

Food Security Fund **2025 - 2026**

Food Security Fund Information Sessions:

- **Tuesday, July 15, 2025**
- **Wednesday, July 16, 2025**





Housekeeping Rules

In the top right corner, you should see the **following features**:



Chat



Q&A



Chat and Q&A:

- Use the chat or Q&A to ask questions or share comments



Raise



Raise:

- Click the raise hand button if you want to speak.



React



React:

- Use the react button to engage with the presentation.



Mic



Microphone

- Please click the microphone button to unmute yourself

Please note this session is being recorded.

Agenda

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**Community
Investment
Program**

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**Food
Security Fund
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Criteria**

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& Key Dates**

Community Investment Program (CIP)

- CIP invests in communities by building capacity of Peel's Not-For-Profit (NFP) sector and providing community groups equitable access to funding.
- CIP enables community agencies to effectively plan and implement equitable solutions that contribute to improved outcomes for Peel's vulnerable populations.



Funding Overview



2025 Food Security Fund: Key Objectives of Co-design Process



Co-design timeline:
March 2025 - June 2025



1. Co-Design Peel's 2025 Food Security Fund

Develop an equitable, outcome-based fund **framework** to address food insecurity in Peel by working closely with community partners and considering the entire food system.



2. Enhance Stakeholder Capacity and Collaboration

Increase knowledge and strengthen **collaboration** among Community Advisory Board members to effectively work together to develop and implement impactful solutions for Peel residents.



3. Develop Sustainable Strategies

Enhance Peel Region's **ability to collaborate with community partners** and apply **sustainable strategies** to address food insecurity.



Co-Design Results:

2025-2026 Food Security Fund Framework


**Fund Problem
Statement:**


**Purpose &
Vision**


**Priority
Populations**


Fund Focus Areas


**Fund
Outcomes**


**Eligibility
Criteria**

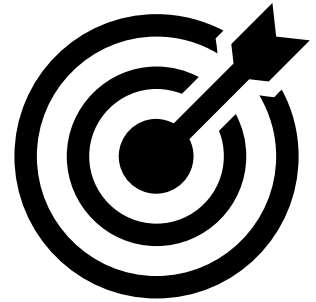

**Eligible
Expenses**


Funding Limits


**Fund Review
Committee**

Fund Goal

By the end of 2025, Peel Region Community Investment Program will allocate \$3M annually in 2025 and 2026 to community organizations addressing food insecurity in Peel Region by **(1) providing emergency food relief and (2) building individual and community capacity to reduce barriers to food security.**



Food Security Fund - Stream #1

- **Stream 1: Emergency Food Access**
- Investing in community organizations capacity to maintain or improve access to emergency food for Peel's most vulnerable food-insecure populations

Stream #1	Emergency Food Access
Total Budget	\$2,250,000
Funding limits	25% of organizational revenue or \$500,000.
Funding term	Multi-Year (2 Years) July 2 nd , 2025 - June 30 th , 2027

Food Security Fund - Stream #2

Stream 2: Building Individual and Community Capacity

- Investing in new or existing initiatives that aim to achieve medium to long-term outcomes. Focus is on:
 - Building the capacity of individuals experiencing food insecurity, strengthening Peel's collective Not-For-Profit food system
 - Empowering communities to collaboratively respond to food insecurity across the Peel region.

Stream #2	Building Capacity
Total annual budget	\$750,000
Funding limits	25% of Organizational revenue or \$150,000.
Funding term	Multi-Year (2 Years) July 2 nd , 2025 – June 30 th , 2027

Fund Outcomes

(Only Need to Choose 2 per Stream)

- ☐ **1.** Improve or maintain access to food that aligns with residents' cultural and dietary needs.
- ☐ **2.** Improve or maintain access to fresh (perishable) food including fruits, vegetables, protein, and whole grains products.
- ☐ **3.** Maintain or strengthen organizational capacity to deliver services to vulnerable Peel residents.
- ☐ **4.** Increase or maintain individual or community capacity to support food security
- ☐ **5.** Enhanced organizational data capacity to efficiently identify and communicate needs and impact.

