

# **Ontario Trillium Foundation Raises Limits for its Capital Grants**

OTF, one of Canada's leading grantmaking foundations, is an agency of the Government of Ontario. Ontario's spring 2007 budget boosted OTF funding to \$105 million from \$100 million as the first phase of a 20 per cent increase.

This year, OTF celebrates 25 years of strengthening communities. OTF grants support the remarkable work of volunteer organizations throughout Ontario.

Between April 1999 and March 2007, OTF awarded more than \$160 million in 4,200 capital grants to organizations across the province through its Community Grants and Province-Wide programs.

Foundation grants have made hundreds of community facilities accessible and restored heritage buildings across the province. They have supported community sports groups, programs for seniors and youth, and environmental initiatives that have helped rehabilitate rivers, replant forests and promote conservation.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is responding to the need for capital funding by raising the limits for its capital grants. Beginning with the November 1, 2007 application deadline, not-for-profit and charitable organizations can apply for capital grants up to a maximum of \$150,000.

## **Capital Funding Granting Priorities:**

The Foundation supports the building of healthy and vibrant communities through community-based initiatives that strengthen the capacity of organizations in the arts and culture, environment, human and social services and sports and recreation sectors. OTF welcomes requests for capital funding from eligible charitable and not-for-profit organizations. In particular, the Foundation encourages applications that support the following priorities:

### Enhancement to community spaces

 Providing renovations, repairs, and equipment to make better use of existing spaces for communities to gather, use, and enjoy. This includes buildings or outdoor venues such as community centres, offices, recreational facilities, sports facilities, trails, fields or parks.

# Energy-efficiency, or "greening" initiatives

 Including eco-friendly renovations, repairs or equipment that significantly increases energy efficiency, makes use of alternative, renewable energy alternatives, reduces waste and water consumption, makes use of innovative, eco-friendly technologies and materials for renovations and repairs, or contributes to environmental outcomes or the greening of community space.

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#### Enhancements to accessibility

 Including improvements that increases the physical access to buildings and other community spaces, enhances access to programs and services through technology and transportation, or removes physical or other barriers to full participation in activities and full community life.

### Innovative technology

 Including technology that improves programs and services, makes better use of resources, enables organizations to work smarter, automates manual work tasks, facilitates communication, or reduces transaction costs.

### Please note:

Before making an application, organizations are advised to contact our local program staff for advice.

OTF has two different application forms, our Standard application and a Simplified Application for Small Capital Grants. Eligible organizations applying for capital funds up to a maximum of \$15,000, must use the Simplified Application. For more information, please read the guidelines for the Simplified Application Process. Copies of our Program Guidelines and current application forms are available on the OTF website at www.trilliumfoundation.org.