

Grants and Program Recommendations

Date: April 13, 2023
To: Board of Directors of the Toronto Atmospheric Fund
From: Senior Grants Manager

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 significantly prejudice the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization.

SUMMARY

This report provides recommendations from the TAF Grants and Programs Committee that the Board approve four grants with a combined value of \$768,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Senior Grants Manager 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. \$150,000 over 12 months to Clean Energy Canada to establish the Ontario Clean Energy Industry Alliance and support research and stakeholder engagement to advance a low carbon and affordable electricity supply for Ontario. (*Funded from the Canada and Toronto endowments only*).
 - b. \$153,000 over 14 months to the City of Toronto to promote research and engagement on priority actions required to implement embodied carbon management policies and practices across Ontario's municipalities.
 - c. \$165,000 over 18 months to Clean Air Partnership to engage municipalities and developers and identify relevant technologies and business models to advance low carbon energy planning in new residential developments. The Committee's recommendation is subject to the following condition: the grantseeker should provide written confirmation at the first interim reporting stage that it has secured participation of four municipalities and eight developers in the project.

- d. \$300,000 over 24 months to Environmental Defence Canada to mobilize stakeholders and build support for a low-carbon electricity system in Ontario. *(Funded from the Canada and Toronto endowments only).*
2. Decline two grant requests with a total value of \$224,684. These are summarized in Confidential Attachment 1.
3. 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 significantly prejudice 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, \$526,085 would come out of TAF's 2023 grants budget and \$241,915 would come out of the 2024 budget. This would leave \$893,385 remaining in the 2023 grants budget.

Grants Budget	2023
Total available funding	\$1,861,423
Grants committed to date	\$441,953
Funding currently available	\$1,419,470
Recommended allocations from the February 2023 intake	\$526,085
Remaining balance	\$893,385

There are no internal allocations from the 2023 budget in this intake. In October 2022 the Grants Committee approved \$1,033,000 to support the execution of internal programming in 2023. A balance of \$67,000 is available in the internal program budget to support emerging opportunities during the year.

Internal Program Budget	2023
Total available funding	\$1,100,000
Internal program allocations committed to date	\$1,033,000
Funding currently available	\$67,000
Recommended allocations from the February 2023 intake	-
Remaining balance	\$67,000

BACKGROUND

A summary of the grants recommended for Board approval is presented below.

Clean Energy Canada – Building an Ontario-focused Clean Energy Industry Alliance

\$150,000 over 12 months

Applicant's address: Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue Simon Fraser University, Harbour Centre 3311, 515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 5K3

Location of proposed activities: GTHA, Ontario

The objective of this project is to establish the Ontario Clean Energy Industry Alliance, bringing together industry stakeholders from high emission sectors to support new ways to build out a clean, reliable, and affordable provincial energy system. Key deliverables that will be completed during this grant include:

- Operationalization of the Ontario Clean Energy Industry Alliance.
- Alignment of Alliance members on opportunities, challenges, and priority areas
- Coordinated dialogue between the Alliance and the provincial government to share perspectives on key elements of the provincial electricity system.

City of Toronto - Development of Embodied Carbon Management Toolkit for Ontario Municipalities

\$153,000 over 14 months

Applicant's address: Metro Hall, 22nd Floor., 55 John Street, Toronto ON M5V0C4

Location of proposed activities: Toronto, GTHA

The project aims to develop an Embodied Carbon Management Toolkit for Ontario's municipalities and support the development and implementation of embodied carbon management policies and practices across the province. Key deliverables that will be completed during this grant include:

- An Embodied Carbon Management Toolkit for municipal staff.
- An Assessment of the City of Toronto's Urban Design Guidelines for Low-Rise, Mid-Rise and Tall buildings to identify potential drivers of embodied and operational carbon and construction costs.
- Recommendations on design, procurement, and material specification processes to prioritize lower carbon materials in construction projects.
- Review of international best practices on demolition and deconstruction and recommendations for future amendments to revise the City of Toronto's approach.

Clean Air Partnership - Advancing Low Carbon Energy Planning in New Developments at the Neighborhood Scale

\$165,000 over 18 months

Applicant's address: 75 Elizabeth Street, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1P4

Location of proposed activities: GTHA

The objective of this project is to engage municipalities and developers to identify low carbon energy systems and business models and enable low-carbon new construction. The learnings from the proposed engagement will be promoted to stakeholders through a toolkit and a training program to build capacity of municipal staff in understanding the technologies and planning processes required to build low carbon communities. The applicant will achieve this by:

- Increasing the capacity of municipal climate staff to engage in discussions with developers on low carbon energy planning.
- Undertaking low carbon energy planning with municipalities and selected developers to achieve deep carbon reductions in new developments.
- Developing a Low Carbon Energy Planning Primer and Training Program for enabling net zero ready developments.

Environmental Defence Canada - No More Gas Plants in the GTHA

\$300,000 over 24 months

Applicant's address: 33 Cecil Street, 1st Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5T 1N1

Location of proposed activities: GTHA

The project aims to mobilize stakeholders and build support for clean energy in the provincial electricity system and phase out the use of natural gas generated electricity in Ontario by 2035. The applicant will achieve this by:

- Raising stakeholder awareness on the negative impacts of natural gas fired electricity.
- Promoting research and other resources highlighting renewable energy options available for the province.
- Engaging municipal councils and promoting the benefits of clean energy.
- Engaging federal government stakeholders on the design and implementation of robust Clean Electricity Regulations.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – Summary of declined grant requests