TORONTO

2027

LOCAL LEADERSHIP GRANT

Applications Open
Oct 19, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Applications Close
Dec 11, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Questions? Email: communityfunding@toronto.ca or visit Local Leadership Grant

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Local Leadership Grant Information

Background

The Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy (TSNS) is the City of Toronto's action plan for building partnerships in Toronto's neighbourhoods so they can succeed and thrive. The strategy supports the engagement and capacity development of community-led groups and leaders across Toronto's four district areas Etobicoke-York, North York, Toronto-East York and Scarborough. TSNS prioritizes the leadership and participation of Indigenous, African, Caribbean, Black and equity-deserving groups within Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIA), Emerging Neighbourhooods and other communities of focus. The strategy strengthens the social, economic and physical conditions and delivers local impact for city-wide change.

What is the purpose of the grant?

The Local Leadership Grant is open to resident-led groups across the City of Toronto. The grant prioritizes the leadership and participation of Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and Metis), African, Caribbean, Black and other equity-deserving groups within Neighbourhood Improvement Areas, Emerging Neighbourhoods, and communities of focus. For more information, please refer to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

The Local Leadership Grant (LLG) supports place-based, resident-led projects that focus on the five domains of TSNS:

- Economic Opportunities (i.e. jobs skills workshop, certification workshop, employment forum)
- Healthy Lives (i.e. nutrition workshop, wellness day, gardening event)
- Participation in Civic Decision-Making (i.e. community speak out event, leadership training, civic action forum)
- Physical Surroundings (i.e. community beautification event, neighbourhood walking tour, community art event)
- Social Development. (i.e. educational workshop/forum, back to school event, neighbourhood festival)

Grant Information Key Dates

What is the funding time frame?

- Grant Opens **October 19, 2026,** at **12:00 p.m. (Noon)**
- Grant Closes **December 11, 2026,** at **12:00 p.m. (Noon)**
- Activities Timeline **May 1, 2027 - December 31, 2027.**
- Financial Reporting December 31, 2027 Final Report is due **January 31, 2028.**

Please note, funded activities should be designed as one-time events and completed within a six-week period. A complete financial reconciliation will also be needed at the completion of your funded activities.

New Changes to Local Leadership Grant

- TSNS Districts: TSNS has changed from "Community Networks" and now will be referred to as "Districts". The Districts are grouped into 4 geographic areas in the City of Toronto, aligned with the 4 Community Council Areas: Etobicoke –York, North York, Toronto- East York, and Scarborough. If you need to find what District you live in, please use the search engine to locate the District you are applying in. More details can be found below.

- Grant Acceptance Period: Due to the high volume of applicants and to ensure all available grant funding is allocated, groups that have been approved for the Local Leadership Grant will have up to 2 weeks to accept the grant offer. If no response is received within this period, the grant offer will be withdrawn and awarded to another group.

- Permits: **Permits are NOT required to be booked in advance to be eligible to apply for the LLG.** Groups are encouraged to contact the relevant community organization or visit Community/Recreation Centre Facility Bookings to inquire about the Use of space / permit processing timelines, as these timelines vary from 4-8 weeks to be approved. Understanding these details will help ensure there is enough time to process the permit.

your project timeline accounts for any necessary processing time. Trustees and City staff can work with successful groups to finalize event/activity locations. For more information please visit Parks & Recreation Permit – No Fee Community Activations

– *New* In-person Information Sessions*: The City is offering in-person LLG information sessions to provide residents the opportunity to learn more about funding opportunities for resident-led activities. Register Here

– Dedicated Trustee Program**:** The City of Toronto's Community Funding Unit has launched a dedicated trusteeship program, which means the City will directly fund the trusteeship fees of the selected trustee non-profit organizational partners or from our pre-approved roster of trustees for this grant program All successful applicants will be assigned a Trustee through the dedicated trusteeship program at no cost to the funded group.

– Priority for New Applicants: Priority will be given to applicants that have not previously received funding through 2026 LLG. Applications from previously funded groups will be considered only after eligible new applicants have been prioritized.

Advancing Equity

The Local Leadership Grant aims to support community-led activities by resident-led groups across all 158 neighbourhoods in the City of Toronto.

