



MEDIA RELEASE

September 10, 2019

**Multicultural Heritage Centre
5411 - 51 Street
Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1X7**

For Immediate Release

Donation to Multicultural Heritage Centre made by 1946 Graduate of Stony Plain High School

The Multicultural Heritage Centre received a very welcome gift from one of the last living graduates of the original Stony Plain High School. Leona and Ken Biggs generously donated \$50,000 to help support the maintenance of the historic brick school building which now operates as the Multicultural Heritage Centre. In 1974 a group of volunteers formed the Heritage Agricultural Society which rescued the 1925 Stony Plain High School structure from demolition and launched the Multicultural Heritage Centre. The Red Brick Building, as it is commonly known, hosts a living museum, Public Art Gallery, artisan market, historic library, restaurant, and is the site of dozens of community events and programs.

Leona Biggs (nee Hoffman) graduated Stony Plain High School in June of 1946. Mrs. Biggs expressed that her heart warms with the many fond memories of the Town of Stony Plain as well as the Red Brick building itself. Leona was raised in her parent's home that still stands just down the street from the Centre.

"The Biggs' family donation is an amazing boost to the Centre," remarked Melissa Hartley, Managing Director of the Multicultural Heritage Centre. "Contributions such as this will allow for some much needed upkeep to the 94-year-old building and make sure it remains a historic landmark celebrating various aspects of culture, for the benefit of the community for decades to come."

The generous donation will be commemorated with a donor plaque and a special oil portrait of Leona Biggs has been commissioned and will hang in the Centre to acknowledge her legacy for future generations.

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