



Grants and Program Allocation Recommendations

Date: June 27, 2019
To: Toronto Atmospheric Fund Board of Directors
From: Vice President, Programs and Partnerships

SUMMARY

At its June 14, 2019 meeting, the TAF Grants and Programs Committee recommended that the Board approve four grants with a combined value of \$681,700 and two project allocations with a total value of \$156,400.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Vice President - Programs and Partnerships recommends that the Toronto Atmospheric Fund Board of Directors:

1. Approve the following grant requests funded jointly from the Ontario and City of Toronto endowments except where otherwise indicated:
 - a. \$300,000 over 28 months to Canada Green Building Council to support a multi-stakeholder effort focused on development of the workforce needed to deliver low-carbon new buildings and deep retrofits in the GTHA.
 - b. \$290,000 over 29 months to Efficiency Canada to engage in Ontario and federal processes related to key energy efficiency policies.
 - c. \$70,000 to YWCA Hamilton over 24 months to demonstrate, document and share the energy efficiency and financial savings that can be achieved in a pre-cast midrise affordable housing project undertaken to Passive House standards. *(funded from the Ontario endowment only).*
 - d. \$21,700 over 24 months to Toronto Environmental Alliance to support creation of a website to foster collaboration and coordination among member groups and external organizations, and to provide a space within the site to promote community ownership and shared responsibility for TransformTO.
2. Decline the following grant requests:
 - a. \$300,000 over 24 months to Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) to renew their race2reduce initiative which recognizes building performance leadership and facilitates sharing of best practices amongst industry members.

- b. \$140,000 over 24 months to George Brown College to review and benchmark the process and procurement methods in the construction sector, comparing them to performance improvements resulting from the use of the EcoSpex verification and specification process conducted on low carbon technologies.
- c. \$105,000 over 12 months to Sustainable Buildings Canada to expand the Compass platform, a free online tool that aims to enable the building design community to benchmark performance against their peers, and to provide access to data all aimed at reducing the energy use and GHG emissions in their buildings.
- d. \$75,125 over nine months to Pembina Institute to accelerate Zero Emissions Vehicle manufacturing, job growth, and sustainability in the GTHA.
- e. \$60,000 over six months to Energy Services Association of Canada to enable municipalities across the GTHA to accelerate and streamline the implementation of cost-effective energy opportunities through public/private partnerships.
- f. \$25,000 over four months to Fashion Takes Action to conduct a feasibility study and develop a business case for a textile waste recycling facility in Ontario.

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

- a. \$131,400 over two years to identify and support local outreach partners to promote TAF's services across the GTHA.
- b. \$25,000 over one year to undertake research and develop an implementation strategy for commercialization and scaling as it relates to TAF's mandate.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

If the recommended grants are approved, \$110,949 would come out of TAF's 2019 budget, \$444,126 would come out of the 2020 budget, and \$126,625 would come out of the 2021 budget.

Grants Program Budget	2019
Total available funding	\$1,150,225
Grant allocations committed to date	\$495,117
Recommended allocations from June 14, 2019 Committee meeting	<u>\$110,949</u>
Remaining balance	\$544,159

If the recommended project allocations are approved, \$90,700 would come out of TAF's 2019 budget, and \$67,500 would come out of the 2020 budget.

Internal Program Budget	2019
Total available funding	\$583,389
Internal program allocations committed to date	\$422,000
Recommended allocations from June 14, 2019 Committee meeting	<u>\$90,700</u>
Remaining balance	\$70,689

BACKGROUND

Grants

Canada Green Building Council | Workforce Transformation Initiative: Building a Green Future | \$300,000 over 28 months

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

Location of proposed activities: GTHA

This project will establish a coalition that can champion policy, business and regulatory actions that result in the establishment of an Ontario low-carbon building workforce for deep retrofits and new construction. The CaGBC will act as the secretariat of the initiative, providing project management services for goal setting, activity implementation, progress measurement, and funding mobilization. The coalition will:

- Develop and implement a communications campaign, conducting and leveraging market research to strengthen campaign messages;
- Advocate to change policy and regulations necessary to upskill key professions related to the delivery of low-carbon buildings;
- Work with the real estate and construction industry to prioritize low-carbon building skills in their procurement processes; and
- Champion the development of low-carbon curriculum and enrollment in a variety of training opportunities.

