Toronto Downtown East Resident Grants

Apply by:
July 11,
12:00 PM

Apply here

2022 Grant Guidelines

Funded by

City of Toronto – Community Funding Unit
Social Development, Finance & Administration

In Partnership with

TNG Community Services

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
NEIGHBOURHOOD LINK
ST. STEPHEN'S COMMUNITY HOUSE

Application Process

1. Review these guidelines to ensure your group and proposal are eligible for funding.

2. Submit the completed application **by July 11th, 2022 at 12:00 PM**

Click here to complete the online application.

Need to get in touch?

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

- If you have questions about this application, contact The Neighbourhood Group Trustee Hub at trustee.hub@tngcs.org.
- If you have questions about the grant or trusteeship contact Bjorn Wagenpfeil at bjorn.wagenpfeil@tngcs.org and Lindsay Jackson at lindsay.jackson@toronto.ca.

Downtown East Resident Grants Information

Background

The 2023 Downtown East Action Plan has been developed to address a number of priorities in the area related to community wellness, safety, and belonging and to address long-term, complex needs in the area. The Action Plan has four major outcomes:

1. **Safe, Inclusive Communities**
2. **Cross Sectoral Trust and Collaboration**
3. **Stability for Marginalized People**
4. **Model for a City Response to Complex Issues**

For more information on the Downtown East Action Plan, please go to https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/ec/bgrd/backgroundfile-134601.pdf (Further descriptions of the outcomes starting on page 9).

What does the grant wish to achieve?

Of the four central outcomes recommended in the 2023 Downtown East Action Plan, this grant is focussing on projects and activities that help foster **safe, inclusive communities**.

We are looking to fund time-limited projects or activities that are:

- **Temporary, time-limited** projects or activities with a defined start and end date that corresponds to the grant funding period
- New activities or new enhancements of ongoing initiatives. Note, if applying for new enhancements of ongoing initiatives, describe how the enhancements will conclude after the funding period has ended, or how you will continue to sustain the enhancements after the grant funding ends
- Downtown East-based, an area that is bounded by Bloor Street on the north, Front Street
- on the south, Bay Street on the west, and the Don Valley Parkway on the east, including an expansion up to 21 Park Rd, north of Bloor due to the respite site at that location. **Priority will be placed on St. Jamestown, North Jarvis, Cabbagetown, Church & Wellesley, Moss Park and the Front Street area.**
- Designed to engage a diversity of community members including during the planning, implementation and evaluation phases of the work

What is the grant size?

• Total of $32,000 available
• Applicants may apply for up to $8,000

What is the time-frame?

Activities funded through this grant must be implemented by February 28th, 2023.

Who is eligibile for funding?

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Applicants must be a community or resident-led group based in the Downtown East. This could include resident associations, grassroots or emerging organizations, unincorporated non-profits, or incorporated non-profits with a budget under $50,000.
2. Be in good standing with the City of Toronto.
3. Comply with the City of Toronto's Grants Policy.
4. Be familiar with the Downtown East Action Plan and its goals.
5. Demonstrate readiness to design, implement and evaluate your project's activities and its outcomes.

Ineligible applicants include:

- Organizations, community or resident groups that do not offer services in the Downtown East
- Organizations with budget over $50,000
- Organizations that are not based in the Downtown East
- Organizations with less than 50% Toronto residents on their board
- Individuals or for-profit businesses or ventures (including BIAs)
- Religious organizations that cannot show a clear separation between religious and community service functions
- Political parties
- Grant-making organizations
- Industry or trade associations
- Organizations with mandates from other levels of government (universities, schools, hospitals, etc.)
- Landlord/tenant and condominium corporations

Projects and Activities

This funding is intended to support the development and implementation of projects that address community safety and wellbeing issues in Toronto's Downtown East.Funding is intended to support a diverse range of projects that promote community safety and wellbeing.

A project usually tries to reach a short-term goal with a clear beginning and end date. It is not a program, and therefore will not be ongoing.

Proposed projects must respond to a community safety or wellness concern identified by your organization or group. While funding should not duplicate existing or previously funded activities, these funds may be used for new time-limited enhancements of existing or previous community-led initiatives.

Funding priority will be given to applications that address community safety and wellbeing issues through one of the following methods:

1. Building strong and resilient communities

Projects under this topic will equip community members with the skills and knowledge to respond to issues affecting the safety and well-being of the community. Such initiatives will encourage local residents to take action and train them with skills that will benefit the community as a whole.

