News release

For immediate release

Fourteen community groups in rural Saskatchewan to benefit from FCC AgriSpirit funding

Regina, Saskatchewan, December 18, 2012 – Rural Saskatchewan shines with community spirit, and this year, fourteen groups will be able to make life even better in their communities. Farm Credit Canada (FCC) is giving these groups \$162,020 through its FCC AgriSpirit Fund, and a total of \$1 million to 90 rural community groups across Canada for various capital projects that will help improve quality of life for residents. For more information about the selected projects in each province, visit www.agrispirit.ca.

Now in its ninth year, the FCC AgriSpirit Fund awards rural community groups between \$5,000 and \$25,000 for community improvement projects such as recreation and community centres, libraries and emergency services training facilities. The fund supports much-needed projects and celebrates the people responsible for making a positive difference in the lives of those around them.

To receive funding, selected groups must meet specific criteria prior to implementing their projects, which must be finalized before December 2014.

Nationally, 1,079 applications were received for FCC AgriSpirit funding, a clear indication that people in rural Canada are passionate about their communities, and are doing their part to ensure they continue to thrive.

"It takes a lot of heart and soul to make a difference in any community," says Corinna Mitchell-Beaudin, FCC Vice-President, Prairie Operations. "And, the diversity of this year's FCC AgriSpirit Fund recipients shows that the spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in rural communities across the country. I congratulate all of the individuals who stand behind these projects and wish them success in their endeavours.

In Saskatchewan, \$1,098,000 has been given to FCC AgriSpirit projects over the past nine years, contributing to a total of over \$6.5 million in funding to rural communities across Canada.

Applications for the 2013 FCC AgriSpirit Fund will open in May 2013. Visit www.agrispirit.ca for eligibility requirements and more information.

FCC is socially and environmentally responsible. Corporate social responsibility activities are focused in five areas: agriculture and food, customers, community, employees and the environment. The FCC AgriSpirit Fund is one way FCC fosters strong and vibrant communities where customers and employees live and work.

As Canada's leading agriculture lender, FCC is advancing the business of agriculture. With a healthy portfolio of more than \$24 billion and 19 consecutive years of portfolio growth, FCC is strong and stable – committed to serving the industry through all cycles. FCC provides financing, insurance, software, learning programs and other business services to producers, agribusinesses and agri-food operations. FCC employees are passionate about agriculture and committed to the success of customers and the industry. For more information, visit www.fcc.ca.

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