**For Immediate Release**

**Community Foundation of the Kootenay Rockies Launches 2019 Granting Process**

**Sparwood, Fernie, Elkford, and Cranbrook, BC, Jan. 3, 2019** – To start the New Year in style, the Community Foundation of the Kootenay Rockies (CFKR) is launching its annual granting process. CFKR invites eligible non-profit organizations to apply from January 1st to March 1st, 2019.

According to Lynnette Wray, CFKR Executive Director, “We encourage interested non-profits to visit [www.CFKRockies.ca/grants/](http://www.CFKRockies.ca/grants/) to review and download our fillable pdf application forms for the Sparwood Community Fund and Fernie Community Fund, as well as our endowment funds for Cranbrook and area.”

“It’s always exciting to launch our annual grant application process. It’s amazing to see the variety of applications that come in. Local non-profits do such excellent work. They play a key role in making our communities even better places to live, work, and play” added Wray.

To be eligible to apply, an organization must be a CRA-registered charity, or, if the organization is not a registered charity, enter into an agreement with a registered charity. Grant applications need to clearly demonstrate a direct, positive benefit to local residents.

Although most annual grants through the CFKR are relatively small, ranging from a few hundred dollars up to $1500, the positive impact in our local communities is significant. From 2004 to 2018, the CFKR has given almost $500,000 to local projects and programs.

The Community Foundation of the Kootenay Rockies (CFKR) takes a broad and inclusive view of what a community is and provides grants to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives, including: Animal Welfare; Arts, Culture, and Heritage; Education; Environment; Mental Health and Addictions; Outdoor Recreation, Physical Activity, and Sports; Seniors’ Programs; and Social/Health Services.

For more information about CFKR’s 2019 grant application process, local non-profits are invited to contact Lynnette Wray, CFKR Executive Director, by phone (250-426-1119) or email (Lynnette.Wray@CFKRockies.ca).

CFKR has been federally incorporated since 2003 and is a CRA-registered charity. CFKR is governed by a 13-member volunteer board and employs one staff person. CFKR currently holds a total of over $2 million in 33 permanently invested endowment funds, including the Sparwood Community Fund and Fernie Community Fund. The newly established Elkford Community Fund will earn interest throughout 2019 and will offer its first grant application process in 2020.

CFKR gratefully accepts monetary donations and permanently invests them, so the money earns interest every year, forever. Each year, CFKR gives a portion of the interest to eligible organizations to do good things in our community. Projects that receive funding come from the community, reflect the unique nature of our community, and improve the quality of life for local people. CFKR **improves the lives of area residents by keeping donated money local, supporting local projects, and helping local people.**

CFKR’s Vision is: Together, making our communities even better places to live, work, and play, now and forever. CFKR’s Mission is: We build permanently invested endowment funds, provide grants to qualified donees to address local community needs, and offer positive leadership to explore community priorities. CFKR’s Values are: Community, Accountability, Responsiveness, Excellence, and Sustainability.

For more information about the Community Foundation of the Kootenay Rockies, please visit [www.CFKRockies.ca](http://www.CFKRockies.ca) and like/share our Facebook pages at [www.facebook.com/CommunityFoundationKootenayRockies/](http://www.facebook.com/CommunityFoundationKootenayRockies/), [www.facebook.com/SparwoodCommunityFund/](http://www.facebook.com/SparwoodCommunityFund/), [www.facebook.com/FernieCommunityFund/](http://www.facebook.com/FernieCommunityFund/), and [www.facebook.com/ElkfordCommunityFund/](http://www.facebook.com/ElkfordCommunityFund/).

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