COMMUNITY NEEDS GRANTS 2022
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How much funding is available in the Community Needs Grants program?

The Community Needs Grants are available for a maximum of $20,000 for one year.

2. My organization does not have a charitable number. Can I still apply?

All applicants should be incorporated, non-profit organizations with a valid charitable number from Canada Revenue Agency, or with other qualified donee status.

If another group with a charitable number is working in partnership and can take on the responsibility of the grant, they may make the application using their CRA number.

3. My organization has an operational budget larger than $1M per year, or we are a shelter/housing provider with a budget larger than $2M per year. However, our department or project has a much smaller budget; will our application be considered?

The Community Needs Grants aim to provide funding to smaller organizations. The Foundation can accept applications from larger organizations where the work will be delivered by a smaller grassroots organization without their own charitable status, or where you can demonstrate that your organization is the sole service provider for women, girls, Two Spirit, trans, or non-binary people in your community.

4. We have applied for a grant in the past and not been successful. Can we still apply?

Yes. Try to gain insight as why you were not successful by speaking to staff from the Foundation and adjust your approach accordingly.

5. We currently have a Canadian Women’s Foundation grant that is not finished. Can we still apply for a grant?

Yes. You can still apply so long as the Community Needs Grant will support new or different work. The Community Needs Grant funds cannot be used to complete components of the project or program currently funded through another grant stream.

6. Can I submit two applications for the same granting cycle?

No. We only accept one proposal per organization per granting cycle.
7. Our audited financial statements are not yet ready. What should I do?

Provide the most recent financial statements and follow-up with the last year’s statement as soon as it is available.

8. We do not have any letters of support from women’s or gender justice organizations. Will that affect how our proposal is assessed?

It is preferable to have letters of support from groups with experience working with women, girls, Two-Spirit, trans, and non-binary peoples in the context of empowerment. Not having such partners may adversely affect your application.

9. The work we are planning to undertake takes place over two years; can we apply for two years at once?

No. However, you may apply for funding for the same work again next year. Applicants can apply for a maximum of three years of subsequent funding for the same activities.

10. Do you fund operations or provide core funding?

Yes. The purpose of the Community Needs Grants is to support, at least in part, administrative or overhead costs related to your work. You may submit a proposal to fund these costs exclusively.

11. Can I apply for funds for a men’s program or programs involving men?

No. The Foundation supports work to end violence against women and while we recognize that men’s programs are important doing this, we have chosen to focus our efforts in providing supports for women, girls, Two-Spirit, trans, and non-binary people.

12. Do you fund furniture and office equipment?

Yes. These funds can be used for the purchase of furniture and office equipment, but it cannot be used towards major capital expenses (i.e., renovations, new build, etc.).

13. How will I be informed of the status of my application and when will the grants be made?

Final decisions are made by the board in July 2022. Funding decisions will be communicated with applicants and the funding will be released in August 2022.

14. Can I call for updates about my grant?

Yes. Please remember that you are one of many, so email or call the grant manager as early as possible.
15. What are the stages of the grant-making process?

- RFP sent to 3,000+ organizations across Canada
- ~200 organizations submit proposals (March 2022)
- Grant committee reviews proposals and makes recommendations to the Board (June 2022)
- Board of Directors renders decisions on proposals to be funded (July 2022)
- All applicants notified and grants awarded (August 2022)

16. I have read these FAQs and I would still like to contact staff from the Foundation.

We are always happy to hear from prospective grantees!

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