

Some Granting Basics - Handout

For: Board Leadership Calgary conference, 2017

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BASICS of Grantmaking – Granting organizations look to create programs that are effective, fair, and experienced as fair. We use three essential criteria to assess applications:

Fit	<p>Is the applicant an entity we're allowed to make a grant to?</p> <p>Does the project/program add to what we want to see in the community?</p> <p>Are applicants asking for costs we can and want to bear?</p> <p>Are there other fairness/reach factors we want to consider?</p>
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Likelihood	<p>Have the applicants made a strong case that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They can do the work/achieve the outcomes they claim? - This piece of work is important? <p>Do they have a track record with us? With others?</p> <p>What would it mean for them, us, the community if they don't succeed with their plans?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is it a risk we can/want to take? - Might we learn something work learning?
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Room	<p>Do we have enough room in our funding pot to make this grant?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Declining an application doesn't necessary mean there was a problem with fit or likelihood. - It might be a question of budgeting and priorities
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Grantmaking as a Field – with emerging work on fair practices, such as:

- The amount of work it takes applicants to apply should be commensurate with the size of the grant. More Money = More Work. Less Money = Less Work.
- Don't ask for materials that you don't read or don't use.
- Accept materials that applicants have created for others if they can suit your purposes too.
- Get out there. Don't just wait for applicants to find you.
- Be more about learning and relationship than compliance/success.
- Hear the work, not the words.
- Offer grant programs that fit well into the funding ecosystem.

Tips for Applicants: How to Make Your Best Case for Support

- If the granting organization gives you the chance to call, call.
- Answer our questions. Even if you think they're dopey or repetitious.
 - o Give us feedback at some point, if you feel you can.
- Help us see why your work is important.
 - o Think about what motivates each potential funder or donor.
- Follow our acknowledgement and reporting guidelines.
 - o Build your reputation.
- Be yourself.

Calgary Foundation: Our BASICS

- Almost all of our grants go to registered charitable organizations, due to Canada Revenue Agency guidelines.
- To achieve our mandate, though, we want to also support active citizenship, so we've made three exceptions:
 - o Non-profits can partner with charities to apply to Neighbour Grants.
 - o Non-profits can apply to Stepping Stones directly, no charity partner required.
 - o Informal groups can apply to Stepping Stones directly, no charity partner required.

Active Citizenship is the Heart of our Grassroots Granting

- Julie told some stories in this workshop from projects supported with a grassroots grant.
- You can see EXCELLENT short films of our grassroots projects from Calgary Foundation's website or YouTube channel.

Details on Applying for a Calgary Foundation grassroots grant:

Everything is on our website. Key points:

Stepping Stones	Neighbour Grants	Soul of the City Neighbour Grant
Due by midnight, first of each month	5 intakes a year	1 intake a year
Up to \$600	Up to \$5,000	Flat \$10,000 – only five awarded
	Must be a charity or have a charity partner	Must be a charity or have a charity partner
Partnership with First Calgary Financial		Partnership with Calgary Economic Development & RBC Foundation

Other Grassroots Grants Available in Calgary

For Placemaking: activateYYC

For Social and Environmental Justice: Arusha Take Action Grant

For Youth-Led Projects – Calgary Youth Foundation at Youth Central; Northern Lights YOUTH

For Neighbourhood-Specific Programs only, associated with City of Calgary and/or United Way community development work: Northern Lights; Northern Lights YOUTH; Ripples (Bowness), Great in Greater Forest Lawn, and more.