Examples:

- First aid training workshops for community members
- Mental health awareness and support programs
- Overdose response training series
- Conflict resolution and crisis de-escalation workshops
- Support programs for people experiencing homelessness

2. Creating inclusive and supportive community networks

Initiatives in this category aim to bring diverse communities across Toronto's Downtown East area together and create supportive and inclusive networks. They accomplish this by strengthening the ties between neighbourhoods, service agencies, local stakeholders and residents, including populations strongly represented in the DTE - Indigenous Peoples, LGBTQ2S, racialized, newcomers, people on low incomes, and people lacking affordable and supportive housing, access to safe drug supply or adequate mental health services/supports. Such projects should inspire participants from various backgrounds to share their lived experience and seek ways to support each other and build a sense of belonging

Examples:

- Projects that builds stronger connections between residents and a local service agency
- Community-based research projects
- Community events at which members of diverse communities can meet to address local concerns or exchange experiences, ideas, and needs
- Initiatives that establish mutual aid support networks

3. Improving spaces and safety through community action:

These projects improve the well-being of communities by improving or advocating for the improvement of spaces. Initiatives can focus on making neighbourhoods and spaces safer, including prevention of incidents and supports to soften impacts of incidents that have occurred, improving accessibility of spaces for people living with disabilities or marginalized populations, beautifying or cleaning physical areas in the neighbourhood, or raising awareness about safety and well-being concerns in the neighbourhood.

Examples:

- Rooftop gardening projects
- Neighbourhood clean-ups
- Public awareness campaigns addressing safety issues and concerns
- Community safety walks
- Advocacy campaigns to improve accessibility for people living with disabilities
- Public art projects, such as street art, installations, etc.

COVID-19 Restrictions

Recognizing that the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very quickly, it is the responsibility of applicants to stay up to date on and adhere to all public health measures, advice and restrictions that may impact the implementation of their project.

Use of Funds

Eligible Use of Funds

Costs related to the implementation and delivery of an action item are eligible, such as:

- Project costs and supplies
- Space rental
- Compensation for Elders and honoraria for People with Lived Experience
- Liability insurance
- Transportation
- Planning and development
- Developing and supporting partnerships
- Delivery, materials and participant-related costs
- Small capital costs. Note: Contact City staff 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)
- Evaluation
- Interpretation and translation for events and communications
- Childminding
- Staff Costs

Ineligible Use of Funds

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

- Fundraising events
- Donations to charitable causes
- Reserve funds
- Major capital costs. Note: Contact City staff 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)
- Debt repayment or deficit funding
- Political or religious activities

Measuring Success

Successful applicants will be expected to share an evaluation plan for their grant and a complete a final report for the project that will provide information and measures on how the activities contributed to the key actions.

- Potential measures of success are:
- Number of people engaged
- Number of surveys completed
- Participant feedback on workshop as reported via feedback survey
- Number of new community walks created
- Number of people trained
- Residents report satisfaction with community events
- Number of new partnerships formed
- Before and after photos of community gardens
- Increased resident awareness of services available in community to support safety
- Increase in number of youth-focussed programs

Please note that these examples do not comprise an exhaustive list of all measures of success.

Review Process

Applications will be screened for eligibility by the City's selected Organizational Mentor – The Neighbourhood Group (in consultation with City of Toronto staff). Applications that are determined to be eligible will be further assessed by a review panel representing a diversity of perspectives that may include: Downtown East residents and organization representatives, leaders from the public benefit sector, and City staff.

Key Dates

Date	Activity
May 27, 2022	**Grant launches!**
May 28, 2022 10:00am – 2:00pm	TNG Bright Ideas Symposium at which the grant will be promoted
June 9, 2022 1:00 - 1:45pm	**Virtual grant info session** Zoom Information: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85843421994?pwd=WHltZTZsUGlseUV5N2F1ekhiUjZJZz09 Meeting ID: 858 4342 1994 Passcode: 693115
July 11, 2022 12:00pm	**Application due date**
July 11 – July 22, 2022	Grant review process
August2022	Funding announcement and release of funds
August 2022 – February 28, 2023	Project activities take place
March 31, 2022	Final Report Due

Special Needs

Accommodation of special needs (e.g. documents in alternate formats, sign-language interpreters, off-hour meetings) is available as required to ensure that groups can fully participate in the funding process. For accommodation of special needs please contact the Lindsay Jackson, Agency Review Officer, Community Funding Unit at lindsay.jackson@toronto.ca.

