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Our Story

Hope Bridges Society grew out of [Project HOPE](#), a therapeutic program used in our region's [Golden Hills School Division](#). As the first children involved with [Project HOPE](#) graduated, there were barriers to entering the next phase in their lives – no college program or immediate job placement – very few opportunities that typical youth look forward to.

To bridge this gap, a group of concerned community members held a successful workshop and took information gained from it to form Hope Bridges Society. Through meeting together regularly, they realized others in our community were also experiencing marginalization.

Although they could easily see that the desire to “belong” is universal, they knew that for most people with disabilities, isolation (outside of caregivers) is the norm. And isolation is present among others, including our elderly citizens, immigrants, and anyone perceived as different.

The question then became how to advocate for those isolated and build a stronger community. How do we impact the hearts and minds of all who live in [Wheatland County](#) so that “citizen” not only means that you live and vote in this community, but that you belong and are valued?

The Board decided the answer lay in the universal language of the arts – where there is no right or wrong and where we are all uniquely valued.

It has become our vision at Hope Bridges Society to build a stronger community using arts programming that promotes connection and wellness through participation and inclusion, thereby overcoming segregation.

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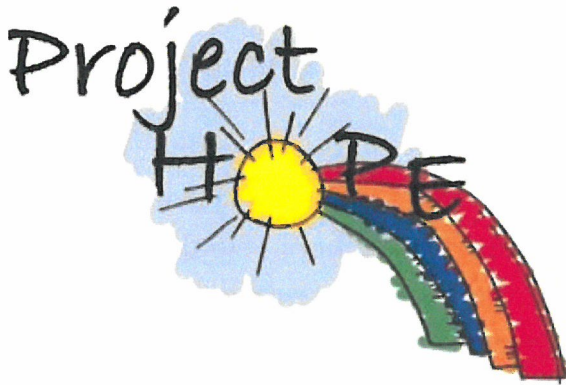
PROJECT H.O.P.E.

[Adaptive Physical Education \(Adaptive Physical Education.php\)](#)

[Music Therapy \(Music Therapy.php\)](#)

Project H.O.P.E. Coordinator:

Linda Tucker at 403-934-4646 (Crowther Memorial Junior High School)



Project H.O.P.E. is a community based program that provides therapy to children diagnosed with severe physical, communication, cognitive self-help, social-emotional and /or behavioral challenges including Down's Syndrome, Autism, Attention Deficit with Hyperactivity Disorder, Cerebral Palsy and numerous other conditions. Project H.O.P.E. is a volunteer organization led by a devoted and hard-working Board which fundraises all of the money used to meet the therapeutic needs of the children. Golden Hills School Division partners with Project H.O.P.E. to ensure that the students receive the therapy during school hours in their schools so the children have access to this valuable therapy when they are most alert and while they are in their own community. Such

a model provides an opportunity for the therapy to be integrated into the child's individual program through parent/teacher/therapist collaboration and the use of goals defined on the child's individual program plan.

This successful partnership has been in existence for over twenty years. Currently, music therapy and an adaptive physical education program is offered in Brentwood Elementary, Crowther Memorial Junior High, Strathmore High School, Wheatland Crossing School, Wheatland Elementary and Westmount Elementary, and is open to all children in the County of Wheatland if the transportation can be arranged.

Project H.O.P.E. provides services to children between the ages of; early entry students (3 years old) to outgoing high school students (19 years old). Funding is a continuous challenge for the Board of Project H.O.P.E.

Mission, Vision, Rationale Statements and Success Measurements

Program Vision: To be a community based program that meets the therapeutic needs of children diagnosed with severe physical, communication, cognitive self-help, social emotional and /or behavioral needs.

Program Mission: To facilitate real life growth in children with developmental challenges by delivering therapy in the school setting.

Rationale: Children and their families will experience more connection and support in their own community and thus the need to bring the therapeutic intervention to the children in their local schools.

Measurements: Individual goals for each student are taken from the school IPP (Individual Program Plan) which is developed with teacher and parent input. The teachers help the therapists choose and adapt the goals to fit the therapy. Achievement of those goals are measured 4 times a year and reported to the parents. At the end of the year, a survey is conducted to measure the program goals. The results are reported in the program's Annual Report. (Annual Report is available upon request)

Popular **RESOURCES**

> Learning Commons (<https://lc.myghsd.ca/login/index.php>)



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HANS PEDER MADSEN SCHOLARSHIP

SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED:

A) Academic Scholarships: (Three yearly)

Each scholarship will consist of 20% of the monies accrued in the scholarship fund. To be awarded on the basis of academic achievement.

Conditions:

1. Applicant must apply for the scholarship in writing.
2. Applicant must graduate from the Wheatland Crossing School and qualify for an Alberta High School Diploma.
3. Applicant must have taken a minimum of 25 credits in the final high school year enrolled in the Wheatland Crossing School.
4. The committee will use the results of the highest five, 30 level (Grade 12) courses in calculating the applicants' achievement.

B) Financial Assistance Scholarships : (Three Yearly)

Each scholarship will consist of 33 1/3% of monies accrued in the scholarship fund. To be awarded on the basis of financial need.

Conditions:

1. Applicant must apply for the scholarship in writing.
2. Applicant must graduate from the Wheatland Crossing School and qualify for an Alberta High School Diploma.

3. Applicant must have taken a minimum of 25 credits in the final high school year, enrolled in the Wheatland Crossing School.
4. Criteria for establishing financial need will be that of the Alberta Government Student Finance Board which will include:
 - o Data from the two previous years Income Tax returns of the parents;
 - o The number of dependent children;
 - o The number of children already in post secondary education; and
 - o Any information which the Administrative Committee deems necessary to arrive at a fair and just decision.

This information for determining financial assistance is for the sole use of the Administrative Committee of the Hans Peder Madsen Scholarship Fund and is to be used solely for this purpose. All forms shall be returned to the parents by the Superintendent of Schools after a decision has been reached by the Committee as to the awarding of scholarships.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION AND AWARDING OF SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Scholarships will be awarded only to those who were registered in the Wheatland Crossing School during the year of the awarding of the scholarship.
- Students must attend a recognized post-secondary institution to qualify for any of the scholarships.
- Each scholarship is to be disbursed in two payments: 50% after proof of registration (attendance) for the first semester, and the second payment (50%) after proof of registration (attendance) for the second semester (or quarter) of a recognized post-secondary institution.
- All applications must be submitted to the Principal of the Wheatland Crossing School on or before June 15th of the year the scholarship is to be awarded.
- Students will be notified by July 15th if they have been awarded a scholarship.
- The Hans Peder Madsen Memorial Scholarship is registered with the Alberta Student Finance Board.
- The term "monies accrued" shall mean interest earned on the principal plus any monies not awarded from the previous year.
- All monies are held in trust by the Wheatland County and all scholarships will be disbursed by the Wheatland County.
- Anyone student may apply for both the Academic Scholarship and the Financial Assistance Scholarship.