



## NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY – WESTMET COMMUNITY GRANT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Hanna, Youngstown, Special Areas (February 6, 2025)** – The Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta proudly announces a new grant opportunity. WestMET Group Canada Ltd. established the WestMET Community Fund with an initial \$42,880 donation to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta (CFSEA). They have committed to provide an annual gift to CFSEA for 25 years. Each year, part of the donation will go directly toward a new community grant program, while the rest will be invested in the WestMET Community endowment fund. This new grant stream will support local initiatives and community-based organizations for the people of Special Area 2, Town of Hanna, and Village of Youngstown. To launch this inaugural grant stream, CFSEA will provide a recorded Grant Writing Workshop on their [website](#) by March 3rd.

***"WestMET is very pleased to give back to the community in and around the Hanna and Special Area 2 region. This program allows us to give back to the people, groups, and families that gave so much over the past few decades to the Sheerness Mine, producing affordable power for the province. As WestMET pivots to new opportunities, we are excited to partner with PACE on establishing this grant program and look forward to building strong relationships and supporting continued growth in the local community which have been an integral part of our journey."***

***– Kyle Hobbs, WestMET Director of Operations***



*Pictured: Kyle Hobbs, WestMET Director of Operations, Helene Nicholson, CFSEA Regional Development Coordinator, Jay Philipsen, PACE Project Manager*

The WestMET Community Fund Grant will start accepting grant applications from charities and non-profit organizations within Special Area 2, Hanna, and Youngstown on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, through CFSEA's online grant portal. The priority areas include Local Communities, First Nation and Metis Initiatives, Environmental, Youth and Education, and Health and Wellness. This new, annual grant stream will be facilitated by the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta and reviewed by an Advisory Committee including a representative from each area being supported, a CFSEA representative, and a representative from WestMET Group.

WestMET Group is leading the energy transition through the development of advanced agricultural products, environmental services, and emerging energy technologies. Their partnership with PACE Canada Developments has helped them develop a 13 MWac photovoltaic solar power electrical generation project in Hanna, Alberta, on reclaimed land at the Sheerness coal mine.

***"PACE is excited to be partnering with WestMET to bring sustainable and innovative renewable energy projects to Alberta. Our projects benefit the economy, the environment, and the community in addition to offering benefits across the food-energy-water nexus."***

***– Claude Mindorff, Director of Development, Pathfinder Clean Energy (PACE)***



The poster features the WestMET logo at the top left, consisting of three stacked rectangles and the text 'WestMET'. Below this is the main title 'WestMET Community Fund GRANT' in a bold, sans-serif font. A horizontal orange line is positioned below the title. Underneath the line, the text 'Supporting: SPECIAL AREAS 2, HANNA, & YOUNGSTOWN' is written in a smaller font. At the bottom left, an orange semi-circle contains the text 'Opens: March 3' and 'Deadline: March 28'. On the right side, there is a circular image showing a landscape with solar panels in the foreground and rolling hills in the background. At the bottom right, the logo for the 'COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Southeastern Alberta' is displayed, featuring a stylized sun icon.

***"We're grateful for the opportunity to work alongside WestMET and the local team, guiding their corporate community investment. This initiative will be instrumental in bolstering the region's charitable sector. WestMET's lasting impact will support the community for generations to come." – Niki Gray, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta***

For more information about the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta or the WestMET Community Fund Grant, please visit [cfsea.ca](http://cfsea.ca).

**For more information, please contact:**

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