

ALL FOR COMMUNITY



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA



COMMUNITY MEANS SO MANY THINGS TO
SO MANY PEOPLE. AND THE WORLD TO US.

IN ALL WE DO AND ALL WE SAY,
WE'RE ALL FOR COMMUNITY.

We are Canada's Community Foundations. And in a few words we're going to tell you who we are, what we do, and why it matters. For our communities and our country.

The thing is, when it comes to describing what we want our communities and country to be, there's no end of words. Inclusive. Forward-looking. Fair. Creative. Safe. Green. Fun. But there's one word that sums it all up. Vital. The vitality of our communities, or community vitality, is something we care a great deal about.

Community vitality is the unique spirit that flourishes when people believe their community holds possibilities for everyone. It's put into action by people coming

together, getting involved in community issues, and providing philanthropic support for causes and organizations. And it can be measured by how well people's needs are being met: from our most basic needs—sustenance, shelter, health care, safety—to those needs that give quality to life, such as places and opportunities to play, learn and create.

How important is community vitality? It's the key to our country's vitality. If our communities are vital, then Canada will be, too.

ALL FOR COMMUNITY VITALITY

Community vitality has been our purpose, promise, and passion since 1921, when we started connecting donors to community needs and opportunities, and helping them invest in building strong and resilient places to live, work and play. We are the Canadian movement for community vitality, represented by over 160 Community Foundations across the country and through our national organization, Community Foundations of Canada.

Canada's Community Foundations do three key things to build community vitality:

Vitality takes long-term resources for long-term solutions, so we work with donors to build endowment funds that ensure vital futures for communities.

Vitality comes from all corners of a community, so we grant funds to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives.

Vitality needs leadership, so we bring people together from all parts of our communities to stimulate new ideas, build participation and strengthen community philanthropy.

And while there are many organizations working for better communities, a few important factors make our approach stand out:

We bring donors to the table as community builders, and help them formulate and realize their philanthropic goals, matching their interests and concerns with community needs and organizations, and finding innovative and responsible ways to give their investments lasting impact.

We take the broadest view of what a community is and what it needs to succeed: this is why our grants support everything from shelter, sustenance and care for those most in need, to recreation, the arts, and the environment.

We take the long-term view for our communities: we identify long-term needs and opportunities and invest in sustainable solutions, helping our communities become resilient, resourceful, and ready for the future they want.



**INCLUSIVE. INNOVATIVE.
FORWARD-LOOKING. VITAL.**

THIS IS OUR VISION FOR CANADA'S COMMUNITIES.

The best sign we could hope to see for Canada's communities—our vision for them—is that they are strong and getting stronger. What would this mean?

In our vision, our communities are able to include, and offer opportunities to, everyone. They have the knowledge and ability needed to help shape their own future for generations to come, and are set to meet their most important needs,

challenges and opportunities, today and in the future. They are filled with people who are interested and engaged in finding ways to make them more vital.

In our vision, our communities are ready to address pressing problems like poverty, unemployment, hunger and housing. And all citizens are able to benefit from the best a community can offer: the arts, recreation, health care, education, safe and inclusive neighbourhoods and a healthy environment.

ALL TOGETHER NOW



As you're discovering, a community's vitality depends on many dedicated people and essential elements working together. But three elements stand out as crucial to its achievement:

Vision: for what a community can be, and for innovative, forward-looking, sustainable solutions that will bring that vision to life. **Collaboration:** to identify and capitalize on opportunities and solutions across community sectors. **Investment:** to meet today's needs and those to come.

Canada's Community Foundations can play a unique role in cultivating and sustaining those crucial elements. And when these elements come together with engaged citizens from all walks of life, vitality blooms.

Building a more vital Canada by helping build more vital communities. That's all we do, all of us, all together—all for community.

Be part of our community at cfc-fcc.ca

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