

## Stories of Giving

### Local Couple Supports Library



(Photo: Barbara and Earl Hjelte, and Barry Gosnell, Carman Area Foundation Chairperson)

Thanks to some thoughtful planning by Earl and Barbara Hjelte of Carman, the local library and arts council and the citizens who use their services, will benefit for many years to come. Earl and Barbara's donation in 2015, totaling \$16,000, was received by the Carman Area Foundation late last year to be used to support these two community resources. The Hjeltes donated \$10,000 plus another \$1000 in memory of Barbara's mother, Hilda Shields, to the Boyne Regional Library endowment fund. They donated another \$5000 to the Arts Stabilization Manitoba Fund, an endowment fund of the Foundation specifically established to support the Golden Prairie Arts Council.

This is not the first time the community has benefitted from Earl and Barbara's generosity. In 2006, the Carman Area Foundation was able to establish the Boyne Regional Library Endowment Fund thanks to a major initial donation by the Hjeltes. Since that time, the Foundation has been able to support the Library each year, disbursing over \$6000 in grants, from the Library and General endowment funds.

There are many ways to plan one's giving. The essential message of the Awareness Week is to encourage citizens to develop a giving plan that takes full advantage of tax rules, methods of giving, and charity exemptions to capture the maximum benefit for themselves and the charity of their choice. Talk to a professional financial advisor. Planned Giving, including annual planning and estate planning, benefits the whole community.

For more information, please go to [www.smartgivingplan.ca](http://www.smartgivingplan.ca), a locally developed informational website with many resources to illustrate the benefits of planned giving and to encourage residents to consider local charities in their giving plans. Smart Giving Awareness Week is an initiative of a coalition of Carman and area charities.

*"Your gift is never spent or used up, it goes on giving forever."*