



SOROPTIMIST FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Script for Power Point Slide Presentation

(2008)

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INTRODUCTION – SLIDE 1

In 1957 Soroptimist Foundation of the Americas established the Soroptimist Foundation by Deed of Trust, as a foundation of the Federation. Canadians soon found that under Canadian tax law their donations could not qualify for tax deduction, so work began on research into Canadian laws regarding foundations. Out of this work, the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada (SFC) was incorporated in 1963.

Canadian SI clubs, not individual Soroptimists, and the SFC Board of Directors comprise the membership of the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada.

The purpose of this training and development package is to educate all Canadian Soroptimists to the goals and activities of the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada.

TOUCHING THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS - SLIDE 2

We prepared this information to help Soroptimists:

1. To appreciate how the Foundation helps women who are helping women by providing educational and project opportunities, and educational grants.
2. To increase Soroptimists participation in Foundation activities.
3. To increase public awareness of the Foundation.
4. To attract potential members to Canadian Soroptimist Clubs.

THE SOROPTIMIST FOUNDATION OF CANADA – SLIDE 3

The Soroptimist Foundation of Canada is a not for profit corporation, incorporated June 28, 1963, and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act of Canada.

OUR GOAL– SLIDE 4

To promote the advancement of human rights and the status of women by soliciting, attracting, and managing charitable donations to be used to fund educational activities.

PURPOSE and OBJECTS – SLIDE 5

as set out in the Letters Patent

1. To provide bursaries, scholarships and fellowships to Canadian students and Canadian schools, colleges, and universities for the advancement of education and in particular to further the appreciation of social needs, the study of community, national and international problems, the study of education and educational methods.
2. To provide to Canadians grants for research or recognition of achievement in the advancement of education.
3. To provide financial assistance for the advancement of education to projects or charitable organizations in Canada.
4. To solicit, acquire, accept or receive gifts, donations, bequests, or subscriptions of money, or other real or personal property.

ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION – SLIDE 6

We currently try to achieve these objects through Grants for women and Club Grants funded by the income from donations.

ENDOWMENT FUND – SLIDE 7

The Endowment fund was established to provide a stable source of “untouchable principal” created by your donations. The net income generated by our investments is used exclusively for the charitable purposes set out in the Letters Patent of the Foundation. Presently this funds our identifying projects, Grants for Women and Club Grants.

RECOGNITION PROGRAMS – SLIDE 8

There are 2 recognition programs in place:

1. for individual SI members
2. for clubs

MAPLE LEAF PROGRAM – SLIDE 9

In 1983 the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada established a donor recognition program for S.I. members' donations.



1. The **Red Pin** - \$500.00
plus
2. The **Silver Pin** - \$1000
plus
3. The **Gold Pin** - \$2500.00
plus

CLUB STAR AWARD CERTIFICATES – SLIDE 10

In October 2005, at the Annual general meeting of the Foundation in Winnipeg, an annual recognition program for Club donations was introduced. The yearly recognition program acknowledges all Canadian S.I. clubs who have contributed club funds to the Endowment Fund. The clubs are recognized as follows:

- **Platinum** - \$2001 and over
- **Gold** - \$1001 to \$2000
- **Silver** –\$501 to \$1000
- **Bronze** –\$201 to \$500
- **Red** –\$100 to \$200

PRESENTATION OF FIRST TIME CLUB RECIPIENTS – SLIDE 11

Certificates were presented to 13 clubs.

MANAGING THE ENDOWMENT FUND – SLIDE 12

A comprehensive investment policy was adopted by the Board at the Annual Meeting in 2007.

SFC's Endowment Fund is managed by the Private Client Group at TD Canada Trust in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Eligible investments are selected using the guidelines of the Social Investment Organization. Their mandate is to promote the practice of socially responsible

investment (SRI). This includes screening on social and environmental issues, shareholder advocacy to improve corporate responsibility and community investment to help local development.

SLIDE 13

As of March 31, 2008 the total amount under management is \$1,177,990.65

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS - SLIDE 14

The Soroptimist Foundation distributes the revenue from the Endowment Fund in one of two ways. The identifying project is **Grants for Women** who are enrolled in graduate level studies planning a career mainly of benefit to women or girls. The second project is Soroptimist Foundation of Canada (SFC) **Club Grants** for educational programs or projects at the community level which focuses on women and girls. Five annual grants may be offered.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR GRANTS– SLIDE 15

Information about the grants and application forms are online at:

www.soroptimistfoundation.ca

and resources for members at: www.soroptimistfoundation.ca/resources.html

GRANTS FOR WOMEN WINNERS – SLIDE 16

After 25 years this award continues to be the identifying project for the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada. Four awards of \$7,500 each are given each year; 2 to Eastern Canadian students

and 2 to Western Canadian students -\$30,000.00 in total. Grants for women are awarded annually.

