

Youth United 2023-2024 Program Guidelines

WHAT PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

To be considered eligible, an application for a Youth United Grant must meet the following criteria:

1. Focus on achieving one or more of the following outcomes:
 - Focus on engaging Indigenous youth and youth in under-served populations
 - Poverty reduction and social inclusion
 - Reconciliation
 - Building an inclusive community
 - Preserving the environment
 - Strengthening youth resilience
 - New and other themes identified by youth
2. Youth must reside in one of the following communities
 - Simcoe County
 - District of Muskoka
 - The Town of the Blue Mountains
3. Reflect genuine youth volunteer ownership and leadership in the design, implementation and evaluation of the project
4. Provide a clear and achievable action and evaluation plan, clearly defining the outcome(s) that the project is striving to achieve.
5. Build and strengthen skills and abilities of youth involved with the project
6. Clearly benefit the local community as well as support neighbourhood development
7. Be inclusive and accessible
8. Youth groups must partner with a Community Partner, a Community Service Organization, located in Simcoe County, District of Muskoka, or the Town of The Blue Mountains

***Note: It is the responsibility of the youth to seek out and establish a partnership with a community service organization. If this is not possible, the federal initiatives team can provide assistance.**

WHICH PROJECTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE?

An application will be deemed ineligible in the following situations:

- Projects that are for youth but not initiated or led by youth
- Projects that are not inclusive and accessible
- Fundraising projects for other organizations
- Projects including alcohol or drugs
- Projects that require membership fees in clubs
- Projects that include fines and penalties
- Projects that involve fundraising or making a profit

HOW TO APPLY FOR A YOUTH UNITED MICRO-GRANT

Step 1: Secure a partner or group of youth to deliver your project with. You can also apply as an individual if you wish.

Step 2: Brainstorm project ideas

- What are you passionate about?
- How would you like to make a difference in your community?
- What are needs in your community you wish to address? How would you like to address them?

Step 3: Secure a Community Partner (CP)

- A Community Partner is a Community Service Organization in your community that will offer support on behalf of your project including mentorship and advice as needed

***It is the responsibility of the youth to seek out and establish a partnership with a community service organization. If this is not possible, please coordinate with the Federal Initiatives team at youthunited@uwsimcoemuskoka.ca for assistance.**

Step 4: Complete stage 1 of your Application on the Youth United portal:

<https://uwsimcoemuskoka.my.site.com/youthunited/s/>

- Identify project name
- Youth contact information
- Brief description of project
- Community partner details

Step 5: Prepare your presentation for Presentation Day on **November 8, 2023**

- Presentations must be between **5-7 minutes** long
- Presentations must address all aspects of the [Youth United Grant Application Form Stage 2](#) are complete

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE YOUTH COUNCIL

Complete the Youth Council Application Form on the Youth United Portal
<https://uwsimcoemuskoka.my.site.com/youthunited/s/>

HOW TO APPLY AS A COMMUNITY PARTNER

Stage 1: Complete the **Community Partner Application Form – Stage 1** on the Youth United Portal
<https://uwsimcoemuskoka.my.site.com/youthunited/s/>

***Please note:** by completing the Stage 1 Application Form, you will identify your organization as an interested agency devoting willingness to support youth with their Youth United project. UWSM will pair and connect your organization to a youth applicant whose project aligns with the focus of your organization as best possible. When your organization is paired with a youth group, you will be required to complete Stage 2, see details below.

Stage 2: Once your organization is partnered with a youth group, you will need to identify your in-kind contributions to the project. Please do so using the **Community Partner In-Kind Contributions Form – Stage 2** which can be found on our Youth United portal <https://uwsimcoemuskoka.my.site.com/youthunited/s/>.

PROJECT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS

Grant recipients Survey

- An online survey which collects detailed data on micro grant recipients including demographic and basic data of grant recipients.

Final Report

- Survey collects details on project outcomes, people served, project success and will also require submission of associated backup (receipts, invoices, etc.) associated with your grant.

PROJECT REPORTING FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Quarterly reports are to be submitted by Community Partners highlighting the total time commitment provided on behalf of the project and the approximate overall in-kind contribution in dollar value. Quarterly reports are due 10-days following the end of each quarter.

For more information on the Youth United program, please visit the Youth United portal.

Youth United Portal: <https://uwsimcoemuskoka.my.site.com/youthunited/s/>

For more information please contact:

youthunited@uwsimcoemuskoka.ca

OR

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