



## MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

# Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough Announces Inaugural Grant Recipients

### *Recipients from local charitable organizations honoured at community celebration*

**PETERBOROUGH, June 14, 2011** - The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough (CFGF) announced its inaugural grant recipients, celebrated various milestones of the past year and shone a spotlight on upcoming initiatives during a special Community Celebration Tuesday evening at Trent University's Bagnani Hall.

CFGF Board Chair, Bill Lockington explained: "Many people in the City and County are passionately engaged in furthering the interests of our communities. The Foundation contributes to these efforts by making all forms of philanthropy— time, talent and capital— more powerful and effective. At this, our inaugural community celebration, we are delighted to join with our donors, volunteers and grant recipients in acknowledging our collective accomplishments."

One of the many highlights of the evening was the official announcement of the recipients of the inaugural Organizational Leadership and Innovation Grants program. This program was made possible through the generous support of the CFGF Directors' Fund and is designed to provide investments that strengthen the organizational infrastructure and leadership of charitable organizations in the City and County of Peterborough.

Speaking about the program, CFGF Executive Director Andrea Dicks said: "When we partner with local organizations to build their capacity, we help develop a stronger City and County of Peterborough. CFGF is excited to support city and county-wide projects in a variety of sectors – from arts and culture to economic sustainability, social services and education."

The projects receiving support from the Organizational Leadership and Innovation Grants program were selected by a Grants Assessment Committee, made up of board and community members, and are as follows:

- **COIN (Community Opportunity and Innovation Network)**, working with several other community groups, will use the grant to provide leadership, research and logistical support to the multi-sectoral committee it is leading to develop a Peterborough Centre for Social Innovation. The Centre will be a habitat for social, economic and environmental innovators – entrepreneurs, non-profit professionals, artists, funders, students, mentors, and community leaders designing the future.
- The **New Canadians Centre** will utilize the funding to pilot the Peterborough Welcome Pass. This program will allow newcomers to become familiar with and participate in the community's culture, arts and recreational opportunities. Newcomers who register will have access to free or discounted admissions to supporting organizations for their first year living in Peterborough. The New Canadians Centre will partner with several non-profit organizations to bring vision to this project.
- The **Rural Outreach Centre** will use CFGF's support to lead a partnership project offering training opportunities for non-profit service providers in the county of Peterborough in the areas of governance

structures and best practices, volunteer recruitment and sustainment, and providing opportunities to meet individual staff and volunteer training needs, enhancing service capacities and providing networking and collaboration opportunities between agencies.

- **Trent Radio** will use this grant to develop an annual Community Radio Workshop Session, open to local community organizations, that will demonstrate how to and provide guidance for using community radio to further organizational objectives and enhance the organization's mission and mandate.

In addition to the Organizational Leadership and Innovation Grants recipients, CFGP used the Community Celebration event to honour the inaugural recipients of another of its funds, the **Bierk Art Fund**. As a fund held within the CFGP, the Bierk Art Fund aims to honour the artistic and cultural contributions of Elizabeth and David Bierk through support of innovative artistic projects and organizations in the city and county of Peterborough.

"We're thrilled to be able to assist the Bierk family in fulfilling the legacy they have created along with friends, neighbours and colleagues who are also passionate about the arts." said Su Ditta, CFGP board member. This endowed gift means the Fund will exist in perpetuity and will foster the innovation and creativity of the artistic community over the long-term."

Charlie Bierk, the youngest son of the late Elizabeth and David presented grants to four inaugural recipients selected by his family, including Artspace, Market Hall Community Fundraising Campaign, Public Energy and Peterborough Singers.

"My parents both believed that Peterborough has a dynamic cultural life and that the arts are one of the most important aspects of such a fine community," said Mr. Bierk. "In addition to remembering Liz and David, and honouring their contributions to the arts, the fund will create a legacy that will support and sustain local arts organizations and the work they do for years to come."

Continuing with the good news, CFGP also made several announcements about upcoming initiatives including:

- The creation of a new Housing Fund, established through a \$45,000 gift from CFGP. The purpose of the endowment fund will be to support charitable organizations leading and contributing to affordable and sustainable housing activities within the City and County of Peterborough. Donations to the endowment fund are welcome and will be held in perpetuity with a portion of the annual earnings given to charities.
- A partnership between CFGP and Kawartha Heritage Conservancy in a province-wide campaign to raise awareness and funds for the ongoing stewardship of preserved lands in the Peterborough region. Working together to build a local land stewardship fund, the partnership is designed to help raise the support needed to maintain and preserve special lands, for generations to come. The partnership also offers donors an opportunity to multiply the impact of their gift as CFGP will match up to every dollar raised, up to a maximum of \$20,000, thanks to the participation of its national membership organization, Community Foundations of Canada.

### **About the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough**

The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough fosters philanthropy by pooling endowed and special funds, while its grants to registered charities enhance the quality of life for local citizens. The Foundation enables all community members to contribute to positive, lasting changes in the community, and is a part of a national network of community foundations which exist in more than 170 communities from coast to coast.

-30-

### **For more information please contact:**

Andrea Dicks, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough  
T. 705.740.2347, C. 705.761.4432, [andrea.dicks@cfgp.ca](mailto:andrea.dicks@cfgp.ca)