



Municipal Climate Resiliency Grant

FAQ's

Program Timelines:

1. When is the application due date?
 - Applications for the first granting cycle of the Municipal Climate Resiliency Grants will be accepted until January 31st, 2022.
2. Will there be another opportunity to apply next year?
 - If the program proceeds for additional years, the granting window will be re-opened in Fall of 2022.
3. What if our application is not complete by the due date?
 - Applications that are not received in full will not be considered for this granting cycle.
4. Can we receive funding for projects that are already underway?
 - Yes, you can submit an application for a project that has already started. We're looking for projects that can be completed within 1-2 years and start by or before October 2022. Please indicate on the application form when the project started or when it is planned to start.
5. When is the end date for project implementation?
 - We expect that projects will be completed within 1-2 years of receiving the grant funding.
6. If our project is broken into multiple phases over two years, should we apply for both phases at once?
 - It's up to you to determine your funding needs and how much of your project you would like to apply for funding this year. Please keep in mind that the funding maximum is \$100,000 regardless of the project timeframe.

Program Eligibility:

7. I'm not a municipality. Is my region or rural area eligible to apply? Can Indigenous and First Nations communities apply?
 - According to our granting guidelines, eligible applicants must be either **Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) registered charitable organizations**, or Indigenous or other public bodies performing a function of government in Canada (also known as a "qualified donee"). You can check the list of qualified donees on the **Government of Canada website**.
8. Can a municipality/organization apply more than once for different projects and in different categories?
 - No, only one application per organization will be considered for an MCRG.
9. Can an organization, which was a partner in one application, also submit their own application?
 - No, only one application per organization will be considered.
10. Can an organization apply on behalf of many municipalities?
 - Yes, if the project impacts multiple municipalities, a singular organization can apply and include letters of support from the municipalities represented.
11. We have several municipal partners. Would we be eligible for additional funds?
 - No, the maximum grant funding that you can request per application is \$100,000 regardless of how many partners are participating in the project.
12. Can organizations outside of Canada apply?
 - Organizations outside of Canada are not currently eligible.
13. Is there a matching percentage required for project costs? Is there a municipal portion required?
 - No, we do not have a matching requirement for project funds. We expect that, if your total budget is higher than the maximum grant request, you will secure other sources of funding as required.

Eligible Funding Costs:

14. How many projects do you expect to fund through this program? Will there be a certain amount of projects funded per category?
 - The number and type of projects will depend on the successful applicants. We anticipate that we will be able to fund at least 10 projects and may be able to fund more depending if the maximum (\$100,000) for each project has been requested.
15. Can the municipality hire a consultant or use contract staff to conduct the project? Is staff time an eligible project cost?
 - Yes, you may include staff time and consultant fees or contract staff as part of your project costs if it's a requirement in order to execute the project.
16. Could funding be used for a capital purchase only? And can it be part of a municipality's capital forecast operations?
 - Yes, tax-supported municipal capital projects are eligible for funding.
17. Are design fees, permits and studies eligible or construction costs only?
 - Yes, you may include these costs if they are required to execute the project.
18. Can you please explain in more detail what "shovel-ready" means?
 - "Shovel-ready" refers to the stage of a project where you are ready to take action and implement the activities from your project plan. This could include new construction or upgrades to existing assets.
19. Can you elaborate on what you mean by "climate mitigation tools"?
 - These are tools or equipment that will help you manage your climate-related risks and guide you in building resilience to extreme flood and wildfire events.

20. Does the focus have to be on the public (i.e. homeowners) or can the funding be used to support/facilitate municipalities in planning? Would municipal staff outreach be eligible?
- The focus of your plan can be on residents or other stakeholders depending on the need in your municipality to build climate resilience.
21. Are ongoing mitigation programs eligible for funding? Or does it have to be a new project?
- Yes, ongoing programs are eligible as long as your program continues into 2022.

Online Application Form:

22. Can I make changes/save my application before I have to submit it?
- Yes, the form will automatically save the information you input and you can return to make any required edits. Once you click on “Submit form” on the last page, you will no longer be able to edit.
23. I’m having technical issues with the online application form. Who can help me?
- For any technical difficulties with the application form, please contact the Client Technical Support team at **grants@benevity.com**.
24. Can we submit a proposal that spans across more than one of the four categories?
- The online application form requires you to select only one category to describe your project. Please select the category which most closely aligns with the main focus of your project.
25. Can we upload videos and photos as part of our application to demonstrate the problem or challenge we are addressing?
- The online application form requires the following documentation only: audited financial statements, letters of support from partnering municipalities, and projected budget. In the Organization Profile section, you may include your website and social media information where additional information about your organization is available.

Evaluation Criteria:

26. How are applications evaluated?
- Applications will go through a three-step evaluation process which includes initial screening by a member of the social impact team, secondary screening by a grants review committee, and final approval by the Intact Foundation.
27. What kinds of factors would make for a strong application?
- We are looking for applications which most closely align with the program criteria, can be completed within 1-2 years, have strong measurable outcomes and indicators of success, support one of the four focus areas, and can be scaled across communities.
28. Is it preferable if projects overlap with the four categories and/or result in other benefits for the community (e.g. safety of drinking water)?
- We appreciate that climate mitigation efforts can often have multiple benefits for the community. For this granting program, our main focus is on mitigating flood or wildfire risk.
29. Do you favour applications where there are matching funds or demonstrated financial commitment from the applicant or partners?
- We expect that organizations will source additional funding if the total project budget is higher than the maximum grant requested. We are also open to funding 100% of project costs up to a maximum of \$100,000.
30. Will preference be given to projects based on geography and frequency/severity of previous flooding and wildfire events?
- Projects will be evaluated based on the problem or challenge your project addresses as it relates to climate resiliency.
31. What does it mean the project must be scalable in other communities?
- Scalable refers to the ability of a project to be adapted to other regions and communities.

Other:

32. Why are the grants limited to flood and fire climate factors?

- Of all the extreme climate factors, flood and wildfire are the most prevalent across Canada. Focusing our investment in these two areas will deliver the greatest benefit to build climate resiliency in vulnerable communities.

33. Why are natural infrastructure solutions preferred?

- According to the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation, natural infrastructure solutions are an effective and under-utilized option to address climate adaptation. Climate mitigation, adaptation and economic benefits make nature a winner. Intact supports protecting the natural infrastructure we have and restoring what has been damaged.

34. Why is this program aimed at municipalities?

- Municipalities are challenged to invest in climate resiliency projects, yet these projects are crucially important to protecting communities against potential future losses due to flood and wildfire.