



Animating Your Park Resource Guide

Compiled by Toronto Arts Council & Toronto Arts Foundation & Park People
for Animating Your Park workshops - July 2019

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Compiled by Toronto Arts Council & Toronto Arts Foundation & Park People. This resource guide has been compiled for artists, arts organizations, non-profits, and community groups looking for resources and information on arts programming in local parks.

Updated November 6, 2019

About this resource guide: Toronto Arts Council/Toronto Arts Foundation are only affiliated with the Toronto Arts Council grants programs listed here. This list of resources has been assembled to help you research a wide range of funding opportunities and resources that may be of interest to you, your organization or community for a range of activities. These programs are all subject to change. Please visit the links provided and contact the related funders for more information. This list is by no means exhaustive. Please let us know if you have relevant resources to add to this list or if you would like to receive a digital copy.

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Arts in the Parks resources:

Arts in the Parks, an initiative managed by Toronto Arts Foundation, that supports free arts programming in parks across Toronto: <https://artsintheparksto.org/>

Animating Toronto Parks, Toronto Arts Council's grants program - grants of up to \$25,000 to support free arts programming in selected Toronto parks:

<https://torontoartscouncil.org/grant-programs/tac-grants/animating-toronto-parks>

Toronto Arts Foundation, Toronto's only charity working with individuals, corporate partners and government agencies to support and celebrate the arts in Toronto:

<https://torontoartsfoundation.org/home>

Park People, a non-profit organization that supports and mobilizes community park groups, community organizers, non-profits, park professionals and funders who activate the power of parks. Resources web page: <https://parkpeople.ca/resources/en>

Booking Events in Parks:

City of Toronto Events Planning information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/business-economy/industry-sector-support/events/>

City of Toronto - Outdoor Special Events Bookings:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/venues-facilities-bookings/booking-park-recreation-facilities/special-events-permit-booking/>

Free "Arts and Music in Parks" permit:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/venues-facilities-bookings/booking-park-recreation-facilities/simple-permit-booking/>

Arts in the Parks permit reimbursement program (for TAC grant recipients):

<https://torontoartscouncil.org/grant-programs/discover-tac-grants/tac-grants/other-tac-grants/animating-toronto-parks/parks-permits>

Arts Service Organizations:

Neighbourhood Arts Network, a strategic initiative of Toronto Arts Foundation that offers accessible arts programming, awards, and exciting partnership opportunities to Toronto-based artists, arts educators and arts organizations:

<https://neighbourhoodartsnetwork.org/home>

City of Toronto Local Arts Service Organizations (LASOs):

North York Arts: <http://www.northyorkarts.org/>

Scarborough Arts: <http://scarborougharts.com/>

Lakeshore Arts: <https://lakeshorearts.ca/>

Arts Etobicoke: <http://www.artsetobicoke.com/>

Urban Arts: <http://www.urbanartstoronto.org/>

East End Arts: <https://eastendarts.ca/>

Canadian Network of Arts & Learning (CNAL): <https://www.eduarts.ca/get-on-the-map>

Government Funding Bodies:

Toronto Arts Council, the City of Toronto's funding body for artists and arts organizations:

<https://torontoartscouncil.org/home>

Ontario Arts Council, a Provincial funding agency that operates at arm's length from the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. The OAC's grants and services to professional, Ontario-based artists and arts organizations support arts education, Indigenous arts, community arts, crafts, dance, Francophone arts, literature, media arts, multidisciplinary arts, music, theatre, touring, and visual arts: <http://www.arts.on.ca/about-us>

Canada Council for the Arts, Canada's public arts funder, with a mandate to foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in the arts:

<https://canadacouncil.ca/>

Grants Ontario, Province of Ontario grants portal:

<http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantsHome/>

City of Toronto grants portal: toronto.ca/grants

Toolkits & Guides:

MABELLEarts, Placing Parks Toolkit (how to foster art-making, community-engagement and cultural activity in your local park):

<https://www.placingparks.ca/>

Toronto Arts Council/Toronto Arts Foundation's Arts in the Parks Toolkit:

[https://torontoartsfoundation.org/initiatives/arts-in-the-parks-\(1\)/pages/arts-in-the-parks-toolkit](https://torontoartsfoundation.org/initiatives/arts-in-the-parks-(1)/pages/arts-in-the-parks-toolkit)

Park People's How-to Guides for park activities: <https://parkpeople.ca/resources/en>

