

Civil Society Fund

The CSF provides \$20 million over 3 years to expand civil society’s capacity to address social problems facing Albertans. The first round of CSF funding was launched in fall 2020.

Civil society includes non-profit and voluntary organizations, registered charities, informal groups or movements pursuing shared interests or values, and private-sector organizations and individuals pursuing social good.

Civil society plays a critical role in the well-being of Albertans and contributes significantly to Alberta’s economy. The intent of the CSF is to support transformational change and improve how civil society organizations function and work together to address pressing social challenges.

Year 2 Projects

Funding for the second year of the CSF (2021-22) is being provided to 37 civil society organizations across the province. The second year of CSF funding is focused on building the capacity of civil society organizations to support the social and economic recovery of Albertans.

Organization	Project Title and Description	Grant Amount	Geographic Scope
Affinity Mentorship Foundation (AMF)	Life Skills Program (LSP) Project will work with community and justice system partners to support at-risk youth in the Calgary region, with a focus on mental well-being and employment readiness, with the goal to reduce recidivism.	\$150,000	Regional
Alberta Mindfulness Association	AMA Mindfulness Education Program Project will educate the public on mindfulness for mental health support while providing students of the Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy program with supplementary skills to enhance their career potential.	\$100,000	Provincial
Brenda Stafford Society for the Prevention of Family Violence	Brighter Futures: Building Financial Wellbeing for Survivors Project will partner with SAIT to create a social enterprise where BIPOC women in the Calgary area can build employability and economic self-sufficiency skills, leading to a new life after leaving a domestic violence situation.	\$100,000	Local
Bridges of Hope International Network of Development Agencies Inc.	EPIC Youth Services Project will expand at-risk drop in services, directed outreach programs and youth mental health supports to youth ages 12 to 18, using the Alberta mentoring model.	\$150,000	Regional

Bridges of Love Ministry Society	<p>THE POWER OF CIVIL SOCIETY...Moving at the Speed of Trust</p> <p>Project prepares and trains community organizations and individuals to provide immediate disaster assistance, bridging a critical gap before professional emergency response teams are in place, and strengthening the ability for local communities to protect property and provide care to family and community.</p>	\$150,000	Regional
Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations	<p>Civil Marketplace</p> <p>Project will use a social enterprise model to create a digital space connecting non-profits and the businesses that serve the non-profit sector across Alberta.</p>	\$200,000	Provincial
Calgary Immigrant Women's Association	<p>Social Recovery and Wellbeing for Immigrant Women</p> <p>Project will work with the Alberta Mindfulness Association, to bring a mindfulness approach to program development for immigrant women dealing with gender-based violence and/or mental health issues.</p>	\$450,000	Regional
Calgary Seniors' Resource Society	<p>Kind Neighbour Campaign</p> <p>Project will strengthen neighbourhoods in Calgary and inspire positive action on a person-to-person level, with a focus on increasing awareness and understanding of the needs of older persons on their aging journey.</p>	\$350,000	Local
Camrose Interagency Collaborative Working Group	<p>Coordinating Care in Camrose</p> <p>Project brings together stakeholders to create a coordinated approach to addressing priority needs across multiple communities. The project will be informed by community research and service delivery pilots, and will explore options for financial sustainability, including social enterprise and social finance approaches.</p>	\$200,000	Local
Canada West Foundation	<p>Collaborative Model to Strengthen the Capacity of the Edmonton Domestic Violence Sector</p> <p>Project will convene partners to develop a collaborative model that can better address the needs of all family members involved in domestic violence.</p>	\$150,000	Provincial
Canadian Mental Health Association Alberta Southeast Region	<p>Community Assisted Response (CARE)</p> <p>Project will partner with local police services to pilot the use of civilian "CARE" teams instead of police to respond to low-risk calls, to help decriminalize approaches to mental illness and homelessness. Civilian teams will have the ability to assist clients through system navigation, referrals, follow-up support, and transportation issues.</p>	\$451,000	Local

Chinatown and Area Business Association	<p>Chinatown and Hope Mission Recovery Through Employment</p> <p>Project will partner with Hope Mission in Edmonton to provide work experience and employment to individuals that may otherwise have trouble gaining employment, increasing community inclusion and well-being.</p>	\$250,000	Local
Community Foundation of Medicine Hat and Southeastern Alberta	<p>The Endowment Building for Sustainability</p> <p>Project will design and pilot an endowment-building toolkit to assist non-profits and charities establish their own endowment fund, including opportunities to partner with their closest geographical Community Foundation to ensure long-term, unrestricted funding.</p>	\$117,254	Provincial
Crowd Security Campaign Foundation	<p>CSCF Job Training and Placement Project for Albertans with Disabilities</p> <p>Project will support individuals with disabilities, as well as their families and caregivers, with coaching, awareness workshops and other supports to provide inclusive employment opportunities that meet individuals' needs.</p>	\$150,000	Provincial
Distress Centre Calgary	<p>Calgary Community Information Exchange (CIE)</p> <p>Project will support a network of partners to develop a shared approach, resource database and integrated technology platform that enables collaborative, tailored, and proactive care planning, particularly for Albertans dealing with mental health or addictions challenges.</p>	\$550,000	Local
Edmonton Violence Prevention Centre	<p>Multicultural Violence Prevention Program</p> <p>Project will create additional materials and support tools for immigrant and newcomer clients, particularly those with language barriers, who are referred to their court approved and mandated Domestic Violence Treatment Program.</p>	\$107,500	Provincial
Edson Friendship Centre	<p>Edson Friendship Centre Social Enterprise</p> <p>Project will support the financial sustainability a new social enterprise that will provide employment skills and opportunities for Indigenous and other at-risk youth and residents.</p>	\$200,000	Local
Fort Saskatchewan Multicultural Association	<p>Recovery by Rebuilding</p> <p>Project will assist the community's recovery by working with partners to bring mental health, well-being and job preparation programs to Fort Saskatchewan.</p>	\$150,000	Local
Fresh Routes Inc.	<p>Connecting Farm to Table: Local Food to Address Food Insecurity</p> <p>Project supports expansion of the Mobile Grocery Store and other programs to five new communities. The Mobile</p>	\$150,000	Provincial

