

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation Funding Guidelines

The LTVCF is a public foundation that by CRA definition has exclusively charitable purposes; generally gives more than 50% of its income annually to other qualified donees, (e.g., registered charities), but it may carry out some of its own charitable activities;

Engage only in allowable activities. A registered charity is allowed to carry out its charitable purposes both inside and outside Canada in *only two ways*:

- 1) by carrying on its own charitable activities, and
- 2) by gifting to qualified donees.

A registered charity **must** maintain direction and control over its activities (whether carried out by the charity, or by an agent or contractor on its behalf) and **must not** engage in prohibited political activities or unrelated business activities.

CRA Requirements:

- Contact the Charities Directorate if the charity plans to engage in new activities that were not identified in its application for registration, to ensure they qualify as charitable.
- Limit using the charity's resources for social activities and fundraising activities as they generally are not considered charitable.
- If working through intermediaries such as an agent, a contractor, or any other non-qualified donee, the charity **must** be able to demonstrate that it retains direction and control over the use of its resources. (For example, the charity could enter into a formal written agreement with the intermediary body.)

A qualified donee can be:

- a registered charity (including a registered national arts service organization);
- a registered Canadian amateur athletic association;
- a listed housing corporation resident in Canada constituted exclusively to provide low-cost housing for the aged;
- a listed Canadian municipality;
- a listed municipal or public body performing a function of government in Canada;
- a listed university outside Canada that is prescribed to be a university, the student body of which ordinarily includes students from Canada;
- a listed charitable organization outside Canada to which Her Majesty in right of Canada has made a gift;
- Her Majesty in right of Canada, a province, or a territory; and
- the United Nations and its agencies.

- Do not engage in any activities that may directly or indirectly support or facilitate an act of terrorism.
- Do not engage in any prohibited political activities, such as supporting or opposing a political party or candidate for public office.
- Gift only to qualified donees (for example, other registered charities).
- Engage in only related business activities that accomplish or promote the charity's purposes, if the charity is designated as a charitable organization or a public foundation.

Application Guidelines for External Funding Applications

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation supports applications and initiatives that demonstrate a clear and substantive fit with one or more of our mandates below:

To promote public education, awareness, research and participation in conservation;

To help ensure the continued enjoyment of and interpretation of public conservation lands and cultural heritage sites;

To assist with the acquisition and preservation of environmentally sensitive, geologically unique and endangered natural and cultural heritage resources;

To assist projects and/or programs supported by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority;

Note: preference will be given to projects that benefit the citizens Lower Thames River Valley region as defined by the jurisdiction of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority.

As a public charitable foundation, we will accept funding applications that meet the following criteria:

- Canadian charities that have a charitable registration number or considered a qualified donee as determined by the Canada Revenue Agency.
- Projects which directly benefit the citizens of the Lower Thames River Valley region.
- Projects that demonstrate fiscal and managerial responsibility and financial need
- Projects that make services available without discrimination

The Foundation does not accept applications for the following:

- projects that do not fit our mandate
- Deficit reductions
- core operating costs
- annual campaigns
- fundraising events or activities