



Saskatoon Community Foundation



Client Case Study

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About SCF

Founded in 1970, Saskatoon Community Foundation (SCF) currently has 4 staff: Executive Director, Administration Manager, Donor Services Manager and Grants and Communications Manager. SCF holds donations in trust in perpetuity. Only the income earned by the endowment is used to make grants. Every year, the foundation supports a wide range of community projects and initiatives. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community by strategically making grants to other charitable organizations - hunger programs, community theatre, adult literacy programs, summer environmental camps, programs for seniors, and many more.

Previous Grant Process

Apart from the huge and largely unnecessary amounts of paper generated by paper granting, the tracking, coordinating, collating and delivery of paper applications was fraught with opportunities for human error. Consequently, labor-intensive systems had to be kept in place to ensure that all the work was done accurately. Spreadsheets had to be maintained and the physical space required for the files was also a challenge. Because our endowment has quadrupled in size in the last ten years, we knew we had to ensure that our staff had the capacity to manage all the work.

Foundant GLM Implementation

Paper consumption has decreased by thousands of sheets per year since we began using the system in 2008. The software enables me to ensure that all reviewers are seeing the same materials, that all applicants have included all the necessary materials prior to the review, and that follow up reports are filed in a timely fashion. As time goes on, we can see an applicant's granting history at a glance, and ensure that all reporting is up to date prior to awarding new grants. We can review the applications together onscreen during decision meetings. The time saved on mechanical tasks, such as collating and photocopying, can now be put to more productive use.

Advantages of GLM

- Paper consumption has decreased by thousands of sheets per year
- Online applications are easily reviewed online during decision meetings
- Major time is saved on mechanical tasks such as collating and photocopying
- All reviewers see the same material and grant history can be viewed at a glance
- Follow-up reports are filed in a timely manner and reporting is up to date

Welcome Surprise

The data export and reporting utilities are very useful in generating reports for board and committee reference, but perhaps the greatest benefit to staff and board reviewers is the ability to access the system from any computer connected to the internet. This has made it possible for both me and my committee members to keep up with work even when we are called away from the office or out of town.