

# 2013 Macro Properties Prairie Partnership Grants

In October, 2013, the Saskatoon Community Foundation announced a new partnership with Macro Properties to make grants in six Saskatchewan communities: Saskatoon, Prince Albert, North Battleford, Kindersley, Kerrobert and Esterhazy. Macro Properties believes that its future depends on the success and vibrancy of the communities in which it does business. In the interest of growing and supporting these communities, the Macro Properties Prairie Partnership provides grants to programs and initiatives focused on Early Childhood Education, Aboriginal Education, and Parks and Wilderness.

The deadline for applications was Dec. 17, 2013. In January of 2014, a committee of SCF staff and representatives from Macro Properties made recommendations for the first ever round of grants from the Macro Properties Prairie Partnership.

Locally, The Playground Committee in Esterhazy

received \$5,000 for the playground rebuild at Esterhazy High School.

The Saskatoon Community Foundation is proud to work with Macro Properties to make grants to Saskatchewan charities. Partnerships with companies like Macro Properties strengthen the charitable sector, individual charities and the community as a whole. SCF looks forward to continuing this partnership in 2014.

Over its 43 years of service to our community, the Saskatoon Community Foundation has accepted thousands of gifts from thousands of donors, and made thousands of grants to local charities. In a typical year, the Saskatoon Community Foundation grants to over 100 local charities. Over its entire history, total grants are in excess of 12 million dollars! Because the Saskatoon Community Foundation invests donor gifts, granting only the income, all of these gifts will continue to have a positive impact for Saskatoon, forever!



The Playground Committee would like to thank Macro Properties Prairie Partnership for their generous grant to the playground rebuild project at Esterhazy High School. (L-R) Gord Erhardt (Principal EHS), Laura Petracek (Parent Program Co-ordinator PPEP), Deborah McLaren (Macro Properties representative), Robbyn Chomos, Michelle Tochor, Sandra Weiss and Kristin Verner. (Playground Committee members)

## STARS stocks blood on board to perform transfusions on missions

The Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society (STARS) is the first medical service in Canada to begin stocking blood in advance for life-saving transfusions on air medical missions. The STARS base in Saskatoon is now the third base to come on line.

This new approach, spearheaded by Saskatoon Health Region's Hospital Transfusion Lab staff, allows the helicopter emergency medical service to begin a blood transfusion early. The first hour of emergency care is nick-

named "the golden hour" because lives can be saved if critically ill patients can be stabilized before arrival at a trauma centre.

"We know how important it is for people to begin receiving blood after a traumatic injury and the difference it can make in saving a life," says Dr. Karen Dallas, Saskatoon Health Region & Northern Saskatchewan's Medical Director for Transfusion Medicine. "When it became possible for STARS to begin carrying blood on

board, we wanted to support the initiative to ensure patients are getting the care they need before they get to the hospital."

STARS maintains, at their base, two units of O negative blood (packed red blood cells) supplied by Saskatoon's Transfusion Medicine Department, securely enclosed in a six kilogram (13 pound) insulated thermal cooler with a monitoring device to ensure proper temperature. If the blood is not used within 72 hours, it is returned to the hospital, in-

spected to ensure quality, and then made available to other patients.

"In trauma, blood can make the difference between life and death. It is inspiring to see Saskatchewan leading the way by providing our citizens this game changing roadside treatment that very few other services in North America provide," says Dr. John Froh, Transport Physician and Medical Director, for STARS in Saskatoon.

Dr. Froh says, "Our new ability to give blood is a powerful com-

plement to our established clinical strategy of highly trained air medical crews providing critical care while rapidly transporting the severely injured trauma patient to our provincial trauma centres for definitive care."

STARS is a non-profit helicopter air ambulance organization that provides rapid and specialized emergency care and transportation for critically ill and injured patients. Our doctors, nurses, paramedics, and pilots work with a team of dedicated support staff and commu-

nity partners to save lives. STARS operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week from bases in Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie and Winnipeg.

Saskatoon Health Region manages trauma centres at Royal University Hospital and St. Paul's Hospital that serve critically-injured patients from across northern Saskatchewan. The region's laboratory also supplies the blood for transfusion while patients are in transport.



The Highway to Atwater was one of the many roadways destroyed by rising waters after a torrential rainstorm hit the south-east area of Saskatchewan on June 28-29. Photo by Crystal Johnson

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