



Grants and Program Allocation Recommendations

Date: April 11, 2019
To: Toronto Atmospheric Fund Board of Directors
From: Grants Manager and Policy Advisor

SUMMARY

At its April 8, 2019 meeting, the TAF Grants and Programs Committee recommended that the Board approve five grants with a combined value of \$498,832 and one project allocation with a value of \$40,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Grants Manager & Policy Advisor recommends that the TAF Board of Directors:

1. Approve the following grant requests funded jointly from the Ontario and City of Toronto endowments:
 - a. \$198,372 over 30 months to the Canada Green Building Council to support enhanced compliance with the provincial Energy and Water Reporting and Benchmarking (EWRB) regulation through a combined strategy of awareness building, education and evaluation across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).
 - b. \$155,459 over 18 months to TEA to seed and support two to three community hubs in achieving significant greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions in their local neighbourhoods and generating prototypes and tools that can be used to activate a larger network of hubs in the future.
 - c. \$75,000 over 12 months to Environmental Defence to quantify the health benefits associated with reducing vehicle emissions, and to develop public-facing recommendations and supporting materials to accelerate electrification of transportation.
 - d. \$50,000 over six months to Pollution Probe to engage the relevant partners and identify the information needed to promote the use of non-emitting electricity sources to replace Pickering Nuclear Generating Station upon its scheduled retirement.
 - e. \$20,000 over six months to Ryerson to test the feasibility of a revolving fund to deliver new “missing middle” housing through the retrofit and conversion of single-family homes into energy efficient duplex or triplex units.

2. Decline the following grant requests:

- f. \$144,263 over 18 months to Scout Environmental to pilot a program encouraging drivers to retire their internal combustion engine vehicle and purchase a replacement electric vehicle.
- g. \$140,000 over 10 months to Windfall Ecology Centre to outline a prototype of a Community Solutions Finance Facility, including an initial set of partnerships and a proposal for its implementation to at least one complex home retrofit challenge.
- h. \$59,000 over eight months to the Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association to develop a tool that can calculate and demonstrate the GHG reduction potential of sourcing local materials and clustering industrial facilities.

3. Approve the following project allocation request to be funded jointly from the Ontario and City of Toronto endowments:

- a. \$40,000 over nine months to enhance TAF's policy activities through the engagement of subject matter experts as consultants on two priority policy files.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

If the recommended grants are approved, \$325,224 would come out of TAF's 2019 budget, \$119,933 would come out of the 2020 budget, and \$53,675 would come out of the 2021 budget.

Grants Program Budget	2019
Total available funding	\$1,150,225
Grant allocations committed to date	\$169,893
Recommended allocations from April 8, 2019 Committee meeting	<u>\$325,224</u>
Remaining balance	\$655,108

If the recommended project allocation is approved, \$40,000 would come out of TAF's 2019 budget.

Internal Program Budget	2019
Total available funding	\$583,389
Internal program allocations committed to date	\$382,000
Recommended allocations from April 8, 2019 Committee meeting	<u>\$40,000</u>
Remaining balance	\$161,389

BACKGROUND

Grants

Canada Green Building Council: Building Regional Capacity for Complying with and Leveraging EWRB – \$198,371 over 30 months

Applicant's address: 207 Queen's Quay West, Suite 615, Toronto ON, M5J 1A7

Location of proposed activities: GTHA

Ontario's mandatory Energy and Water Reporting and Benchmarking (EWRB) regulation for large buildings is a critical policy tool in supporting the achievement of provincial and municipal GHG reduction targets. The goal of this project is to increase the number of building owners who successfully report their building data into the EWRB program.

This initiative will enhance EWRB compliance by:

- Defining the needs of key stakeholders with robust evidence provided by industry experts.
- Increasing awareness of the importance of the regulation and the capacity to report relevant data.
- Increasing commitments by key stakeholders to further the implementation of the EWRB regulation.

