



MOOSE JAW FAMILY YMCA
220 Fairford Street East
Moose Jaw SK S6H 6H2
Phone: (306) 692-0688
www.moosejawymca.ca

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

YMCA OF MOOSE JAW RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION FROM THE W. GARFIELD WESTON FOUNDATION

Thursday, June 26, 2014 - The Moose Jaw YMCA kindly accepted a generous donation of \$15,000. This donation is the first of a two year pledge totaling \$30,000. Lisa Armbruster, Manager of the Moose Jaw Real Canadian Superstore presented the cheque to Moose Jaw YMCA CEO-Jeff Fox on behalf of The W. Garfield Weston Foundation. The Foundation has a history of supporting education and youth and puts great value on the experiences that the Moose Jaw YMCA camps bring to children.

This donation comes just in time for the YMCA's 2014 Summer Day Camps. The Moose Jaw YMCA is a non-profit organization. Last year, through the Strong Kids Campaign we invested over \$18,000 on camp sponsorship. Children receiving sponsorship were from all segments of our community in Moose Jaw! They were single parent families, families with low-incomes or families that had fallen on hard times and needed transitional support due to illness, crisis or loss of employment. We believe that every child, no matter their financial circumstances, deserves the chance to reach their full potential. Our generous donors help subsidize the costs for families in need so their kids can benefit from positive YMCA experiences like summer camp.

At summer camp kids get the chance to connect, develop an appreciation for the natural world, form friendships that are real, in-person and genuine, learn valuable life and leadership skills and create memories that last a lifetime. Children in need are finding the courage to believe in themselves - to reach for their dreams, to have a second chance, to form new friendships and gain the confidence to change their lives. We believe in the power of experiential learning and getting young people outdoors and actively engaged. Camp provides children with the opportunity to develop lasting friendships and learn valuable life skills that help strengthen confidence and build character. Summer camp remains one of the few places where young people can unplug from technology and focus on active play, creative expression, and explore the natural environment!

Many of the positive skills that children learn at summer camp will help them later in life. At Summer Day Camps, campers will learn about themselves, others and the world around them through activities that match their age, interests, abilities, and needs. Camp also provides a safe environment for children to try new activities and challenge themselves in a supportive and caring community with qualified camp staff. We know that a positive camp experience can be one of the defining moments of a young person's life!

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation understands and supports the important programs our YMCA provides to the families here in Moose Jaw. Together, we are building healthy communities....

For more information please contact:

Corinne Damaskie
Manager of Funds Development & School-Age Care
(306) 692-5448

About The W. Garfield Weston Foundation:

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is a private Canadian family foundation, established in the 1950's by Willard Garfield Weston and his wife Reta. In 1924 Garfield inherited his father's company and during his life established bakeries and other successful enterprises throughout Canada and in many parts of the world. Today, these businesses include the George Weston Limited and Loblaw Companies Limited, companies in food retailing, processing and distribution. The founders believed that as the funds are generated through the hard work and success of these Canadian companies, grants should be given in Canada for the benefit of Canadians. For three generations, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation has maintained a family tradition of supporting charitable organizations across Canada. Today the Foundation directs the majority of its funds to projects in the fields of land conservation, education, and science in Canada's North. In addition, it provides funds to further Canada's research in neuroscience.