



MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

WIM & NANCY PAUW FOUNDATION GIFTS \$500,000 TO THE BANFF CANMORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

January 30, 2020 – Banff, Alberta, Canada

The Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation pledges a 5-year gift donation of \$500,000 to the Banff Canmore Community Foundation. The bulk of the gift will support the Community Foundation's community grants program.

"We have worked collaboratively with the Banff Canmore Community Foundation on community grant making in the past and this gift is a natural progression in our relationship," says Cathy Geisler, Executive Director of the Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation. "Our goal is to reinvest in the Bow Valley, supporting projects that contribute to a more active, vibrant and happy community. We are grateful for the leadership role the Community Foundation takes in providing granting opportunities for so many community groups whose programs create significant positive impact for local residents."

"This is the single largest gift ever made to the grants program at the Banff Canmore Community Foundation. It will provide a significant boost to the number and size of community grants that we distribute. We are absolutely thrilled with this gift and the impact it will have in the community. We have been providing grants to community organizations since 2004 and with this gift we can invest in even more worthwhile projects," states Board Chair, Karen Antrobus.

Antrobus added, "Like other community foundations, we entertain applications from all sectors of our Bow Valley community. Shelter, food security and personal safety are constantly at the top of our mind when reviewing grant applications. This year, and for the foreseeable future, we are setting aside a percentage of the community grant funding to specifically tackle those issues. Other priorities for funding were identified in the 2018 Vital Signs Report including: improving Indigenous relations, tackling environmental issues and addressing affordability concerns."



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The Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation is a private foundation in Banff, funded by Wim Pauw, the founding shareholder of Banff Caribou Properties, Ltd and Banff Lodging Company. Since 2013, it has gifted \$1,475,500 to community initiatives that meet one of three pillars: Active Lifestyles, Enhancing Education, and Community Building.

More information about the Banff Canmore Community Foundation grant program: https://www.banffcanmorecf.org/grants-and-scholarships/community-grants/

More information about the Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation: www.pauwfoundation.com

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