

# EFFECTIVE BUDGETING - NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

#### IntegralOrg

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## **AGENDA**

- Introduction
- Planning before creating a budget
- Setting the stage basic terminology
- Different budget categories
- Monitoring the budget and taking action
- Identify good budgeting practices and budgeting pitfalls
- Available resources to assist organizations in the budgeting processes

# INTRODUCTION

- Purpose of budgets
- Creating the success environment

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

- Assuring sustainability
  - That current spending programs are affordable and sustainable over time
- Responsible planning and management of resources to meet the goals of the organization
  - Board responsible for planning and monitoring and management of resources
  - Management's responsibility is to properly utilize and develop its resources, including its people, its property and its financial assets.

# EXPECTATIONS OF USERS OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- Require financial information concerning
  - Stewardship of funds
  - Achievement of goals and objectives
  - Financial stability
  - Future plans and projections

#### WHAT IS A BUDGET?

- The budget is the financial plan of action based on the board's decisions for the future of the organization (Board Development 2009)
- ❖Tool to monitor "how are we doing?" in relation to above

#### WHY USE BUDGETS?

- Ensure spending priorities linked to goals
- Allows for planning ahead
- Ensures planning for programs and revenues are realistic
- ❖ Vehicle of communication
- Ability to do financial evaluations
- Provides data for funding requests

#### BENEFITS OF BUDGETING

- Can force organization to set priorities and goals
- Assists in controlling expenses and timing of revenues
- Budget process forces a deadline for planning
- Helps with not being constantly reactive as budgets are proactive
- Defines roles and responsibilities in policy
- Monitoring helps insure funds available for all planned expenditures
- Lets you know current state of finances and helps to control spending
- Facilitates monitoring, evaluation and performance measurement
- ❖ Budget can be used as a communication tool
- Assigned responsibility of following budget

## PLANNING BEFORE CREATING A BUDGET

- Link budget to organizational goals, plans, and activities
- Articulate underlying assumptions of budget numbers
- Use past history as a reference (actuals)
- Consider funders and programs from a budget perspective
- People involved and project management of the budget process

# PLANNING STEPS

- Gather budget information:
  - Ask for information and direction
  - Obtain input from key stakeholders
  - Link the budget to the organization's goals and priorities
  - Be aware of budgeting policies and other financial policies
  - Gather information from the prior period or periods

(Board Development 2009)

#### **ELEMENTS OF A USEFUL BUDGET**

- Thoughtfully prepared
- Easily understood
- Prepared in timely organized fashion
- Prepared with input from committees & others
- Can be broken down into same periods as financial statements
- Compared to actual financial information prepared on a timely basis throughout year
- Leads to discussion and action by management, board or committees if significant differences identified between budget and actual

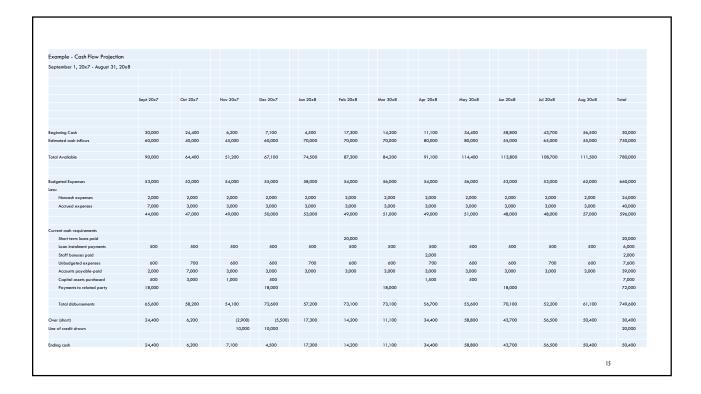
#### **Budget Calendar 2018** Action Person/Group Responsible Timeline Review strategic plan/business plan Set goals and objectives for next year January February Re-evaluate previous programs and activities Set budget guidelines Ask for input from committees Input received from committees March Collect necessary information April Determine costs of goals and objectives Prepare revenues and expenses budget Adjust to produce balanced budget Board May Board approves budget

- Different types of budgets
  - Operating
    - Overall operational
  - Capital
    - Purchase of capital items
    - · Land & buildings
    - Office furniture & equipment
    - Program furniture & equipment
  - Program
  - Funder based

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# SETTING THE STAGE — BASIC TERMINOLOGY

- Other considerations
  - Cash flow historical (past) and projections (future)
- •Where does the cash come from?
- •Where does it go?



- Cash basis of accounting for transactions:
  - Recorded as income when received and recorded as expense when spent
- Accrual basis:
  - Revenue recorded when earned or when used for pre-set purposes
  - Expenses recorded when transaction occurred/invoiced

- ❖Balance sheet:
  - Assets:
  - to be used in current or future operations
  - property to be exchanged for goods and services
  - Liabilities
  - amount of assets that others own
  - Net assets/fund balances
  - what's left over once the liabilities are paid
  - available for future use
- Important budgeting considerations related to these statements

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Statement of Financial Position As At March 31, 2017 ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Temporary Investments Accounts Receivable
Prepaid Expenses Capital Assets (Net) TOTAL ASSETS Accounts Payable and accrued liabilities GST Payable Total Current Liabilities Deferred contributions related to property and equipment TOTAL LIABILITIES NET ASSETS/FUND BALANCES Invested in capital assets Internally restricted TOTAL NET ASSETS/FUND BALANCES TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS/FUND BALANCES

- Cash flow statement
  - Where did the cash come from and where did it go
  - May or may not match income statement
- Income statement
  - Revenue and expenses leading to net income that adds to net assets/fund balances
- Important budgeting considerations related to these statements

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# SETTING THE STAGE — BASIC TERMINOLOGY