Eligibility Criteria



Eligibility Criteria – Stream #1:

Emergency Food Access

- **(1)** Organizations core programming is food-related (reflected in the organizations mission and mandate) **OR**
- **(2)** Organizations currently operates 1 or more programs dedicated to providing direct access to emergency food (e.g., Food banks, pantries, meal programs, etc.).

In Addition to:

- Current food program(s) that have been in operation for 2 or more continuous years
- Organizations must clearly serve 3 or more identified Priority Populations
- Organizations consistently collect data on food program(s) on an ongoing basis to assess service usage and outcomes

Eligibility Criteria – Stream #2:

Building Individual & Community Capacity

Program or project aims to achieve medium to long-term outcomes with a direct focus on addressing food insecurity while building individual and/or community capacity, including expected number of residents served, program/project activities, and intended outcomes (e.g. Community Gardens, community kitchens, community food centers, etc.).

- Program or project targets 2 or more identified Priority Populations
- Program or project is evidence-informed and demonstrates need in Peel community
- Program or project has developed a plan to collect data on a consistent basis to assess program/project participation and outcomes
- **NOTE:** *Collaborations are encouraged but not required*

Eligibility Criteria - General

- Be physically located in Peel region or primarily serve Peel residents.
- Be governed by a volunteer board of directors that is representative of the community it serves.
- Comply with the Ontario Human Rights Code in hiring practices and provision of all its services.
- Comply with federal, provincial, and municipal laws and regulations.
- If a faith-based organization also provides non-faith-based services, it must maintain separate financial records for those programs.



Eligibility Criteria – Incorporation Status

- Be incorporated as a not-for-profit/charitable organization for a minimum of 2 years.
 - Organizations who have been incorporated for less than two years may apply by partnering with a lead agency as a collaborative.
- Unincorporated groups may apply with a lead organization as a collaborative.



Ineligible Criteria

- Individuals
- For-profit organizations
- Faith-based organizations that do not offer direct programs or services to the broader community.
- Organizations acting in the capacity of a funding party.
- Programs where the federal or provincial government has the primary responsibility for funding, including but not limited to:
 - Hospitals
 - Schools
 - Medical research
 - Arts and Culture programs
 - Formal education and training

Eligibility Criteria - Mandatory Documents

- Articles of Incorporation
- Valid certificate of insurance
- 2 years of financial statements (2023 & 2024)
 - Notice to reader (\$75,000 - \$150,000)
 - Review Engagement Report (\$150,001 - \$250,000)
 - Audited Financial statements (\$250,001+)
- Year-to-date (YTD) Balance Sheet and Income Statement as of May 31, 2025
- ***Budget Template****



2025/26 Food Security Fund: Eligible Expenses

Operational Costs

- Occupancy costs (rent)
- Utilities
- Insurance (e.g. property; general liability, vehicle)
- Truck Lease
- IT/data management systems/evaluation
- Staff/ Volunteer Training

Operating Positions

- Wages/ Benefits (eg; donation coordinator, warehouse shipper/ receiver, food delivery drivers etc.)

Small Capital Assets

(\$1000-\$10,000)

- Equipment (eg. fridges, hot tables, shelving; garden sprinkler-system, etc.)
- Organizational infrastructure (e.g. databases, etc.)

Program Supplies/ Costs

- Food
- Transportation costs (e.g. fuel, maintenance)
- Outreach materials/ costs
- Other program supplies

Ineligible expenses include

- Purchase of land or building
- Purchase or lease of private/personal vehicles
- Renovations or construction projects
- Annual fundraising drives or events
- Political activities
- Religious programs and activities
- Legal costs or legal services

Questions?



How Do I Apply?

Application Process



Application Process

**Step 1 - Register
with Gov Grants
(GG)**

**Step 2- Complete
or update the
Service Provider
Profile (on GG)**

**Step 3- Complete
the online
application
(SurveyMonkey)**

**Step 4- Complete
Budget Template
(XLS), upload to
GG**

Application Process & Resources

<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program>

General CIP Page

Community Investment Program

Funding for not-for-profit agencies to support their operations, development, and collaborative partnerships.

