

Virден Area Foundation

Virден Area Foundation was incorporated in 1992 and is located in the community of Virден, Manitoba. As the Statistics Canada 2011 census report identifies, Virден's population was 3,114 in 2011 (2013). Virден Area Foundation has always been committed to providing care for people in need throughout the town of Virден, encompassing 8.56 square kilometers.

The population of Virден has remained relatively consistent over the past fifteen years. Their population in 1996 reached 3,137, one of the highest populated points in the town's history. By 2001, the population gradually decreased 0.9%, to 3,109. Five years later, the population decreased once again, down 3.2% to 3,010. However, the 2011 results show the population is on the rise again, up 3.5% in five years to 2,114 (Statistics Canada, 2013).



Virден Area Foundation is engaged in a number of ways to help strengthen the residents of their region. Some of their grants are designated towards restoring the heritage by upgrading their local museums. Other priorities include distributing scholarships for high school students and providing funding for new health services. However, most of their grants are directed towards sports and recreation. In 2009, the foundation contributed \$150,000 towards building a new area complex, the Tundra Oil and Gas Place. Additionally, they have provided financial support for students and clubs to help improve access to recreation (Virден Area Annual Report, 2010).

Virден Area Foundation continues to be an asset for the people of Virден. Since their inception in 1992, the foundation has \$1,512,293 in revenue. Over the last five years, they have been providing a minimum of \$25,000 in grants annually. Some of these include large gifts such as \$150,000 towards a new sports complex, or multiple \$1,000 gifts as scholarships (Virден Area Annual Report, 2010).

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Reference

Statistics Canada. (2013). *Town of Virден*. Accessed 27 February 2014 from <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>.

Virден Area Foundation. (2010). *Annual Report*. Accessed 27 February 2014 from http://www.virdenareafoundation.com/docs/AnnualReport2009_2010.pdf.

Further Information

- Virден Area Foundation website: <http://www.virdenareafoundation.com/index.htm>.
- Fostering Sustainable Futures for Rural Regions through Philanthropy Initiative: <http://philanthropy.ruralresilience.ca>