



CRE

CREation Funding Guide: Urban Parks Stream

This stream is run in partnership with Parks Canada

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. Parks Canada is providing support for this stream as a part of a larger initiative to [create a network of National Urban Parks](#). Consultation on the location of the new National Urban Parks is still ongoing, but communities have been identified (see below)

The Urban Parks Stream will provide small grants of up to \$7,500 to Indigenous youth-led initiatives and events happening in urban park candidate site communities. Projects must be based around land-based activities and/or governance-based activities that are directly connected to the candidate sites. Projects must be led by 2+ Indigenous youth (ages 15-29). Youth leaders (grantees) will receive innovative mentorship, training and capacity-building opportunities throughout the project.

Urban Parks Candidate Sites:

- Greater Victoria, BC
- Edmonton region, AB
- Saskatoon region, SK
- Winnipeg, MB
- Windsor, ON
- Halifax, NS
- Montreal, QC

Project Focus Areas

Funded projects will focus on engaging youth in land-based programming and/or governance activities in one of the urban parks candidate site communities. Below are some possible examples of eligible projects. These examples do not include every type of project that we would fund.

- ⊘ Running an Indigenous youth-centered consultation around access to land in urban spaces
- ⊘ Planning of conservation initiatives for urban land
- ⊘ Hosting land-based programming for Indigenous youth
- ⊘ Running food sovereignty initiatives in urban park spaces (such as learning traditional medicines, revitalizing traditional food systems, engaging in food sustainability practices)
- ⊘ Starting a youth-led stewardship program (such as youth guardian programs)
- ⊘ Harvesting foods or medicines
- ⊘ Holding ceremony and teachings on the land

Eligibility

Funding in this stream will only fund grassroots Indigenous youth groups consisting of a minimum of 2 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 youth groups/collectives/councils comprised primarily of Indigenous youth
- Emerging, incorporated youth groups
- Projects must serve primarily serve Indigenous youth
- Projects must be taking place in one of the urban parks candidate sites (listed above).

Ineligible groups and projects:

- Individuals and/or projects that are not led by 2+ Indigenous youth
- Projects that are not youth-led (or where the majority of leadership is 30+)
- Non-Indigenous groups and organizations
- Projects taking place outside of Canada
- For profit corporations
- Project not taking place in one of the communities that has an urban park candidate site (listed above)

Ineligible Expenses

CRE will NOT fund projects that are political in nature (such as supporting someone running for office), or that involve distributing substances (i.e. alcohol, non-traditional tobacco, marijuana, illicit substances, etc). CRE will also not fund projects or activities that are taking place outside of Canada.

Project leaders cannot receive honorariums of more than \$500.

Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by a Community Grants Committee that includes Advisory Circle members, community members, Indigenous youth and other knowledge carriers. All members will have experience running programs and initiatives, overseeing projects and offering community supports. 100% of the review committee will be Indigenous, and a minimum of 75% 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.

Reporting and Evaluation

Grantees will be asked to submit one report:

Final Report (2 month after project completion): Grantees will submit an evaluation report that will include reporting on the final budget (how much money you spent), data on the number of participants reached in your project, data on time spent on the project and a narrative report on the project. The final report will likely take 3 – 7 hours to complete. 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 a 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.

You can view CRE's definition of Trustee >>[HERE](#)<<

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 two weeks of submitting a signed funding agreement.

Timelines

Stages	Dates
Applications Open	May 15, 2023
Application Deadline	June 15, 2023
Decisions Released	July 31, 2023
Project Start Date	August 1, 2023
Project End Date	January 10, 2024
Final Report Due	March 10, 2024

Unless otherwise noted, all deadlines are 11:59pm PST

Questions

CRE encourages applicants to reach out if they have any questions. Please email gwen@canadianroots.ca to speak to a member of the team.