

MONSANTO



MONSANTO CANADA INC.  
900 – One Research Road  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA R3T 6E3  
PHONE (204) 985-1000  
FAX (204) 488-4899

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Monsanto Fund announces winners of 2015 Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities program**

#### **\$165,000 in grant money distributed to 66 rural charities across Canada**

**(Winnipeg, MB – November 12, 2015)** – From a distance, small towns seem like nothing more than dots on the map, but to those who call them home, they are more significant than any major city. Very often it has been farmers whose ingenuity and hard work built these communities over generations. Today, farmers still form the backbone that keeps these rural communities alive. Thanks to Canadian farmers, 66 rural charities and non-profits, including school lunch programs, sports facilities, service clubs, parks and playgrounds will receive \$2,500 grants from the Monsanto Fund as part of the 2015 Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities program.

Each non-profit was nominated by a local farmer who applied on behalf of their favourite cause.

Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities received 371 entries in the 2015 program. Winners were drawn by board members of the independent administrator, Agriculture in the Classroom – Manitoba, on October 9, 2015.

“The best part of the Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities program is hearing about how each charity will use its \$2,500,” said Kelly Funke, public affairs manager at Monsanto Canada. “Each organization has unique needs, but each one will contribute to making their community stronger, thanks to a farmer.”

Now in its fourth full year, the Canada’s Farmers Grow Communities program generated a wide variety of ideas from farmers on how local groups in their communities could benefit from the grants. A record

number of the rural-based charitable groups also contributed ideas online at [www.CanadasFarmers.ca](http://www.CanadasFarmers.ca), which allowed them to suggest a cause and find local farmers to support it by submitting an entry.

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.

The 2015 recipients service a wide variety of community needs from schools, libraries and local theatres to agricultural societies, sport facilities, health/service clubs and daycares.

The Plympton-Wyoming Agricultural Society in Wyoming, ON will be putting its \$2,500 grant to good use during the 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary Plympton-Wyoming Fall Fair in 2016.

“This donation brings so much possibility to our organization, and also provides motivation, support and opportunity for us in the coming year, as we commemorate the benchmark of 170 years of the Plympton-Wyoming Fall Fair,” said Emma Whiting, the farmer and ag society board member who applied on behalf of the non-profit. “Through various multi-media platforms and community support we aim to really showcase all that comprises the PWAS and the fall fair, and to be able to justify all the hard work and dedication that we as the volunteer director committee put forth year-round to supply our community and surrounding communities the opportunity to experience a fall fair as well as celebrate harvest and agriculture in our area.”

The Monsanto Fund plans to continue the Canada's Farmers Grow Communities program in 2016. Farmers and rural residents can watch for details at winter trade shows and also visit [www.CanadasFarmers.ca](http://www.CanadasFarmers.ca) in January 2016 for more information.

### **About The Monsanto Fund**

The Monsanto Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Monsanto Company, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where farmers and Monsanto Company employees live and work. Learn more at [www.monsantofund.org](http://www.monsantofund.org).

## **About Monsanto Canada**

Headquartered in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Monsanto Canada Inc. is part of the larger global Monsanto Company. Monsanto is an agricultural company committed to bringing a broad range of solutions to help nourish our growing world. We produce a variety of seeds ranging from fruits and vegetables to key crops – such as corn, soybeans, canola and cotton – that help farmers produce abundant and nutritious food. We work to find sustainable agriculture solutions that help farmers conserve natural resources, use data to improve farming practices, use water and other important resources more efficiently, and protect their crops from pests and disease. Through programs and partnerships, we collaborate with farmers, researchers, nonprofit organizations, universities and others to help tackle some of the world’s biggest challenges.

To learn more about Monsanto, please visit: [www.monsanto.ca](http://www.monsanto.ca) or follow us on Twitter @MonsantoCda.

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### **For more information, please contact**

Kelly Funke  
Public Affairs Manager  
(204) 985-1035

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

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**Canada's Farmers Grow Communities - 2015 Winners**

**ALBERTA/BRITISH COLUMBIA WINNERS**

<b>Kneehill Historical Society</b> Neil Boles, Three Hills, AB	<b>Bow Island Friends of the Library Society</b> Paul Gruninger, Bow Island, AB
<b>Acme Golf Club</b> Robert Bates, Calgary, AB	<b>Standard Municipal Library</b> Lori Bach, Standard, AB
<b>Magrath Museum Agricultural Building</b> Gary Stanford, Magrath, AB	<b>Bashaw Skating Club</b> Prudence Harris, Camrose, AB
<b>Terrace Ridge Playground Society</b> Lisa Otto, Lacombe, AB	<b>Fairview Rotary Club</b> Michael Rolling, Bluesky, AB
<b>Nampa and District Agricultural Society</b> Corinne Bobbie Toker, Nampa, AB	<b>Eaglesham and District Agricultural Society</b> Martine Piebiak, Eaglesham, AB
<b>Daysland School</b> Allison Blake, Daysland, AB	<b>Holden District Agricultural Society</b> Brent Suchy, Vegreville, AB
<b>Tofield Seniors Centre</b> Harold Warkentin, Tofield, AB	<b>Friends of the Falher Library</b> Wendy Gagnon, Falher, AB
<b>Barrhead Animal Rescue Society</b> Kristen Evan, Barrhead, AB	<b>Neerlandia Sports Committee</b> Charlene Nanninga, Barrhead, AB
<b>Lamont and District Agricultural Society</b> Frank Cholak, Lamont, AB	<b>Dewberry and District Agricultural Society</b> Art Parr, Dewberry, AB