Applications will be given priority if they are:

- received from new resident-led groups, returning applicants are still encouraged to apply.
- submitted by resident-led groups from/ and or based in one of the 33 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) / 10 Emerging Neighbourhoods (ENs), and communities of focus
- prioritize the leadership and participation of Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and Metis), African, Caribbean, Black and other equity-deserving groups

Application Process

How to apply?

The application process steps are described below:

1. Review these guidelines to ensure your group and project idea are eligible for funding.
2. Attend an optional grant information session and/or one of the virtual drop-in office hours to learn more about the grant program and/or ask questions about the application process.
3. Register your Group on the Toronto, Grants, Rebates and Incentives Portal (TGRIP) if you have not created a TGRIP account before. Review the instructions on How to Register for a TGRIP Account or watch the TGRIP video before you begin your application.
4. Complete and submit your LLG online application, including your project budget and workplan.

A copy of the Local Leadership Grant application questions can be found on the LLG Webpage or Click Here to access LLG Templates. Submissions will only be accepted through TGRIP. Resources are at the end of the document to help support your application.

Only eligible and completed applications submitted though TGRIP will be considered for funding.

We highly recommend that you draft your application in a separate document before filling out the online application form. Give yourself enough time to complete the application. While generally problem-free, technical errors can happen during this process and could result in you losing your responses before you are able to submit them.

Tip:

Eligibility Requirements

The Local Leadership Grant aims to support community-led activities by resident-led groups in neighbourhoods across Toronto. To be eligible, applicants and projects must meet all the following criteria.

1. To apply, you must be part of a resident-led group with at least three members who do not reside in the same household. All group members must live in different households and be residents of Toronto.

2. The Group Lead must reside in Toronto and within the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy (TSNS) District for which the group is applying. To determine which TSNS District you live in, visit the Community Council Area Profiles – City of Toronto Map or Find your Neighbourhood Map

3. Group projects must offer community-based activities that demonstrate alignment with one of the the five domains (i.e., economic opportunities, healthy lives, participation in decision making, physical surroundings, and social development) of the Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy.

4. The project proposed cannot be an existing program or service your group is currently providing. Considerations will be taken if you are applying to enhance your existing project by adding a new time limited activity. This can include adding new activities or workshops and/or redesigning the project to reach a new demographic. For example, redesigning a digital literacy workshop that was initially for youth but now updating it to be relevant and appliable to seniors. Expanding existing projects to new geographic areas are not eligible.

5. If you are serving food, one group member must have a Food Handler Certificate.

6. To be in good standing and eligible to receive a grant from the City of Toronto, all groups must comply with the Grants Policy. Your group must not be in debt with the City or be in default of terms and conditions of any agreement (including any previous grant agreement) with the City of Toronto

7. In order to apply for the Local Leadership Grant, your group must have a Toronto Grants, Rebates and Incentives Portal (TGRIP) Account. Visit TGRIP to register or see additional information in the TGRIP section. Applications will only be accepted through the TGRIP platform.

To be eligible for the 2027 Local Leadership Grant, previously funded groups must have completed their 2026 project activities, and all funds must have been fully utilized and reported in your final report in TGRIP. You are still able to submit an application; however, it will not be considered until we have received your final report. The 2026 Local Leadership Final Report must be submitted by **January 31, 2027.** Click Here for LLG Final Report Resource

Local Leadership Grant **IS**:	Local Leadership Grant is **NOT**:
- A grant that prioritizes the leadership and participation of Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and Metis), Black and equity-deserving groups within Neighbourhood Improvement Areas, Emerging Neighbourhoods and other communities of focus - Open to residents in ALL 158 neighbourhoods in Toronto - Funding to support resident-led community groups to help them inspire their neighbourhoods with events and activities that support the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy - A time-limited grant of $5,000 per group to help support resident-led groups. Projects must be completed by December 31, 2027.	- For non-profit organizations, self-employed Individuals, registered businesses, for-profit businesses, landlord/tenant and condominium boards, corporations, political parties, BIAs, private sports clubs. These groups may support resident-led groups with their decision making as long as residents are the leaders of the group and project - For agencies or community organizations, educational institutions to apply on behalf of resident-led groups - Permanent project funding - For projects where residents are only participating and not leading - For organizations with mandates and activities covered under provincial or federal legislation such as schools and universities, day cares, group homes, hospitals - For grant-making organizations, industry or trade associations, staff of the City of Toronto, members of City of Toronto Council - For religious organizations with mandates that cannot show a clear separation between religious and community service functions - For sports clubs to train participants to compete at an elite level - For individuals

