

Park People Nature Connect Fund Scaling Stream



Accepting applications until April 9, 2026

The scaling stream of the **Park People Nature Connect Fund** provides up to \$20,000 annually to support organizations that connect people with nature while fostering ecological stewardship and restoring urban parks and greenspaces. Through nature-based activities, hands-on ecological stewardship and restoration and other forms of landcare, grantees will help people and nature thrive together.

Your project can include but is not limited to one or more of the following:

- community events with broad reach or duration that mobilize and educate the public about nature and environmental stewardship
- larger scale hands-on urban stewardship and restoration projects for example, community tree planting, invasive species removal, native plant gardens, species monitoring etc.,
- low-cost, high-impact capital projects such as interpretive signage that help communities get to know nature in their parks and greenspaces. Please Note: the project can not be a capital project alone. Capital projects must be activated through activities that support nature connection or address environmental issues.

The Park People Nature Connect Fund supports local leaders and organizations to sustain, replicate and grow successful projects.

Eligibility

Your organization must be a registered not for profit or charity or qualified donee and be located in Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Greater Montreal, Toronto (Toronto, York, East York, North York, Scarborough, Etobicoke), Saskatoon, Vancouver, Victoria or Winnipeg.

Your project must have positive environmental impacts through urban ecological stewardship and restoration. Your organization must be able to provide matching funds including cash, in-kind and leveraged resources.

Section A: Organization Information

Name of Organization

Address of Organization

Please provide details about the primary contact person for the group/organization

- First Name/ Last Name
- Street Address (drop down for province)
- Email/Phone number

If applicable please provide details for a secondary contact person for the group/organization. Please note that email addresses must be unique for each contact.

- First Name/ Last Name
- Street Address (drop down for province)
- Email/Phone number
- Not applicable

What type of organization are you?

You must be a registered non profit or charity to receive this fund.

- Registered non-for-profit
- Registered charity
- Other qualified donee

Registered charity or registered non profit number:

If your organization has a website and/or social media presence, please include the handles of each account (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)

Section B: Overview

Please tell us about the vision or goals for your organization (250 words)

What is your organization's leadership type?

- Solely volunteer-led
- Primarily volunteer-led, with some support from paid staff
- Primarily paid staff

- Other: _____

How long has your organization been in operation? (Choose one answer)

- Less than 1 year
- 1 year to 3 years
- 3 years to 6 years
- 6 years to 9 years
- 10 years or more

Section C: Demographic information

We would like to know about your organization as well as the community or communities you engage with.

We use the term *general public* to include society at large rather than members of a specific group or organization.

We use the term *equity-deserving communities* to refer to groups who, because of systemic discrimination, oppression, and/or the ongoing impacts of colonization, continue to face barriers that prevent them from having equitable access to resources and opportunities available to other members of society. These may include but are not limited to Indigenous Peoples, Black, and other racialized communities, disabled persons, 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, newcomers, women, and people living on low incomes.

Are people leading your organization part of any of the communities below? Check all that apply.

- First Nations
- Métis
- Inuit
- Black
- Other racialized person
- A person living with a disability
- A member of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community
- Newcomer to Canada (less than 5 years living in Canada)
- Living with low income
- Woman
- Youth (15-24 years)
- Older Adult (65 years and over)
- General public
- Other _____

What community/communities does your organization serve and/or engage with? Check all that apply.

- Indigenous communities
- Black communities
- Other racialized communities
- The disability community
- The 2SLGBTQIA+ community
- The newcomer community (those living in Canada less than 5 years)
- People living with low income
- Woman
- Youth (15-24 years)
- Older Adult (65 years and over)
- General public
- Others _____

SECTION D: Description of the Project

The scaling stream of the Park People Nature Connect Fund supports local leaders and organizations to sustain, replicate and grow successful projects that connect people with nature while fostering ecological stewardship and restoring urban parks and greenspaces.

Project title (255 characters)

Please describe the goals of your project including the timing of and activities that will take place: (500 words)

We understand that across Canada different jurisdictions allow for different types of landcare, restoration and stewardship activities. For us to better understand your context we would like to know within your park or greenspace do you have permission to plant trees and plants and remove invasive species?

