



Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WIM & NANCY PAUW FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO  
KIDSPORT BOW VALLEY NEED WITH \$40,000 DONATION**

July 8, 2019 – Banff, Alberta, Canada

The Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation responded to increased financial need for organized sport with a \$40,000 donation to KidSport Bow Valley. KidSport Bow Valley provides financial support to children to remove financial barriers that may prevent them from playing organized sport.

In 2018, KidSport Bow Valley provided financial support to more than 167 grants to 121 kids participating in 18 different sports. Early in 2019, the Bow Valley chapter recognized a significant increase in funding applications over the prior year. Concern that the demand would surpass available funds was immediate. “Over the past years, the number of requests has been on an upwards trajectory,” advises Meagan Steward, Committee Director of KidSport. “This year however, we had three times more applications before April, and we can see that the demand will probably surpass our financial capabilities for the year.”

The Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation has provided financial support to KidSport Bow Valley for the past two years, and was planning to continue their support of KidSport Bow Valley. Fund Director Cathy Geisler advised, “We were in the midst of our 2019 planning when KidSport Bow Valley reached out with an urgent need for increased donations. The Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation is passionate about youth having access to active, healthy lifestyle choices and we know that sport and recreation goes a long way to support kids physically and socially. It was an easy decision for us to answer this call and increase our funding commitment to the organization.”

The KidSport Bow Valley chapter serves families in Canmore, Banff, Lake Louise, Exshaw, and the MD of Big Horn. Meagan Steward shares, “We are committed to providing every child who meets our criteria with funding support. We will not turn away any applicant. If we don’t meet our fundraising goals, or we are impacted by a jump in requests like this year, we have to decrease amounts issued to each applicant, pushing the burden back on to the family.”



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The Bow Valley chapter is (governed) by a national organization; however funding comes from local, community based grassroots fundraising, and grants or donations from organizations like the Pauw Foundation. The application process is 100% confidential and applicants must meet eligibility criteria to be approved for funding.

Donation information for KidSport Bow Valley is available at [www.kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/bow-valley](http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/bow-valley)

**For More Information:**

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE WIM & NANCY PAUW FOUNDATION**

- The Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation began supporting KidSport Bow Valley with a donation of \$10,000 in 2017 and \$15,000 in 2018, bringing the total KidSport support to \$65,000 with today's announcement
- Between 2013 and 2019, \$572,000 has been donated to support sport and recreation participation including gifts to Banff and Canmore high schools, Banff Elementary School, KidSport Bow Valley, local sport and recreation organizations, and competitive, individual athletes
- For the 2019 giving year, more than \$600,000 has been approved for Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation disbursement for grassroots initiatives in Banff and the Bow Valley, including this recent gift to KidSport Bow Valley
- Since 2013, the Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation has gifted \$1,475,500 to community initiatives that meet one of 3 pillars: Active Lifestyles, Enhancing Education, and Community Building

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*The Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation is a private foundation in Banff, Alberta, Canada, funded by the profits of Banff Caribou Properties, Ltd and Banff Lodging Company. The goal of the Wim & Nancy Pauw Foundation is to reinvest in Banff, supporting projects that contribute to a more active, vibrant and happy community of Banff.*