Accessibility Toolkit, Humber College and Tangled Art + Disability (how to developing accessibility practices in the arts):

http://www.humber.ca/makingaccessiblemedia/modules/06/pdf/Accessibility_Toolkit_Final.pdf

Ontario Arts Council's Indigenous Arts Protocols (how to collaborate with Indigenous artists/communities): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6VuHJi6O0Q>

Research:

Toronto Arts Foundation, *Inviting Arts into local Parks: Conversations with community organizers*:

<https://torontoartsfoundation.org/tac/media/taf/Research/2019-TAF-Comm-Org-Report-FINAL.pdf>

Opportunities through festivals and Special Events:

Nuit Blanche

<https://www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/festivals-events/nuitblanche/>

Year of Public Art

<https://torontoartscouncil.org/grant-programs/year-of-public-art>

Cultura Festival

<http://www.culturafestival.ca/>

SummerWorks Festival

<http://summerworks.ca/>

Toronto Fringe

<https://fringetoronto.com/>

Luminato

<https://luminatofestival.com/>

Arts and Neighbourhood Funding

This is a list of funding opportunities which may be useful to you in developing arts-based projects in public parks. Some are arts-specific, others are environmentally oriented, others are neighborhood-oriented; they are all subject to change. Please visit the listed websites for more information.

Toronto Arts Council Animating Toronto Parks Grants Program

Next deadline: December 2, 2019 for projects in 2020

Grants of up to \$25,000 are available for arts programming in parks outside of the downtown core. Open to individual artists, arts collectives, arts organizations and non-profit organizations working in any artistic field. A Partnership with Toronto Arts Foundation's Arts in the Parks, City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and Park People.

More information:

<https://torontoartscouncil.org/grant-programs/tac-grants/animating-toronto-parks>

Toronto Arts Council Newcomer and Refugee Artist Mentorship

Next deadline: TBA (May 2020)

Toronto Arts Council's Newcomer and Refugee Artist Mentorship program was created to:

- provide support for newcomer and refugee artists to develop their artistic practice;
- support the integration and inclusion of newcomer and refugee artists to Toronto

More information:

<https://torontoartscouncil.org/grant-programs/tac-grants/newcomers-and-refugees/artist-mentorship>

Toronto Arts Council Community Arts Grants Program

Next deadline for project grants: TBA (February) 2020

Toronto Arts Council's Community Arts programs are open to Toronto non-profit organizations and collectives that engage communities through the arts.

More information: <https://torontoartscouncil.org/grant-programs/tac-grants/community-arts>

Toronto Arts Council Indigenous Arts Grants Program

Next Deadline: TBA

Toronto Arts Council's Indigenous Arts Projects program is open to Indigenous organizations, collectives and professional artists working in any discipline.

More information: <https://torontoartscouncil.org/grant-programs/tac-grants/indigenous-arts>

Park People: TD Park People Grants

Next deadline: TBA

TD Park People Grants are helping community groups host over 225 great events in city parks across Canada. When we gather together in our parks people are happier, communities are more connected and cities thrive.

More information: <https://parkpeople.ca/parkgrants/>

Park People: Public Space Incubator

Next deadline: TBA (July 2020)

Designed to offer both funding and support, the Public Space Incubator aims to spur new models for the use of publicly accessible open space, whether that's in laneways, parking lots, parks, streets, or plazas. As our city grows ever denser, making use of all of our open spaces for celebration, social connection, and respite becomes more critical.

More information: <https://parkpeople.ca/opportunity/public-space-incubator-2019/>

ArtReach Toronto

Next deadline: February 2020

ArtReach Toronto is a funding program designed to support youth arts initiatives in Toronto that foster youth engagement. The goal of this grant program aims to support meaningful engagement of Toronto youth, who have experienced and/or are experiencing exclusion from active participation in quality arts opportunities. The grant aims to encourage creative expression through quality arts opportunities and foster meaningful youth engagement in project design, implementation and evaluation.

More info: <http://www.artreachtoronto.ca/>

City of Toronto Neighbourhood Grants Program

Next deadline: Fall 2019

The Neighbourhood Grants program will make available grants of \$1,000-\$3,000 to resident-led groups to help them inspire their neighbourhoods with events or activities. Funded Neighbourhood Grants events/activities help to promote the [Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy 2020](#) (TSNS 2020).