	Grocery Store works with local producers and community groups to provide affordable food options and increase food security for Albertans.		
Golden Bear Football Alumni Association	Be the VOICE – Strength in Numbers Project will increase this program's capacity and reach to address gender based violence at root levels, including through mentoring youth.	\$81,100	Provincial
Governors of the University of Calgary	Societal Health Integration Program (SHIP) Project will support Albertans mental health and well-being by developing a community-based model in which Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) services are provided in a cost-effective, scalable, and transferrable manner.	\$427,570	Provincial
Igbo Cultural Association of Edmonton	Igbo Language School Transformation Project Project will transform service delivery by designing and deploying technology to provide the Igbo Language School online.	\$200,000	Provincial
Imagine Institute for Learning	Seven Generations Indigenous Youth Peer Support Project will create and implement a peer support program aimed at social recovery and mental health supports for Indigenous youth across Alberta.	\$150,000	Provincial
John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights	Community-Based Solutions to Racism, Discrimination and Poverty Project will extend the John Humphrey Centre's programming for marginalized Albertans, by developing a province-wide Network model that will enable effective collaboration across organizations, including triaging of issues with local partners and volunteer networks.	\$150,000	Provincial
Junior Achievement of Southern Alberta	Expanding Digital Literacy Education for Alberta's Students Project involves working with community partners to deliver in-classroom digital literacy training for youth so they can succeed in the digital economy, with a focus on rural and remote (including Indigenous) communities.	\$150,000	Provincial
Kingdom Life Ministries Calgary	Social Recovery Service Delivery Capacity Build Project will develop digital technology infrastructure to support collaborative approaches to the planning and delivery of a range of social services, enable the sharing of services across organizations, and expand services to new subsectors and communities in Alberta.	\$150,000	Provincial
Mount Royal University Foundation	Knowledge Hub for Social Impact Technology Project will work with community partners to develop a social impact ecosystem that can build the community's	\$150,000	Local

	capacity to use technology for social impact. It will also develop and pilot an undergraduate work-placement program to provide talent to Calgary's growing social impact tech community.		
Oxford House Foundation of Canada	Indigenous Ceremony and Healing Program Project will provide cultural connection and ceremony for Indigenous residents to support recovery and healing, and bridge the connection lost through addiction and homelessness.	\$88,880	Local
Poverty Awareness Fort Saskatchewan	Fort Saskatchewan Poverty Reduction Strategy Project brings together community partners to develop a poverty reduction strategy that addresses the unique circumstances of the City of Fort Saskatchewan.	\$150,000	Local
Sagesse Domestic Violence Prevention Society	Innovation Outside the Lab: Building Capacity for Innovation Project extends the innovation lab approach to social and organization change to include individuals not already committed to or comfortable with change, and those from a wide variety of sectors and professional backgrounds. The project will increase the capacity of organizations to explore innovative solutions to social challenges.	\$200,000	Provincial
Simon House Residence Society	LGBTQ2S+ Alliance Recovery Project Project will work collaborate with partners to research and implement a pilot approach to addressing unmet, intersecting needs of youth in the LGBTQ2S+ community, including addictions and mental health, discrimination, poverty and homelessness.	\$200,000	Provincial
Society for Support to Pregnant and Parenting Teens	Project Thrift Shop Project will support the creation of a social enterprise thrift store to provide ongoing revenue, work placement opportunities and essential items for low-income individuals and families in Grande Prairie and the County of Grand Prairie.	\$152,796	Regional
Sustainable Red Deer Society	Common Ground Garden (CGG) Project will help create a sustainable approach to food security in Red Deer that also provides a fully accessible space for collaboration, volunteer mobilization, community education and intercultural connections, including exploring food needs/traditions of newcomer and Indigenous communities.	\$150,000	Local
United Cultures of Canada Association	Pro Bono Mental Health Counselling for Refugees and Immigrants	\$35,900	Regional

	The project involves developing and providing a forum for mental health practitioners to provide pro-bono services to immigrants and refugees in need of supports.		
Urban Aboriginal Voices Society	<p>Indigenous Diversion Program (IDP) for Provincial Court System in Red Deer</p> <p>Project will address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the justice system. The pilot project will develop collaborative "Healing Plans" for participating individuals, supporting the individual's journey and building the capacity of support organizations to work effectively together.</p>	\$150,000	Local
Vulcan Regional Response to Elder Abuse Council	<p>Elder Mediation</p> <p>Project seeks to prevent and address elder abuse and neglect by developing a new elder mediation program to fill a gap in existing supports and services. The project is a collaborative effort by partnering organizations in Vulcan and Claresholm.</p>	\$138,000	Regional
Woodland Cree First Nation #474	<p>Woodland Cree First Nation's mobile Application Development and Deployment</p> <p>Project will develop an app to facilitate community engagement and communication, potentially provide a platform for payments to members, improve access to support services, and facilitate participation in elections.</p>	\$150,000	Regional