

2026 Equity Fund Application Form

Application Process

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Region of Peel's Community Investment Program's 2026 Equity Fund.

Application Process

Prior to completing the 2026 Equity Fund application, carefully review the Equity Fund Application Guidelines to confirm if your organization meets all eligibility criteria.

The application process for the 2026 Equity Fund is a 4-step process. Please ensure you have completed Step 1 and 2 prior to completing this application.



IMPORTANT

This is a fillable pdf copy of the application (Step 3). It is highly recommended that you complete your application on the PDF copy first and then cut and paste responses into the online Survey Monkey application.

Survey Monkey only saves the answers once you advance to the next page.

Step 1: GovGrants Registration

- Must be completed by organizations new to Community Investment Program (CIP) only.
- For 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. Access [here](#) for a step-by-step guide on how to register.
- Please note that it may take 24 to 48 hours to receive your login credentials so register well in advance.

Step 2: Service Provider Profile (SPP) and Required Documents

- For newly registered organizations on GovGrants, you must complete the Service Provider Profile (SPP) on GovGrants.
- For organizations with existing GovGrants accounts, you must update the Service Provider Profile (SPP) on GovGrants. Access [here](#) for a step-by-step guide on how to update your SPP.
- Complete all tabs and answer all questions.
- Ensure that you have uploaded all the required documentation. See Application Guidelines for required documentation.
- ***Organizations with incomplete SPP's will not be eligible for funding.***
- Please see the Application Guidelines for further information and instructions on how to complete your SPP.

Step 3: Application Form

- The application form is available through Survey Monkey. It is highly recommended that you complete this application all at once on one computer and in one location. Survey Monkey will only let you revisit your application if you are working from the same IP address.
- **Application Link:** [2026 Equity Fund Application Survey](#)

Step 4: Budget Request Form

- Download the 2026 Equity Fund Budget Template from the CIP Grants Application, [Our Funds](#) webpage. Please complete the document and upload it to your Service Provider Profile under the “Documents” tab within your Community Investment Program page.

Technical Support

- If you require technical support to submit your application on Survey Monkey and/or upload required documents on GovGrants, contact us at cip@peelregion.ca. **Please note that support is only available until 5:00 p.m. on September 29, 2026.**

Application Deadline

- All applications must be submitted by **September 30, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight/Standard Time (EDT/EST).**

Late and Incomplete Applications

- Late applications and applications missing required documentation will be deemed ineligible and not considered for funding. CIP staff will **not** contact organizations with outstanding required documentation.

Funding Decision

- Funding decisions are anticipated to be communicated 10 to 12 weeks after the application intake deadline. All applicants will be notified whether their application is approved or declined for funding.

SECTION 1 - Organization Information and General Eligibility Requirements

Organization Information	
1. Primary Contact Full Name (First and Last Name)	
2. Organization Name	
3. Headquarters' Address	
4. Email Address	
5. Phone Number	
6. Are you submitting a single application or a joint application?	
7. If this is a joint application, please provide the name(s) of the organization(s) you are partnering/collaborating with.	

General Eligibility (Complete questions 1 - 10)	
1.	How many physical locations do you have in Peel?
2.	If you don't have a physical location in Peel, describe your established service presence, community relationships, and ability to deliver the proposed activities in Peel.
3.	Has your organization been incorporated as a not-for-profit and/or as a registered charity organization for a minimum of 2 years?
4.	Is your organization mandated to provide human and community services?
5.	Is your organization governed by a volunteer Board of Directors that is representative of the community it serves?
6.	Does your organization comply with the Ontario Human Rights Code in hiring practices and provision of all its services?

General Eligibility (Complete questions 1 - 10)

7.	The proposed program or service must be in operation for at least two years to be considered for funding. How long has your organization delivered this program or service? Upload supporting documents to your organization's Service Provider Profile (SPP) in GovGrants that demonstrate the proposed program or service has been operating for at least two years. Examples of documents include service records, participant data, outcome information, annual reports or funding records, etc. that demonstrate operations for at least 2 years.
8.	Do you provide services to Black, South Asian, Asian and Indigenous residents in Peel?
▼ CONTINUE TO QUESTION 9 BELOW ▼	

