

Program Overview

The **Community Foundation Matching Grants** program provides all municipalities or regional district electoral areas with up to \$50,000 from a Regional Development Account in matched funding to assist with establishment of a dedicated endowment within a registered community foundation over a two year period.

Features and Benefits of the Program:

- Every dollar raised within the community is matched by Northern Development up to \$50,000 over a two year period, yielding a potential endowment account value of \$100,000.
- The community foundation endowment fund will provide grants to non-profit societies for community and social enhancement within the community area, in perpetuity.
- Local decision making within the community foundation framework meets local social and cultural needs.
- Developing an endowment fund to maintain local wealth within the community and create positive economic and social outcomes.

Objective

- To assist all municipalities and regional district electoral areas in the Northern Development Initiative Trust region of central and northern British Columbia in building an endowment fund that supports local social, cultural and environmental needs via local decision making.

Application Intake Deadlines

Funding applications are continuously accepted to this program on a quarterly intake cycle.

A recommendation by the Regional Advisory Committees and a decision by the Board of Directors are required for this funding program. The application intake deadlines, Regional Advisory Committee meetings, and Board meetings are publicly posted on the Northern Development website.

The following schedules are publicly available online:

- [Application Intake Deadlines](#)
- Regional Advisory Committee meetings
 - [Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet](#)
 - [Northeast](#)
 - [Northwest](#)
 - [Prince George](#)
- [Board of Directors meetings](#)



Program Eligibility

Eligible Organizations

- Municipalities
- Regional districts (each electoral area is eligible for a matching grant)

Required Project and Funding Application Features

- The project is aligned with the requirements and mandate of the funding program.
- The funding request is incremental to government (local, provincial, federal) mandate and funding.
- The funding request is supported by local government through a resolution.
 - Applicants are responsible for securing a resolution outlining support for the Northern Development funding request from a municipality or regional district. The applicant must provide a certified copy of the resolution of support to Northern Development before a funding decision can be made.
- The funding request is supported by the Regional Advisory Committee through a resolution.
 - Completed applications are forwarded by Northern Development to the appropriate Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) that recommends project decisions to the Board of Directors.
 - See the [Regional Advisors](#) section of the Northern Development website for a complete list of Regional Advisory Committee members for each Northern Development region.
- Proof of payment/deposit of the matching contribution to the community foundation for the first of the requested matching grants must be provided as an attachment to the funding application.

Eligibility

- The foundation must be registered with Community Foundations of Canada.
- The local government must submit documentation verifying a deposit in a local/regional community foundation of funds raised in the local area for the first of the requested matching grants. Up to \$50,000 in two separate deposits over two years can be matched by a deposit by Northern Development into the same account of the community foundation.
- The local government must submit a certified resolution of support that specifies formal support for the funding application to Northern Development by the municipality's Council or the regional district's Board, the amount and terms of the funding supported, and the account and local government allocation that the Council or Board supports the funds to be drawn from.

Ineligible Costs

- Northern Development contributions must be used to build the endowment and cannot be used for administrative costs.

Funding Terms

- Northern Development provides grant funding under this program up to a maximum of \$50,000 or 50% of total fundraising per municipality or regional district electoral area over a two year period (a minimum leveraging ratio of \$1.00 from Northern Development to \$1.00 from other sources).
- Applicants must provide confirmation of all other sources of project funding prior to Northern Development providing an approved matching grant.
- Applications are assessed to ensure that the most appropriate sources of funding have been approached by the applicant.

Application Assessment

Northern Development staff undertake comprehensive due diligence of each funding application received, which may include contacting relevant agencies and organizations as part of the review process.

Application Process

1. Applicant contacts an Economic Development Manager at Northern Development to discuss the fundraising and potential alignment with the funding program. See Northern Development's [Staff](#) webpage for the key contact in your region.
2. The municipality or regional district determines whether it will provide a resolution of support for the funding request from its Northern Development allocation. The resolution of support must clearly state the amount of the funds requested, that the request is for a grant, and the allocation of the appropriate Regional Development Account that the funds will be provided.
3. The applicant completes a funding application and submits the application to Northern Development with an official copy of the resolution of support from the municipality or regional district, and documented proof of payment/deposit of the matching funds to the community foundation.
4. Northern Development staff conduct due diligence of the application, and forward the funding request to the appropriate Regional Advisory Committee for recommendation.
 - The Regional Advisory Committee determines whether to support the funding request.
5. Once a recommendation supporting the funding application is provided by the Regional Advisory Committee(s), Northern Development staff finalize due diligence, incorporate the Regional Advisory Committee(s)' recommendations, and present the funding request to the Board of Directors at their next scheduled meeting.
6. Following the Board meeting, Northern Development staff will notify the applicant of the Board's funding decision by phone. A formal letter is mailed to the applicant.
7. A funding agreement (enabling Northern Development to disburse funding for the project) can be provided to the applicant for signature once the applicant has provided documentation confirming of all other funding sources in writing to Northern Development.
8. Annual reporting for five (5) years on key deliverables (see Section 5 of the Application Form) specific to the funding program is a requirement of applicants with approved funding agreements.

For program enquiries
contact: **Northern Development Initiative Trust**
301-1268 Fifth Avenue, Prince George BC V2L 3L2 Canada
tel 250-561-2525
email info@northerndevlopment.bc.ca
<http://www.northerndevlopment.bc.ca/>

For general
Community
Foundation enquiries
contact: **Barbara Oates McMillan**
Community Foundations of Canada
Vancouver, BC
tel 604-986-3084
email boates@cfc-fcc.ca
<http://www.cfc-fcc.ca>

A Background on Community Foundations in Canada

A community foundation is a philanthropic organization, managed and operated primarily as a permanent collection of endowed funds, the earnings of which are used for the long term benefit of a geographically defined community. A community foundation is a tax-exempt, incorporated, not-for-profit, autonomous organization.

A community foundation is governed by a Board composed of citizens and leaders who are representative of the different sectors of the community. It serves three distinct constituencies: donors, non-profit organizations, and the community at large.

For donors – whether individual or corporate, large or small – a community foundation has a variety of permanent funds to match their long term philanthropic goals. It offers reporting, investing, monitoring and administrative services. It provides accountability.

For ‘Not-for-Profit’ organizations recognized as “charitable” by the Canadian Revenue Agency, a community foundation is structured to provide a source of funds for start-up and special needs. In addition, it is positioned to hold, invest, and disburse the income from endowment funds for charitable organizations which may not have the resources to perform these functions well. It can also provide networking connections, information, and a friendly outside perspective on plans and performance.

Community foundations are flexible because they can accept various forms of assets, e.g. cash, real property, securities, life insurance or bequests from all kinds of donors in order to make grants for a wide variety of purposes. They are flexible because they serve the entire spectrum of community interests and needs – seeking out and supporting innovative undertakings.

Community foundations are independent in that they are not controlled by either those who give or those who receive. They are free from influence by government – municipal, provincial or federal – as well as corporations, associations and their members, or individuals. Community foundations are also unique in other respects. Their jurisdictions normally do not overlap, being determined on a geographical basis. They have the ability to be active in the search for donors and community partners. Their focus is on the future. Their ultimate aim is to make the notion of “community” work better in a given place.

For the community at large, arguably the most important function of a community foundation is the accumulation and preservation of capital. It is the community foundation’s job to see that some of the net worth of each generation is set aside for future needs.