About the program

The Community Investment Program provides grants for not-for-profits to better deliver human and social services.

Our funds

About each of the Community Investment Program funds, status, and additional fund materials.

Applying for funds

Outline of the application process and reporting requirements.

B3 Funding Framework

Peel Region's first Black-led, Black-focused, and Black-serving (B3) Funding Framework to improve outcomes for the Black community.

Resources

Help using GovGrants, and other related policies and resources.



Food Security Fund is open

The 2025-2026 Food Security Fund aims to strengthen the capacity of organizations addressing food insecurity in Peel.

[Learn more](#)

Related information

- [Ontario Non-profit Corporation Act](#)
- [Service continuity for community partners](#)

Application Process & Resources

<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/our-funds>

All your
required
resources can
be found
here!

Our funds

About each of the Community Investment Program funds, status, and additional fund materials.

2025-2026 Food Security Fund

Status: Open

Now accepting applications until August 11, 2025.

The purpose of the 2025–2026 Food Security Fund is to support community organizations address the urgent and growing issue of food insecurity in Peel. By investing in both emergency food access and capacity-building, the fund helps non-profit agencies deliver immediate relief and strengthen initiatives to improve food security outcomes across the region.

- [Food Security Fund guidelines](#)
- [Food Security Fund frequently asked questions](#)
- [Food Security Fund application](#)
- [Food Security Fund budget template](#)

STEP 1 - Register with Gov Grants

**** Must Be Completed by organizations new to Community Investment Program (CIP) Funding.**

Organizations that have not registered with Community Investment Program in the past, they will be required to register for the GovGrants platform in advance of completing the application.

Please note: It may take 24 to 48 hours to receive your login credentials.

<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/resources>

If your agency is going to be applying for funding, you must first register in GovGrants and complete and submit a Service Provider Profile.

GovGrants is user-friendly, safe and secure. The information you input into the system will only be accessed by authorized users in your organization and our staff.

GovGrants sign in

GovGrants resources

- [Starting and completing an application in GovGrants](#)
- [Registering in GovGrants](#)
- [Progress and reconciliation reports](#)
- [GovGrants account management](#)
- [Complete or update your Service Provider Profile](#)

STEP 2 - Complete or update the Service Provider Profile (SPP) in Gov Grants

**** All organizations must complete or update their Service Provider Profile in GovGrants.**

- Ensure all tabs are complete on your profile.
- Once your profile has been updated, upload the following mandatory documents to apply to your Service Provider Profile in GovGrants
 - ✓ Articles of Incorporation
 - ✓ Two years of financial statements
 - ✓ Year-to-date Income Statement and Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2025
 - ✓ Valid certificate of insurance

<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/complete-or-update-your-service-provider-profile>

[Home](#) > [Business and professionals](#) > [Community partnerships](#) > [Community Investment Program](#)

Complete or update your Service Provider Profile

Step by step guide to updating your profile.

What you need before you begin

Google Chrome browser - the GovGrants platform does not support other browsers.

Your username and login credentials.

First time applicant

After you register for access to GovGrants, you are required to complete and submit your **Service Provider Profile**. See [Registering in GovGrants](#) for instructions on how to register.

Returning applicant

You are required to review and, if required, update your **Service Provider Profile** each time you apply for funding to ensure that your profile is up to date.

Mandatory documents and other required information

STEP 3 - Complete the online application through SurveyMonkey

****Applications - Must be completed by all applicants to be considered for funding.**

- A fillable application is attached above to support with drafting your application.
- **It is highly recommended** that you complete your application on the PDF copy first and then cut and paste into the online survey monkey application. (Contact cip@peelregion.ca for a copy)
- **Note:** Submissions must be made on Survey Monkey, PDF applications will not be accepted.

<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/our-funds>

Our funds

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- [Food Security Fund application](#)
- [Food Security Fund budget template](#)

STEP 4 - Complete the Budget Request Template and Upload to Gov Grants

Budget Request - Must be completed by all applicants.

