

2026 InTO the Ravines Microgrants - Application Guide

Description & Eligibility

InTO the Ravines microgrants provides \$1500 to support groups with hosting one environmentally-focused event, in person or online, to help communities connect to, celebrate and champion Toronto's one-of-a-kind ravine system. Imagine sketching, birdwatching, scavenger hunts, and Indigenous knowledge-sharing about the ravines. Let your imagination run wild.

See <https://parkpeople.ca/initiatives/into-the-ravines/> for full details.

To apply for an InTO the Ravines microgrant, please complete the form below. If you run into any barriers or have access needs we can support, please contact us at torontonetworks@parkpeople.ca. Please respect the word limits when writing your answers.

This document is for planning purposes only. Applications are due on July 6 and must be submitted using the [online form](#). If you require a PDF copy of the application for accessibility reasons, please request it from grants@parkpeople.ca. Completed PDF applications can be returned to grants@parkpeople.ca by the due date.

Submissions are ongoing until spaces are full. Please note that Park People staff are not available on weekends. To ensure we can answer your questions, reach out to us as early as possible at torontonetworks@parkpeople.ca, or check out Q&A.

Microgrant recipients will be announced late July, and events can begin on August 10 and continue any time until November 1.

Eligibility:

InTO the Ravines Microgrants are open to grassroots groups based in Toronto who are interested in, or already working in, their local ravines. Eligible groups include park friends groups, community and resident associations, neighbourhood groups, BIPOC-led groups, and small not-for-profit organizations. Private businesses and government are NOT eligible to apply.

Applicants are not required to have a trustee or have charitable status.

Smaller or newly formed groups without event planning experience are strongly encouraged to collaborate with an established local organization.

Priority will be given to:

- Groups engaging communities who are less familiar with ravines or face barriers to accessing them; equity-deserving communities
- Groups that have not previously received this microgrant

Event requirements:

- Must take place between August 10 and November 1, 2026
- May be in-person or online and focus on connecting, celebrating, or championing Toronto's ravines
- If in-person, must take place on publicly accessible lands, which are designated ravines or overlook ravines
- Must be free and open to all
- Events should not include any form of direct stewardship, such as tree planting or invasive plant removal. Stewardship activities such as these must be led by the Natural Environment and Community Programs unit of Urban Forestry, City of Toronto. You can learn more about their volunteer opportunities here: toronto.ca/greentoronto.

Please refer to section D for more info on the terms of reference for this microgrant.

Section A: Contact information:

Please fill out your Park Group Information.

Name of your Group:*

Did your group receive the InTO the Ravine Microgrant: * Yes No

If your group has a social media presence, please include the handles of each account (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)

PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS ABOUT THE PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON FOR THE GROUP.

First name:*

Last Name:*

Street address:*

Apt number:*

City, Province:*

Postal Code:*

Phone Number

Email address:*

Phone Number:*

Best time to contact:*

Is the group's street address the same as the primary contact?: Yes No

If not, please provide the address, the same as the primary contact.

PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS ABOUT A SECONDARY CONTACT PERSON FOR THE GROUP.

First Name:*

Last Name:*

Email address:*

Phone Number:*

Best time to contact:*

Which City of Toronto Ward is your group in?*

If you are unsure which Ward, please follow this link:

<https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/data-research-maps/neighbourhoods-communities/ward-profiles/>

- Etobicoke North - 1
- Etobicoke Centre - 2
- Etobicoke-Lakeshore - 3
- Parkdale-High Park - 4
- York South-Weston - 5
- York Centre - 6
- Humber River-Black Creek - 7
- Eglinton-Lawrence - 8
- Davenport - 9
- Spadina-Fort York - 10
- University-Rosedale - 11
- Toronto-St. Paul's - 12
- Toronto Centre - 13
- Toronto-Danforth - 14
- Don Valley West - 15
- Don Valley East - 16
- Don Valley North - 17
- Willowdale - 18
- Beaches-East York - 19
- Scarborough Southwest - 20
- Scarborough Centre - 21
- Scarborough-Agincourt - 22
- Scarborough North - 23
- Scarborough-Guildwood - 24
- Scarborough-Rouge Park - 25

Is your group in a [Neighborhood Improvement Area](#)?*

Yes No

If yes, which Neighborhood Improvement Area?

If you are unsure, please follow this link:

<https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/data-research-maps/neighbourhoods-communities/neighbourhood-profiles/find-your-neighbourhood/#location=&lat=&lng=>

- Beechborough-Greenbrook - 112
- Black Creek - 024
- Downsview - 155
- Eglinton East - 138
- Elms-Old Rexdale - 005
- Flemingdon Park - 044
- Glenfield-Jane Heights - 025
- Golfdale-Cedarbrae-Woburn - 141
- Humbermede - 022
- Humber Summit - 021
- Ionview - 125
- Keelesdale-Eglinton West - 110
- Kennedy Park - 124
- Kingsview Village-The Westway - 006
- Morningside - 135
- Mount Dennis - 115
- Mount Olive-Silverstone-Jamestown - 002
- Oakdale-Beverley Heights - 154
- Oakridge - 121
- Regent Park - 072
- Rockcliffe-Smythe - 111
- Rustic - 028
- Scarborough Village - 139
- South Parkdale - 085
- Taylor-Massey - 061
- Thistletown-Beaumont Heights - 003
- Thorncliffe Park - 055
- Victoria Village - 043
- West Hill - 136
- Weston - 113
- Weston-Pelham Park - 091
- Woburn North - 142
- York University Heights - 027

Section B: Overview

What are your group's goals, history and key successes? (100 - 200 words.)*

How many members do you have?*

What is your group's leadership type?*

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

- Primarily paid staff
- Other:

What type of group are you?

