

**REPORT FOR ACTION WITH CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT** 

# **Grants and Program Allocation Recommendations**

Date: October 22, 2022

To: Board of Directors of the Toronto Atmospheric Fund

From: Director, Strategy and Grants

### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

The attachment to this report contains financial information supplied in confidence to the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization.

## SUMMARY

At its October 8, 2021 meeting, the TAF Grants and Programs Committee recommended that the Board approve three grants with a combined value of \$488,725 and one internal program allocation with a total value of \$949,500. This report provides recommendations and minutes from the Committee meeting.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Strategy and Grants recommends that the Toronto Atmospheric Fund Board of Directors:

- 1. Approve the following grants to be funded jointly from the Canada, Ontario and Toronto endowments except where otherwise indicated:
  - a. \$250,000 over 24 months to Electric Mobility Canada to develop and promote best practice policies, programs, and infrastructure investments that will enable the transition to 100% zero emissions light duty vehicles sales in Canada by 2030 (funded from the Canada and Toronto endowments only).
  - \$150,000 over 18 months to Pembina Institute to develop a national zero emissions medium- and heavy-duty vehicle (MHDV) strategy, outlining priority actions and policy changes needed to achieve 100% zero emissions MHDV sales by 2040 (funded from the Canada and Toronto endowments only). Approval to be subject to the following conditions:

- Submit for TAF staff approval an updated project plan and stakeholder consultation strategy which identifies how the project will mobilize all relevant stakeholders and leverage all opportunities, policy windows, and key messages to achieve the desired outcomes.
- With the support of a Developmental Evaluation coach, prepare and implement a Developmental Evaluation plan to assess progress against objectives on an ongoing basis, and report against the plan in interim reports.
- c. \$88,725 over 18 months to Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to assess the economic and environmental benefits of hybrid heating systems and heat pump technologies, and to raise awareness of those benefits through a communications strategy targeted at policy makers, homeowners, and industry stakeholders such as manufacturers, HVAC installers, and energy advisors (funded from the Canada, Ontario, and Toronto endowments). Approval to be subject to the following conditions:
  - The grantee will consult with Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada, and engage them as a project partner to promote project findings and recommendations to their network and membership.
  - The grantee will allocate an additional \$10,000 towards the communications activities, strategies, and material expenses to ensure that the project outputs and key messages are delivered to the target audience.
- 2. Decline three grant requests with a total value of \$359,000, summarized in Confidential Attachment 1.
- 3. Approve the following program allocation:
  - a. \$949,500 over 12 months to support TAF's functional and focus area teams in implementing their priority programs and strategies for 2022. (The allocation to TAF's policy team (\$8,000) from the Canada and Toronto endowments, and the balance (\$941,500) funded proportionately from the Canada, Ontario, and Toronto endowments.)
- 4. Direct that the confidential information contained in Confidential Attachment 1 remain confidential in its entirety, as it contains financial information supplied in confidence to the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization.

# FINANCIAL IMPACT

If the recommended grants are approved, \$279,770 would come out of TAF's 2021 grants budget and \$208,955 would come out of the 2022 budget. This would leave \$94,711 remaining in the 2021 grants budget. As per TAF's policy, unallocated grants budget may be carried over as a positive variance to the following year's grants budget.

Grants Program Budget	2021
Total available funding	\$374,481
Grant allocations committed to date	\$1,291,875
Funding currently available	\$374,481
Recommended allocations from the October 2021 intake round	<u>\$279,770</u>
Remaining balance	\$94,711

If the recommended internal program allocations are approved, \$949,500 would come out of TAF's 2022 program expense budget. The unallocated balance remains in the NAV.

Internal Program Budget	2021	2022
Total available funding	\$1,020,000	\$1,258,900
Internal program allocations committed to date	\$756,205	\$125,600
Funding currently available	\$263,795	\$1,133,300
Recommended allocations from the October 2021 intake round	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$949,500</u>
Remaining balance	\$263,795	\$183,800

# BACKGROUND

The following provides a summary of the grants recommended for Board approval.

