

Generate Opportunities (GO) Fund – 2020 update

In 2016, BC Hydro launched the Generate Opportunities (GO) Fund, an \$800,000 fund to support Peace Region non-profit organizations. The GO Fund will be distributed over an eight-year period to organizations that provide services to vulnerable populations including children, families and seniors.

The GO Fund is administered by Northern Development Initiative Trust on behalf of BC Hydro. Applications for funding are accepted on an ongoing basis and funds are distributed on a quarterly basis. Organizations are eligible to apply for individual grants up to \$10,000 per year.

As of December 31, 2020, BC Hydro had distributed \$493,991 to 56 projects. For more information and to apply, please visit www.siteproject.com/GoFund or www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca (search “GO Fund”).



Whiskey Jack Nordic Ski Club head coach Matt Jarnagin giving instructions to young skiers in March 2020. BC Hydro contributed \$10,000 towards expanding the club’s equipment rental program in September 2020. Photo credit: Whiskey Jack Nordic Ski Club

In 2020, we distributed \$56,300 to seven non-profit organizations in the Peace Region, supporting non-profit organizations in providing services to vulnerable groups, including children, families and seniors, related to recreation, the arts, health, restorative justice and literacy.

2020	
Recipient organization:	Funding received:
Northern Sun Helpers Society	Grant funding will enable the Northern Sun Helpers Society to reach out to more individuals and families who are suffering from addictions. Funding from this grant will enable the Sunday Lunch Program to continue operating throughout the winter months (22 weeks) which is a time when at risk populations in the community are particularly threatened by the harsh weather and temperatures.
Whiskey Jack Nordic Ski Club	Funding to purchase an additional 22 ski sets consisting of skis, bindings, boots, and poles along with two sleds designed for pulling toddlers behind a skier. Equipment purchased is available for rent for a low cost. Rental revenues allow the club to maintain and replace broken equipment. The club will also use the equipment to offer low-cost access to skiing for school groups and clubs.
Fort St. John & Area Senior's Care Foundation	Funding to help grow their Meals and Wheels program and Better at Home program, by providing wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes and other mobility assistance tools. The Foundation works with agencies including Northern Health to ensure as many seniors are receiving support as possible. These two programs currently serve 73 seniors and the funding will allow them to reach up to 200 seniors. This is the third time the program has been funded (first in 2018, and again in 2019).
Friends of Hudson's Hope Society	Funding will be used by the Society to stock their food bank with healthy food options for the coming year and to include fresh healthy foods into their Christmas hampers for seniors, children and youth, and disabled residents. The Friends of Hudson's Hope Society is the only organization at present in their community that offers a year-round operating foodbank, Christmas hamper program and financial assistance for medical travel and treatment.
Fort St. John and District Palliative Care	Funding will allow the Palliative Care Society to facilitate training of volunteers and provide a venue to gather and create an environment for people to learn about grief where they can share and receive support through events, ongoing services and access to information. The Society has been awarded the GO Fund previously, and the Grief and Bereavement Support program is a new program.
Peace Community Church Society	To create a community garden that will assist with food security within Taylor for many individuals and families. The garden will also enhance the quality of annual food hampers given to community members with fruits and vegetables. The Church will work with local community groups to ensure the orchard and garden reflect the needs of the community.
Chetwynd Planning Society	Contribute to funding a five-day Circus Camp in April 2020 for 50 youth ages 7 to 16. The program is led by representatives of the Green Fools Theatre and teaches: juggling, clowning, tumbling, pyramid building, trapeze, unicycle, tight rope walking and stilt walking. The program aims to promote self esteem, leadership and teamwork. The grant will provide free healthy snacks and dinner for the 50 kids during the camps. Funding will also cover transportation for kids living at Moberly Lake to attend the camp and allow the Society to put on a free performance for the community at the end of the week. The program is offered free of charge to increase accessibility to all children. The Society connects with First Nations groups in the area.