

50 VITAL COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Program Description

We are inviting applications for a \$300 microgrant for communities to host a Vital Community Conversation. There will be a limit of 50 grants approved by January 31st, 2019, but even if not approved for the grant, we still welcome your community's thoughts.

The process involves three simple steps:

1. Application (contact information and three short questions) submitted online – *by January 15th, 2019 deadline*; Application decisions from SSCF – *by January 31st, 2019*
2. Vital Community Conversation hosted – *between February 1st and April 30th, 2019*
3. Report developed by community lead and submitted for microgrant – *no later than April 30th, 2019*



Application (contact information and three short questions) submitted – by January 15, 2019 deadline
Decision provided by January 31



Vital Community Conversation hosted – between February 1 and April 30, 2019



Report developed by community lead and submitted to SSCF for microgrant no later than April 30, 2019

With the assistance of qualified research personnel, SSCF will consolidate the information from the Vital Community Conversations and launch a report as part of Vital Signs® week in October 2019. What we learn will guide our actions to meet the needs that matter most and focus our resources for the greatest impact. Also, it is possible, and welcome for an organization that is not eligible for a microgrant to participate in the 50 Vital Community Conversations program (note: an application is still appreciated in this circumstance).

Vital Community Conversations can take numerous forms and we seek your opinions on issues that matter most to your community. A community may be an organization, a geographical region, or a special interest group. In order to receive your microgrant, the final report needs to answer the following questions:

- What does “community” mean to you?
- What are the top three indicators of your community? For the example of indicators in a community, please visit the 2018 Vital Signs report <https://sscf.ca/initiatives/vital-signs/> (pages 5, 6 and 7)
- What are your community's key needs/priorities?
- What is an emerging issue in your community?
- What challenges does your community face at the moment?
- What support or resources are required to make the changes needed in your community?
- What kind of community do you wish to have? What are the two or three issues standing in the way of having this kind of community?
- What else do you wish us to know about your community?

Eligibility and Requirements

1. SSCF can only grant to registered charities or qualified donees. A Department of National Revenue Taxation Charity Registration number is an eligibility requirement. A non-charitable receipt is required. If not registered, a formal partner with charitable status is required and a formal agreement with the partner included as part of a complete application. Please contact the SSCF office if you have eligibility questions or concerns. Staff can discuss possible ways for your organization or community to participate in the program.
2. Successful grant recipients will be required to conduct the **Vital Community Conversation** between **February 1st, 2019** and **April 30th, 2019** and provide a report back on the results of the conversation no later than April 30th, 2019. A toolkit for conducting the Vital Community Conversation and requirements for the report back via fillable PDF, will be provided to the grant recipients.
3. SSCF's geographical area encompasses more than 300 communities including six cities in Saskatchewan. Funds are intended to benefit communities in the full area – from Davidson west to the Alberta border, east to the Manitoba border, and south to the United States' border.
4. Grants are not made to organizations or for activities that promote discrimination or that do not comply with SSCF policy.
5. Grants are not made to any religious organizations where the funds would be used to further the organization's religious purposes.
6. Grants are not made for any political purposes.
7. Organizations may typically only submit one application for the Vital Community Conversation microgrant. Please contact the SSCF office for approval to submit multiple applications.
8. A grant agreement will be required. The grant to successful recipients will be provided following fulfillment of the report requirements.
9. All applicants will be required to ensure appropriate content and photo releases are available.

Submission Details

1. Submission is to be made to SSCF by downloading and completing the fillable PDF from the SSCF website and emailing to grants@sscf.ca by the application deadline. Complete applications must be received by SSCF on or before January 15th, 2019.
2. Before applying, please read the application guidelines and contact the SSCF office to confirm eligibility.
3. You will receive a confirmation email within two days of receipt of the application. If you do not, please contact the SSCF office.
4. The SSCF office may request further details, if required, as part of the application or reporting processes.
5. You will receive a grant decision email by January 31st, 2019.
6. 50 Vital Community Conversations is a competitive grant program. The requests for support may exceed the amount of funds available and worthy projects may not be supportable. Applications are assessed by the Smart & Caring Community Committee and decisions are approved by the SSCF Board of Directors. Priority may be given to applications outside of Regina, in south Saskatchewan, to ensure community representation, a diversity of community voices, and community impact.
7. All SSCF decisions regarding an application, interpretation of guidelines, and policies are final.
8. SSCF has the right to update and revise its program information at any time.