**SASKATCHEWAN WINNERS**

<b>Wakaw Fire Department</b> Wallace Kohle, Wakaw, SK	<b>Lake Lenore Auditorium Co-operative Assoc.</b> Alan Silzer, Lake Lenore, SK
<b>Elrose School Community Council</b> Jeff MacDonald, Elrose, SK	<b>Macklin Daycare Inc.</b> Don Gette, Macklin, SK
<b>Royal Canadian Legion – Eston Branch</b> Matt Owens, Eston, SK	<b>Medstead and District Recreation Association</b> Glenn Schmidt, Medstead, SK

<b>Deep South Riding Arena</b> Tanya Leonard, Ogema, SK	<b>Royal Canadian Legion Branch 57</b> David Burke, Kindersley, SK
<b>Alameda Recreation Board</b> Craig Henderson, Alameda, SK	<b>Great Sandhills Historical Society Inc.</b> Ronald Trew, Sceptre, SK
<b>Humboldt Area Vintage and Antique Club</b> Gloria Weber, Quill Lake, SK	<b>Edgeley Community Centre</b> Larry McCullough, Qu'Appelle, SK
<b>Arborfield Minor Ball Association</b> Ken Bradshaw, Arborfield, SK	<b>Tonkin Curling Club</b> Ken Kyle, Yorkton, SK
<b>Wish Upon a Star Early Learning Centre Inc.</b> Lyndsay Allary, Ituna, SK	<b>Simpson Centennial Centre</b> Holly Crawford, Simpson, SK
<b>Golburn Gallopers Light Horse 4H Club</b> Carlie Bowditch, Sylvania SK	<b>Biggar Barracuda Swim Club</b> George Mair, Biggar, SK
<b>Odessa Community Arena</b> Leonard Gaetz, Odessa, SK	<b>Imperial Community Rink</b> Kyle MacLellan, Imperial, SK
<b>Maidstone Splash Park</b> Darren Blyth, Waseca, SK	<b>Honeymoon Co-op Hall</b> Lenord Young Wirth, Prince Albert, SK

**MANITOBA WINNERS**

<b>Randolph Sports Club Community Centre Inc.</b> Karen Peters, Randolph, MB	<b>Lac du Bonnet and District Arena</b> Tracy Neurenberg, Lac du Bonnet, MB
<b>Glenora Curling Club</b> Angela Van Damme, Glenora, MB	<b>Kelsey Community School</b> Lavonne Herman, The Pas, MB
<b>Waskada and Area Recreational Centre</b> Nicole McGregor, Waskada, MB	<b>Carman Elementary School Playground Project</b> Earl Froebe, Carman, MB
<b>Deloraine Golf Course</b> Jordan Vanrobaeys, Deloraine, MB	<b>St. Francois Xavier Nursery School Inc.</b> Jim Janzen, St. Francois Xavier, MB
<b>Helping Hands Soup Kitchen</b> Diane Rourke, Minto, MB	<b>Swan Valley Snowmobile Association</b> Derek Sagert, Swan River, MB

### ONTARIO WINNERS

<b>Melbourne Agricultural Society</b> Earl Elliot, Welbourne, ON	<b>Ktpps Home and School</b> Mike Roppel, Tiverton, ON
<b>Plympton-Wyoming Agricultural Society</b> Emma Whiting, Oil Springs, ON	<b>Pathways Health Centre for Children</b> Kevin Peters, Thedford, ON
<b>Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP)</b> Larry Kropf, Tavistock, ON	<b>Lifebridge Family Youth Drop-in Centre</b> Cynthia Zubler, Ridgetown, ON
<b>Arthur Minor Hockey Association</b> Shawn Livingston, Conn, ON	<b>South Frontenac 4H Beef Club</b> Catherine Walsh, Harrowsmith, ON
<b>West Lincoln Community Care</b> Jeff MacDougall, Smithville, ON	

### QUEBEC WINNERS

<b>Club de Curling Lacolle Curling Club</b> Gary Holzgang, Noyan, QC	<b>Ecole Primaire Franklin Elementary School</b> Laura Johnson, Ormstown, QC
<b>Quebec 4H</b> Chelsea Daniel, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC	<b>Ecole Sainte Marie Valles des Voyageurs</b> Edward Rusenstrom, Bristol, QC
<b>Fondation Sécuriferme</b> Yvan Bergeron, Saint-Samuel, QC	

### MARITIMES WINNERS

<b>Horton Community Centre Association</b> John David Curry, Wolfville, NS	<b>Somerset and District Elementary School</b> Amanda Kinsman, Berwick, NS
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