For more information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/get-involved/community/investment-funding-programs/neighbourhood-micro-grants/>

City of Toronto Community Events Program

Next deadline: Fall 2019

The Community Events program fosters resident engagement and leadership by funding events and activity series that support Torontonians to connect, learn, and act to improve their well-being, neighbourhoods and communities. Funded events/series will advance at least one of the City's strategic directions and will bring different groups of residents together to:

- Strengthen neighbourhoods
- Keep people active
- Help people learn new skills and build leadership capacity

For more information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/get-involved/community/investment-funding-programs/community-projects-and-events/>

City of Toronto Neighbourhood Climate Action Grants:

Next deadline: Applications are open September 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019.

Grants of up to \$7,500 will be available for resident-led climate action projects in Neighbourhood Improvement Areas!

More information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/water-environment/environmental-grants-incentives/neighbourhood-climate-action-grants/>

City of Toronto Identify N' Impact Grant Program

Next deadline: now open

The INI funding program provides up to \$10,000 in grants for youth to lead and deliver projects up to one year in length that promote youth empowerment and broader community safety in the city of Toronto.

More information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/get-involved/community/investment-funding-programs/identify-n-impact-grant-program/>

City of Toronto: Black to the Future

Next deadline: August 31, 2019

Grants of up to \$10K are available for Black-Focused Groups. As part of the Black to the Future TO initiative, one-time grants of up to \$10,000 (funded by the City of Toronto) are available to support grassroots organizations or emerging groups that are Black-focused, Black-led, and Black-serving. Funds may be used, for example, for governance training, policy and plan development, or resource development.

More information:

<https://www.blacktothefutureto.com/?fbclid=IwAR2ZJgCga9vTHOdwr0MOistdPMIGLp1o7KI7Fb-z7xQ7777I8f68CD9zEWE>

City of Toronto: T.O. Urban Health Fund

Next deadline: TBA (Fall 2019)

The Toronto Urban Health Fund (TUHF) replaces the former AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program and Drug Prevention Community Investment Program.

More information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-programs-advice/t-o-urban-health-fund-tuhf/>

City of Toronto: Indigenous Arts & Culture Partnerships Fund

Next deadline: N/A

The Indigenous Arts and Culture Partnerships Fund supports partnerships and collaborations that create new opportunities and visibility for Indigenous-led arts and culture. The fund aims to spark new relationships between Indigenous artists, arts and culture leaders and professionals, and potential partners at both the grassroots and institutional levels.

More information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/grants-incentives-rebates/arts-culture-grants/indigenous-arts-culture-partnerships-fund/>

City of Toronto Community Crisis Response Fund

Deadline: Rolling deadline

The Community Crisis Response Fund is designed to provide one-time financial assistance to initiatives or activities that address a specific violent incident/crisis in a community (local neighbourhood or community of common bond) and contributes to community capacity building and/or community healing. This fund is intended to assist communities to develop and implement their own crisis response initiatives and support mechanisms in order to improve community safety, well-being and resiliency

More information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/public-safety-alerts/community-safety-programs/community-crisis-response-program/community-crisis-response-fund/>

City of Toronto Waste Reduction Community Grants

Next deadline: TBA

Grants of up to \$25,000 are available to support innovative community-based efforts to reduce residential waste and increase participation in the City of Toronto's [waste diversion programs](#). A priority will be placed on investing in actions that address multi-residential buildings, multi-lingual communities, equity-seeking groups and [Neighbourhood Improvement Areas](#).

More information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/water-environment/environmental-grants-incentives/waste-reduction-community-grants/>

City of Toronto Pollinate TO Community Grants

Next Deadline: TBA (Spring 2020)

Through its new PollinateTO grants program, the City will fund pollinator habitat creation projects that educate and engage the community. Up to \$5,000 per project is available.

More information:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/water-environment/environmental-grants-incentives/pollinateto-community-grants/>

Department of Canadian Heritage: Community Support, Multiculturalism, and Anti-Racism Initiatives program

Next call for proposals will be launched in September 2019

The Program's objective is to build an integrated, socially cohesive society by:

- building bridges to promote intercultural understanding;
- promoting equal opportunity for individuals of all origins; and
- promoting citizenship, civic engagement and a healthy democracy.

The Program has three funding components: Events, Projects and Community Capacity Building. It also includes two separate initiatives, Community Support for Black Canadian Youth initiative and the Paul Yuzyk Youth Initiative for Multiculturalism.