Ineligible applicants include:

- Groups with all members living in the same household
- Groups with less than 3 members
- Groups with less than 3 members who do not reside in Toronto.
- Non-profit organizations, self-employed Individuals, registered businesses, for-profit businesses, landlord/tenant and condominium boards, corporations, political parties, social enterprises (including BIAs), staff of the City of Toronto, members of City of Toronto Council.
- Grant-making organizations, industry, or trade associations
- Sports Clubs, Provincial Sport Organizations (PSO) and Multi-Sport Organizations (MSO) and groups affiliated with a Recognized PSO or MSO
- Organizations with mandates and activities covered under provincial or federal legislation such as schools and universities, day-cares, group homes, hospitals
- Religious organizations with mandates that cannot show a clear separation between religious and community service functions.
- Previously funded groups that have not submitted their completion report for the Local Leadership Grant

Events/Activities cannot:

- Have a cost to participate and/or have a fundraising component
- Be connected to a pre-existing agency or City-run or Not-For Profit program
- Be for sports clubs to train participants to compete at an elite level
- Be a reoccurring, established or annual project
- Be private or invitation only

2026 TSNS Summit

Join us on **November 14, 2026**, for the annual Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods (TSNS) Summit at Metro Hall, 55 John St Toronto, ON M5V 0C4. Community-led groups and leaders are invited to take part in a day of learning, connection and celebration. Attendees can look forward to learning more and providing feedback on the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy, connecting with community-led groups/leaders, participating in workshops, enjoying delicious food, fun entertainment, activities, takeaways and much more. Register Here. **The deadline to register is October 30, 2026.**

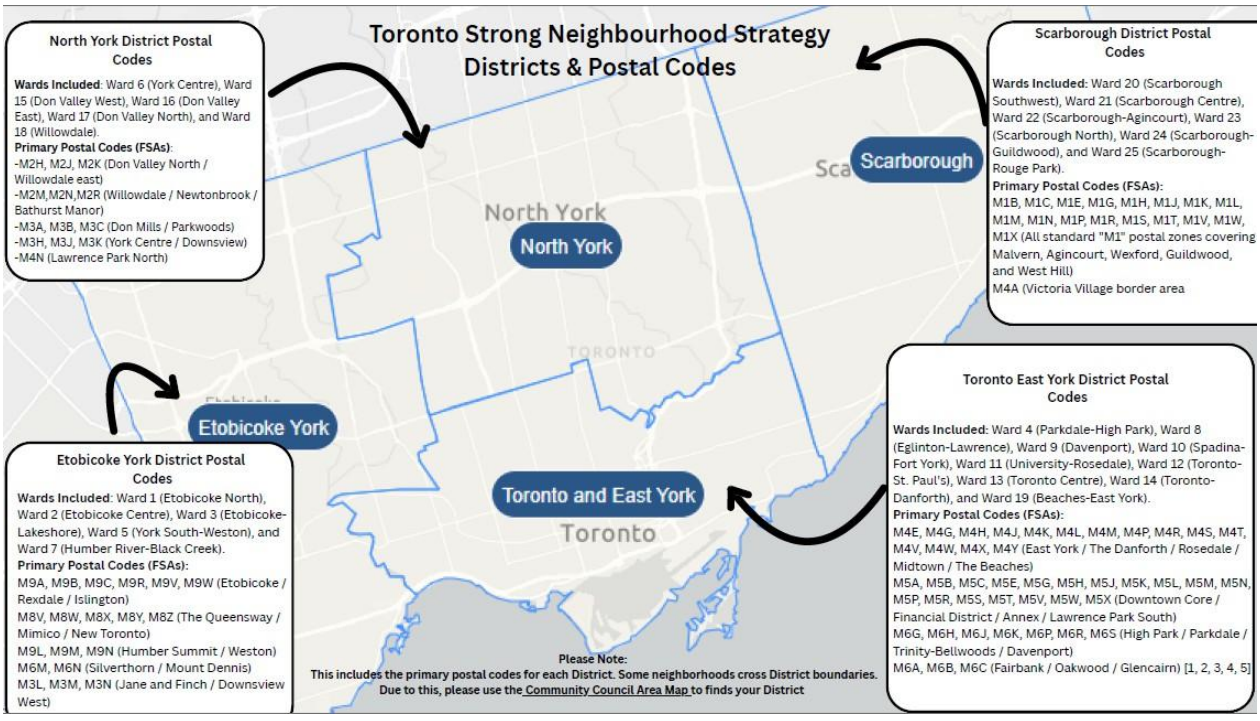
Have questions regarding the Local Leadership Grant?

