Stepping Stones Grant Guidelines

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

CONTACT
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WHAT IS STEPPING STONES?

Stepping Stones encourages active citizenship by helping grassroots community members undertake small creative projects that build a sense of inclusive belonging in their local communities in Calgary and area. 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 often differ from programs provided by organizations because community members play a meaningful leadership role. The projects are **with** and **by** community members, not **for**.

Projects we support:

- 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 diversity 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 build a garden on public land and needs help to buy plant stock and refreshments for a volunteer gardening day or workshop

WHO CAN APPLY?

Charitable organizations (qualified donees[i]), when they support grassroots community members to lead the project

Non-profit societies registered with the Alberta or Federal government for the purpose of community good

Informal grassroots groups that are not registered, so long as they work with a charity or non-profit society on the project and application

Please note: All projects must be rooted in and serve the people of Calgary and area[ii].

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
- Expenses of individual people, such as their home rental or utility bills.
- Projects of condo associations or business/professional associations
- Religious services, proselytizing, or the promotion of one faith tradition
- Projects that are primarily fundraisers or that charge a significant ticket fee
- Activities that do not align with Calgary Foundation's stated values

HOW DO YOU APPLY?

Fill out our application form and submit by email to ngp@calgaryfoundation.org
- If you need an alternative form of application, contact us to discuss
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 within four weeks of receiving your application if we will support your project with Stepping Stones. (Please check our website for any changes to this time frame plan.)
- It will take up to four more weeks to receive actual payment once an application has been approved.

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[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 based in and serving one or more of the following regions: Calgary, Banff National Park, Canmore, Cochrane, Rocky View County, the Municipal Districts of Big Horn, Foothills, Kananaskis and Wheatland (including towns and hamlets), and the surrounding First Nations of Treaty 7 territory.