

Stepping Stones Grant Guidelines

Apply anytime. We aim to let you know within four weeks if your project will be awarded a Stepping Stone grant.

CONTACT

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WHAT IS STEPPING STONES?

Stepping Stones encourages active citizenship by helping grassroots community groups undertake small creative projects that build a sense of inclusive belonging in local communities. We offer grant support of up to \$1,000 for project expenses.

Stepping Stones supports projects that:

- Build connections between people and their local neighbourhoods and communities.
- Celebrate the importance of knowing neighbours - through the joys and struggles of regular daily life and in times of community stress.
- Are driven by people in their own neighbourhoods and communities. The projects are slightly different than programs provided by organizations to communities because community members themselves must play a meaningful leadership role.

Projects we support tend to be projects where people:

- Engage people in **creative ways to build connections and/or to address shared concerns**
- Foster a sense of **pride and presence**
- Give people the **chance to get involved in community life**
- **Think inclusively** about their community's composition and work creatively to involve people from whom involvement is difficult

Examples:

- A community association runs a free photography club for neighbourhood youth to talk about what they like in their area and what they'd like to improve
- A cultural association runs a storytelling session between seniors and youth to share knowledge and build connections
- A group gets permission to tend to a garden on public land and gets Stepping Stones help to buy plant stock and refreshments for a volunteer gardening day or workshop

WHO CAN APPLY?

Non-profit societies, charitable organizations (qualified doneesⁱ), community associations and informal grassroots groups in Calgary and areaⁱⁱ.

STEPPING STONES CANNOT COVER

- Projects that have occurred before the application decision is made.
- Salary, equipment that could be borrowed, or items that could be donated by other sources.
- Purchase of assets (computers, cameras, etc.) for individuals, informal groups, or nonprofits
- Individual expenses such as rent or utility bills. Projects would provide people with information about community services instead.

HOW DO YOU APPLY?

Please submit by email to ngp@calgaryfoundation.org

Questions? Contact us at 403-802-7720 or ngp@calgaryfoundation.org

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Someone from Calgary Foundation will contact you shortly after receiving your application to find out more.
- We aim to let you know with four weeks of receiving your application if we will support your project with a Stepping Stones. (Please check our website for any changes to this time frame plan.)
- Please know it may take at least three weeks for non-profits and charities to receive actual payment once a request has been approved. For informal groups, the process would take longer.
- At least one person leading the project must be 18 or older.

ⁱ Go to Canada Revenue Agency's Charities Listings website to see if your organization is a qualified donee: <http://www.craarc.gc.ca/charitylists/>

ⁱⁱ Calgary and area means must be based in and serve one or more of the following regions: Banff, Calgary, Municipal District of Bighorn (including towns and hamlets), Foothills County (including towns and hamlets), Wheatland County (including towns and hamlets), Municipal District of Kananaskis, Rocky View County (including towns and hamlets), Kainai Nation, Piikani Nation, Siksika Nation, Iyarde Nakoda Nation, Tsuut'ina Nation.