

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUNDS

FORT MCMURRAY GUJARATI CULTURAL SOCIETY LIBRARY



(L-R): Hitendra Kapasi, Ramesh Vora, Nilesh Patel, Simone Marler, Atul Desai & Tejas Patel showcase the FMGCS' new books, purchased with the support of Shell's Community Service Fund.

SHELL'S COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

The volunteer efforts of employees, retirees and retailers/agents are recognized and rewarded by the Shell Community Service Fund (CSF), which provides grants of up to \$1,000 to support not-for-profit organizations where Shell people regularly volunteer.

A group of 10 Albian employees joined together to get funding from Shell's Community Service Fund (CSF). They received \$10,000 toward the purchase of new books and equipment for the Fort McMurray Gujarati Cultural Society (FMGCS) from the CSF.

"We believe reading to a child at bedtime can help make them better citizens and even provide opportunities for parents and grandparents to enrich philosophical and spiritual aspects of life," says Tejas Patel, Project Engineer of Infrastructure and one of the 10 recipients to receive \$1000 from the CSF.

The driving factor behind this initiative was to provide an opportunity to unlock the treasure of knowledge and reconnect with East Indian literature, culture and philosophies.

The library now has approximately 470 books. The society plans to add more books, while always considering suggestions received from its members. The library was inaugurated on October 20 by Minister Don Scott during one of the society's cultural events.

FMGCS was started in 2007 for a small (but growing!) East Indian community with less than 35 families. This year 260 families are part of the organization.