

## Attachment 4 - Creative Industries Grant Program

Creative Industries are vital economic and employment contributors to Toronto. They make Toronto a more vibrant and inspiring place and help reinforce Toronto's status as the creative capital of Canada. The Creative Industries Grants support sector growth and create opportunities for businesses and individuals by enabling initiatives that showcase Toronto's creative industries, by making pathways to employment more accessible, by expanding business skills and opportunities for creative entrepreneurs, and by showcasing Toronto's industries to engage residents, visitors, and the world.

The Creative Industries Grants Program has 2 streams:

- **Stream 1: Creative Industries Skills Development Grants** support organizations advancing workforce development in the film and television production, music, or creative technology industries. This stream provides funding for programs that build practical skills in trades, crafts, or technical skills for which there are existing labour gaps in these industries. This grant stream aims to support employment readiness for individuals, matching skills to high-demand roles in creative sectors.
- **Stream 2: Creative Industries Sector Development Grants** support specific projects, services or initiatives that build capacity and create opportunities for creative entrepreneurs, their businesses, and the creative sector as a whole. This stream provides funding for projects or activities that focus on cross-sectoral collaboration, partnership generation, knowledge-building, advancement of business skills for creative entrepreneurs, and incentive international opportunities. This grant stream aims to showcase Toronto's creative industries by accelerating routes to commercialization and financial sustainability.

### Funding Eligibility:

For both grant streams, the organization must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. be based in Toronto, with grant-supported activities also taking place in Toronto; or be an urban off-reserve Indigenous-led organization located in the city of Toronto, in which case it may provide culturally-based programming outside the boundaries of the city of Toronto;
2. be in good standing with the City of Toronto;
3. be a non-profit organization, educational organization, or registered charity;
4. demonstrates that it does not, in the absence of the grant, have the financial resources necessary to undertake the activity for which the grant is requested;
5. comply with the City's Community Grants Policy.

To be considered for funding, application must also demonstrate that it advances the intended objectives of the applicable stream. If selected for funding, all initiatives, programs, or events receiving must comply with the City's anti-discrimination and harassment policies.

### **Application Process:**

- Application form will be made available online.
- Deadlines for applications are set on an annual basis and will remain publicly available.
- After the application is submitted, the applicant may be contacted by the related sector office if further clarification or additional information is desired.
- Any inaccurate or incomplete information could result in the application being removed from consideration for funding.

### **Application Assessment and Funding Allocation:**

- Applications will be reviewed and assessed relevant sector office staff.
- Decisions will typically be communicated within four weeks of the application deadline. Funding decisions are final.
- Successful applicants will be invited to enter into a formal funding agreement with the City of Toronto, with specific accountability criteria and reporting requirements.
- Funding will be issued in two installments: 1) upon execution of an agreement satisfactory to the City of Toronto, and 2) upon approval of a final report from the recipient on the impact of the grant upon completion of the project.
- The names of grants recipients will be made publicly available for transparency purposes and in accordance with the Community Grants Policy.

### **Accountability Criteria:**

Accountability criteria will be included in the funding agreement for each successful grant applicant. The criteria must be tracked throughout the funded activities and reported at its conclusion via a Project Completion Report for the release of the final installment of the grant payment. Criteria include:

- Number of participants served;
- Equity-related metrics;
- Participant satisfaction assessment;
- Engagement of industry through placements, employment, or other metrics relevant to the goals of the program

Further metrics may be developed on a case-by-case basis or to measure grant impact over time.

### **Funding Amount:**

- Applications and funding amounts are reviewed and assessed on a per-project basis.
- Organizations may apply for multiple projects within one year.
- Funding will not be awarded on a multi-year basis. Although projects may be repeated over multiple years, a new application will need to be submitted every year. Previous successful applications do not guarantee future funding.