



RBC Foundation Community Infrastructure Fund

Applications are open from February 19 to March 28, 2025

The RBC Foundation Community Infrastructure Fund provides support for retrofits, repairs or upgrades to existing public community buildings, as well as construction of new community spaces.

The fund focuses on two key objectives:

Environmental sustainability

Funding capital improvements that aim to reduce the carbon footprint or increase energy efficiency of newly constructed or existing community spaces.

Improving accessibility

Funding projects that enhance physical accessibility, ensuring that indoor and outdoor spaces are inclusive for people of all abilities.

Who can apply?

The fund is open to hospitals, cultural institutions, community centres and other registered charities in Canada.

How is funding determined?

The amount of funding is based on the organization's size and reach, and the regional population. Funding amounts could range between \$25,000 and \$2.5 million, payable over a maximum of five years. Projects must be completed within the approved funding term.

Please note: RBC Foundation typically funds no more than the equivalent of 20% of an organization's operating budget.



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Eligibility criteria

- Retrofits are changes to an existing building through renovations, upgrades or repairs that improve environmental/physical accessibility outcomes. RBC Foundation will only fund retrofits to spaces that are fully accessible to the public and that will provide non-commercial services to the community. RBC Foundation will only fund construction for new buildings that are open and fully accessible to the public.
- The organization must be the owner of the space OR in possession of a lease agreement with at least five years remaining at the time of the application deadline, and have owner permission to complete the project as described.
- Quotes and estimates for all goods and services over \$10,000 related to the project must be prepared by a third-party professional and be within six months of the application deadline.

Environmental sustainability project requirements

- **New build:** You must obtain a generally accepted certification in sustainability.
- **Retrofit:** Certification is not required; however specific one-off projects should be part of a broader zero-carbon transition plan.
- Applicants can choose up to two project areas from the following list for funding:

Energy:

- Upgrade light fixtures to LED lighting
- Upgrade appliances to ENERGY STAR certified equipment
- Update HVAC system (electrify equipment, install heat pump, energy/heat recovery ventilators, etc.)
- Update boilers to high efficiency condensing boilers
- Upgrade to more insulated windows, doors and walls
- Install a green roof or cool roof
- Install solar panels
- Install peak energy technology

Water:

- Upgrade water fixtures to be more efficient
- Install a stormwater collection and reuse system
- Install water meters to ensure accurate measurement of water use

Accessibility project requirements

- All accessibility projects (new build and retrofits) must meet the minimum requirements for a generally accepted accessibility certification.
- Applicants can choose up to two project areas from the following list for funding:
 - Access to buildings or community spaces through installation of ramps, lifts and automated doors
 - Accessible washrooms, kitchens and workspaces
 - Wayfinding signage or tactical walking directional indicators in flooring
 - Support outdoor spaces such as fully accessible trails, playgrounds or courtyard spaces
 - Accommodation for wheelchairs and other assistive devices by widening doorways and hallways
 - Updates to lighting and acoustics to support individuals with visual or auditory impairments
 - Equipment designed to create accessible recreation or cultural experiences



How to apply

Organizations can apply through the RBC Community Investment Portal at donations.rbc.com during the application period.

Please note: RBC Foundation funds one project per organization at any given time. RBC Foundation Community Infrastructure recipients will not be eligible to apply for a programmatic donation from RBC or the RBC Foundation during the approved funding term.



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