



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

of Medicine Hat and Southeastern Alberta

About



Created in 1992

Serves all of South Eastern Alberta

Mainly rural area (seven counties and 2
Cities and 14 Towns) population of just over
100,000

15 Volunteer Board of Directors, 2 staff,
assets approaching \$6 Million

MEDICINE HAT'S

VitalSigns®

our community report card



2008



Medicine Hat's *Vital Signs*

About



CFC led national initiative – 15 communities this year (11 last year)

Initiated by Toronto Community Foundation in 2001

Gather information to inform our granting and related decisions

More deeply engage donors, key informants and a broad spectrum of our community's citizens to facilitate good decisions by us all

Medicine Hat's *Vital Signs*

What it is



- A citizen graded, quality of life indicator report card.
- A civic education and engagement tool
- A knowledge resource - useful in informing the discussions of decision makers, policy makers and citizens at large
- An accessible, readable publication
- A change driver
- A work-in-progress

Medicine Hat's *Vital Signs*

What it is not



- A peer-reviewed academic publication
- A partisan document that takes “positions” on issues
- A “call to action”
- Perfect!

Vital Activity



Vital Activity will integrate Vital Signs into all aspects of our Foundation's work

Vital Activity

Vital Activity is the “So What”
of Vital Signs

Profiles of Projects and Programs
linked to Vital Signs

Facilitated Conversations

Foundation Donation opportunities

Foundation Grants linked to Vital
Signs



Advantages & Disadvantages

Evaluation and Evaluation Coaching

Advantages

Clarified Project in all respects

Enabled clear communication to Key Stakeholders

Provided basis for additional project development

Provided simple methodologies for feedback

Assisted with project growth and enhancements.

Disadvantages

Challenges perspectives

Requires strategic thinking

Takes time

Initial feeling it might be a lot of work for little result.

Project is great idea with no real need for critical analysis