- Deferred contributions:
  - Funds received that are externally restricted for specific purpose or timeline
  - Contributor does not benefit, community does
  - Examples grants, government funding, donors
  - \*Transfer of resources or assets to an NFP with nothing given in return
- Deferred revenue:
  - Related to a future period
  - Examples membership fees paid in advance, theatre subscriptions

- Budgeting restricted/unrestricted funds (balance sheet) and adhering to funder restrictions:
  - Deferred items appear on the balance sheet and flow into revenue as expenses are incurred related to the restrictions (moves to revenue on income statement)
  - Amounts that apply to budget year should be part of the budget although related cash is already in assets
  - Unrestricted funds are recorded in the year received

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#### DIFFERENT BUDGET CATEGORIES

- Revenue types:
  - Contributions
  - Grants, donations, government funding
  - Earned revenue
  - Fees for service, social enterprises, ticket sales (not fundraising)
  - Fundraising
  - Other
  - Memberships
  - Investments

#### DIFFERENT BUDGET CATEGORIES

- Possible expense categories:
- Wages & benefits
- Program costs
- Supplies
- Transportation
- Rent
- Utilities
- Repairs & maintenance
- Insurance
- Professional fees
- IT costs
- Office costs
- Fixed versus variable expenses
- CRA reporting registered charity versus non-registered

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#### PREPARE THE BUDGET

- Prepare the budget
  - Use facts and document your assumptions
  - Facts plus assumptions equals projections
  - Allow yourself plenty of time to think things through
  - Forecast the revenues and compare to your estimated expenses
  - Follow the financial policies and budget guidelines of the organization
  - Identify fixed and variable costs
  - Be realistic

## RECEIVE APPROVAL

- Receive approval
  - Finalize the budget and present to the board for approval
  - Be organized when presenting the budget and be prepared to answer questions
  - Make adjustments if new information comes to light during the presentation
  - Communicate the approved budget within the organization

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#### **BUDGET MONITORING**

- Monitor and evaluate the approved budget
  - Identify and review variances
  - Determine reasons for significant variances
  - Determine whether the organization in on track
  - Review information monthly and be accountable
  - Manage the budget and take corrective action if needed
  - Begin preparing information for the next budget cycle

# **BUDGET MONITORING**

- Monthly or quarterly basis
- Report budget versus actual
- Match revenue and expenses
- \*Report effects of new programs not in budget
- ❖ Significant changes in the year
- ❖ Dealing with variances
  - Analyzing budget variances, and options for action

THOMPSON CENTRE PLAYERS						
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES WITH COMPARISON TO BUDGET FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST AND THE EIGHT MONTH PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 31, 2017						
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
	Mo. to Date	Mo. to Date		Yr. to Date	Yr. to Date	
RECEIPTS						
Ticket Sales	-	-	-	1,590	1,540	50
Sponsorships	5,000	4,500	500	12,400	11,500	900
Casino	500	417	83	3,500	3,336	164
Grants	10,000	10,000		25,000	15,000	10,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	15,500	14,917	583	42,490	31,376	11,114
EXPENSES						
Administration	245	250	5	1,830	2,000	170
Office Supplies	150	125	-25	963	1,000	37
Performance Equipment	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-
Theatre Rent	-	-	-	15,000	5,000	-10,000
Meetings	200	300	100	1,375	2,400	1,025
Promotion	3,000	2,700	-300	7,440	6,900	-540
TOTAL EXPENSES	13,595	13,375	<u>-220</u>	36,608	27,300	<u>-9,308</u>
EXCESS(DEFICIT)	1,905	1,542	803	<u>5,882</u>	4,076	1,806

## IDENTIFY GOOD BUDGETING PRACTICES

- Bookkeeping approaches:
- Keep chart of accounts reasonable
- Record transactions according to what is required for reporting financial statements
- Use the capabilities of your software
- Record in a timely fashion to provide timely reports
- Ensure budgets are entered into accounting system so that meaningful reports can be generated on a regular basis
- Program reporting:
  - $\ ^{\diamond}\$ Understand what information is important to properly manage the program
  - ❖Be clear about what funders want to see in reports
  - ❖Use accounting system to make allocations if necessary
- Funder reporting
  - As above

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# IDENTIFY GOOD BUDGETING PRACTICES

- Understand who is doing what
- ❖ Be timely
- \*Be thorough
- Be honest

# POLICY ON BUDGETING

- ❖ Who is responsible for what?
- How are assumptions to be used determined?
- ❖What are timelines?
- ❖What is approval process?
- ❖How is budget monitored?

#### **BUDGETING PITFALLS**

- ❖Non-profit CRA compliance:
  - Registered charities
  - Registered Charity Information Return (T3010) (follow the CRA guidance on completing)
  - GST/HST budget for portion not rebated, becomes an expense
  - Non-registered not for profits
  - Corporate Tax Return (T2)
  - Not for Profit Information Return (T1044)
  - GST/HST budget for portion not rebated, becomes an expense
- Accounting standards:
  - Need to be followed if you need and audit or review engagement
- Deferred contributions
- capitalization
- Depending on fundraising:
  - Never use to balance out to zero unless it is evident the plan is sound

# RESOURCES TO ASSIST ORGANIZATIONS IN THE BUDGETING PROCESS

#### ❖ Websites:

- www.culturetourism.alberta.ca/community/programs-and-services/board-development/resources/info-bulletins-english/
- Charityvillage.com
- www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools-resources/budgeting-nonprofits

#### ❖ Books available from Indigo:

- The Budget Building Book for Non-Profits: Murray Dropkin, Jim Halpin, Bill La Touche
- The Cash Flow Management Book for Non-Profits: Murray Dropkin, Allyson Hayden