- Yes my organization or my partner organization has permission
- No we do not have permission and therefore do other types of activities
- I don't know
- Other _____

If you are delivering this project in partnership with other organizations please briefly describe (150 words):

Description: Environmental Impacts

Describe the type of park or greenspace (check all that apply)

- Municipal/City Park
- Parkette
- Conservation area
- Land trust
- Urban corridor/linear park
- Adaptive reuse space
- Trail
- Other _____

Describe the habitat (check all that apply)

- Grassland/Prairie
- Savannah
- Urban forest
- Wetlands/Ponds
- Native plant/pollinator gardens
- Ravine/river valley
- Coastal/Marine
- Others _____

What is the main purpose or desired environmental impact of your project? For example, is your main goal to address urban biodiversity loss through native plant reintroduction or invasive species removal or is your main goal environmental education? (250 words)

Please describe how you are measuring/evaluating the environmental impacts of the project. For example, acres of land restored, number of trees, shrubs and plants planted, number of species identified etc:

Your targets (which may or may not be reached - or surpassed!)

- Total number of trees planted (if applicable):
[Numerical]
- Total number of shrubs, grasses, wildflowers, and other plants planted (if applicable):
[Numerical]

- Cubic meters of invasive species removed (if applicable):
[Numerical]

Other targets or metrics. Please describe (150 words)

Description: Connection to Nature

Describe how your project supports/addresses connection to nature, community resilience and/or wellbeing? (250 words)

Volunteers are people who support and help deliver the project. Volunteers can be one-time, recurring, and/or specialized environmental stewards who donate their time to hands-on stewardship and restoration activities in the park, such as invasive species removal and/or planting. Volunteers also include those who facilitate others' participation in such hands-on activities through coordination or implementation of volunteer opportunities.

How many volunteers will participate in your project?

- Numerical answer

What is the total number of volunteer hours? (For example: 5 volunteers per event, multiplied by 10 events, multiplied by 3 hours of work per event equals 150 total volunteer hours)

- Numerical answer

Participants or attendees (one-time or recurring) participate in nature-based activities that are largely "hands-off" for example, demonstrations of stewardship and restoration, nature walks, talks, workshops, school groups and/or camps.

How many participants or attendees will be engaged through your project?

- Numerical answer

Description: Inclusivity and Accessibility

Is the park or greenspace publicly accessible?

- Yes
- No

If not, please briefly describe how the project addresses this? (100 words)

Describe what makes your project inclusive (to people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds) and accessible (physically accessible, open to the public) and safe (health measures)?

Check all that apply:

- Free and open attendance for the public
- Physically accessible event venue, accessible tools and supplies
- Accessible washrooms
- Free or subsidized transportation
- Free or subsidized childcare
- ASL interpretation, description/captioning for AV, language translation at event;
- Communications (using inclusive language, translating communications, using photos & words);
- Cultural considerations (offering prayer spaces, gendered spaces, etc.);
- Health and safety (e.g. First Aid kit, emergency plan, warming or cooling spaces)

Please briefly describe: open text box (150 words)

Section E: Proposed Budget

How many years of funding are you applying for? (Choose one)

- 1 year
- 2 years

If you are applying for 1 year of funding what is the total amount you are requesting?

- Numerical answer (limit of \$20,000)

If applying for funding over 2 years (2026/2027), please provide the budget request by year and the cumulative total.

- Year 1 (limit of \$20,000)
- Year 2 (limit of \$20,000)
- Total (limit of \$40,000)

Please provide a description of how you will use this funding. Expenses can include but are not limited to staff time, marketing (e.g., printing posters and flyers, social media campaigns), event materials and equipment, permit costs, insurance, honoraria and low-cost, high-impact capital projects such as interpretive signage. Please describe in the table below.

Expense	Amount	Brief Description
Program Tools and Supplies (e.g. equipment, plant materials, food and beverage)	Numerical field	50 words
Stipends and Honoraria		
Marketing and Communications		
Local transportation		
Staffing		
Operations/Administration (up to 10% of budget)		
Other Expenses		
Other Expenses		
Other Expenses		

Please list the matching funds, the amounts, and whether each source is confirmed or expected. The matching funds must equal in value or be equal to the total amount requested. Matching funds can include cash, in-kind and other leveraged resources for example municipal donations of plant materials, volunteer time.

Extra Funding Sources	Amount	Status (confirmed or expected)
	Numerical field	

Section F: Terms & Conditions

Please note that, should your project be selected, the delivery of the grant is conditional to signing a Funding Agreement detailing the roles, relationships and obligations of both Park People and your organization.

Please email any inquiries regarding these terms to natureconnect@parkpeople.ca

- I agree to the terms and conditions*