9.	Select at least one of the following descriptions that applies to your organization:
	Black led - at least 51% of executive, senior/middle management, founders and board identify as Black
	Black serving - has an approach that ensures that Black communities' distinct histories, needs and lived experiences are considered when designing and implementing program delivery. This includes using forms of engagement that ensure that community perspectives and feedback are captured and reflected in program design, delivery and evaluation.
	Black focused - at least 40% of clients served are Black; must have at least two programs and services that serve Black communities; and has a mandate, service delivery, outreach, vision, mission or strategic plan which explicitly states that the organization primarily serves Black communities
	South Asian led - at least 51% of executive, senior/middle management, founders and board identify as South Asian
	South Asian serving - has an approach that ensures that South Asian communities' distinct histories, needs and lived experiences are considered when designing and implementing program delivery. This includes using forms of engagement that ensure that community perspectives and feedback are captured and reflected in program design, delivery and evaluation.
	South Asian focused - at least 40% of clients served are South Asian; must have at least two programs and services that serve South Asian communities; and has a mandate, service delivery, outreach, vision, mission or strategic plan which explicitly states that the organization primarily serves South Asian communities
	Asian led - at least 51% of executive, senior/middle management, founders and board identify as Asian
	Asian serving - has an approach that ensures that Asian communities' distinct histories, needs and lived experiences are considered when designing and implementing program delivery. This includes using forms of engagement that ensure that community perspectives and feedback are captured and reflected in program design, delivery and evaluation.
	Asian focused - at least 40% of clients served are Asian; must have at least two programs and services that serve Asian communities; and has a mandate, service delivery, outreach, vision, mission or strategic plan which explicitly states that the organization primarily serves Asian communities
	Indigenous led - at least 51% of executive, senior/middle management, founders and board identify as Indigenous
	Indigenous serving - has an approach that ensures that Indigenous communities' distinct histories, needs and lived experiences are considered when designing and implementing program delivery. This includes using forms of engagement that ensure that community perspectives and feedback are captured and reflected in program design, delivery and evaluation.
	Indigenous focused - at least 40% of clients served are Indigenous; must have at least two programs and services that serve Indigenous communities; and has a mandate, service delivery, outreach, vision, mission or strategic plan which explicitly states that the organization primarily serves Indigenous communities
	None of the descriptions align to our organization

SECTION 2 - Equity Fund Questions

1. What is your organization's mission, vision, and mandate? **Your response must include how your organization supports at least one of the priority communities** (i.e. Black, South Asian, Asian or Indigenous).

In your response add a link of your mission, vision and/or mandate document or upload a document on your Service Provider Profile on GovGrants.

Application Questions - Reference Table

The Equity Fund focuses on six priorities that support priority equity deserving communities in Peel including Black, South Asian and Asian and Indigenous. Review the reference table which lists and describes the six priorities.

Priority and Description	Priority Objectives	Types of Programs or Services Eligible for Funding
Equity and Child Development: Programs that support healthy development, wellbeing, and participation for children in middle childhood aged 7-14 from equity-deserving communities.	• Reduce inequities experienced by children and families. • Advance community inclusion and belonging. • Build pathways to positive youth outcomes and long-term community well-being.	• Mentorship, peer connection, and positive relationships. • Leadership, confidence-building, mental wellbeing • Culturally responsive identity, belonging, and inclusion activities. • Culturally appropriate navigation to improve access to supports. • Place based culturally appropriate programs that expand access in priority neighbourhoods/wards • Family/caregiver supports, which are connected to child development. • Navigate the barriers to generational poverty through housing- rent geared to income. generational families • Provide programs for middle childhood facing systemic barriers to culturally responsive. supports for eco-anxiety and climate-related mental-health impacts.
Social Justice and Economic Inclusion: Programs that advance equitable opportunities, leadership, employment readiness, and community capacity for youth ages 15-24 and racialized adults 25+.	• Reduce systemic barriers and create fair access to leadership, employment, skills-building. • Support programs led or serving racialized and equity deserving groups. • Strengthen restorative approaches that help youth and communities repair harm, build trust, and access equitable opportunities.	• Youth leadership, advocacy restorative justice and community accountability approaches. • Employment readiness, career exposure, and skills-building, mentorship and peer connections • Provide culturally responsive food access initiatives within Youth hubs that reduce barriers, strengthen belonging and trust, and connect youth early to community supports and opportunities • Training, and newcomer economic navigation. • Community-led capacity building programming for Youth in Peel Living. • Systems coordination for at risk youth.
Housing Stability Supports: Programs that help equity-deserving residents maintain housing stability through prevention, navigation, life skills, community support, and service connections.	• Prevent housing loss by helping residents remain housed before they reach crisis. • Improve access to housing, income, legal, and community supports. • Strengthen the life skills, wellness, and community connections that help residents maintain stable housing over time.	• Eviction prevention navigation and early intervention. • Tenancy education, rights information, and retention skills. • Financial literacy, budgeting, and income support navigation. • Connections to health and wellbeing supports, including mental health and substance-use supports. • Culturally responsive housing navigation for newcomers and international students. • Connections to food, settlement, family, and legal supports. • Cross-sector referrals that prevent housing crisis.

