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## News Release

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### **From farmer to community hero**

**\$165,000 shared with 66 rural charities & not-for-profits across Canada through the Canada's Farmers Grow Communities Program**

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**Winnipeg, MB – Nov. 1, 2018** – The saying goes that “it’s better to give than to receive” and Canadian farmers had the opportunity to do just that by participating in the Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities Program in 2018.

Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, a philanthropic arm of Bayer. The program allows farmers to register to win \$2,500 for their favourite community charity or not-for-profit organization. Charitable groups also offer suggestions online at [www.canadasfarmers.ca](http://www.canadasfarmers.ca), which farmers can consider in their application.

The 2018 program received 758 farmer applications (a 68 per cent increase from 2017) and 337 charity suggestions (a 200 per cent increase from 2017) making this the most successful year yet since the program launched in 2012. Two winners were selected in each of 33 different regions in a random draw which took place on October 19, 2018 and managed by the program’s independent administrator, Agriculture in the Classroom – Manitoba.

“We are thrilled to see farmers and charities engaging in this program and thinking creatively about how to strengthen their communities,” said Trish Jordan, public & industry affairs director with Bayer’s Crop Science division. “There are so many worthwhile groups and projects in need of assistance in rural communities across the country. We know the funds will be put to good use for the benefit of all community members.”

The program received a wide variety of ideas from farmers on how local groups in their communities could benefit from the grants. Farmers recommended schools, libraries, historical societies, health and recreational facilities, rural daycares, senior clubs, 4-H groups, food banks and more. Some examples:

- **Beaver County Victim Services in Tofield, AB.** - *“We are thrilled to have these funds! We plan to use them to help educate our rural youth on Internet Safety. If it eliminates one child from being taken advantage of on the internet, it’s worth it!”*
- **Humboldt Public School Childcare Centre in Humboldt, SK.** – *“We will be using this wonderful grant for buying indoor and outdoor equipment and materials to continue providing care for all our daycare children aged 6 weeks old until 12 years old!”*
- **Hamiota Aquatic Centre in Hamiota, MB.** – *“After coming to the end of its life span of 20 years we are replacing the liner of the pool. Last season we saw over 650 kids go through our swim lessons, learning valuable life skills. We are a regional facility serving many municipalities with children coming from all over. This grant means so much to our community and those that surround us!”*
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Clarington in Clarington, ON.** – *“We run many different types of mentoring programs which help children develop life changing relationships, while exposing them to new experiences which may open their eyes and minds, not only to what is, but also to what could be. All of this helps to raise self esteem and build resilience as our young people develop into productive members of our community.”*

Farmers living and working in the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Northeastern B.C. had from mid-January to the end of September to submit their entries by visiting the Canada’s Farmers website and completing an online application form.

To read more community stories or gather additional information about Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities visit [www.canadasfarmers.ca](http://www.canadasfarmers.ca) or follow us on Twitter @CanadasFarmers.

## **About Bayer**

Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the Life Science fields of health care and agriculture. Its products and services are designed to benefit people and improve their quality of life. At the same time, the Group aims to create value through innovation, growth and high earning power. Bayer is committed to the principles of sustainable development and to its social and ethical responsibilities as a corporate citizen. In fiscal 2017, the Group employed around 99,800 people and had sales of EUR 35.0 billion. Capital expenditures amounted to EUR 2.4 billion, R&D expenses to EUR 4.5 billion. For more information, go to [www.bayer.ca](http://www.bayer.ca).

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*Note: A complete listing of all 66 winning entrants, their farmer nominator and their community, is detailed below this news release.*

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## Canada's Farmers Grow Communities - 2018 Winners

### ALBERTA WINNERS

<b>Acme Swimming Pool</b> Kelli Becker, Acme	<b>Airdrie &amp; District Victims Assistance Society</b> Bob & Ellen Cornish, Airdrie
<b>Alberta Central Railroad Museum</b> M Jean Angus, Wetaskiwin	<b>Donalda Animal Rescue</b> Marijke Maltais, Stettler
<b>Alberta Legacy Development Society</b> Douglas Schneider, Leduc	<b>Friends of the Newbrook Public Library</b> Dalton Trenholm, Newbrook
<b>Beaverlodge Rural Crime Watch</b> Cori Blum, Hythe	<b>Saskatoon Lake Agricultural Society</b> David Hegland, Wembley
<b>Stavely And District Agricultural Society</b> Travis Husted, Stavely	<b>Wrentham Library Society</b> Alvin Waldner, Wrentham
<b>Peace Region Dance Academy</b> Derrick Dechief, Falher	<b>Warriors Youth Rec Hockey Team</b> Marc Brochu, Girouxville
<b>Drumheller &amp; District Humane Society</b> Lisa Rosgen, Drumheller	<b>Trochu Valley Historical Society</b> Francis deBeaudrap, Trochu
<b>Beaver County Victim Services Association</b> Colleen Sears, Tofield	<b>The Heather Curling Club</b> Cathy Freed, Vegreville
<b>Clandonald &amp; District Recreation Association</b> Audrey Cusak, Clandonald	<b>Provost Lions Community Handi-van Service Society</b> Menzies Farms, Provost

