

ʔaqam Community Enterprises

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

GRANT PROGRAM

APPLICATION PACKAGE

2019



**ʔAQ'AM
COMMUNITY
ENTERPRISES**

ʔaᑭam Community Enterprises
Business Development Grant Program 2019
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please attach the completed checklist with application. Incomplete applications without all supporting documentation will not be considered for funding.

APPLICATION START DATE: Monday, March 4th, 2019

DEADLINE: Friday, March 29th 2019 – Applications must be submitted to Christopher McCurry, no later than 11:59 pm on Friday, March 29th, 2019.

Applications may be addressed to:

Attention: Christopher McCurry

ʔaᑭam Community Enterprises

7470 Mission Road

Cranbrook BC V1C 2W3

(You can drop your application in a sealed envelope at the administration desk)

Or faxed to: 250-426-8935 (Attention: Christopher McCurry)

Or emailed to: cmccurry@aqam.net

We will aim to notify all applicants by Wednesday April 10th, 2019.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

- Are you a member of ʔaᑭam?
- Did you remember to include your Application Form and additional requested info?
- In what category are you requesting funds?
Business Start-up Business Expansion
- Have you completed your business plan?
- Have you read and agreed to the terms and conditions noted within this application package?

**Please note that a requirement of grant funds will be for you to provide copies of receipts showing that expenditures made from the grant money align with the approved expenditures in the agreement for successful recipients. A 10% holdback will be reserved by ACE until original receipts have been submitted.

By signing below, I indicate that I have included the documentation necessary and have read / understand the terms and conditions noted within this application package:

PRINT NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

APPLICATION DATE: _____

ᑭᓄᓂ Community Enterprises

Business Development Grant Program 2019

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. Purpose:

ᑭᓄᓂ Community Enterprises Business Development Grant Program is intended to financially support entrepreneurial spirit and activities, which in turn helps to promote the economic development strategies of the ᑭᓄᓂ Community. Funding, in the form of non-repayable grants, will be provided to assist Band Members in paying for the start-up costs of a new business or to expand an existing business.

A second aim of the program is to promote detailed research into a proposed business venture to help the applicant determine viability. Satisfying the requirements of applying for this grant funding will also prepare an individual entrepreneur to seek funding through complimentary agencies like Kootenay Aboriginal Business Development Agency (KABDA) and Community Futures East Kootenay.

2. Eligibility:

Applicants must be an ᑭᓄᓂ Band Member. A proposed business venture from the Band Member must be majority controlled (minimum 51% ownership) by a Band Member(s).

3. Maximum:

The Business Development Grant budget is \$6,000.00 (subject to change) per fiscal year. Applicants are eligible to receive up to this amount, through an open “call for submission” process. Quorum of the ACE Board of Directors will award a maximum of 2 (two) grants per annum with a maximum value of \$3,000.00 each; or one (1) valued at \$6,000.00.

Individuals may receive a maximum of \$6,000 over a lifetime PER BUSINESS. Individuals that receive the maximum funding of \$6,000 for one business may reapply for a separate business entity. Should the individual receive \$3,000 one year, they are permitted to re-apply to receive a further \$3,000 in subsequent years. The ranking criteria will take these previous awards into account.

4. Classification System for Grants:

Business Development Grants may be approved for activities falling under any of the following two categories:

A. Business Start-Up Assistance Grant:

Applications must be accompanied by a document outlining the highlights from your completed business plan and all required associated paperwork in order to be considered by ACE for funding. The creation of new job(s) within the Ṣaqam Community is desirable, but is not essential to qualify for a grant under this category. All complete submissions will be ranked against an established priority weighting matrix in order to determine which will be recommended for funding.

B. Business Expansion Grant:

Applications must be accompanied by a document outlining the highlights from your completed business expansion plan and all required associated paperwork in order to be considered by ACE for funding. To apply under the business expansion category, a proposed expansion must create a minimum of one additional job or add to existing product/service offerings. All complete submissions will be ranked against an established priority weighting matrix in order to determine which will be recommended for funding.

5. Application Packages:

Application Packages for the Business Development Grant Program are available at the Ṣaqam Band Administration office or by contacting the CEO for ACE, Christopher McCurry. Packages include a copy of the policy governing the delivery of the Grant program, and a Checklist allowing applicants to ensure that they have met all of the program requirements in applying for funding.

6. Open Call for Submissions Procedures:

Each fiscal year, an open call will be announced and information packages will be made available for pick-up at the Ṣaqam Band Office.

For the 2019 fiscal year, the call will be open until Friday, March 29th 2019 after which all complete submissions (with all required back-up documentation that meet the basic eligibility criteria) will be assessed and given a score according to a priority weighting matrix. The ACE board of Directors will use the results of the ranking scheme in order to make a decision for awarding the year's grant budget. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered for funding.

7. Approval:

All applications for Business Development Grants will be brought forward for the consideration of the ACE board of Directors at a regularly scheduled meeting. Approval must be obtained by a quorum of the ACE Board of Directors. Selection will be made utilizing the Ranking Criteria document as found within the Application package.

8. Payment of Approved Grants:

Payments will be made in two instalments and in accordance with ʔaqam Financial Policies.

- A. Ninety percent (90%) of the amount approved will be paid to the recipient after approval a Business Development Grant Agreement letter is signed by both the recipient and the ACE CEO, which specifies the payment protocol.
- B. The remaining funds (10% of the amount approved) will be paid to the recipient upon submission of invoices to the ACE CEO which prove the purchase of items outlined in the application paperwork. For the 2019 fiscal year, receipts must be presented before Friday, March 29th, 2020. Failure to provide receipts within this time frame will result in forfeiture of the final instalment and make the individual ineligible for future Business Development Grants.

