

## Government of Alberta Culture and Community Spirit Grant

*Funded by the Government of Alberta through the Alberta Lottery fund in order to build strong communities and enhance the quality of life for Albertans.*

The Calgary Joy of Life Centre for Spiritual Living wishes to thank and recognize the Alberta Government for the generous grant allocated to our centre to help fund our outreach programs.

The Calgary Joy of Life Centre has spearheaded several of our own philanthropic ventures in which we as a community reach out to a community that is larger than our own. This along with our in-house programs i.e. Sunday Celebrations; classes; special events; Wednesday Night Workshops, we offer to our membership, the greater Calgary Community receives the JOYFULL value benefit of our Outreach programs. Please note the enclosed information on each program.

### **The SHOE In:**

This Outreach Project which began in September 2006 assists youth of all ages, through the partnership with Inn from the Cold to claim a pair of new shoes, along with a new feeling of confidence in themselves. As New Thought Centres teach principles of spiritual well being, we recognize the need for all youth to feel empowered as they grow into their shoe size and their potential, in a world so full of options and demands.

*Shoe In...empowering KIDS from the ground up.*

### **The HUG Project:**

**"May the people on this planet be brought together by the simple act of caring and compassion. May there exist in all hearts the courage to love and be kind. For self-givingness is the true nature within all Life."**  
On December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 our community, the JOY of Life Centre, ventured out to perpetuate an idea conceived and demonstrated by one man across an ocean. The purity and innocence with which he stood in his gift of love, giving Free Hugs, was so compelling that it's rippling effect holds the promise of touching hearts for many years to come. Our gifts, of course are found in the feelings we receive as we give them and as we each come to learn the fine art of giving - without an expectation of a return, we hold the promise of touching our own hearts, for many years to come. It is from firsthand experience that our community invites you - whoever you may be, whatever may be going on in your life, wherever you are, to participate in this sweet act of kindness, be it planned or spontaneous.....to HUG someone - just for the JOY of it!

Watch for us in the community, you never know where we will appear next for your free hug.....

**From** this simple act of kindness and compassion, we have expanded the Hug Project to include "Your Morning Hug: each weekday morning on XL 103 between 8 and 8:15 am, Rev. Nadene Rogers reaches out to listeners to start the day with a virtual HUG!

## **The Cosmic Clowns:**

Conceived and trained by Nadene Rogers aka Lovable Louie, one of Canada's renown clowns, this troupe is designed to entertain and compassionately care for the elders of this Community. In institutional or residential visits, these marvellous messengers of mirth delight the often childlike souls of the aged, leaving balloon sculptures, timeless songs, new found puppet friends, two steps gone sideways and warm embraces wherever they go!

## **Thus the Community Spirit Grant will be used in a fourfold nature:**

- 1) To facilitate the move and renovations into new office/meeting space to be used but not limited to the continued administration/ growth of our philanthropic ventures (outreach programs).
- 2) Operation costs of our outreach programs and programs that enrich the lives of our community and that of the greater Calgary Community.
- 3) Development and funding of new outreach programs.
- 4) Expenditures to train board and community members to take a leading role in promoting/managing these or any further outreach programs and moving them forward.

