**Announcement of Charitable Funding to Charities serving vulnerable groups suffering from Covid restrictions and issues in Airdrie and district.**

* The Government of Canada’s $350 million Emergency Community Support Fund aims to help charities and non-profit organizations adapt and increase frontline services for vulnerable populations during COVID-19.
* Together, the Canadian Red Cross, the Airdrie and District Community Foundation, (through Community Foundations of Canada), and United Ways are collaborating with the Government of Canada to flow ECSF support to those who need it most right now.
* The Fund is designed to help charities and non-profit organizations carry out their vital work to ensure no one is left behind. **Airdrie and District Community Foundation has been allocated $136,000 to disburse to Registered Charities before July 31.**

**About the application and granting process**

* The Fund has simple eligibility criteria and a quick application process and reporting procedure.
* The application is designed to be straightforward and efficient. It should take your organization about 20 minutes to complete. **To apply to The Airdrie Community Foundation, submit the application form at communityfoundations.ca.- Apply to the ECSF – Start Your Application Online. It will then be directed to the Airdrie Community Foundation.**
* Applications will be received and assessed on a weekly rolling basis, so that you can get an answer as soon as possible and we can start flowing funding swiftly.
* Registered Charities may be funded through United Way and/or community foundations. Non-profit organizations will be funded through the Canadian Red Cross.

**In communities, such as Airdrie where there is both a community foundation and Calgary United Way, which serves Airdrie, the process is somewhat complicated:**

* We encourage charities in the community who are serving vulnerable populations to apply to the Fund, through our community foundation **and/or to the Calgary United Way, subject to the following conditions:**
* Registered Charities may apply more than once (and to different funders if they wish) for different projects or for different aspects of a large project**. However, they cannot apply for funding for the same project, or same aspect of a project, from both the Airdrie Foundation and Calgary United Way.**
* Grant applications to the Airdrie Foundation and Calgary United Way will be assessed locally by our teams. Though community foundations and local United Way Centraides have separate funding streams as a result of our respective agreements with the Government of Canada, we are working together. The fund eligibility criteria, application, and granting evaluation processes of our Foundation and Calgary United Way are very similar.  One difference between the two funding streams relates to grant amounts:
	+ Airdrie Community foundations’ funding stream has a grant maximum of $75,000.
	+ Calgary United Way has the flexibility to grant higher amounts.
* We understand there is overlap between the community foundation and United Way Centraide funding streams, and that this can be confusing. **It is up to you as a registered charity to decide where you wish to  - and feel it’s most logical - to apply. Know that in Airdrie, our Foundation and the Calgary United Way, are coordinating efforts and sharing information about Covid funding applications on an ongoing basis.**
* **Stay well Airdronians!**