# Electric Mobility Canada – Policy Advocacy to Accelerate EV Adoption in Canada through an Electric Mobility Strategy for Canada

\$250,000 over 24 months Applicant's address: 16 Northview Avenue, Toronto, ON, M1N 1W1 Location of proposed activities: GTHA

The objective of this project is to develop and advocate for a package of best practice policies, programs, and infrastructure investments that will enable the transition to 100% zero emission vehicles (ZEV) sales in Canada by 2030. Electric Mobility Canada and project partners will achieve this by:

- Developing a whitepaper outlining an electric mobility strategy for Canada, which summarizes the economic, environmental, and other co-benefits of the ZEV transition;
- Producing op-ds, social media content, media releases and public events intended to communicate the benefits of ZEV acceleration and to build public support for the priorities outlined in the Electric Mobility Strategy;
- Convening key stakeholders to coordinate and align policy advocacy efforts and messaging among key industry and non-governmental partners;
- Promoting the priority policies, programs, and investments needed to accelerate a ZEV transition to relevant government stakeholders and decision makers.

# Pembina Institute – Creating a Canadian Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Electrification Strategy

### \$150,000 over 18 months

Applicant's address: 2 Bloor Street West, Suite 739, Toronto, ON, M4W 3E2 Location of proposed activities: GTHA

The objective of this project is to develop a national zero emissions medium- and heavy-duty vehicle (MHDV) strategy, outlining priority actions and policy changes needed to achieve 100% zero emissions MHDV sales to fleet operators by 2040. Pembina will achieve this by coordinating with Electric Mobility Canada's MHDV working group and key industry stakeholders, as well as by engaging with federally elected officials and senior staff to influence future endorsement and implementation of a national zero emissions MHDV strategy. Key deliverables that will be completed during this grant include:

- Factsheets, infographics, webpage, newsletters, webinars, and consumable resources communicating the benefits of fleet electrification and promoting best practices to accelerate the uptake of ZE MHDVs;
- Series of workshops, focus groups, and meetings with industry stakeholders and government representatives to inform development of the strategy and to socialize priority actions once finalized;
- National strategy on zero emissions MHDVs, outlining priority policies, investments, and programs;
- Letters, briefing notes, submissions, and presentations to support policy development.

### Toronto Region and Conservation Authority - Communications Campaign for Hybrid Heating Systems and Heat Pumps in the GTHA

#### \$88,725 over 24 months

Applicant's address: 101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, Ontario L4K 5R6 Location of proposed activities: GTHA

The objective of this project is to increase heat pump installations, and hybrid heating specifically, in the GTHA and drive sector-wide reductions in carbon emissions. The applicant seeks to address the lack of real-world qualitative and quantitative data on hybrid heating system performance and the lack of awareness of the technology among homeowners, contractors, energy advisors, and municipalities. TRCA and project partners will achieve this by developing:

- Report on hybrid heating system performance, drawing on data from the Enbridge pilot program;
- Case studies documenting lessons and outcomes from heat pump retrofits (including hybrid heating and other types of heat pump systems) in the GTHA;
- Two heat pump guidance documents, with one targeted at contractors, energy advisors, and municipal staff, and the other designed for homeowners;
- Materials and events (webinars, workshops, presentations, social media and web content) to promote findings and benefits of heat pumps to target audience groups.

The following provides a summary of the Internal Allocation recommended for Board approval totaling \$949,500 over 12 months (2022). This will support TAF's functional and focus area teams in implementing their priority programs and strategies for 2022 and is allocated as follows:

- Carbon and Co-Benefits Quantification: \$40,000 to procure and implement new database software to document quantification methodology, data, and results; purchase data to enable high-quality research; and support communications and knowledge sharing.
- Electrification of Transportation: \$12,000 to support implementation of TAF's Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program; secure technical advisory services to program partners; launch a promotional strategy; and secure legal counsel on contribution agreements and vendor contracts.
- Grants: \$7,500 to support Sustainability Network's research on the capacity building needs of the environmental sector, and to enable TAF Grants staff to attend the Environmental Funders Canada conference in 2022.
- Impact Investing: \$157,000 to support TAF's capacity to develop innovative financial strategies and structures; originate investment opportunities through marketing activities and events; and ensure robust investment implementation, management and reporting through professional legal oversight and performance evaluation.
- Climate Policy: \$8,000 to support TAF's policy activities through the engagement of subject matter experts as consultants on key policy files and through relevant travel, communications, and events.
- Retrofit Accelerator: \$700,000 to support TAF staff in planning, delivering, and scaling building retrofit projects; and to achieve the target of having at least 5,000 residential units with retrofit design work initiated by the end of 2022.
- Decarbonizing the Electricity System: \$25,000 to develop, test, and refine key messages to mobilize key stakeholders and build support for policies and actions that lead to decarbonization Ontario's electricity system.

# CONTACT

Ian Klesmer, Director, Strategy and Grants, iklesmer@taf.ca

# SIGNATURE

lan Klesmer Director, Strategy and Grants

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Confidential Attachment 1 – Summary of declined grant requests