Feel free to attend the Summit on November 14th, as we will be hosting an information session regarding the grant from 1:00pm to 2:30pm.

Locating your TSNS District

The Local Leadership Grant is open to all 158 Neighbourhoods across the City of Toronto. However, applications for projects in Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs), Emerging Neighbourhoods (ENs), and communities of focus will be prioritized. The grant prioritizes the participation of resident-led groups from/ and or based in one of the 33 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) / 10 Emerging Neighbourhoods.

To determine which TSNS Community District you live in, visit the Community Council Area Profiles Map or visit Find Your Neighbourhood Map to learn more about the City of Toronto's 158 neighbourhoods.



The map listed above illustrates the boundaries of the Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy Districts and identifies the associated postal codes.

Click Here to access a downloadable copy of the TSNS Districts and Postal Codes.

Connecting with a Community Development Officer (CDO)

The City of Toronto has Community Development Officers (CDO) that can work with you, and your community led group. -

If you'd like to connect with a Community Development Officer contact neighbourhoods@toronto.ca and indicate the TSNS District your group leads resides in.

Project Activities

Project activities must be related to at least one of the five domains of the Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy. (TSNS)

Project domain examples include:

FIVE TSNS Domains				
Economic Opportunities	Healthy Lives	Participation in Decision Making	Social Development	Physical Surroundings
• Job skills workshop • Certification workshop • Employment Forum	• Nutrition workshops • Wellness Day • Gardening Event	• Community Speak out Event • Leadership Training • Civic Action Forum	• Educational Workshops/ forum • Back to School Events •Neighbourhood Festival	• Community Beautification Event • Neighbourhood Walking Tour • Community Art Event

Events/Activities must:

- Be held within the geographic area of your Group Lead's TSNS District
- Be a one-time event or series of events that are completed within a six-week period
- Be in person, free and open to Toronto Residents
- Occur in a public and accessible space
- Be held between **May 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027**

Eligible Use of Funds

The following list outlines eligible costs:

- Project costs and supplies (e.g., space rental, Interpretation and translation for events and communications)
- Project Coordination to support planning, organizing, and implementing your project. Compensation for the project team can be a maximum of $1,500.
- Compensation for Elders and honoraria for People with Lived/Living Experience and volunteers
- Planning and development (e.g., trainings and certifications, team building retreats, group trainings, project monitoring and evaluation, or cost related to the delivery of your project)
- Developing and supporting partnerships
- Delivery materials and participant-related costs (e.g., childminding, transportation, small capital costs, sports officials/referees, sports related equipment cost, facility bookings/permits, honorarium for coaches,
- Project equipment, such as art or office supplies for participants, is allowed. However, electronic equipment (e.g. computers, printers, phones, cameras) is not permitted. Rental of these kinds of electronic equipment is encouraged. Sports equipment, such as participant uniforms, balls and racquets are allowed. However, since unincorporated groups cannot retain ownership, any approved sports equipment purchases would be owned by the applicant group's trustee. Rental of sports equipment is encouraged.

Ineligible Use of Funds

The following list outlines ineligible costs:

Requests for the following purposes are **NOT** eligible for consideration.

