

Funding research sample

Example River Learning Society

FICTIONAL CHARITY AND PROJECT - REAL FUNDER RULES

This is a demonstration, not a client report. The organisation, project, budget and proposed activities are invented. No registration number, past gifts, application or award is claimed. Funder rules and dates are real, checked as of 21 October 2026.

The example project

A new volunteer freshwater sampling and shoreline-habitat education pilot for Ottawa residents, on the Ontario side only. May-September 2027. A \$5,000 request for consumable sampling supplies and workshop materials. Public access and an education-led design are scenario assumptions, not verified facts.

For this example only, assume the applicant is a registered Canadian charity. Its actual status and documents would need checking for a real application. No real charity is represented.

Recommended order of work

Candidate	Finding
TD Friends of the Environment	Check first. Public route; eligibility remains conditional.
Ottawa Community Foundation	Wait for the announced early-2027 reopening.
Echo Foundation	Low-priority fit enquiry before preparing a full package.
Greenbelt Foundation	Exclude for this local Ottawa brief.
Max Bell Foundation	Exclude: no public-policy-change purpose established.

Five candidates reviewed. This plan prioritises work and explains what to skip. It does not promise five suitable grants, a successful application or any funding.

1. Check first, then watch the next intake

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Open application route; project conditional

Amount and timing. \$5,000 proposed. Most awards \$2,000-\$8,000; no fixed minimum or maximum. Dec 15, 2026 deadline; notice Apr 2027.

Fit assessment. Citizen science and environmental education align with a public-facing pilot.

Resolve first. Real project novelty, public site access and costs. Research, capital, travel, venue and operating costs are excluded.

Next action. Confirm project and budget, then use the official online application before work starts. Do not recast research as education.

Source: TD Friends of the Environment Foundation - official source. Checked 21 October 2026.

Ottawa Community Foundation Community Initiative Grants

2026 closed; early 2027 reopening announced

Amount and timing. Up to \$25,000; \$5,000 proposed, not an award prediction. Exact 2027 opening/decision dates unconfirmed. Existing guidelines describe end-May decisions; do not assume that is the 2027 schedule.

Fit assessment. Environment work serving Ottawa residents fits the broad scope. Programme costs can qualify.

Resolve first. One-application rule, actual budget, new-cycle rules and costs after decision.

Next action. Recheck in January as a suggested reminder. If award timing is late, defer unfunded costs within May-Sep or do not use this route.

Source: Ottawa Community Foundation Community Initiative Grants - official source; supporting official page. Checked 21 October 2026.

Before using TD: distinguish genuine public education/citizen science from research and work already underway. Confirm public site access and every cost category. Do not relabel the project simply to pass a rule.

2. A lower-priority enquiry and two exclusions

Echo Foundation

Low-priority enquiry; project fit and timing unconfirmed

Amount and timing. No published range; \$5,000 proposed. No deadline or decision timetable published on cited page.

Fit assessment. Lower priority. Its environmental grants prioritise protecting ecologically important natural areas in Eastern Canada. Education and sampling are not an automatic fit; other sustainable-practice projects are considered case by case.

Resolve first. Whether the pilot advances the natural-area protection priority, eligible itemised costs and decision before May 2027.

Next action. Check whether this education-led project is within scope before preparing a full LOI. Do not treat geography alone as a strong match. The full package requires three annual reports/financials, budget and other funders.

Source: [Echo Foundation - official source](#). Checked 21 October 2026.

Greenbelt Foundation

Ontario Greenbelt focus does not establish Ottawa-side local project eligibility. No active call; early 2027 only anticipated. Keep out of the funding calendar. Do not equate Ottawa's Greenbelt name with this funder's region.

Source: [Greenbelt Foundation - official source](#). Checked 21 October 2026.

Max Bell Foundation

The funder seeks public-policy change. The assumed local sampling/education brief does not establish that purpose. No relevant deadline assigned. Exclude. Do not invent policy work to make a match.

Source: [Max Bell Foundation - official source](#); [supporting official page](#). Checked 21 October 2026.

Official programme links are provided for checking the rules. This fictional project is not a reason to contact a funder. Individual staff emails are intentionally omitted from the public demonstration.

3. Illustrative budget and funding calendar

All amounts CAD. Quantities and costs below are invented planning allowances, not supplier quotations or approved eligible costs. A real applicant must supply an itemised budget.

Budget item	Quantity x allowance	Total CAD
Consumable sampling supplies	20 x \$100	\$2,000
Workshop materials	4 x \$500	\$2,000
Shoreline education materials	1 x \$1,000	\$1,000
Total illustrated cost		\$5,000

The example assumes \$5,000 is being sought and no award has yet been made. This is a fictional scenario, not a statement about a real charity's finances.

No staff, travel, venue, capital or overhead allowance is included. If the real project needs these, include them honestly and recheck the appropriate funding route. Do not add alternative grant requests together as expected income.

When	Next action
Before December 2026	Confirm design, public access and itemised costs; prepare TD only if conditions clear.
15 December 2026	TD application deadline. Its published notification is April 2027.
January 2027 reminder	Recheck OCF. This is a suggested reminder; the exact 2027 opening and decision dates remain unpublished.
Before an Echo LOI	Clarify natural-area protection fit and decision timing before assembling three years of reports/financials.
Before May-September delivery	Use only approved resources. If funding is late or declined, defer within the season or obtain approval to change/cancel.

4. Practical next steps

Project lead. Confirm which activities are new, which are education or research, and how the public participates. Identify the Ontario sites and obtain the required access permissions.

Finance lead. Replace allowances with real costs and quotations. Confirm current registration, existing applications, awards and reports outstanding. Allocate each expense to one funding source.

Before submitting. Check the live programme rules and portal again. Confirm the exact intake, budget categories, documents and authorised signatory. No application is prepared or submitted by this sample.

If an award is made. Check the award restrictions, eligible expense dates and reporting requirements. Disclose other support and adjust duplicate requests.

If funding is declined. Do not treat the calendar as money secured. Decide whether to delay within the delivery season, find another authorised source or stop the project.

How to read this sample

The charity and project are invented for illustration. No funding history is attributed to this fictional organisation. In a real report, published historical gifts are separate evidence of past giving and never prove that a funder is open or that a project qualifies.

This example demonstrates dated candidate reviews, fit explanations, exclusions, a budget outline and next steps. It is not a testimonial, a successful-grant case study or evidence of typical results.

Sources used here: official funder programme and guideline pages linked beside each review. No real charity records or CRA gift rows are included in the fictional sample. Independent research service; not affiliated with or endorsed by the Canada Revenue Agency, any funder or other source.