

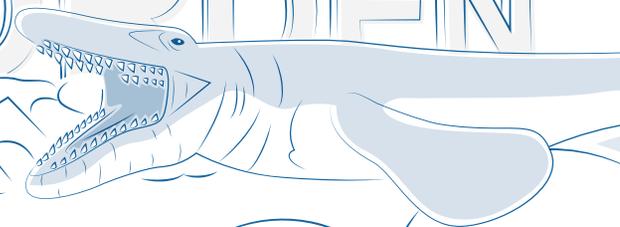
YiP Info

All About the Grants

Discovering the needs of the community, learn about grantmaking to help local registered charities do what they do in the community.



MORDEN



MORDEN AREA
FOUNDATION
for good, forever

All About Grants

Grantmaking is defined as the process of allocating funds to an organization so that the organization can undertake charitable activities. In other words, it is an amount of money given to an organization for a specific purpose so they can continue to do what they do in the community.

Donation

A gift (money, items, time) that is given to an organization and can be used at the organization's discretion.

Grant

A gift (money) that is given to an organization for a specific reason and must be used for that reason only.

All About Grants

While giving away money (a.k.a. granting) may seem like an easy task, there are several steps involved in the process.

How to Grant

Get to know your community:

Perform a needs assessment by reading the local papers, calling organizations to ask what needs there may be, contact the Mayor of the City of Morden, Morden and District Chamber of Commerce, Western School Division, to ask what needs there may be, and set priorities.

Follow up with past grantees

Did the organizations that received grants from your committee last year send final reports and spend the grant money as intended?

Determine areas of focus

Choose grantmaking areas that interest your committee.

Research Organizations

Research organizations that match the YIP committee's areas of focus and make certain they have a registered charitable number.

Review Conflict of Interest Guidelines

Does someone on your committee have a previously existing relationship with any organizations you would like to grant to?

Review and finalize list of organizations

Make sure your committee is in agreement.

Site Visits

For more information on site visits, check out the Site Visit - The Basics Guide!

Grant Decisions

Decide as a group how to distribute the grant money – how much will each organization receive and what is the purpose of the grant?

Final Report

Submit your final grant recommendations to the Morden Area Foundation (MAF) to approve.

Celebrate Community

Once the MAF is notified that the grants have been approved, send an email to the grant recipients and invite them to a celebration and grant presentation! NOTE: The MAF will forward a grant agreement to each of the organizations and upon receiving all signed agreements and receipts for items purchased, the MAF will issue cheques in the amount of the grant awarded.

Setting Priorities

There are many worthwhile charities in the Morden area, all of which need funding to continue their work, however the YIP committee cannot give to every charity even if it is felt they are all worthy of support! The challenge of every grantmaker is to set priorities that will aid the YIP committee in its granting decisions.

Getting to Know Your Community

Needs Assessments

One way to get to know the community of Morden and area is to perform a needs assessment. A needs assessment allows you to identify issues or problems in the community that needs to be addressed.

For example, a needs assessment might show that a neighbourhood is experiencing increased incidents of crime, and needs more focus on safety. A grant helping to support a community patrol to a community organization in this neighbourhood would help increase safety.

Asset-Mapping

To get the whole picture, you can also use asset-mapping, which focuses on the good things that are presently happening in the community. The asset map identifies positive people, attributes, resources, gifts, talents, skills, and programs in the community. Knowing what strengths your community already has can help you contribute to these efforts. By supporting strengths already in the neighbourhood, this asset-based approach uses existing assets in the community to make a place safer to live.

For example, asset-mapping discovers that a neighbourhood organization is dedicated to making their neighbourhood safer by operating a volunteer community patrol. A grant providing this group with flashlights and safety vests will help this group continue the program.

A Note on Funding

Remember that all registered charities receive funding from a variety of sources including, but not limited to, government, private foundations, public foundations, sponsorships, non-profit organizations, and public donations. Keep in mind that funding varies in limitations and quantity, and all registered charities should be equally considered as possible grantees.

Determining Areas of Focus

As a committee, the YIP committee will choose areas of focus which will set priorities as grantmakers. Establishing areas of focus will help the committee find organizations that meet the grantmaking goals.

When deciding on your areas of focus, think about:

- The needs within the community.
- The priorities identified by the YIP committee.
- Individual interests of the YIP committee members.
- Areas that the YIP committee has focused on in the past.
- The YIP committee's mission statement.

There are two criteria that apply to all Youth in Philanthropy grants:

- The organization must be a registered charity. Check the CRA website www.cra-arc.gc.ca - to find out if an organization is registered.
- The project must primarily benefit the citizens of Morden and area.

Steps to help develop your areas of focus:

- Individually identify the YIP committee values and list down organizations that match its interests.
- As a group, brainstorm areas that could be focused on and come up with a comprehensive list.
- Discuss each area that comes up and see how much interest there is in each area.
- Narrow down the initial list to approximately 3-6 areas.

Researching Charitable Organizations

Once the YIP committee has narrowed down the areas of focus, the next step is to research registered charitable organizations that the YIP committee would like to visit. Some resources to help the committee come up with a list of organizations that fit the areas of focus include:

Resources

211 Manitoba: www.mb.211.ca

NOTE: Not all organizations listed on 211 Manitoba are registered charities. Keep this in mind when using it as a resource. Please refer to the CRA website - www.cra-arc.gc.ca

- The Morden Area Foundation's annual reports (available for download at www.mordenfoundation.ca)
- The Internet.
- The newspaper and community reports.

Resources

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) website ensures that the organizations the YIP committee is interested in are registered Canadian charities.

1. Visit www.cra-arc.gc.ca/charities/ to search the online list of registered charities.
2. If the organization appears in the search results, then it is a registered charity. Click on the organization and copy down the BN/Registration Number. This number is the organization's charitable registration number, which is required for your interim and final reports.
3. If the organization does not appear in the results, then either:
 - It is not a registered charity.
 - It is a registered charity that is registered under a different name, or is affiliated with another organization. Contact the organization directly, or the Morden Area Foundation, for more information.

Grant Decision Quiz

Find out if the YIP committee grant will make the biggest impact.

- | | Yes
(2 points) | No
(1 point) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Is this organization a registered charitable organization? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Will this grant primarily benefit the citizens of Morden and area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Did the YIP committee identify the needs within the community this organization supports? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Was this organization specific in identifying how they could use a YIP grant? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Does this grant align with your areas of focus, goals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Is this grant supporting the needs of the organization? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Can the grant amount help the organization start and finish a project? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Is this grant going to make a positive and lasting impact in the community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Does this grant have a specific purpose? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Total Points: _____

Scoring:

0-10 Points

A grant that will make an impact!

11-16 Points

A good grant that will make an impact!

17-20 Points

A great grant that will make a big impact!

Summary

- 1. Get to know your community**
- 2. Set priorities**
- 3. Develop your areas of focus**
- 4. Research charitable organizations**
- 5. Site visits**
- 6. Final Grant Decisions**
- 7. Final Report**

Did you know that you can put your involvement in YIP on a resume? If you are an interschool rep or a co-chair, that is added leadership experience!

Questions?

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