- Park Friends Group
- Community Group
- Neighbourhood Association
- Non-profit
- Indigenous Group
- Other:

How long have your group been in operations?*

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

If this is your first time applying or running ravine programming, tell us about the relevant experiences that will contribute to your group's success in hosting this event (300 words max).*

Where will you be hosting your events in? Please include the name and address of the ravine(s) - this could be the trail name or park name next to the ravine. Why is your group hoping to host events in this ravine(s)? (100 - 200 words).*

Describe your past experiences hosting community events in ravines or natural environments. If your experience is limited, what supports will you seek to ensure you are successful? (100 - 200 words)*

If your group plans to partner with another community group or charitable organization to help organize your events, please list them below and briefly describe their role (300 words max.). Note: This can include other community groups, local community organizations, neighbourhood tables, nonprofits, charities, etc. Collaboration and partnership are encouraged but not required.*

Section C: Demographic information

We would like to know about your park group as well as the community or communities you engage with.* Proposals for events led by or engaging equity-deserving groups will be prioritized in the application process. This is to help address the inequitable distribution of resources within the parks sector and support inclusive engagement in urban parks and green spaces. We

encourage you to answer the questions to the best of your ability and to use the open-ended questions write-in response option as needed. We understand the sensitive nature of these questions. Responses are 100% confidential.

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 to equitable access to resources and opportunities. These communities 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 income.

Is your group run by and/or serving equity-deserving individuals or community members?*

- Yes
- No

Are members leading your group part of any of the equity-deserving communities below?* Check all that apply

- First Nations, Metis, Inuit, Black, and other racialized persons
- A person living with a disability
- A member of the 2SLGBTQIA+
- The newcomer community (those living in Canada for less than 5 years)
- People living with low income
- Women
- Youth (15 - 24 years)
- Older Adults (55 years and over)
- Other

Does your group serve and/or engage with equity-deserving communities?*

- Yes
- No

What communities does your group serve and/or engage with?* Check all that apply

- First Nations, Metis, Inuit, Black, and other racialized persons
- A person living with a disability
- A member of the 2SLGBTQIA+
- The newcomer community (those living in Canada for less than 5 years)
- People living with low income
- Women
- Youth (15 - 24 years)
- Older Adults (55 years and over)
- Other

How are members of Black, Indigenous, or people of colour (BIPOC) and/or newcomer communities involved in your group as leaders, members or part of the community you serve? We ask this question because we envision the microgrant as an initiative that helps recognize Toronto's inequitable distribution of park resources. (300 words max.)*

Section D: Events

Ravine Event:

Name of your event:

Is this an in-person or virtual event?*

- In-person
- Virtual

Brief description of your event (50-75 words)*

Expected Number of Attendees:*

Expected Number of Volunteers:*

Ravine name:*

Ravine address or closest street intersections:*

Planned date:*

Planned time:*

What significance will these events have to your community and/or local ravine? Why do the people or ravine need these events? * (100 - 200 words.)

What efforts will your group(s) make to connect with individuals who have not visited ravines or who experience barriers to ravine engagement? Barriers can include a lack of awareness or fear of these spaces. * (100 - 200 words.)

Please describe how your proposed events will incorporate the [Ravine Strategy Principles](#) to connect, celebrate and protect (care and respect these spaces), as well as have a low environmental impact? * (100 - 200 words.)

Section E: Budget

Please provide a detailed description of how you will use the \$1500 microgrant to fund your event. Expenses may vary depending on the needs of your community.*

Please break down any individual expenses as line items.

Example:

Honoraria for community members: \$500

Printing and outreach costs: \$200

Food and refreshments: \$250

Gifts for volunteers: \$150

Transportation reimbursement: \$300

Permit costs and insurance (if you choose to host an event for 25+ people): \$100

Expense	Amount	Notes

Please list any other funding sources you are accessing, the amounts, and whether each source is confirmed or expected.

Please break down as line items as per the example below:

Example:

Extra Funding Sources: Butterfly Fund

Amount: \$250

Status (confirmed or expected): Confirmed

Extra funding sources	Amount	Status (confirmed or expected)

Section F: Terms & Conditions

Please note that by signing this document, you agree to deliver the events as described in this application form and to comply with the following terms should your application be successful.

InTO the Ravines microgrant events must:

Be free and open to all. Every reasonable effort should be made to ensure the events are accessible.

Abide by City of Toronto local laws, by-laws and permit requirements and follow our tips for ravine engagement referenced on the Q&A section of the website.

Take place between August 7 and November 1, 2026.

Groups receiving InTO the Ravines microgrants must:

- Add themselves to Park People's Map and the City of Toronto's Festival and Events Calendar listing by August 30, 2026 or sooner. (Park People can support if requested)
- Follow all public health guidelines in place at the time of the event.
- Ensure administrative expenses, including human resources costs, do not exceed 75% of this microgrant.
- Collect information to support Park People's evaluation of the program's success.
- Consent to the disclosure of information for use by the City of Toronto and Park People related to the programs

- Complete the Declaration of Compliance with Anti-Harassment/Discrimination
- Legislation & City Policy
- Share 2 - 3 InTO the Ravines event photos with filled City of Toronto Photo release form to Park People after the event.

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

Please note that by clicking the box “I Accept,” you are agreeing to deliver the events as described in this application form and complying with the terms and conditions outlined above should your application be successful.*

I accept

Name of applicant

Please note that by printing your name on this form, you are agreeing to deliver the events as described in this application form and complying with the terms and conditions outlined above should your application be successful.*