

Social Development Partnerships Program (SDPP)

General Information			
Lead Department	Human Resources Development Canada		
Partners	Non-profit organizations, such as voluntary organizations, research institutes, professional associations and educational institutes.		
Effective Date	April 1, 1998		
Expiry Date	Review set for 2001-2002		
Web Site	http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/hrib/sdd-dds/menu/home.shtml		
Purpose	To support research and development activities of the social non-profit sector in line with HRDCs mandate. These activities identify, develop and promote nationally significant best practices and build capacity of national organizations to meet the social development needs and aspirations of populations who are or may be at risk, such as people with disabilities, children and families.		
Roles and Contributions	<p>Social Development Partnerships Program works through partnerships, collaboration and sharing of knowledge with voluntary organizations, international agencies, researchers, universities and other not-for-profit organizations, as well as with provinces and territories, to strengthen the voluntary sector. It seeks to promote social inclusion and cohesion through cultural and institutional change.</p> <p>Information about departmental roles and contributions through this program is publicly available (i.e., on the website). Emphasis has been on informing and involving relevant organizations and individuals involved in social development, rather than the general public. This approach is being reviewed, in the context of a larger HRDC approach to these issues.</p> <p>Funding is provided by HRDC in the form of grants for organizational support to national social service and disability organizations or contributions for specific research and development projects, as appropriate. Project proposals are assessed through a peer review process based on information provided by potential project sponsors.</p> <p>HRDC is the sole funding source of the program.</p>		
Resources			
Funding	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
	SDDP \$ 17M	\$ 22.2M*	\$21.2*
	*Includes \$5.2M from former Child Care Visions Program in both 2001-2002 and 2002-2003		

Tracking and Reporting	<p>Regular reporting through departmental reporting mechanisms, including through the Estimates documents (specifically, Part 1, page 12-5 for grants). Details regarding the Social Development Partnerships Program projects (with a program description) for 1997-1998, 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 are available at: http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/dept/reports/5_socdev.shtml</p> <p>Reporting to the public is done via the website, address given above.</p>
Measurement and Reporting	
Outcomes	<p>In Progress¹ - Outcomes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better social development programs and services for individual Canadians; 2. More inclusion of vulnerable populations; 3. Healthier voluntary sector and voluntary organizations; 4. Opportunities for Canadians to be engaged in shaping the future of their communities, through voluntary organizations; 5. National collaboration and sharing of knowledge and expertise among federal, provincial, municipal governments and voluntary organizations.
Indicators	Project reports, institution reports, and research funding reports.
Comparable Indicators	<p>In Progress¹ (as above)</p> <p>There are few comparable programs; societal results are indirect effect of the program.</p>
Evaluation/Third Party Assessments	The Social Development Partnerships Program will be evaluated in 2001/2002. The evaluation plan includes input from partners, clients, rejected clients, subject experts, etc.
Shared Information and Best Practices	<p>The development of information and best practices is a primary goal of contribution funding. Projects are required to have dissemination plans to share results to interested parties.</p> <p>Reference groups of key stakeholders (particularly voluntary sector organizations) have been created and provide important input to the program. Reference groups meet at least once a year, and usually more frequently, to establish program funding priorities and research foci on an annual basis. Future directions, and ongoing program management issues are also discussed.</p>
Public Reporting	<p>Information regarding reports from research undertaken as a result of this program, as well as pilot project results, are available through the Internet at: http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/hrib/sdd-dds/engagement/content/projReportCE.shtml</p> <p>Research reports are available from sponsors.</p> <p>A Results-Based Management Accountability Framework provides indicators for reporting on outputs and outcomes. Ongoing evaluations will provide information on longer-term impacts of the program.</p>

Involving Canadians	
Provisions for Citizens to Participate in Developing Social Priorities and Reviewing Outcomes	The program consults its constituencies primarily through a system of reference groups of key stakeholders. The make-up of these groups is being reviewed to ensure that it is adequately representative and meets the goals of consulting Canadians and tracking public understanding.
Feedback Mechanisms to the Public	As above, program status is discussed with reference groups. All grants and contributions awarded will be posted on the website. The public may contact us through the website noted below.
Service Commitments	
Public Availability of Eligibility Criteria	http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/hrib/sdd-dds/engagement/content/funding.shtml
Existence and Availability of Service Commitments	Service standards will be developed for all HRDC grants and contributions programs, including social development programming.
Measurement and Public Reporting	Under development.
Appeals and Complaints	
Existence, Availability and Communication of Mechanisms	Notification of results of project application identifies the Directors as the first point of contact to express concern. More formal articulation of appeal process is under consideration.
Tracking and Public Reporting	Tracking and public reporting will be part of the articulation of the appeal process.
Mobility	
Existence of Measures	There are no residence-based barriers.

¹**In progress:** when an approach or mechanism is being developed or is in the process of being implemented.