Application for the awards must be submitted to the SFC Board of Directors before September 30 of each year.

Over \$400,000 has been given out under this program to date!

SFC CLUB GRANTS – SLIDE 17

The Soroptimist Foundation of Canada may offer five \$1,000.00 cash grants to Canadian Soroptimist clubs holding educational programs for women and girls that will help them be the best they can be by developing abilities and awareness so that they can reach their full potential.

Club Grants are awarded annually. Application for club grants must be submitted to the SFC Board of Directors before September 30 of each year.

CLUB GRANT PILOT PROJECT - SLIDE 18

In 2003 the first Club Grant was provided as a Pilot Project. The proposal was forwarded to the Soroptimist Foundation Canada by SI of The Langleys requesting support for their planned community educational forum titled “A Mothering Conference: Tuning Into Our Teens”.

AWARDS FOR PILOT PROJECT - SLIDE 19

This Conference has continued annually since that initial project and has received numerous awards:

- 2003 recipient of the Provincial Solicitor General’s *Service Club Community Safety and Crime Prevention Award*
- 2004 First Place Soroptimist International of the Americas Celebrating Success
- 2004 and 2005 project chairs were nominated, to represent their club, for local *Women of Excellence Awards for Community and Humanitarian Services*

PREVIOUS CLUB PROJECTS - SLIDES 20 – 24

At the 2006 SFC AGM the Club Grants program was adopted as the second Soroptimist Foundation of Canada identifying program. As of Dec. 2007 twelve Grants have supported functions in six cities across Canada, touching the lives of more than 1000 women and girls.

NEW PROJECT IDEAS - SLIDE 25

New Projects

From time to time it may be appropriate to establish new programs or projects or to discontinue certain programs or projects being funded by the Foundation.

Approval of any such action is the sole prerogative of the members at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting after due notice of the question has been given.

Many clubs have reported benefits to holding a SFC sponsored educational project.

PROGRAM : Benefits of a club grant educational program

- ✓ Club members benefit from hands-on activity.
- ✓ They are kept current about social issues, especially those directly affecting women and girls.
- ✓ Unifying projects for all Canadian clubs as we pool ideas, resources and successes.
- ✓ Soroptimists' role is to make a difference for women and girls!

FUNDRAISING BENEFIT

- ✓ Funds raised by SFC will return to our Canadian communities.
- ✓ Increased knowledge of the Foundation will increase donations.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

- ✓ Club membership increases.
- ✓ Positive impact on all our lives.

PUBLIC AWARENESS BENEFIT

- ✓ Awareness of Soroptimist International is increased in our communities.

COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS – SLIDE 26

The Soroptimist Foundation of Canada communicates with its members in a variety of ways: The Soroptimist Foundation of Canada website, the Cornerstone web newsletter, and direct communication via mail and email to presidents and club representatives. The Training and Education Committee may be consulted through Director Shirley's contact information on the website.

Other resources can be found at

www.soroptimistfoundation.ca

A link to the Members Only Resource ...is

<http://www.soroptimistfoundation.ca/resources.html>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SLIDE 27

Elected by Canadian Soroptimist clubs The SFC Board of Directors is made up of five Soroptimists alternately 2 or 3 from the east and west – currently 3 for the east until 2011.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) SLIDE 28

As required by law, an Annual General Meeting of the members of the Corporation must take place each year at which the Board of Directors report to the members. The audited financial statements for the previous fiscal year must be presented for scrutiny and approval by the members. At the same time the Board also reports on the rest of the activities of the corporation for the year. The members have the right to give direction to the Board to determine how the Board will continue to manage the corporation. The Board must do so according to the members' wishes, subject only to the bylaws (which may be amended to conform to the members wishes) and within the parameters set by the Letters Patent and governing statutes.

SOROPTIMIST FOUNDATION OF CANADA DAY – SLIDE 29

The purpose of **SFC day** is to increase awareness of the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada among Canadian Soroptimist. Club are encouraged to plan an activity around SFC to commemorate 45 years – and more – Empowering Women.

February 6th was chosen as SFC day to commemorate the first \$500.00 award, which was given on that day in 1965, to the Booth Memorial Home of the Salvation Army in Calgary.

IDEAS FOR SFC DAY - SLIDE 30

For example:

- Club SOLT on SFC (slide show available)
- Club level fundraiser - donations to SFC (mini raffle, auction bake sale)
- Information booth in community
 - Mall or other high traffic location
 - College or University
 - Farmer's Market
- Local media
 - Ad in newspaper
 - Spot on local TV

Your imagination is your limit!

SLIDE 31 – Give Generously

Slide 32 – How to Donate

Club members, or the public at large, can now arrange for Automatic direct Deposit donations.

Fill out the form provided (titled “Go Direct), attach your blank voided cheque, and mail to the address listed on the form.

Direct deposits will begin promptly and you can sit back and let your annual donation build, one month at a time.