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**GRAND FORKS PARKS AND RECREATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCED:  
ENHANCING LIVES THROUGH PARKS AND RECREATION, FOREVER**

[Grand Forks, ND] The Grand Forks Park District is proud to announce the establishment of the Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation. The Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation is a non-profit tax exempt organization under a 501(c)(3) status. All donations are tax deductible.

The Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation is committed to the development and utilization of funds to progress the betterment of our community. Some areas of support include: providing financial support to children who may otherwise be unable to participate in Park District programs, maintaining and upgrading existing facilities, to continue providing programs in safe and quality environments, developing new parks and facilities based on the ever-changing needs of the community, and supporting youth groups and projects which focus on risky behavior prevention and promoting healthful decisions and opportunities.

Paula Anderson, Foundation President states that it is important to increase public awareness as to the benefits of participation in parks and recreation and overall health and wellness of our community. "The creation of a Park District Foundation will help the district live its mission of enhancing lives. This is a very exciting time for our community."

The foundation will entertain several types of financing programs. One will be an endowment trust fund, like seen with the Ulland fund. Over the past 20 years, the Park District has utilized the Ulland funds as per the request of the late, Pete Ulland. The principle of Mr. Ulland's request has been retained and the interest off the annual annuity has been allocated toward various youth related activities. Some area groups that benefit from the Ulland Grant Opportunity are SPA, the Youth Symphony and GGF Soccer Association. At a recent Park Board meeting, it was voted in favor to transfer the Ulland fund into the new Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation. The foundation transfer will honor the original structure and focus of the Ulland fund.

According to John Staley, Grand Forks Park District Director, "The Grand Forks Park District promotes broad-based opportunities for all ages and abilities and will continue to strive to increase access to recreation programs and activities, parks and facilities in our community."