Disclosour Information

As mandated by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (1990) s. 27 and By-Law 974-1998 all information collected on this form, including personal information, may be subject to full public disclosure which may include posting to a website. Questions about this collection can be directed to the Supervisor of Community Funding at City Hall, 15th floor, East Tower, 100 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 or by telephone at 416-392-0102.

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Frequently Asked Questions

TNG Community Services
CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
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TORONTO

Can I apply as an individual?

No, individuals are not eligible to apply. We believe that projects are more successful and have a bigger impact if they are planned and executed by a collaborative team. We strongly encourage all interested applicants to find supporters for their project as early as possible and submit an application as a group of more than one individual.

Where can I find supporters for my project or new members for my group?

We recommend reaching out to local resident groups, BIAs, and agencies or service providers in your area where community members often come together. Explain your project idea to a staff member and ask them to share your project idea and contact information within their networks.

TNG will keep a list of interested applicants who are looking to connect with other residents and make introductions where appropriate. If you want to join this list or be connected with other residents interested in forming a new group to submit an application, email bjorn.wagenpfeil@tngcs.org with a short description about yourself, your project idea, and what type of support or team members you are looking for.

Can I apply for less than $8,000 and would it negatively impact my application?

You can apply for any amount needed to fund your project up to a maximum of $8,000. If your project requires less than $8,000, this will not negatively impact your application. Most importantly, your application should make it clear why you need a certain amount of funding and how you are planning to spend the requested funds. Use the budgeting tool towards the end of the application form to clarify your funding needs.

If I am selected for funding, do I need to work with TNG as my trustee even if I am already partnering with another trustee or charitable organization?

Yes, all successful applicants will need to work with TNG as their trustee to access their funds. The City of Toronto has already covered the trusteeship fees for this grant, and TNG will not deduct any funds from your grant for the trusteeship and mentorship services you will be receiving throughout your project.

Can I partner with a local charity, non-profit organization or BIA to deliver my project?

Absolutely! BIAs, charities and non-profits with an operating budget of more than $50,000 are not eligible to apply for this grant themselves, but you can partner with such organizations to increase the impact of and find support for your initiative. Ensure to make it clear in your application that despite the partnership, the applying resident group or grassroots organization will lead and be in control of the project.

I read in the grant guidelines that "political activities" are not eligible for funding. What does this mean?

To receive funding, your project cannot be partisan in nature, promote a political agenda, or endorse a political candidate or elected official.
However, projects such as advocacy campaigns, initiatives drawing attention to socio-economic problems, or programs to encourage civic engagement are all eligible for funding so long as they take a neutral stance towards political parties.

What should I do if a business or service provider would like to support my project by making a donation or giving me access to their space?

Great news! You are not required to disclose or provide a value of the monetary or in-kind support (i.e. any type of non-monetary aid) you were offered in your application, but you should factor in the promised support when completing the budget section of your application. We encourage you to add a note about the support you would receive for your project if you were selected for funding in your project description or the comments section at the end of the application.
If you are selected for funding and sign a trusteeship agreement with TNG, TNG will be able to issue charitable tax receipts for monetary donations given to your project.

How to apply

You can access the online application and grant guidelines via:

- Our website: *https://www.thetrusteehub.ca/post/downtown-east-resident-grants-2022*
- Our social media accounts (Twitter: *@trustee_hub*, Instagram: *trustee.hub*)
- By scanning the QR code in the header of this document

If you need support, email us at *trustee.hub@tngcs.org*

Toronto Downtown East Resident Grants Application - 2022

Thank you for your interest in applying for a Toronto Downtown East Resident Grant!

This application should take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete.

You can save your progress at any time and continue working on your application at a later time by clicking on the Save-button in the bottom right corner and copying the provided link.

Please review the 2022 Toronto Downtown East Resident Grants Guidelines before filling out this application to ensure your group or organization is eligible to apply and that your proposed project meets the grant requirements. We also encourage you to watch the recording of our grant info session from June 9, 2022.

The City of Toronto partnered with The Neighbourhood Group (TNG) to develop this grant and make funding available to communities and resident-led groups in the Toronto Downtown East area. TNG will facilitate the application process, and all applications will be reviewed by an independent review committee.

