

TOWN OF UNITY
In Motion Community Challenge Application

ABOUT UNITY

The Town of Unity walks the talk when it comes to being in motion. Unity is a community of 2400 people and it located in Northwest Saskatchewan just an hour North of Kindersley. Unity provides all of our community many opportunities to be in motion. Unity is very proud of our Regional Park. Included in this park are 5 shale ball diamonds with extensive walking paths throughout. Also included at this location is a playground, museum grounds, tennis courts and swimming pool. Many children are registered in a variety of Minor sports programs in Unity such as Minor Ball, Minor hockey, football, dance, curling and many more. It's not unusual for a parent to have to take their child every night of the week to some activity. Unity has a very strong Minor Ball system who have been able to support our ball diamond facility in many ways. Recently they had fundraised to redo all the dugouts and also purchase new score clocks for each of the 5 ball diamonds. They also paid for the majority of a new ball diamond in 2007. With funding secured through Community Initiatives Fund they are also putting funds towards the new ball diamond washroom in 2012. Minor Hockey has also been very strong in recent years with their numbers increasing as well. They partnered with the Town to pay 2 new dressing rooms for the growing number of girls participating in hockey. It seems that the community and organizations have always worked very well together to put recreation first and to give our community high quality facilities and programs to everyone. Community members are always willing to lend a hand in many events that seem to be happening all the time. In the past 2 years, Unity has hosted: 2010 Pre-competition World Junior game, 2010 Western Canadian Softball Championships, three (3) 2011 Ball Provincials, two (2) 2010 Ball Provincials, 2011 Sasktel Northern Curling championships, 2010 Provincial Communities in Bloom winner, 2011 National Finalist for Communities in Bloom, Riderville finalist, CTV Home Town Tour and 2011 Provincial Volleyball. The biggest resource Unity has is its people. The people of Unity are so willing to give of their time that all of the above events could never been hosted and at such a high level. There are constant accolades for all of the volunteer committee members Unity has.

ABOUT OUR PROJECT

Our project is a joint venture that utilizes many partnerships in our community. If Unity were successful in winning the \$10,000, each school would receive \$1,000 each to put towards increasing physical activity in children. Each school has written an article articulating what their \$1,000 would go towards in the next section of our application. The remaining \$7,000 would go towards the installation of a permanent outdoor rink/skate park. The total cost for this project is around \$25,000 and there are already other organizations that are willing to put funding towards this worthwhile project. This new outdoor rink will provide access to all children go skate, play hockey all winter long free of charge and 24 hour access. The skate park would also be accessible and free to use.

OUR BUDGET

In Motion Grant	\$7,000
Unity KidSport	\$5,000
Unity Inter-Agency	\$5,000
Heart and Stroke Grant	\$5,000
Town of Unity	<u>\$5,000</u>
TOTAL	\$27,000

ABOUT THE SCHOOLS

Unity Public School

Unity Public School has 177 students from pre-k to grade 6. UPS is a leader in getting kids in motion and they walk the talk in several different and unique ways. UPS is the only school that has started an In Motion program even before the school day starts and all the kids are involved as well as the teachers. The principal, Doug English has been instrumental in instilling the values of physical fitness to the kids. Each morning Doug rings the bell 5 minutes before 9am and a flood of activity begins at the school as shown in our video entry also submitted with this written portion. All of the kids start walking through the school single file and make their way into the gymnasium where the grade 6 have already set up an obstacle course. The kids are jumping, running, skipping, bending, balancing and simply being in motion. After the 5 minutes are up all of the kids are refreshed and ready to start classes. Doug believes in physical activity and it is shown time and time again. He has recently developed a fitness room that can be used by seniors as well. It recently had its grand opening with many seniors and special guests in attendance. In the video, it shows a local senior showing other seniors how to use the equipment the day of the grand opening. If Unity wins the \$10,000 grand prize UPS would use their \$1,000 on the purchase of a new treadmill for this fitness room. All of the kids are allowed access to this room every day and it not only gives the kids the opportunity to get in motion but now they are able to socialize with the seniors that use the fitness room as well. The seniors love seeing the kids and it's a great way to integrate and start conversations with kids and seniors.

Unity Composite High School

UCHS would like to spend their \$1000.00 on Soft fall Mats. These mats have many functions and will be used in many different areas.

They will be used to support our Physical Education classes in our Grade 7-12 program.

Track and Field program

Intramural program (at lunch hour) with games of low organization

Snolympics: A junior high event that includes games in and outdoors. It involves all junior high students. UCHS is a school of 244 students from grade 7-12. UCHS offers all sports from volleyball, basketball, golf, badminton, cross country running and track and field in both junior and senior high. We have a beautiful fitness gym that is open to the students and staff from 7:30am to 5:00 pm. As well, we open our gym in the morning at 7:30 for students to come in and play the sport of their choice. Intramurals are held at lunch and sometimes there can be up to 100 kids in the gym.

We are very proud of our students and display our provincial winners on our Warrior Wall of Fame.

Monthly, a Warrior of the Month is nominated and students are very proud to receive their certificate and enjoy the fame of being selected as the Warrior of the Month.

We are a school that values physical activity.

St. Peter's Elementary School

There are 147 students from kindergarten to grade 6 at St. Peter School. The kids and teachers have been an In-motion school for many years and teach that an active healthy lifestyle go a long way. Their school plans to purchase new soccer nets if Unity wins the In-Motion Challenge and feel that the new outdoor rink/skate park would be an excellent facility for all the children of Unity to use.

WHY UNITY DESRVES TO BE IN MOTION

Unity really makes the word commUNITY. It has been said time and time again that our greatest resource is our people. It's the people of Unity that makes Unity a hub of activity year round. We are without a doubt deserving of this \$10,000 grant. This money will go towards a project that will benefit every single person in our community. Every child will be able to use the skate park in summer months and the rink will be used by everyone in the winter. All the schools have jumped on board in getting all of their students to pledge to become more physically active. We also have been the LEADERS since the start with the MOST pledges of any community, despite our population of 2400. The closest community is over 150 pledges behind which we believe says it all. When the people in your community believe in the concept of In Motion and the positive impacts of being active, it's a easy sell for our community and our people. We want to win and we want to give our community more opportunities to be IN MOTION.

We thank In Motion for taking the time to look through our application and we hope this meets the requirements to pledge to become the most active community in Saskatchewan. We won't let you down!