

AGENTS OF CHANGE PROJECT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What type of volunteer engagement programs qualify under this project?

The volunteer engagement program must be led and supported by a local government; however, the type and structure of the program is up to the local government to determine though must contribute to the climate mitigation efforts outlined by its climate action plan. Some example programs include, event volunteering, training climate action leaders, community education, employee engagement, environmental stewardship, etc. See the Volunteer Program Examples sheet for inspiration.

2. Can my local government apply if we already have a volunteer engagement program?

If a volunteer engagement program is already established with support from your local government, you must be able to articulate how the program will expand to address a local challenge not currently covered by the program.

3. Our local government works with local non-profit organization to support volunteer engagement. Does this qualify?

One of the benefits of local governments establishing volunteer programs is that they can provide resources, structure, continuity, and administrative support. If you can demonstrate that the local government is providing this support while also working with the non-profit organization, then it is eligible (support such as staff time, funding, office space, venues etc.) The local government representative will remain the primary participant in the Agents of Change project.

4. What can the \$15,000 be used for?

Funding can be used to cover the costs for establishing a local volunteer engagement program. See pages 14 and 15 of the Climate Action and Awareness Fund Applicant Guide for detailed eligible and ineligible expenses. We encourage local governments to consider using some of the funds to cover the cost of engaging underrepresented groups.

5. How can our local government meet the matching fund requirements?

Your local government can choose to match the funding requirements either through cash or in-kind support, such as covering the cost a venue, catering, accessing local expert advice, or allocating staff hours beyond those required by the Project.

6. What if my local government doesn't have an ambitious community GHG reduction target?

Applicants must have an ambitious community GHG reduction target, such as a 30% reduction in baseline GHG levels by 2030, or net zero emissions.

7. What types of local government can apply?

Application is open to all Canadian local governments and First Nations.

8. Can an upper tier government apply on behalf of its lower tier government?

Applications must be made by the local government leading the volunteer engagement program. A lower tier and upper tier can partner on one engagement program and can submit one application or submit separate applications for two different engagement programs.

9. Can a non-profit organization or other entity apply on behalf of the municipality?

Only local governments and First Nations can apply to participate in the Project, however, other organizations can partner with an applicant.

10. What if our municipality is not part of the PCP and/or BARC programs?

The applicant must be a participant in the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program and/or the Building Adaptive and Resilient Communities Program (BARC) to apply to participate in the Project. If you are not a participant, please contact us to join.

11. How can our program demonstrate it is impact oriented?

The volunteer programs must be impact oriented, meaning they should be targeting action to reduce emissions identified in your inventory and prioritized in your local climate action plan. Analysis to assess or quantify impact will be conducted with support from ICLEI.

12. How much of a time commitment is the project?

Participants will attend maximum 2-hour monthly project related workshops, meetings, and webinars; will provide an estimated time commitment of approximately 20 days over a 15-month period to establish the program; and participate in one full-day national project meeting.

13. Where and when will the national meeting be held?

The date and location of the national meeting will be determined at a later date and may be held in a virtual format should travel restrictions be in place due to COVID 19.

14. Is the project being offered in both official languages?

The project will be offered in both official languages if there is sufficient level of interest from participants.

15. What if our timeline does not meet that of the project?

The volunteer engagement programs need to be established according to the timeframe scheduled for each phase of the Project. Note, Agents of Change is designed to support local governments to get to the early program launch phase. It is not expected that the volunteer programs will have completed their mandate over the course of this project timeline.

16. Will there be a second call for applications?

Only one call for applications is scheduled at this time.

17. How will the applications be evaluated?

Applications will be reviewed for administrative and technical completeness based on the application requirements outlined and then evaluated by a selection committee according to the evaluation criteria.

18. Can our application be submitted after the due date?

Applications will not be accepted following the February 25th deadline.



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