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Central Alberta comes together to raise over \$140,000 at The Mustard Seed's 1st Annual Seeds of Hope Gala

Red Deer, AB. – The Mustard Seed Red Deer hosted its 1st Annual Seeds of Hope Gala on October 20, raising over \$140,000. Central Alberta's leaders and most influential philanthropists came together last Saturday evening with the goal of working towards a poverty-free future.

"We're here tonight to build hope for the future, and provide a path forward for our most vulnerable citizens," said Stephen Wile, Chief Executive Officer, The Mustard Seed. "I am blessed to be here tonight for Red Deer's 1st Seeds of Hope gala. The attendance this evening exemplifies Central Alberta's dedication and commitment as a community, and their support to alleviate poverty and homelessness."

The evening included guest stories, live paintings, musicians, artists, and various auction items. Proceeds from the gala will go towards:

- purchasing a commercial dishwasher to improve upon efficiencies in the kitchen, as well as health and safety;
- improving the newly established shelter opening on December 1;
- expanding the meal program to serve breakfast and bagged lunches 7 days/week for individuals staying at the shelter; and
- growing the School Lunch Program to meet the increasing needs throughout the school year.

"We are very grateful for the sponsors, donors, volunteers, and guests for supporting The Mustard Seed's 1st Annual Seeds of Hope Gala. We wouldn't have been able to host such a successful event without their support," says Scott Tilbury, Fund Development Officer, The Mustard Seed Red Deer. "We are here tonight to change the lives of Red Deer's most vulnerable citizens, and together, we took one step forward in achieving that goal, and ending homelessness and poverty."

About The Mustard Seed:

The Mustard Seed is a Christian non-profit organization that has been caring for men, women, and children experiencing poverty and homelessness since 1984. The Mustard Seed delivers basic necessities, and support services including employment, advocacy, and counseling programs to those in need and partners with the community to address the root causes of poverty. <https://theseed.ca/>

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