**SASKATCHEWAN WINNERS**

<b>Bruno Senior Citizens Friendship Centre</b> Albert Huber, Bruno	<b>Humboldt Public School Childcare Centre Inc.</b> Debbie Bernhard, Muenster
<b>The Melville Heritage Museum</b> Jocelyn Mehrer, Melville	<b>Performing Arts &amp; Leisure Society</b> Randy Nieckar, Rama
<b>171 Melfort Phoenix RC Air Cadets</b> Jackie Tluchak, Gronlid	<b>Silver Park Community Club Inc.</b> David Moskal, Melfort
<b>Glaslyn Central School Playground Committee</b> Stephanie Mykytuk, Glaslyn	<b>Lloydminster Agricultural Exhibition Association</b> Sheila Phillips, Paradise Hill
<b>Camp fYrefly, University of Regina</b> Lu Mitchell, Francis	<b>Dysart Community Center</b> Brent Bradshaw, Dysart
<b>Empty Arms: Perinatal Loss Support Services Incorporated</b> Curtis & Krystle Wood, Wynyard	<b>Prairie Meadow Place Inc.</b> Fred Jantzen, Rosthern
<b>Semans Drop-in Club Inc.</b> Sheldon Sorensen, Semans	<b>Southey Senior Citizens Club Inc.</b> Theresa Schaffer, Southey
<b>Davidson Communities In Bloom</b> Gail Prpick, Davidson	<b>Elrose Health Care Auxiliary</b> Betty Mae Leavins, Elrose
<b>Creelman Community Rink</b> Jay Gerry, Griffin	<b>Odessa Community Hall</b> Lorenz Ziegler, Odessa
<b>Cabri Ice Center Association Inc</b> Kyle Svenson, Cabri	<b>Elrose Volunteer Fire &amp; Ambulance</b> Gerald Anhorn, Elrose
<b>Kerrobot Minor Hockey Association</b> Jim Cholin, Kerrobot	<b>Royal Canadian Legion Branch 57</b> Josh Wilson, Eatonia

**MANITOBA WINNERS**

<b>Lakeside Christian School Inc.</b> Blake Bell, Killarney	<b>United Community Arts</b> Bernie Hildebrand, Crystal City
<b>Hamiota Aquatic Centre</b> Dale Little, Hamiota	<b>Rivers Curling Club</b> Dennis and Maxine Veitch, Rivers
<b>Bowsman Early Learning Centre Inc.</b> Tyler Sutherland, Swan River	<b>Community Bible Fellowship Christian School</b> Donna Stuart, Benito
<b>Elm Creek Stay And Play Centre Inc.</b> Alice Miller, Elm Creek	<b>Interlake Art Board</b> Leonard Unrau, Petersfield
<b>Niverville Heritage Centre Garden Pavilion Project</b> Reg Friesen, Niverville	<b>St. Adolphe Nursery School Inc.</b> Will Bergmann, Glenlea

**ONTARIO WINNERS**

<b>Big Brothers Big Sisters of Clarington</b> Henry Sarika, Bowmanville	<b>Norwell District Secondary School LEAF Program</b> Lara Charlebois, Harriston
<b>Prince Edward County 4-H Cloverbuds</b> Shannon Desjardins, Milford	<b>Sault Minor Football League</b> James Monico, Sault Ste. Marie
<b>Dunnville Youth Impact Inc.</b> Cynthia Buist, Canfield	<b>London Fanshawe Symphonic Chorus Organization</b> Ken McDougall, London
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Blenheim Girl Guides</b> Jean Smith, Blenheim	<b>Ekcoe Central Public School Breakfast Program</b> Tammy Galbraith, Appin
<b>Gateway Centre of Excellence in Rural Health</b> Gwen Devereaux, Seaforth	<b>Rowbust Breast Cancer Survivor Dragon Boat Racing Society</b> Diane Cook, London

**QUEBEC WINNERS**

<p><b>Les Loisirs De St-Simon</b> Martin Laliberté, St-Simon de bagot</p>	<p><b>l'Arche de la Montérefie</b> Sylvain Palardy, le Grand</p>
<p><b>Arena Régionale Huntingdon</b> Erskine Farms, Hinchinbrooke</p>	<p><b>La Maison des Jeunes de Beaujeu</b> Carol Venneman, Clarenceville</p>

**MARITIMES WINNERS**

<p><b>Brigadoon Village</b> Geneve Newcombe, Port Williams, NS</p>	<p><b>PEI 4-H Council</b> John Wood, Marshfield, PEI</p>
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