

Stabilize Program – Phase 2: Adapt and Innovate Stream

Information Sheet

Stabilize Program

The first phase of the Stabilize Program and the Stabilize Donation Matching Stream invested \$17 million in over 100 nonprofit organizations. Phase one focused on operational funding to offset financial losses due to cancelled events. The second phase allocates \$15 million to three streams:

Adapt and Innovate Stream	\$10 million
Stabilize Donation Matching 2.0	\$3 million
Stabilize Live Music Grant	\$2 million

Rationale

Live experiences are critical to Alberta's quality of life and the province's economic recovery. Many nonprofits in this sector had limited means to earn revenue and were still incurring fixed overhead costs throughout the pandemic, and about half indicated their organization would not be viable for another year with current restrictions.

As Alberta begins to reopen, many non-profit organizations in this sector will require financial support after having been closed for more than a year.

Overview

The Adapt and Innovate Stream will support nonprofit organizations with reimagining their business model and activities. The program will help eligible nonprofit organizations with long-term sustainability beyond the pandemic and ensure in-person, live experiences return sooner. Live-experiences are critical to Alberta's quality of life and the province's economic recovery.

Qualifying organizations and projects will be eligible for a **one-time matching grant of up to \$75,000**.

Deadline: July 29, 2021
Notification: November 2021

Eligible Organizations

Nonprofit organizations that are primary organizers of a live-experience event or own and/or operate a live-experience venue. Eligibility includes:

- non-profits that organize arts, cultural, festival, rodeo, or sporting live-experience events.
- non-profit owners and/or operators of community halls, cultural centres, along with sport, arts, cultural, and agricultural society venues.
- all non-profit organizations that host and organize events and/or operate or own live-experience venues.

- For a museum to be eligible, it must host a live event that is unique and outside of its regular programming.

For the purposes of the Adapt and Innovate funding stream, the following definitions will be used:

- **Live-experience event:** An in-person experience, presented by a sponsoring or organizing body for guests/participants to have an opportunity for a social, sport or cultural experience outside the normal range of choices or beyond everyday experiences. The live event may be free or fee based, with attendance greater than 50 people, and will take place on a single day or over numerous days at a venue, either indoors or outdoors, that has a size-specific limit.
- **Live-experience venue:** A facility that is regulated with enforced capacity limits and requirements (i.e., insurance, health and safety, liquor approved, etc.), where spectator traffic is controlled and monitored, either indoors or outdoors, but is accessible and suitable for the desired event.

Priority

Priority will be given to organizations that can best demonstrate:

- Their current viability and capacity.
- How their project or innovation will support business continuity and adaptability to recover, re-stabilize, or reinvigorate the organization's ability to offer live-experiences.
- Sufficient funds for the matching requirement and additional funds towards the total project.
- Community participation by improving access and reducing barriers.
- Provide information on community impact, partnerships or collaborations to adapt and innovate their operations.

- Priority will go to smaller organizations with operational budgets of less than \$1.5 million and to those organizations whose events are produced in Alberta.
- Every effort will be made to distribute funding to organizations in all regions of the province.

Ineligible Organizations

- Alberta-based professional and elite amateur sports teams and leagues.
- Municipal-owned venues
- Commercial and For-profit organizations
- Schools/School Boards
- Post-secondary Institutions

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- Individuals
- Organizations already receiving significant annual operational funding, more than 50% of their total annual expenditures, from the Government of Alberta are not eligible for funding
- Nonprofits that are not described under the eligible recipients categories as outlined in the Adapt and Innovate Stream Guidelines.

Eligible Projects Expenses

Organizations may use funds for expenses related to projects such as:

- Business and practice development – adapting and re-tooling existing practices and operations; exploring alternative models and platforms for service delivery, collaboration, mobility or distribution; scaling their organization up or down; or other expenses to research and develop new funding and operating models.
- Digital capacity – expenses to strengthen digital infrastructure; accessing the appropriate software or making content accessible to diverse and underrepresented audience.

Examples

- A sport organization could use funding to reimagine their fundraising opportunities or the way they manage volunteer support teams.
- Agricultural societies that own or operate a venue could update their digital capacity and business model to offer programs and services online or improve access to venues and facilities through online booking.

Ineligible Project Expenses

- Adapt and Innovate funding cannot be used to host an event.
- The Adapt and Innovate stream will not provide funding for expenses covered through the Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant. Applicants must declare receipt of any small and medium business support relaunch funds received and demonstrate that the expenses are not the same.

Note: Please review the Adapt and Innovate Stream Guidelines for more information on ineligible projects.

Other Supports

Nonprofit/voluntary sector organizations that do not qualify for this program may consider:

- Other Community Grant Programs such as the Community Initiatives Program Project-Based stream.

- The Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant offers financial assistance to Alberta businesses, cooperatives, and non-profit organizations that were ordered to close or curtail operations due to COVID-19.

Pauses in Alberta's Open for Summer Plan

Alberta's Open for Summer Plan safely eases restrictions in three stages, and a stage may be paused to respond to trends at regional or provincial levels. If a stage is paused, the Adapt and Innovate stream still provides ample time for organizations to plan ahead and include in their applications innovative and creative strategies for a safe relaunch of live experience(s) and to reimagine their business operations to support long-term viability as an organization.

Application Submission

Complete the application package and email it to: LFP.application@gov.ab.ca

Contact Information

- Toll-Free: 1-800-642-3855
- Email Inquiries: communitygrants@gov.ab.ca

Community Grants Website

- For more information and to access the application, visit: alberta.ca/stabilize-program.aspx

Please review the Adapt and Innovate Stream Guidelines for complete eligibility requirements and evaluation criteria.