Osprey Community Foundation Welcomes New Executive Director

Megan Osak has won awards for her work with World Wildlife Fund Canada – the conservation group with the widely-known panda logo. Now she is applying her award-winning marketing and fund development skills to a new non-profit organization – one with an osprey logo. The Osprey Community Foundation is delighted to welcome Osak as its new Executive Director.

“We are thrilled to have someone with Megan’s planning, organization and management abilities at the helm of our growing organization,” says Board President Norman Carruthers.

Despite the osprey name and logo, the Osprey Community Foundation has nothing to do with birds, of course. The foundation raises money for the people who live in this area – a permanent endowment that benefits charities, scholarships, non-profit organizations and good causes. By contributing to this local nest egg, local residents and businesses give back to their community, and the community foundation provides grants to support social services and food banks, arts and culture, children, seniors, recreation – a wide variety of local causes.

“My husband and I chose Nelson as the place to raise our family because of the quality of life and the vitality within the community,” says Osak, who is also part-owner, with husband Paul, of Reo’s Videos. “When I saw the posting, I was excited at the prospect of working for the organization that so closely marries my extensive non-profit experience with my personal interests.”

Osak started her part-time job a month ago, working out of the Osprey Community Foundation office at B-8, 625 Front Street. One of her ongoing marketing tasks is to persuade people that their community foundation really has little to do with birds. The citizens who established Nelson’s community foundation ten years ago simply chose to name it after the bird that is associated with this area, and returns each spring to build nests on pylons in the lake. This area is recognized as having one of the highest concentrations of breeding ospreys in the world.

This area also boasts a thriving community foundation providing a nest-egg of a different kind which will benefit the citizens of Nelson and area in perpetuity.