For more information:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/community-multiculturalism-anti-racism.html>

Department of Canadian Heritage: Celebrate Canada

Next deadline TBA

Celebrate Canada provides funding for activities organized on:

- [National Indigenous Peoples Day \(June 21\)](#);
- [Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day \(June 24\)](#);
- [Canadian Multiculturalism Day \(June 27\)](#); and
- [Canada Day \(July 1\)](#).

More information:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/celebrate-canada.html>

Ontario Trillium Foundation: Seed Grants

Next Deadline: TBA

OTF provides Seed funding to develop new ideas and different approaches to achieving results. Grants from \$5,000 - \$75,000 are available. Eligibility: organizations or multi-organizational partnerships. Scope: 1 year projects.

More information: <https://otf.ca/what-we-fund/investment-streams/seed-grants>

Ontario Trillium Foundation: Grow Grants

Next deadline: TBA

Grants that support the evidence-based development of activities to achieve a Priority Outcome. **Activities funded include:** Replicating, adapting or scaling a proven model, Piloting or demonstrating a tested model. Grants from \$50,000 to \$250,000 per year. Scope: 2 to 3 years.

More information:

<https://otf.ca/what-we-fund/investment-streams/grow-grants>

Ontario Trillium Foundation: Capital Grants

Next deadline: TBA

Grants that broaden access, improve community spaces to achieve a Priority Outcome Activities funded include: Buying and installing equipment, Doing renovations, installations and repairs, Building structures or spaces, Making better use of technological resources. Grants are available from \$5,000 to \$150,000. Scope: Up to 1 year.

More information: <https://otf.ca/what-we-fund/investment-streams/capital-grants>

Ontario Trillium Foundation: Youth Opportunities Fund

Next deadline: TBA

The Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) provides grants and capacity building supports to grassroots groups, community-based organizations and collaboratives focused on improving the wellbeing of children, youth, and families facing systemic barriers. YOF has three granting streams, each with a different purpose and aimed at different groups.

More information: <https://otf.ca/yof>

Province of Ontario: Multicultural Community Capacity Grant

Next deadline: TBA (January 2019)

Apply for grants to support projects that promote diverse and inclusive communities in Ontario. Grants from \$1,000 to \$8,000 are available. This program provides funding to not-for-profit organizations that focus on newcomers and ethno-cultural groups for projects that promote diversity and inclusion. This is to make it easier for newcomers and ethno-cultural communities to fully participate in all facets of life in Ontario.

More information:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/multicultural-community-capacity-grant-program>

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Grant

Next Deadline: TBA (January 2020)

The Foundation supports a wide range of environmental initiatives, with a primary focus on environmental education and green space programs.

More information: <https://www.td.com/corporate-responsibility/fef-grant.jsp>

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) Leadership Program

Deadline: N/A

The TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) Leadership Program aims to enhance the organizational capacity of environmental organizations through a Leadership and Organizational Development Course.

More information: <https://www.td.com/corporate-responsibility/fef-leadership-program.jsp>

TD Green Space Grant

Next Deadline: Rolling

TD Green Space Grants support green infrastructure development, tree planting, forestry stewardship, and community green space expansion as a way to advance environmental and economic benefits toward a low-carbon economy. Through the program, municipalities in the United States and Canada are eligible to receive \$20,000–\$25,000 grants in support of local forestry projects in areas of great need within a community.

More information:

https://www.arborday.org/programs/TDGreenSpaceGrants/grant-information.cfm?utm_source=Park+People+Newsletter&utm_campaign=f4cdfcb1fe-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_02_28_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad8ea9319d-f4cdfcb1fe-1204209785

Toronto Atmospheric Fund, Strong Social Innovation Skills fund

Next deadline: N/A

The Atmospheric Fund (TAF) provides grants to charities, not-for-profit organizations, and municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) for projects that have the potential to significantly reduce carbon emissions in the region and/or air pollution in Toronto.

Applicants to the Strong Social Innovation Skills fund must be working on behalf of a local charity, not-for-profit organization or municipality to advance low-carbon action within the GTHA, for example:

- As a TAF grant recipient
- As a member of a formal collaboration of which TAF is a member
- As a municipal or community leader with a clear focus on advancing low-carbon actions directly, or through advancement of co-benefits in the context of a carbon reduction initiative.