- Fundraising events
- Subsidies for individuals (e.g., scholarships or educational bursaries)
- Donations to charitable causes
- Purchasing equipment for one-time use
- Payment Membership fees or Subscriptions
- Paying for individual sports-related training certifications or skill development (i.e. personal trainer sessions)Reserve Funds (e.g., dedicated savings funds set aside for future expenses or unexpected cost)
- Infrastructure / capital projects (updating sports courts, outdoor equipment and/or modifications/enhancements to public/private spaces)

- Debt repayment or deficit funding
- Political or religious activities
- Projects and activities outside of Toronto Unless specifically for Indigenous-based cultural activities outside of Toronto as per the City of Toronto Grants Policy
- Major capital costs. Note: Contact City staff about any capital cost line items prior to submitting your budget request as major capital costs are not eligible for funding.

Should you have questions contact us at: communityfunding@toronto.ca about any capital cost line items prior to submitting your budget request. Major capital costs are not eligible for funding. Minor capital expenses (e.g. equipment to support virtual activities, paint supplies for a beautification project) may be eligible, provided City approval and conditional on an incorporated non- profit owning the equipment after the project is completed)

Trusteeship

A trustee is an incorporated not-for-profit organization and/or registered charity with audited financial statements that becomes the "legal home" of your project. City staff will identify assigned trustees who will hold funds and disburse monies to your group, assume liability for project activities, and provide insurance, administrative supports and mentorship. Successful applicants will be required to work with one of the trustee organizations connected to the Local Leadership Grant.

Trustee and Group Responsibilities

Groups and trustees work collaboratively to implement the approved funded project. The trustees provide financial oversight and supports the groups project delivery through mentorship. Groups and Trustees share mutual responsibility to maintain communication and project oversight to support the successful completion of the project.

How to submit a project amendment request?

What is an amendment?

An amendment is a proposed change to the approved project budget, timeline or location. Project amendments maybe requested for approved projects. Proposed amendments of requests must be submitted to the trustee for review, followed by submission to the City for approval. Once approved groups will be notified via TGRIP to complete the amendment requests. Additional details and guidance will be provided to funded groups.

Grant Review Process

Information Sessions

Information sessions are optional opportunities for applicants to ask questions and seek clarification about grant requirements. Information shared by applicants during these sessions may be documented by city staff and may inform eligibility assessments, particularly when clarification on an applicant's status or activities is required. Applicants will be informed of the purpose of these sessions, the potential impact of information shared, and their option to decline participation without penalty.

Eligibility Review

All applications will undergo a pre-screening process by city staff to confirm that the organization is eligible for the LLG Grant. Organizations must meet all mandatory criteria before their application is forwarded to the Application Review Panel. City staff document the basis for the screening decisions and ensure they are aligned with the eligibility requirements published in these guidelines

Use of publicly available information in Eligibility Screening

In addition to documents submitted through the application portal, staff may consult publicly available and reputable sources (e.g., organization websites, corporate registries, public filings, government records, etc) to verify application information or assess eligibility. Applicants will be informed that publicly available information may be used as part of due diligence practices.

Managing Conflict of Interest

The City of Toronto requires all Panel Review Members to sign a Conflict-of-Interest form that ensures that any conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest are known. This means that any relationships between the funding decision-makers and those requesting funding are publicly documented. It also ensures that panel members with conflicts don't take part in deciding whether the group with whom they share an interest gets funded. Funding decisions must remain fair and perceived to be made without favouritism, are equitable and in the best interests of the City of Toronto.

TSNS Advisory Panel Application Review

A Panel of Subject Matter Experts and City staff will review the application and assessment of their eligibility for the LLG Grant to make recommendations for the final decision-making of successful applicants. Panel Members are required to sign a Confidentiality Agreement, which includes, but is not limited to, receiving and reviewing privileged information, publicly

available information, personal information, technical, financial or scientific information and any other records that must or may be kept confidential under the Municipal Freedom of Information of Privacy Act. All discussions, deliberations and recommendations for approval for the Local Leadership Grant must be kept confidential until city staff communicate approved recommended groups publicly.