All successful applicants will be required to work with TNG as their trustee. The Trustee Hub, a department of TNG, will provide administrative services and mentorship support throughout the project.

We encourage all interested applicants to reach out and connect with City Staff or the Trustee Hub team at

TNG to discuss their ideas or ask questions about the grant and its requirements.

1. If you have questions about this application or need support with your submission, contact TNG's Trustee Hub team at trustee.hub@tngcs.org.
2. If you have questions about the TNG's trusteeship program, contact Bjorn Wagenpfeil at bjorn.wagenpfeil@tngcs.org .
3. If you have questions about the City of Tornton's Downtown East Action Plan or the funding guidelines for this grant, email Lindsay Jackson at lindsay.jackson@toronto.ca

Please submit your application by July 11, 2022, 12:00 pm EST.

Today's date

_____

Does your group/organization service the Toronto Downtown East area?

_____

What neighbourhood(s) does your group/organization service

_____

What is the status of your group/organization?

_____

Name of your group/organization

_____

Primary Address (optional)

_____

Primary Contact

Name

_____

Email **Phone**

_____

Secondary Contact (optional)

Name

_____

Email **Phone**

_____

Describe your group/organization. (100 words max)

Number of members of your group/organization

_____

Which communities does your group/organization primarily serve or represent? (50 words max)

Please describe the projcet for which your group/organization is requesting funding and what needs your project will be addressing (250 words max)

How much funding is your group/organization requesting for this project? ($8,000 max)

_____

Downtown East Action Plan Priorities

This grant is intended to support the development and implementation of projects that address community safety and wellbeing issues in Toronto's Downtown East. Funding priority will be given to applications that address community safety and wellbeing issues through one of the following methods:

1. Building strong and resilient communities:
Projects under this topic will equip community members with the skills and knowledge to respond to issues affecting the safety and well-being of the community. Such initiatives will encourage local residents to take action and train them with skills that will benefit the community as a whole.

2. Creating inclusive and supportive community networks:
Initiatives in this category aim to bring diverse communities across Toronto’s Downtown East area together and create supportive and inclusive networks. They accomplish this by strengthening the ties between neighbourhoods, service agencies, local stakeholders and residents, including populations strongly represented in the DTE - Indigenous Peoples, LGBTQ2S, racialized, newcomers, people on low incomes, and people lacking affordable and supportive housing, access to safe drug supply or adequate mental health services/supports. Such projects should inspire participants from various backgrounds to share their lived experience and seek ways to support each other and build a sense of belonging.

3. Improving spaces and safety through community action:
These projects improve the well-being of communities by improving or advocating for the improvement of spaces. Initiatives can focus on making neighbourhoods and spaces safer, including prevention of incidents and supports to soften impacts of incidents that have occurred, improving accessibility of spaces for people living with disabilities or marginalized populations, beautifying or cleaning physical areas in the neighbourhood, or raising awareness about safety and well-being concerns in the neighbourhood.
Please select which of these goals align most closely with your proposed project.
Building strong and resilient communities

Please select which of these goals align most closely with your proposed project.

Project Activities

Create a workplan for your project by listing major project activities you plan to carry out as part of your project. This can include, workshops, events, outreach campaigns, development of resources, etc. Try to make it clear how every activity contributes to your overarching project goal.
Try to provide realistic estimates for your timeline and the number of participants. We understand that dates and the number of participants might change over the course of your project.

Activity	Timeframe	Participants	Goals and Expected outcome

Please email trustee.hub@tngcs.org if you have questions about how to enter your project activities or experience issues completing the workplan.

Project Budget

Please list all expected expenses for you project. Use categories such as Staff Salaries, Project Supplies, Food, etc. to group your expenses. the sum of all your budget lines should match the grant amount you are requesting.

Where possible, add a description to explain how you arrived at the given amounts (e.g. Food - Meals for 3 workshops x 10 participants x $15 per person - $450) as it will help the review committee understand your project and expenses.

Try to provide realistic and complete estimates. If you are selected for funding, you will have the option to make make modifications to your original budget.

Budget Category	Description	Amount

Please email trustee.hub@tngcs.org if you have questions about how to enter your anticiated expenses or experience issues completing the budget.

You have reached the end of this application. You can go back to make changes to your answers or save the application for review and submit at a later time.

When you are ready to submt, click on the button below.