Efficiency Canada | Energy Efficiency Policy: Leading the Advocacy Charge | \$290,000 over 29 months

Applicant's address: 400-11 Church St, Toronto, ON M5E 1W1

Location of proposed activities: Toronto and Ottawa

The project will support engagement in Ontario and federal processes related to key energy efficiency policies. Efficiency Canada will focus on three specific policy outcomes:

- The Ontario Building Code is harmonized to the developing federal Model Building Code, featuring a performance-based approach to net-zero energy usage in all new buildings. A well-designed retrofit building code is implemented for existing buildings in the GTHA.
- Proposed amendments to energy performance standards for space heating/cooling, windows, water heating and appliances lead to a market transformation from industry and the building sectors.
- The post-2020 Ontario Conservation Framework features support for energy efficiency to compete as a low-cost system resource for electricity and natural gas.

YWCA Hamilton | Passive House Affordable Housing Project | \$70,000 over 24 months

Applicant's address: 25 McNab St S, Hamilton ON, L8P 3C1

Location of proposed activities: Hamilton

The goal of this part of the project is to demonstrate the energy efficiency and savings in operating costs that can be achieved in a pre-cast midrise affordable housing project and disseminate relevant information that would encourage and assist others in utilizing a similar approach in the development of affordable housing projects of this nature. This grant will provide an opportunity to capture the outcomes from a planned and funded project in Hamilton. YWCA Hamilton is developing a 50-unit, six storey affordable rental housing project designed according to Passive House design principles. The building is being designed according to Passive House Design principles in order to achieve an extremely high level of energy efficiency and sustainability while supporting the needs of people living and working in the building.

Toronto Environmental Alliance (on behalf of Toronto Climate Action Network | \$21,700 over 24 months | Toronto Climate Action Network & TransformTO Community Website

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

Location of proposed activities: Toronto

The goal of this project is to create a website that supports information and event sharing, fostering collaboration and coordination among member groups and external organizations, and supporting new and existing groups to engage with climate action in Toronto. The site will also serve as an online community hub for fostering public engagement and a sense of community ownership and shared responsibility for TransformTO's long-term plan. Planned outcomes include:

1. Resources to engage new and emerging community groups in implementation of TransformTO strategies.
2. An actively updated community page to help community members keep abreast of what is happening with TransformTO, get connected with community groups working on issues they are interested in, and find out about related events.
3. An improved newsletter offering updates related to climate change within Toronto (with a specific focus on TransformTO) and provides a venue to feature stories about diverse individuals and groups acting as community climate champions,

Program Allocations

Crafting TAF's Approach to Commercialization/Scaling | \$25,000 over one year

This funding will provide external research support to provide TAF with an understanding of how our organization's resources and capacities can be deployed to advance proven climate solutions to full-scale deployment in the GTHA. In keeping with TAF's recently approved Strategic Directions and our new Theory of Change, the aim is to shift most of our effort into paving the way for large-scale deployment of proven low-carbon solutions, rather than focusing on incubation and pilot testing of new ideas. Research will include examination of the theory and the practice of commercialization/scaling as it applies to the suite of solutions, including policies, programs, social change, technologies, etc. And it will likely identify areas where TAF must be an innovator with opportunities for knowledge transfer.

Regional Cultivation Agents | \$131,400 over two years

This project will create anchor relationships with an on-the-ground agency in each region of the GTHA (outside of the City of Toronto where our historic relationships are strong). We will do this by providing a paid opportunity to work with TAF to undertake outreach activities and to participate in an advisory capacity on region-wide strategies in collaboration with counterparts from every area of the GTHA. We propose to seek out local partners to pre-screen potential local grant applicants based on connection to TAF's focus areas, to identify locally relevant low-carbon and co-benefits opportunities, and to liaise with counterparts across the region to help create region-wide carbon reduction strategy.

CONTACT

Mary Pickering, Vice President – Programs and Partnerships, mpickering@taf.ca

SIGNATURE

Mary Pickering
Vice President, Programs and Partnerships