Call for Proposals

Social Enterprise Research

Issue Date: February 3, 2020
Submission Deadline: March 6, 2020
Social Enterprise Research
Call for Proposals

1. Introduction

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation (TCII) is the lead for the Provincial Government’s economic, culture, and innovation agenda. A priority of TCII is working collaboratively with key organizations and stakeholders to advance social enterprise activity in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Provincial Government’s Social Enterprise Action Plan (SEAP) outlines priority objectives, goals and actions to increase new social enterprise activity and to enhance services for existing social enterprises in the province. To support the identified need for more research about social enterprise activity in Newfoundland and Labrador, Government committed a total of $250,000 to support social enterprise research projects. TCII is now requesting applications through a Regional Development Fund call for proposals.

2. Eligible Applicants

Incorporated in Newfoundland and Labrador:
- not-for-profit organizations, including co-operatives and social enterprises
- public post-secondary educational institutions
- youth organizations
- municipalities
- industry associations
- indigenous governments and organizations

3. Criteria for Evaluation

Proposed projects must focus on research about social enterprise activity in Newfoundland and Labrador, including identification of social enterprise opportunities. Activities exhibiting stakeholder engagement and positive social, community economic, cultural and/or environmental impact, will be given priority. This is a competitive process, and therefore, all projects that meet eligibility criteria may not necessarily be approved. Leveraging other funding is an asset.

Proposals will be evaluated based on various criteria such as:
- scope of proposed activities (i.e. impact area, sector, type of research etc.)
- alignment with the provincial Social Enterprise Action Plan
- potential to address social, community economic, cultural and environmental issues through enterprise and innovation processes
- relevance to regional and provincial priorities and plans
- demonstrate partnerships and collaboration

The Social Enterprise Action Plan defines a social enterprise as one which earns revenue through the sale of goods and/or services to further a social, community economic, cultural and/or environmental purpose.
4. Eligible Activities

Projects must be research-based and explore the use of social enterprise activities in Newfoundland and Labrador. Projects should support the goals of the Social Enterprise Action Plan, including a better understanding of the social enterprise sector, and potentially lead to viable social enterprise opportunities in both rural and urban areas.

Research initiatives may include, but are not limited to:
- measuring the impact of social enterprise methodologies
- evaluating or assessing the effectiveness of an existing social enterprise activity
- investigating possible solutions for a specific need or identified opportunity
- opportunity identification in various sectors (e.g. social benefits derived from arts and culture)
- partnering on research to address a common goal

Ineligible activities include but are not limited to:
- core administration or core activities of any organization
- on-going or active projects (new components may be considered)
- capital expenses
- activities without a research component or carried out solely for revenue generation
- acquisition of new equipment or infrastructure

6. Eligible Expenses

Eligible expenses must be incremental costs associated with the research project and can include, but are not limited to:

- professional fees or consultant services
- equipment rental, materials, and supplies in support of the research
- travel related to a research project (at Provincial Government per diem rates)
- venue rental and other costs directly related to the social enterprise research project (e.g. hosting a focus group)

Equipment acquisitions, infrastructure, and operational expenses are not considered eligible for funding.

Successful applicants may receive up to a $50,000 contribution towards total eligible costs for a project. Projects requiring a higher contribution may be considered if significant partnerships are evident and the project can demonstrate substantial impact for the social enterprise sector in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Applicants will be expected to contribute a minimum of 10% of project costs. At the discretion of TCII, reasonable in-kind contributions such as provision of space, access to equipment, meals and nutrition breaks, supplies, or travel reimbursement may be considered as the applicant’s contribution.
Eligible expenses must be incurred on or after the contract approval date. Successful projects will receive an Advance Payment upon receipt of a signed Acceptance of Offer and meeting terms and conditions.

7. How to Apply

Proposals must be submitted no later than **4:00 pm on March 6, 2020** via the following methods:

i. e-mail to: [randyfollett@gov.nl.ca](mailto:randyfollett@gov.nl.ca)

ii. fax to: (709)729-4835

iii. mail to: Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation
2nd Floor, West Block
Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John’s, NL
A1B 4J6

For questions or additional information, please call (709) 729-5435 or contact your local TCII office ([https://www.tcii.gov.nl.ca/department/Contact_Regional.html](https://www.tcii.gov.nl.ca/department/Contact_Regional.html)).

In addition to providing a proposal, proponents must complete the Regional Development Fund application form available at [https://www.tcii.gov.nl.ca/](https://www.tcii.gov.nl.ca/).

The application must be signed by a designated official of the organization such as the chair or executive director.

8. Timelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call for Applications Release</td>
<td>February 3, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>March 6, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects Must Be Completed By</td>
<td>March 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>