- Download the 2025-2026 Food Fund Budget Template attached to the Fund Launch email or from the CIP Grants Application webpage.
- Complete and upload it to your Service Provider Profile - Attachments Page. This is the same location you are uploading all of your required documents.

<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/complete-or-update-your-service-provider-profile>

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- [Food Security Fund budget template](#)

STEP 4 Continued – Complete the Budget Request

You can download the Budget Template from the Our Funds page on the website, or it was also attached on the Announcement Email.

[2025-2026-Food-Security-Fund-Budget-Template \(TEST\).xlsx](#)

Once complete – save and upload to Gov Grants Service Provider Profile.

Reminder: Resources

All your
required
resources can
be found here!

<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/our-funds>

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Assessment Process



Assessment Process

- **Eligibility Review**

- CIP Team reviews General Eligibility Criteria including if all required documents have been submitted.
- Completion of the Service Provider Profile all tabs - including Equity section.

- **Application**

- Each application is reviewed by two members of the Fund Review Committee (FRC)
- FRC includes members from the community and those with lived experience

- **Financial Assessment**

- A financial assessment is an important step to check the financial health of an organization applying for funding. Completed by CIP's Financial Services Unit.

Assessment Criteria

There are 3 different categories each weighted based on the value of the questions.

- Equity, Demonstrated Need and Impact (45%)
- Organizational Health (40%)
- Budget (15%)



Important Change to CIP Policy:

1. Applications will be scored on only available information and documentation provided by the deadline. CIP will not be contacting organizations to follow up on incomplete applications.
2. Organizations with outstanding Progress or Reconciliation Reports from previous CIP grants, will not be considered.

Reporting & Key Dates



Reporting Requirements

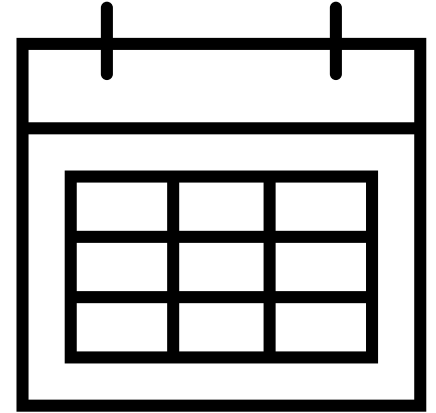
Funding Term – July 2, 2025 – June 30, 2027

Reporting - At the end of each year of funding all successful applicants will be required to submit a:

- Progress Report (impact report – due July 31- 2026, and 2027)
- Reconciliation Report (financial report – due July 31- 2026, and 2027)
- Mid year check-in's in by phone or in person will be scheduled in Year 1 and Year 2.

Key Dates

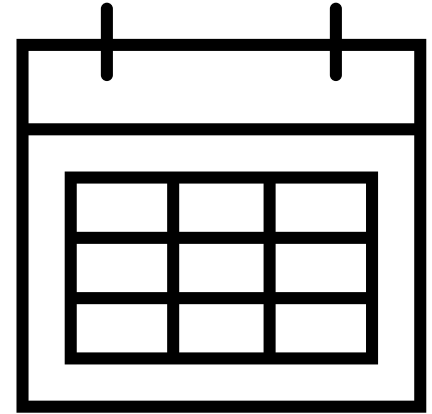
- Complete and submit the application to cip@peelregion.ca by the application deadline on **August 11th at 5 P.M.**
- Technical support will be available until **2 P.M.** on August 11, 2025, please contact the CIP Team at cip@peelregion.ca.
- Funding Decisions will be made **6-10 weeks** after fund closes.



Key Dates

Drop-in Sessions: 4 Application Support Sessions

1. **VIRTUAL:** Wed. July 23 - 2:30 to 4:30pm
 2. **VIRTUAL:** Wed. July 30 - 1 to 4pm
-
1. **IN-PERSON:** Thurs. July 24 - 9am to 2pm
 2. **IN-PERSON:** Monday, July 28 - 9am to 4pm



Email to follow with additional information.

Questions?



Thank You