More information: <http://taf.ca/grants/>

Olive Tree Foundation

Next deadline: N/A

The Olive Tree Foundation awards grants to not-for-profit organizations holding charitable registration with Customs and Revenue Canada Agency (or sponsored by an organization with charitable registration). Olive Tree invites applications from community-based groups working within the fields of social, health and community services; education and library services; policy institutes and think tanks; and arts, culture and heritage. The Olive Tree Foundation provides grants of varying amounts as determined by the Board of Directors and its Grants Committee, based on available funds and the potential value of the proposed initiative to the community.

More information: <http://www.olivetreefoundation.ca/about-our-grants/>

Meridian's Good Neighbour Program

Next deadline: N/A

The Good Neighbour Program is our local non-profit sponsorship program. We take pride in the fact that our team members forge partnerships with local charities, not-for-profits, and public organizations so that we can work together to meet each community's needs.

More information:

<https://www.meridiancu.ca/About-Meridian/Community/Community-Sponsorship/Good-Neighbour-Program.aspx>

Scotiabank Community Funding

Next deadline: N/A

Scotiabank will consider support for:

- Organizations that are either registered charities or non-profit organizations in their jurisdictions
- Organizations that operate in countries where Scotiabank does business
- Organizations with a sustained record of achievement
- Programs that have measurable impact

More information:

<https://www.scotiabank.com/corporate/en/home/sponsorship-and-community/what-we-fund.html>

BMO Community Giving

Next deadline: rolling

In Canada, BMO only donates to non-profit organizations that are registered charities by Canada Customs & Revenue Agency. Under exceptional circumstances, applications from not-for-profit organizations, social enterprises, or other community-based organizations, which do not have a charitable registration, will be considered if they are aligned with BMO's objectives and make a meaningful impact in our funding focus areas.

More information:

<https://corporate-responsibility.bmo.com/our-practices/community-giving/application-guidelines/>

Manulife

Next deadline: rolling

Manulife invests in programs that motivate and empower communities to make informed choices that help them live longer, healthier, more financially secure lives.

Focus areas

- **Healthy, active living**
We believe healthy living is essential to a long and happy life. With a focus on prevention, we support innovative health and wellness initiatives that inspire Canadians to be physically active and eat healthy, well-balanced diets.
- **Financial well-being**
Feeling in control of your financial future is an important part of overall well-being. We support sustainable initiatives that empower Canadians to gain the knowledge, skills and experience they need to achieve long-term economic success.

More information:

<https://www.manulife.com/en/about/corporate-citizenship/corporate-donations-canada.html>

Catherine Donnelly Foundation

Next deadline: August 1, 2019

Funds projects that increase public support for fast and deep-reaching climate change solutions.

More information:

<http://www.catherinedonnellyfoundation.org/>

Government of Canada Eco-Action Community Funding

Next deadline: rolling (ends Jan 2020 TBA)

Funding to protect, rehabilitate, sustain environment; projects that prioritize fresh water.

More information:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-funding/ecoaction-community-program.html>

Mountain Equipment Coop Community Grants

Next deadline: rolling until March 2020 (TBC)

Through our grants of up to \$20,000, MEC supports the community of active outdoor enthusiasts. MEC conduct two grant cycles annually. Applications must be completed and submitted by midnight (Pacific time) on the closing date to be considered.

More information: <https://www.mec.ca/en/explore/spring-and-fall-grants>

CN Stronger Communities Fund

Deadline: N/A

Supports for organizations that protect the natural environment by reducing waste and pollution through important conservation strategies.

More information: <http://www.cn.ca/en/delivering-responsibly/community>

TakingItGlobal

Next deadline: rolling - now open

A new youth focused initiative committed to providing small grants to young (15-30) changemakers. There are three micro-grants available, they range from \$200 to \$1,500 for youth led community projects.

More information: <https://funding.tigweb.org/>

Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation Every Tree Counts Community Grants

Next deadline: N/A

With Community Grants starting at \$10,000, Toronto communities can become active partners in growing our city's tree canopy. These grants encourage innovative partnerships and cross-sector collaboration and ensure stronger tracking and reporting mechanisms to help us measure our collective success. Planting trees together creates opportunities to build civic engagement and foster a sense of neighbourhood pride. Community-led projects support capacity building and provide local environmental and health benefits while strengthening community connections to nature.

More information:

<http://www.torontoparksandtrees.ca/Programs/Programs/ETC-Community-Grants>