Evenson C
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Feldman C
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Stevenson N & I
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Access Credit Union
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Endow Manitoba
Thomas Sill Foundation

In Memory of

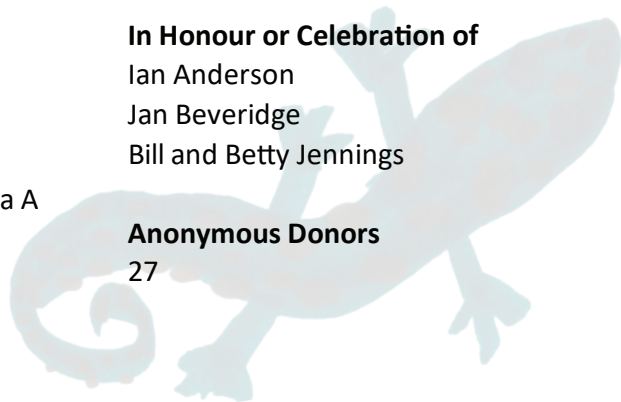
Kathleen & Ed Jorgenson
Lorne Martin
Lloyd & Louise Janke
Annie & Bronson Stevenson
Jean Major

In Honour or Celebration of

Ian Anderson
Jan Beveridge
Bill and Betty Jennings

Anonymous Donors

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*N*ow you ask — why do you like Morris? ...
“When the Morris Area Foundation was organized it helped provide grants to non profit organizations to improve this community. ... When I asked my grand daughter what I should say her words to me were “Just tell them your soul is embedded in this community.”

— Sincerely, Ruth Murray



December 10, 2024