

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Non-Profit Grants Now Available *Funding addresses critical operating expenses*

Medicine Hat – Funding is available to non-profit organizations to assist with sustainability.

MSI Operating Grants for non-profit organizations are available through the Alberta Government Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) and administered by the City of Medicine Hat. The grants are meant to address growth-related challenges and enhance the long-term sustainability of Medicine Hat.

“We are looking to assist successful organizations that serve a need and contribute to the overall quality of life and sustainability of Medicine Hat as a community,” says Leslie Jerry, community inclusion coordinator. “Typically, funders focus on new programs. This MSI funding is unusual in that it provides the opportunity to address critical operational funding,” added Jerry.

Applications and further details are available on the City of Medicine Hat website www.medicinehat.ca. Deadline to apply is Thursday, February 2, 2012.

Registered non-profit organizations can apply for MSI grants to cover qualifying operating expenses including salaries, wages, rent, utilities, small equipment, operating supplies and maintenance. An Application Information Session will be held in Council Chambers from noon until 1 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2012.

Organizations that meet an identified need in Medicine Hat can apply for up to \$25,000 to use within the calendar year. Criteria include measurable objectives, proof of accountability and non-profit status.

Alberta Government Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Conditional Operating Funding is subject to final approval of provincial and municipal funding.

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For further information, please contact:

Leslie Jerry
Community Inclusion Coordinator
City of Medicine Hat
403 502-8086