Final Decision-making

The Executive Director (or designate decision-maker) will consider multiple sources of information when making final funding decisions, which may include: the submitted application and required documents, Review Panel Assessment results, staff verification notes, research memos, or due diligence findings through publicly available information relevant to eligibility or risk assessment. Applicants will be informed of the decision-making framework and the types of information that may contribute to final decisions.

Eligibility Review

Applications will be screened for eligibility by City of Toronto staff based on these program guidelines and requirements for funding. Applications that are determined to be eligible will be further assessed by members of the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy Advisory Group to make funding recommendations to the Executive Director, Social Development Finance and Administration, for approval.

Use of publicly available information in Eligibility Screening

Applicants should provide up-to-date, accurate, and verifiable information when completing the application in Toronto Grants Rebates and Incentives Portal (TGRIP). Supporting documentation may be requested to confirm and verify eligibility and fit with the grant guidelines and Framework. City of Toronto staff may consult publicly available and reputable sources (e.g., organization websites, corporate registries, public filings, government records, etc.) to verify application information or assess eligibility Although collaboratives and partnerships are encouraged, only one application per group is permitted. Only complete and eligible applications will be assessed by City staff and the review panel.

In addition to documents submitted through the TGRIP application portal, staff may consult publicly available and reputable sources (e.g., organization websites, corporate registries, public filings, government records, etc.) to verify application information or assess eligibility. Applicants and grant review committee members will be informed that publicly available information may be used as part of due diligence practices.

TSNS Advisory Group

The Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy (TSNS) Advisory Group brings together 40 resident leaders from across Toronto's four district areas of Etobicoke-York, North York, Toronto-East York and Scarborough to contribute community perspectives to initiatives connected to neighbourhood wellbeing, equity and community resilience across Toronto.

The Advisory Group creates opportunities for collaboration, shared learning and resident leadership development while helping strengthen connections between local community priorities and broader city-wide initiatives.

Managing Conflict of Interest

The members of the Grant Review Committee (GRC) will adhere to the City's Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policy and will be trained by City staff. All GRC members must attest to their impartiality before the application review process begins. It is important to note that a conflict of interest also occurs when a community member's family, friends, or the organizations they support may benefit from decisions made by the panel members. If conflicts of interest are not declared and emerge once the review process has begun, the City reserves the right to revise the review process to ensure adherence to the policy.

How to Register for a TGRIP Account

In order to apply for any grants, your group must have a Toronto Grants, Rebates, Incentives Portal (TGRIP) Account. To register, click here for the website: Toronto Grants, Rebates, Incentives Portal (TGRIP)

CLICK HERE FOR A VIDEO WALKTHROUGH: HOW TO REGISTER FOR A TGRIP ACCOUNT

STEPS

1. Once on the TGRIP website, click REGISTER HERE. Fill out the form accordingly and click submit. For grassroots, resident-led or youth-led groups, please provide your group's name in the Organization's Legal Name section. You will receive an email to complete your registration.

2. Once you log into your TGRIP account, the next step is to complete your organization profile. Click on the Organization Profile tab located in the top right-hand corner of your dashboard.

3. **There are four tabs for completion.** Please ensure you complete every tab(a. Organization b. Project c. Community d. Questions)**.** Remember to click **SAVE DRAFT** when moving from tab to tab. Once completed, click **SUBMIT**. Key things to flag:

- If you are a resident-led or grassroots organization, please select YES for the question: Is your group a resident-led group leading a project in your neighbourhood? under the Organization Info tab.

Please download the Declaration of Discrimination form located in the Documents tab, sign and upload it.

4. Once your organization profile has been submitted, you can now apply for your funding opportunity (grant). Note: Once you have created an organization profile, you are able to add as many organization contacts as you like under the contacts tab

Grant Information Sessions

New In-person Information Sessions*

The City is offering in-person Local Leadership Grant information Sessions to provide residents the opportunity to learn more about grant guidelines and the application process. Register Here

Etobicoke-York October 22, 2026 Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm	Location: LAMP Community Healthy Centre 185 Fifth St, Etobicoke, ON M8V 2Z5
North York November 5, 2026 Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm	Location: North York Civic Centre - Committee Room 1 5100 Yonge St. North York, ON M2N 5V7
Scarborough November 26, 2026 Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm	Location: Malvern Public Library 30 Sewells Rd, Scarborough, ON, M1B 3G5
Toronto East York November 14, 2026 Time: 1:00pm-2:30pm	Location: TSNS Summit – Metro Hall 55 John St, Toronto, ON , M5V 0C4

Virtual Information Sessions

These virtual sessions will walk through the Local Leadership Grant guidelines and online application form, including the project work plan and budget. City staff will also provide some grant writing tips and best practices. The dates, times, and Microsoft Teams Meeting links are listed below. Attendance is optional and the same information will be shared at both sessions.

