



## CREation Funding Guide: Community Support Fund

### Project Summary

CREation is a multi-level funding program that will support strengths-based, community-focused and youth-led projects taking place in communities across Canada. Funding is dispersed through themed streams, which focus on specific funding gaps and needs in communities.

**The Community Support Fund Stream will provide small grants of \$2,500 and \$5,000** to youth-focused projects happening in urban, rural and remote communities across Canada. The focus of this stream is to enable small organizations and collectives to support youth wellbeing during COVID-19 through providing innovative and essential supports, resources and initiatives.

The Community Support Fund will accept applications over three periods. This will be a competitive process. We are anticipating a large number of applications and unfortunately will not be able to fund all projects and initiatives. Applicants are eligible to reapply to a later round if they are unsuccessful in an earlier round. Each organization/collective/group can only receive funding once.

CRE first ran the first Community Support Fund in Spring/Summer 2020. \$300,000 in funding was provided to 58 groups in 11 provinces and territories across Canada. During the second intake period in Winter 2021, we will be releasing an additional \$300,000 in funding.

### Project Focus Areas

Projects should focus on providing programming, resources, training or wellness opportunities for Indigenous youth. Below are some possible examples of eligible projects. These examples do not include every type of project that we would fund.

- Direct Youth Support: Funding can focus on providing direct support to youth and community. Direct supports can look like:
  - Food baskets and care baskets
  - Water
  - Water purification tablets
  - Cleaning supplies
  - Harm reduction supplies
- Digital Supports: Online digital supports can look like:
  - Tech equipment for online programming
  - Satellite phones
  - Zoom memberships
  - Adobe and other online subscriptions to enhance digital programming
- Holistic Wellness support: Provide services to digitally support youth's mental health and well-being. Supports can include:
  - Outreach
  - Education
  - Counselling
  - Health promotion
- Online programming and supplies: Funding can include honorariums for facilitators, art supplies, music equipment, books, medicines, seeds, etc. Programming can look like:
  - Digital language classes or storytelling
  - Medicine care packages
  - Indigenous food sovereignty online workshops

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- Digital medicine teachings
  - Digital arts projects
  - Digital drumming circle or round dances
  - General administration: Funding can be used to keep the organization or group going, such as bridging any funding gaps or ensuring staff are not laid off. These expenses can look like:
    - Salaries
    - Banking costs
    - Insurance

All funded projects engage more youth other than just project leaders. Projects must directly support Indigenous youth. Priority is given to youth-led, youth-driven initiatives. All projects must take place in Canada.

## Eligibility

The Community Support Fund will provide funding to Indigenous-led groups and initiatives that focus on improving the wellness of Indigenous youth.

**Please note: for the purpose of this program, CRE defines Indigenous as status and non-status First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples in Canada, living both on and off reserve.**

Eligible groups and projects include:

- Unincorporated/grassroots groups/collectives/councils
- Incorporated groups and organizations
- Projects must primarily serve Indigenous youth
- Youth-led projects have priority, as do projects focused on and led by Afro-Indigenous youth.

Ineligible groups and projects:

- Individuals
- Non-Indigenous organizations
- Projects taking place outside of Canada
- For profit corporations

## Ineligible Expenses

CRE will NOT fund projects that are political in nature, or that involve distributing substances (i.e. alcohol, non-traditional tobacco, marijuana, illicit substances, etc).

## Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by an internal Grants Committee. All members will have experience running programs and initiatives, overseeing projects and offering community supports. A minimum of 75% of the review committee will be Indigenous, and 50% will be youth.

## Capacity Building

Youth will be invited to participate in CRE's Capacity Building Program. This program is geared towards strengthening skill sets around program administration, facilitation, evaluation as well as providing opportunities to learn about program design, organizational governance and growth, personal development and youth leadership. Youth will have the opportunity to work toward a certificate in the program.

## Reporting and Evaluation

Grantees will be asked to submit one report:

**Final Report (1 month after project completion):** Grantees will submit a budget report and an evaluation report. Grantees will receive a copy of the evaluation report within the first month of their project start date.

## Financial Oversight and Trusteeship

Groups/councils/collectives with members who are over the age of 18 do not require an external funding administrator/trustee and, if successful, will receive the grant funds directly.

Successful applicant groups (with leaders aged 15-17) will require a local non-profit or trusted community member over age 18 to serve as their grant trustee. This trustee may be someone the applicants are already familiar with or CRE can support in connecting them with a willing organization or community member as well as with creating a trustee agreement that ensures youth will be supported.

## Release of Funds

**CRE does not issue cheques.** Funding will be sent to grantees via a Plooto bank transfer/direct deposit. Grantees will receive funds within three weeks of submitting a signed funding agreement.

## Timelines

Stages	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
<b>Applications Open</b>	February 11th, 2021	February 26th, 2021	March 16th, 2021
<b>Application Deadline</b>	February 25th, 2021	March 15th, 2021	April 5th, 2021
<b>Decisions Released</b>	March 12th, 2021	March 26th, 2021	April 19th, 2021
<b>Project Start Date</b>	March 12th, 2021	March 26th, 2021	April 19th, 2021
<b>Project End Date</b>	September 30th, 2021	September 30th, 2021	September 30th, 2021
<b>Final Report Due</b>	October 31st, 2021	October 31st, 2021	October 31st, 2021

**Unless otherwise noted, all deadlines are 6:00pm CST**

## Questions

CRE encourages applicants to reach out if they have any questions. Please email [creation@canadianroots.ca](mailto:creation@canadianroots.ca) to speak to a member of the team.