



United Way

Calgary and Area

United. Building a great city for everyone.

Make Dollars Make Sense

Financial Literacy 101: What Funders are Looking For

Financial Capacity: Organizations are able to pursue their mission but have the ability to seize opportunities and react to unexpected threats. This also refers to the ability to absorb losses due to shifts in funding.

Financial Control: Organizations have the ability to generate and administer funds and exercise financial control. The following instruments and mechanisms are used:

- Audited financial statements
- Operating budgets
- Managing deficits/surpluses- what are the circumstances and impact?
- Reserve funds
- Diversity of funds/sustainable funding
- Cash on hand for significant operating expenses (minimum 3 months preferred)
- Fund development plans
- Financial management protocols (payroll, investments, consultants)
- Bylaws outlining the role of treasurer
- Board finance subcommittee
- Financial analysis for board review (minimum quarterly)
- Achieving desired return on investment (outcomes)

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