Virtual Information Session #1 October 28, 2026 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	**Join the meeting now** Meeting (Access Code): 239 860 463 700 505 Meeting Password: nN28ih72 Follow the instructions that appear on your screen. Or Dial in by phone: +1 647-749-7152 Phone Conference ID: 508 780 001#
Virtual Information Session #2 November 19. 2026 1200 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	**Join the meeting now** Meeting (Access Code): 296 542 611 410 522 Meeting Password: mw7sg6wW Follow the instructions that appear on your screen. Or Dial in by phone: +1 647-749-7152 Phone Conference ID: 219 696 493#

Office Hours: Virtual Application Support

15-minute virtual application support sessions are available. To book a session, complete the registration form using the link below, then email communityfunding@toronto.ca to confirm your appointment time. Each applicant group may book one appointment.
Please note that City staff cannot provide detailed reviews of applications. They can answer general questions about project eligibility and how well your project aligns with the Local Leadership grant program goals.

Virtual Office Hours #1 November 4. 2026 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m Register Here	**Join the meeting now** Meeting (Access Code): 239 860 463 700 505 Meeting Password: Eg2Wd75b Follow the instructions that appear on your screen. Or Dial in by phone: +1 647-749-7152 Phone Conference ID: 649 426 186#
Virtual Office Hours #2 November 24. 2026 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m Register Here	**Join the meeting now** Meeting (Access Code): 286 214 129 289 366 Meeting Password: fD2XC9Kx Follow the instructions that appear on your screen. Or Dial in by phone: +1 647-749-7152 Phone Conference ID: 626 550 178#

Virtual Office Hours #3 December 2. 2026 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m Register Here	**Join the meeting now** Meeting (Access Code): 290 949 992 956 369 Meeting Password: Lf7LC6iu Follow the instructions that appear on your screen. Or Dial in by phone: +1 647-749-7152 Phone Conference ID: 774 910 042#

Local Leadership Grant Resource Library

A collection of useful materials and resources to support your Local Leadership Grant Application.

Community Engagement Resources:

- Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy
- A Community Playbook
- Resident Engagement Workshop Toolkit!
- Youth Outcomes Framework Playbook
- TSNS Districts and Postal Codes.
- Find Your Neighbourhood

Grant Writing Resources

- Local Leadership Grant FAQs (click here to access the document)
- City of Toronto Community Grants Policy
- Grant Writing Tips - Toronto Arts Council

A copy of the Local Leadership Grant application questions can be found on the LLG Webpage or Click Here to access LLG Templates. Submissions will only be accepted through TGRIP. Resources are at the end of the document to help support your application.

Local Leadership Grant Timeline

Key dates for the Local Leadership grant timeline are included below.

	Date	Time
Grant Application Launch	October 19, 2026	12:00 p.m. (Noon)
Etobicoke York In-Person Info Session	October 22, 2026	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
North York In-Person Info Session	November 5, 2026	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Toronto East York In-Person Info Session (TSNS Summit)	November 14, 2026	1:00p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Scarborough In-Person Info Session	November 26, 2026	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Virtual Info Session #1	October 28, 2026	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Info Session #2	November 19, 2026	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Virtual Office Hours #1	November 4, 2026	5:30 p.m.– 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Office Hours #2	November 24, 2026	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Virtual Office Hours #3	December 2, 2026	5:30 p.m.– 7:00 p.m.
Grant Submission Deadline	December 11, 2026	12:00 p.m. (Noon)
Grant Application Review	January 2027 – March 2027	-
Grant Announcements	March 2027	-
Project Implementation	May 1, 2027 – Dec 31, 2027	-
Final Report	January 31, 2028	-

Accessibility Supports, Accommodations and/or Different Format

If you would like accessibility support, accommodation and/or a different format, please call Diarra Hughes, Agency Review Officer at 647-888-2483 or email diarra.hughes@toronto.ca

Need to get in touch?

