



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Julie Rygg - Phone: 701.746.0444 - E-mail: julie@visitgrandforks.com

For Immediate Release

CVB Awards Special Event Funding Grants

Grand Forks, ND (May 2, 2008) - The Greater Grand Forks Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) and the Forks Area Sports Association (FASA), a division of the CVB, are pleased to announce nine organizations planning upcoming events were recently awarded grants from the Special Event Funding Program. This program was designed to help support conventions, athletic tournaments and events that attract out-of-town participants and have an economic impact on the community.

The following 2008 events and special projects were awarded funds:

- City of East Grand Forks - Public Art Display - \$3,000
- Red River Valley YMCA Wahoo's Swim Club - 2008 ND USA Swimming Long Course Championships - \$600
- Greater Grand Forks Soccer Club - Grand Cities Soccer Tournament - \$1,500
- Grand Forks Softball Association - July Classic Tournament - \$500
- Town Square Farmers' Market - \$1,000

Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis. Each quarter the Special Events Funding Committee, made up of two CVB Board members and the Executive Director, reviews the submissions and awards funds. The next deadline for applications is July 31, 2008.

The CVB began this program in 2002, and to date, has awarded over \$210,000 for events that have either occurred in Greater Grand Forks or will be occurring in the future. In addition to the weight placed on attracting visitors and generating economic impact, the CVB also places emphasis on multiple day events, first time events and those that attain sponsorships from additional sources.

“The CVB is pleased to be able to provide financial support for events in addition to our promotional assistance”, said Julie Rygg, CVB Executive Director. “If we want to continue to grow as a destination community our efforts to aid those groups striving to bring visitors to Greater Grand Forks are crucial.”

To find out more about these programs and events, go to the CVB’s website at www.visitgrandforks.com and click on “Calendar of Events”.

For more information about the awards or to request the criteria and an application, contact Rygg at 701.746.0444 or julie@visitgrandforks.com.

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