Toronto Environmental Alliance: Accelerating Neighbourhood Climate Solutions Through Community Hubs – \$155,459 over 18 months

Applicant's address: 30 Duncan St. Suite B1, Toronto ON M5V 2C3

Location of proposed activities: Toronto – North York, East Scarborough, and Parkdale

This project will build on the recent TAF-supported Climate Change and Community Hubs feasibility assessment, undertaken by Enviromentum in partnership with TEA. The feasibility assessment demonstrated the high potential of community hubs to model a low-carbon vision and catalyze local climate solutions through their building infrastructure, programs and services, and deep community relationships.

To activate and accelerate the contribution of this largely under-recognized and untapped resource, TEA will:

- Motivate and support two to three hubs to explore opportunities to reduce emissions on hub property.
- Co-create and implement a resident capacity building program.
- Convene a Climate & Community Hubs Advisory Group that leverages the knowledge and experience of different hub networks.
- Evaluating how local climate initiatives and a resident capacity building model can address community priorities and put the neighbourhood on a path towards significant GHG reductions.
- Produce low-carbon neighbourhood recommendations and proposals to break down barriers and scale-up successful prototypes.

Environmental Defence: Impact of Vehicle Pollution in the GTHA – \$75,000 over 12 months

Applicant's address: 116 Spadina Rd, Suite 300, Toronto, ON M5V 2K6

Location of proposed activities: GTHA

The goal of this project is to draw attention to the local health benefits of electrifying transportation, and to present recommendations for accelerating vehicle electrification through a public-facing report and interactive online elements.

Environmental Defence will engage researchers to model the health impacts of air pollution from vehicles, particularly in low-income communities where emissions are most concentrated. The premise of this approach is that quantifying the health benefits associated with reducing vehicle emissions will provide a strong justification for increased government action to accelerate electrification, reduce pollution and GHG emissions, and improve the health of those who are most impacted by vehicle emissions.

Pollution Probe: The Next Step in the GTA's Clean Energy Transition – \$50,000 over eight months

Applicant's address: 150 Ferrand Drive, Suite 208, Toronto, ON M3C 3E5

Location of proposed activities: Toronto

Natural gas is currently envisioned as the default electricity generation source to replace the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station when it is retired in 2024. However, this decision would lead to significant increases in GHG emissions from Ontario's electricity grid.

The goal of this project is to prevent this increase in emissions by identifying and promoting the full suite of benefits related to replacing Pickering with non-emitting sources. To support this goal, Pollution Probe will conduct preliminary research and stakeholder engagement with a view towards ensuring that non-emitting sources are considered seriously as a replacement for the generation gap left by Pickering's closure.

Ryerson City Building Institute (Ryerson University): Unlocking Density and GHG reductions from the GTHA's single family homes – \$20,000 over six months

Applicant's address: 350 Victoria St, Toronto, ON M5B 2K3

Location of proposed activities: GTHA

The goal of this project is to test the feasibility of a concept revolving financial fund model. The revolving fund would be used to retrofit single-family homes to achieve a higher energy efficiency standard (e.g. 50% more efficient) and convert them into duplex or triplex units.

The work for this project will include:

- Assessing the feasibility of the concept, including the financial feasibility and the interest among key stakeholders such as developers, current home owners, prospective home buyers, and municipalities.
- Assessing the policy barriers and solutions to delivering the model. This would focus on an exploration of stratification and intensification of single-family residential neighbourhoods.

Program Allocation

Advancing Low Carbon Policy Solutions – \$40,000 over nine months

Low carbon policy solutions are key to driving large scale emissions reductions, and have accounted for the majority of TAF's historic GHG impacts. This program allocation provides the funding required to maintain and enhance TAF's policy research and development activities. These efforts will advance implementation of low carbon policy solutions for the GTHA at all levels of government.

The purpose of this supplementary request of \$40,000 is to support TAF's leadership on two priority policy files in 2019: the Ontario Carbon Trust and the Clean Fuel Standard. The funding would be used to enlist consulting services in support of the relevant research, stakeholder consultation and policy formulation activities related to each file.

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SIGNATURE

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