

Community Futures East Kootenay CED Funding Policy

Updated and approved by CFEK Board 29 September 2022

1. Purpose

The purpose of the CFEK Community Economic Development (CED) Grant Fund is to support non-profit and Indigenous organizations within the CFEK service area to further their CED projects and goals.

2. Eligibility

The CED Grant Fund is for non-profit and Indigenous organizations located within the CFEK service area to further their CED projects and goals. The service area includes the communities and rural areas of Columbia Shuswap Area A and the Regional District of East Kootenay.

Eligible CED projects should do one or more of the following:

- Improve the livability of a community
- Create employment opportunities
- Create investment opportunities
- Create economic growth
- Support community cohesion and vibrancy
- Build on the capacities and resources within the community

Eligible projects must have a broad community benefit (ie. a large portion of the community's population will feel or recognize the project's impact).

For-profit businesses and local and regional governments are not eligible to receive this CED grant funding from CFEK. Projects looking for sponsorship, direct marketing or fundraising are also ineligible. Operational costs of an organization not related to the project will not normally be funded.

3. Granting Process

All applicants must submit a complete CED Fund Application Form, including all necessary supporting documents. The application form and associated documentation is emailed to the CED Coordinator at ced@cfek.ca.

Applications are on a continuous intake and all applications are reviewed and assessed by the CFEK CED Coordinator and the CFEK Communities Committee.

Applications are assessed on:

- CED outcomes of the project including specific economic and social impacts on the community
- Scope of impact
- Viability of project
- Who benefits from the project
- Number of partners / collaborators
- Number of communities affected

At all points during the application process, the CED Coordinator will work with the applicant to help produce the best application they can, and identify ways to improve or alter a project to be best placed to receive funding.

- If the CED Coordinator concludes that the applicant fails to meet eligibility requirements or that the application clearly fails to address and satisfy assessment criteria, they will notify the applicant of the issue(s) and decline the application. They will then work with the organization to see if a different project is more appropriate.
- If the CED Coordinator assesses the application to have met the eligibility and satisfactorily addressed the assessment criteria, the application will be assessed by the CFEK Communities Committee, and the applicant organization should receive notification of their funding (or otherwise) within 6 weeks of their application.

For those organizations whose application is successful, they must consent to CFEK sharing their project through social media and other promotional channels. They also are required to submit a short report (1-2 pages) at the completion of their project which outlines the success, challenges and outcomes of the project.

4. Funds Available

Funding of up to \$1,000 will be granted for most eligible and successful projects. The Communities Committee may wish to grant up to \$2,000 for projects that:

- Are led by Indigenous organizations,
- Where project outcomes affect multiple communities or a region
- Have matching cash funding of at least \$2,000

5. Delegation of Authority

CFEK's Board of Directors delegates authority to approve all CED grants to the CFEK Communities Committee. Terms of reference for the Communities Committee are outlined in a separate document.