



H O U S I N G



E D U C A T I O N



E N V I R O N M E N T



N E W S



GRANT RECIPIENTS NOV 2017

The board of directors of the Catherine Donnelly Foundation is pleased to announce the successful completion of the twenty-sixth round of granting. Grants have been awarded in three areas of focus—**Adult Education, Environment, and Housing**.

Congratulations to the following grant recipients:

ADULT EDUCATION ADVANCEMENT INITIATIVES

College of Law, University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, SK \$25,850

The College of Law will be offering a law program to 25 students in Iqaluit, commencing in September 2017. The proposed project will involve the 25 students in the program working with the cultural facilitator to identify groups in Iqaluit who have a justice-related question, issue, or concern. The aim of this project is to provide students and community members with the opportunity for a transformative learning experience that will shape the students in the remaining years of their law degree program and in their future professional lives, as well as provide a platform for community members and groups to share their knowledge and take part in shaping the future of the legal system and access to justice in Nunavut.

www.law.usask.ca

Social Planning Toronto (Commitment TO Community)

Toronto, ON \$35,742

Through this project, the Commitment TO Community coalition will increase the capacity and influence of marginalized residents from eight Toronto neighbourhoods through a collective process of community visioning, advocacy skills training, and engagement with municipal decision-makers on residents' public policy priorities. A key outcome in the project will be the development and strengthening of a network of neighbourhood-level resident groups that will have capacity to communicate their needs to government decision-makers, and to secure additional resources in high-need neighbourhoods.

www.commitmentTO.com

Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre Halifax, NS \$28,000

As a follow-up to the project, This Is What I Wish You Knew, participants will create, develop and perform an ethnodrama and public forum examining the real life experiences of Indigenous people in urban centres. The aim is to give an authentic voice to these stories, publicly acknowledging the harm and injustices suffered by Indigenous Canadians in the past, and engage in dialogue and visioning with the wider multicultural communities, fostering healing and positive steps forward. They also plan to produce a documentary film of the events and audience Q&A for educational purposes.

www.mymnfc.com



Theatre for Living Society

Vancouver, BC

\$26,000

šx^wʔamət (home) was created and performed by a mixed Indigenous/non-Indigenous cast in 2017. Because of its success, it will now tour to 22 communities across BC and Alberta (co-hosted with collaborating local community organizations), plus another 9 shows in Vancouver. The play is Forum Theatre - it builds to a crisis and stops. Performing the play a second time, the audience can stop the action, enter the play, and work towards reconciliation, on the ground, where it really exists. The process is deeply transformative at personal and community levels. Closing night will be a global, interactive webcast and high quality DVD.

www.theatreforliving.com

United Church Downtown Mission Windsor

Windsor, ON

\$18,900

The Downtown Mission's Peer Leadership and Advocacy Network (PLAN) is a 10-week program to strengthen the leadership and advocacy capacity of people who experience poverty, homelessness, and/or other forms of oppression and marginalization. Curriculum content will be co-created with participants. PLAN will provide an opportunity for peers who have experienced various forms of oppression and marginalization to connect, learn from each other, and develop critical consciousness about their experiences. The recruitment process will prioritize bringing together people representing the groups that are disproportionately affected by poverty and homelessness (e.g., Indigenous peoples, women, people with disabilities, people who are racialized, and New Canadians). The curriculum will incorporate the types of skills and training opportunities that people need to work collectively to effect social, political and economic change.

www.downtownmission.com

HOUSING INITIATIVES



Choices for Youth

St John's, NL

\$20,900

Funding for Choices for Youth will support the creation of an expert working group on youth homelessness and host a conference that together will generate a clear understanding of how best to serve at-risk and homeless youth across Newfoundland and Labrador. With a focus on prevention and innovative approaches to serving rural and remote communities, the results of these discussions will be an important resource not only in the province, but also nationally and internationally.

www.choicesforyouth.ca

Columbia House (The Tye)

Vancouver, BC

\$ 30,000

Building on the success, of the previously funded Housing Fix project, the Tye is entering the next phase of this national reporting project, which asks 'What's the Holdup?' This is an independent media/communications project using solutions-focused journalism, including: twelve stories from a Toronto-based journalist focusing on emerging urban housing challenges and solutions, with emphasis on national approaches to access and affordability; six reports from Jay Pitter on her Community Conversations project, which explores new models of public housing in Toronto, Montreal, Eabametoong First Nation, Winnipeg, Halifax, Edmonton, Vancouver, and potentially Iqaluit and Saskatoon; and a community engagement event in Vancouver.

www.thetye.ca

Somerset West Community Health Centre

Ottawa, ON

\$23,000

Somerset West Community Health Centre has initiated a project to address gentrification in Ottawa's West Centretown with the goal to protect the area's diversity, affordability and inclusivity. With this project they will conduct a feasibility study to retain/increase rooming houses in West Centretown using a non-profit model, including assessing the financial feasibility of purchasing rooming houses and/or properties to be developed as rooming houses, and developing a plan to integrate on-site support services for tenants.

www.swchc.on.ca

ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVES



Salal Foundation (Dogwood)

Victoria, BC

\$25,000

Dogwood is the largest non-partisan citizen action network in British Columbia. Dogwood is the only Canadian partner in the Power Past Coal coalition, a thin green line of carbon resistance that has delayed new coal port approvals across the Pacific Coast since 2012. Their goal is to defeat the Fraser Surrey Docks proposal to transship U.S. thermal coal and prevent further expansion of coal export infrastructure in B.C. Funding is to support the mobilization of supporters to organize British Columbians in support of a levy on thermal coal trans-shipments.

www.dogwoodbc.ca

Tides Canada Initiatives Society (Shift)

Vancouver, BC

\$15,000

Funding is to support the project Action for Pension Wealth & Planet Health—a new initiative bringing together and educating pension fund beneficiaries, influencers and fund leaders to shift investment priorities to minimize climate risks and tap opportunities in a low-carbon economy. Shift will support pension beneficiaries, leverage influencers, create dialogue and raise awareness to ensure pension funds commit to action that maintains performance while reducing climate risks and impact.

www.tidescanada.org/approach/shared-platform/

Pembina Foundation (Iron & Earth)

Calgary, AB

\$35,000

Iron & Earth is conducting the Solar Skills Campaign to up-skill 1,000 former oil and gas workers into the solar industry. Funding from CDF is to support the delivery of a training program for 10 selected trainees (representing different demographics). Working with the Louis Bull Tribe, they will install a field mounted solar energy installation in the field of their community K-9 school. The project will be recorded using high quality media, which will be used in a digital media campaign that highlights the success of their project, increasing public support, and building momentum for future projects.

www.pembinafoundation.org

WWF Canada

Toronto, ON

\$25,000

Funding is to support WWF's Community Voices program, which aims to safeguard wild-life and traditional Inuit ways of life threatened by climate change and increasing industrial development. They co-create an action plan that facilitates Indigenous-led organizations to strategically and effectively participate in regulatory processes through engagement and the provision of pro-bono support from WWF-Canada in the form of legal and technical expertise.

www.wwf.ca