



Healing Fund Criteria and Guidelines

The Healing Fund supports healing, language, and cultural projects for Indigenous communities affected by Indian Residential School and its intergenerational impacts. The overall purpose of every project is to promote healing.

Application Process

- Download an application from the United Church website under Healing Fund (www.united-church.ca) or contact the Healing Programs Coordinator for assistance.
- Carefully review these Healing Fund Criteria and Application Guidelines.
- Fill out the application.
- Submit your application and supporting documents by mail (no photocopies).
- There are two funding cycles. New applications may be submitted by the following dates:
March 15 (projects beginning on or after June 1)
September 15 (projects beginning on or after December 1)
- Once the Healing Fund Council has reviewed applications and discerned funding, the Healing Programs Coordinator will communicate the council's decision by mail.
- Successful applicants are required to submit a detailed final budget, and a report detailing the successes, learnings, and outcomes of the program.

Applications Tips

- Applications received past the due date are not considered.
- Applications submitted for a project already in progress are not considered.
- Cheques are payable to organizations and community grassroots groups, not to individuals. Please be sure to specify the name and mailing address of the organization to whom the cheque is payable.

Types of Projects Funded

The process of healing is unique to each Indigenous community; therefore, a variety of projects have received funding from the Healing Fund. Here are some examples:

- Healing circles, sharing circles, and other programs for residential school survivors and their children
- Residential school reunions
- Workshops and training for Elders, resource people, counsellors, and parents
- Language recovery and cultural recovery programs
- Traditional and cultural events; gatherings for Elders and youth with a focus on the wellness of men and women
- Collecting and publishing stories in books, newsletters, and other media such as videos, DVDs, CDs

Types of Projects Not Funded

- Building projects
- Furniture or capital equipment purchases
- Salaries, wages, consultants
- Non-Indigenous churches/ministries

Funding Criteria

Successful applications will most closely reflect the Healing Fund Council's criteria outlined below.

1. Applicants for funding will be Indigenous or represent an Indigenous group or Indigenous-run agency. Participation in approved projects is open to non-Indigenous people when considered appropriate by the project organizers.
2. Applications will be part of a community-based program in an urban, rural, or remote Indigenous community and demonstrate how their community will be involved in the planning, direction, and follow-up to the event or program.
3. Applications will have two letters of support. First, from an Indigenous organization on letterhead. Second, handwritten from a community member. Applications with only one support letter will lose points. The council will not receive applications without support letters. Letters are not to be form letters.
4. Applicants should indicate trauma-informed practices and support systems during and after their project to ensure that participants are cared for and not left alone in their communities during their healing journey.
5. Priority goes to healing, language, and cultural restoration projects that demonstrate realistic goals, objectives, and outcomes accompanied by an evaluation strategy.
6. Priority is given to first-time applicants. Previously approved projects in good standing may apply for new funding three years after the end of their last project. If you do not know when you are eligible to apply again, call the Healing Programs Coordinator and be ready to provide the Healing Fund number provided for your last project.
7. Include a budget or financial statement outlining expenses, additional sources of funding, and in-kind donations. **The Healing Fund portion of the budget must not exceed \$15,000**, as this is the maximum grant allowable.
 - a) The Healing Fund is not intended to be the sole source of funding for large or multi-year projects.
 - b) The Healing Fund is not intended to supplement or replace funding available from federal or other government sources.
 - c) The Healing Fund is not intended to support salaries or wages, but will cover facilitator's fees and honoraria. The recommended fees are:
Facilitator \$250/per day; Elder \$100/per day
 - *Definition of Wage:* A payment, usually of money, for labour or services, usually according to contract and on an hourly, daily, or piecework basis.
 - *Definition of Honorarium/Fee:* A payment given for professional services that are rendered nominally without charge.
 - *Definition of Facilitator:* Someone who helps to bring about an outcome (e.g., learning, productivity, communication) by providing indirect or unobtrusive assistance, guidance, or supervision. *Example:* The workshop's facilitator kept discussion flowing smoothly.

Contact Information:

Mailing address:

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Healing Programs Coordinator / Program Assistant:

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