

December 18, 2012/For Immediate Release

FCSS programs awards funding for 2013

AIRDRIE, ALBERTA – At their regular meeting on Monday, December 17, 2012, Airdrie City Council endorsed the recommendation of the Community Services Advisory Board to allocate \$650,500 of the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Program to preventive social programs.

“This year the total request for FCSS funds from the City’s funded programs exceeded \$1 million,” said Clay Aragon, FCSS Coordinator, City of Airdrie. “This oversubscription in FCSS funds posed a new challenge to the City especially because provincial grants have not increased since 2010.”

At Council, Mr. Aragon briefly talked about the FCSS mandate of prevention, the six funding allocation options, and the process that the Community Services Advisory Board underwent to make their funding recommendation to Council.

“The Board and Administration went through a rigorous process in making their funding recommendation to Council,” said Alderman Kelly Hegg, Community Services Advisory Board Chair. “For the Board, it was very important that we heard directly from the city’s funded programs about their service delivery challenges. We heard loud and clear the need to address issues related to staff retention. This FCSS funding allocation for 2013 addresses those issues.”

Mayor Peter Brown added, “It is always a challenge when community needs exceed the resources available. Although the allocation of funds is not perfect, I believe we as a Council made the best decision possible by allocating FCSS funds that best support community programs in providing quality preventive social services. We truly appreciate all of the hard work these organizations do and the value they add to our community. ”

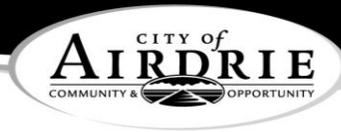
Contained within the Community Services Advisory Board’s recommendation is a condition directing Volunteer Airdrie to undergo a program review prior to the Board’s FCSS allocation meeting for the 2014 funding year.

“We spent a lot of time discussing Volunteer Airdrie at the Board level. We believe that with new leadership, Volunteer Airdrie has a place in our community,” said Alderman Kelly Hegg. “In addition, with new outcome measures and indicators being applied to Volunteer Airdrie, we will be able to show evidence of success with public funds.”

At a 26 per cent municipal contribution into the FCSS Program, the following preventive social programs will be receiving the below funding in 2013:

Program – Agency	FCSS BASE	2012 FCSS Plus	2013 FCSS Plus	2013 Total Allocation
Family and Resource Program—North Rocky View Community Links Society	\$ 112,500		\$3,000	\$115,500
Family and Group Counseling—North Rocky	\$118,896		\$3,500	\$122,396

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View Community Links Society				
Airdrie Seniors Outreach Program—North Rocky View Community Links Society	\$50,000		\$5,404	\$55,404
Volunteer, Information & Referral Program—North Rocky View Community Links Society	\$48,234	\$14,072		\$62,306
Teen & Critical Hours Care Program—Boys and Girls Club of Airdrie	\$105,233	\$4,072		\$109,305
Teen Mentoring—Big Brothers Big Sisters of Calgary and Area	\$18,000		\$3,075	\$21,075
Mentoring in Airdrie—Big Brothers Big Sisters of Calgary and Area	\$20,000		\$2,514	\$22,514
Volunteer Victim Advocates—Airdrie & District Victim Assistance Society	\$60,000		\$3,000	\$63,000
Hamper Volunteers—Airdrie Food Bank	\$10,000	\$10,000		\$20,000
Volunteer Drivers Program—Airdrie Meals On Wheels	\$13,700		\$1,300	\$15,000
Volunteer Airdrie	\$44,000			\$44,000
TOTAL	\$600,563	\$28,144	\$21,793	\$650,500

The FCSS Allocation Guide 2013 Edition and Recommendations are available online at:

<http://issuu.com/airdriefcss/docs/2013fcssallocationguide-1>

<http://issuu.com/airdriefcss/docs/2013fcssrecommendation>

FCSS is an 80/20 funding partnership between the City of Airdrie and the Province of Alberta. The City is required under this agreement to provide a minimum of 20 per cent contribution into the total program cost or 25 per cent of the provincial share.