9. Reporting Requirements:

Successful applicants will be required to provide a brief written report for the ACE Board of Directors, which will be due at the 1 (one)-year anniversary of the signing date for the Business Development Grant Agreement letter. The purpose of this report is to briefly summarize the successes of the business, the challenges and opportunities faced, and the outlook for the business venture. Failure to provide a report will result in ineligibility for future Business Development Grants.

ገገጻም Community Enterprises
Business Development Grant Program 2019
APPLICATION FORM

To apply for a Business Development Grant, an individual must:

- 1.) Be an ገገጻም Member*
- 2.) Have at least 51% ownership in the business/business idea.*

1. Basic Information:

Grant Category (tick one):

- Start-Up Grant
- Expansion Grant

Band Member Applicant Name:

Name of Business:

Address:

Business Contact Person:

Phone Number:

Fax:

Email:

Have you applied to ገገጻም for business development funding before?
(If no, please proceed to next section; if yes, please complete the following information)

- Previous grant application was denied:
 - This grant application is for the same business development project. The key changes are (no more than 15 words):

 - This grant application is for an entirely different business.

- Previous grant application was approved:
 - This grant application builds upon the previous grant by (No more than 15 words):

 - This grant application is unrelated to the previous business.

2. Project Information:

Project/Business Title:

In 35 words or less, please provide a summary of this grant application*:

*(*example: A grant to pay for marketing materials and an updated computer for social networking.)*

In 35 words or less, please provide a brief description* of product or service of your business (if known):

*(*example: convenience store and gas station)*

Grant Amount Requested from ʔaḡam (\$3,000 or \$6,000?): \$ _____

3. Grant Application Budget:

| Budget item | Match Contribution* | | Grant expected from ACE | Total Budget |
|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | Other source | Personal/ Business Investment | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Total | | | | |

**Note: Matching contributions cannot include general overhead expenses (i.e. rent, utilities, etc.) or expenses for expenditures/business activities undertaken prior to the awarding for this ACE business development grant.*

4. Grant Description:

Please describe your proposed grant application project. Attach no more than 3 pages of description to this application.

A. Your Business: (no more than 1 page)

- Provide a brief description of your business, its mission and goals, and key areas of activity. Describe the product or service that you will offer, and your financial objectives.
- Why do you think this business is potentially viable and what evidence do you have?
- Describe how you will measure the success of your business, including how well it is performing as a 1) business, 2) in being socially, environmentally, or culturally responsible, and/or 3) in contributing to the mission or sustainability of your business).

B. Funding Request: (no more than 1 page)

- Provide a brief description of your funding request and how grant funds will be used.
- What specific activities or expenditures do you have planned? Who will carry out these activities and/or who will make the purchases?
- What do you hope to achieve as a result of the above activities or purchases? What, if any, products or developments will one see? (i.e. new stock, new supplies, feasibility study, employees, etc.)

C. Your Commitments: (no more than 1 page)

- What commitment have you or your business already made and/or who will complete the planning and implementation of this business or business expansion idea?
- What investment (i.e. resources, time, money) has your business previously made in the development of this business idea?
- What specific activities have been undertaken to assess your business readiness to prepare for managing or expanding a business?
- Describe your business's matching contributions to this grant application (as shown in your budget). Also describe any previously made contributions not identified as matching contributions in your budget.

ᐃᓴᓄᓄ Community Enterprises
Business Development Grant Program 2019
RANKING CRITERIA

Ranking Criteria:

All application requirements must be met and the application checklist completed and signed) in order to be considered for funding. The Business Development Grant Program is available strictly to ᐃᓴᓄᓄ membership.

| Criteria | | Points | Total | Comments |
|---|---|--|-------|----------|
| 1. Previous Funding (per individual) | Last Fiscal | -3 Points | | |
| | Prior Fiscal(s) | -1 Point per occasion | | |
| | Never Funded | +2 Points | | |
| | Funded more than 3 times within past 5 fiscal years | -3 Points | | |
| 2. Business creates at least ONE job opportunity for an ᐃᓴᓄᓄ Member | | +3 Points per full-time job created | | |
| | | +1 Point per every seasonal or part-time job created | | |
| 3. Business creates positive economic spin-offs for the community | | +2 Points per economic spin-off (as described within application) | | |
| 4. Member/Business Owner (and/or partner) contribution (as % of grant \$ requested) | | 0 Points for 0% Contribution | | |
| | | +1 Point for 10-25% Contribution | | |
| | | +2 Points for 26-50% Contribution | | |
| | | +3 Points for 50+% Contribution | | |

| | | | |
|--|---|---------------|--|
| 5. Proof of alternate sources of funding/financing for project | +2 Points for every confirmed source (letter and contact info of funder is required) | | |
| 6. Proof of commitments | +1 Point for every confirmed investment or commitment | | |
| 6. Viability of business idea and/or start-up project (assessment of grant description section). | Rank (out of 10 Points) | ___/10 | |
| 7. Total Money requested | +1 Point for \$3,000 request | | |
| | 0 Points for \$6,000 request | | |
| TOTAL POINTS | | | |
| Additional Comments: | | | |

* Please note that decisions regarding funding are made by the ʔaḳam Community Enterprises Board of Directors in accordance with recommendations derived from the above priority matrix and in addition to careful consideration of documentation received. All decisions are final.