We encourage you to get in touch to discuss your application.

If you have questions about your TSNS Community Networks, contact: neighbourhoods@toronto.ca.

If you have questions about the grant guidelines or eligibility requirements, please contact: communityfunding@toronto.ca

Appendix 2 – Definitions

Indigenous-led organization	"Indigenous-led organizations" are broadly defined as organizations with a mandate to serve Indigenous communities, operate under Indigenous governance models, have executive and senior management who identify as Indigenous, are primarily staffed by Indigenous community members and/or follow an Indigenous service model.
Advancing Equity	The City will use an equity lens in considering how funding allocations will be tied to communities and their needs, particularly for equity-deserving and Indigenous groups. Also, grant panel members will consider grants from a community-based and equity lens to identify and remove barriers and seek guidance from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's: Calls to Action (2015) and the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism (2018), among other resources. To learn more about to learn more about Equity Initiatives & Groups: https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/accessibility-human-rights/equity-diversity-inclusion/
Equity-deserving groups	"Equity-deserving groups" include but not limited to women, racialized groups, people with disabilities, immigrants and refugees, undocumented individuals, LGBTQ2S people, people of low income, and other groups the City identifies as historically underrepresented.
Non-Profit Organization	Community Organization that is incorporated and has charitable status
Grassroot Group	An unincorporated group comprised of at least three individuals who do not reside in the same household. All group leaders must live in different households and be residents of Toronto. Grassroots groups do not have Audited Financial Statements

Emerging Organization	A group of Toronto residents, incorporated or unincorporated, that has at least three dedicated staff or volunteers
Resident-led Group	A group of Toronto residents that have a majority of the group's leadership that are residents of the City of Toronto
Youth-led Group	A majority of the group's leadership are youth between the ages of 15 to 29 years old.
Senior-led Group	A majority of the group's leadership are older adults between that are the age of 55+ years old.
Communities of Focus	A geographic or community of common bond identified through Council for specific investment.
Grant Priorities	Grant priorities are the themes, outcomes, and focus areas on the City's strategic plans and equity frameworks that guide funding decisions. Grant priorities reflect goals such as advancing equity, reconciliation, climate action, economic resilience, and community well-being. Listed in the grant guidelines are the priorities that link City-wide policies to the results expected from funded projects.
Group Lead	The Group Lead will serve as the primary point of contact for the project. This individual must reside in the neighbourhood where the proposed project activity will take place.
Place-based	Activities must take place within one of Toronto's 158 neighbourhoods. Visit Neighbourhood Profiles to learn more about the City of Toronto's 158 neighbourhoods.
Neighbourhood Improvement Area / Emerging Neighbourhood	In March 2014, the City of Toronto identified 31 Toronto neighbourhoods to be designated as Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) under the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020 (TSNS2020). To support the work of TSNS 2020 in the 31 NIAs, the City produced Neighbourhood Improvement Area profiles for each of the 31 designated neighbourhoods. A detailed Methodological Report describes how the NIAs were created. For more information please visit the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods 2020 page.
TSNS District	The four TSNS district areas are Etobicoke-York, North York, Toronto-East York, and Scarborough. These align with the City's Community Council Areas. You can use the link to find which district area you are in. Click Here to access a downloadable copy of the TSNS Districts and Postal Codes.

Intellectual Property	Intellectual Property: Products developed by grant recipients, such as videos, toolkits, and other resources will remain their intellectual property; however, grant makers may require that the products developed are available for public benefit.
Grant Recipient Reports	The City will make efforts to coordinate around reporting template alignment and ask only for the required/needed data from grant recipients. All grant recipients must provide a final report upon completion. The data will be used to (1) measure progress and document service results and grant funds disbursed; (2) support program development and improvement and (3) identify trends/issues affecting equity-seeking and Indigenous groups. Results will be shared with relevant stakeholders, including other grant recipients, whenever possible.