Priority and Description	Priority Objectives	Types of Programs or Services Eligible for Funding
Community Wellbeing and Social Inclusion: Programs that reduce isolation and build social connection, participation, and belonging for equity-deserving communities.	• Reduce social isolation by helping residents feel connected and supported. • Strengthen community connection, participation, inclusion, and belonging for equity-deserving communities. • Promote safety, trust, wellness, and mutual support within communities. Note: Services and supports provided need to be trauma-informed.	• Peer support, community connection, mental wellbeing, and belonging programs. • Cultural, identity-based, and intergenerational gatherings. • Newcomer integration and social inclusion initiatives • Navigation of system. barriers for equity-deserving residents in Peel. • Community safety, anti-racism, and trust-building initiatives. • Digital literacy and access-to-services navigation. • Community-led initiatives that strengthen social connection and equitable access to culturally responsive food and resources for priority populations, including seniors and single mothers. • Support community wellbeing and climate resilience through accessible, culturally responsive programs that strengthen emergency preparedness, social connection, climate-health awareness, mental wellbeing, essential-needs support, service navigation, and access to safe indoor and outdoor spaces.
Human Sex Trafficking: Programs that provide upstream stability supports and coordinated community pathways for survivors ages 25+.	• Provide early support and prevention – helping survivors access support before they reach crisis. • Provide stability and healing – supporting safety planning, wellness, housing stability, life skills, and recovery. • Support coordinated community pathways – helping survivors connect to trusted services, supports, and long-term resources.	• Safety planning, support navigation, and trusted referrals. • Life skills, education, training, and employment readiness. • Housing stability, financial literacy, and basic needs navigation. • Wellness, healing, and health connection supports. • Survivor-led system. stewardship and service coordination. • Partnerships that reduce barriers to long-term support
Indigenous Community Development and Reconciliation: Indigenous-led or Indigenous-serving programs that support Indigenous community, culture, healing, belonging, and reconciliation.	• Support culture and identity – supporting Indigenous culture, traditions, language, and belonging. • Support healing and well-being – supporting community healing, wellness, and connection. • Support reconciliation and relationships – building understanding, respect, and meaningful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.	• Traditional teachings, ceremonies, and cultural gatherings. • Language, land-based learning, and cultural knowledge-sharing • Indigenous youth leadership and intergenerational connection. • Indigenous-led community development and service navigation. • Indigenous-led or serving health and mental health services including Indigenous healing practices independently or alongside other forms of care. • Relationship-building and reconciliation learning. • Culturally safe supports that build trust and access.

Application Priorities and Data Validation

The following questions will help us better understand the program and service your organization is intending to expand or enhance. To ensure that funding investments are directed to the greatest need in communities, applicants are required to use data from **Peel's Neighbourhood Information Tool** and where applicable provide additional community data and evidence to demonstrate need, identify inequities, and support the rationale for the proposed initiative. The information provided will help inform the assessment of community need, alignment with Equity Fund priorities, and potential impact.

Focus Area	Instructions	Responses
Priority	Select only one priority for funding consideration	
Program or service name	Provide the name of the program or service	

Focus Area	Instructions	Responses
Program or service description	Describe the existing program or service your organization is seeking to expand or enhance through Equity Fund support. Your response must address the following: • Purpose of the program or service • Describe the need or challenge currently experienced by the community • Explain how the program or service addresses the community need • Identify the primary population(s) served (e.g., children, youth, seniors, families, newcomers, low-income residents) • Indicate how often the program or service is delivered (e.g., days per week, days per month, number of sessions, workshops, outreach activities, or service interactions). • State the number of frontline staff and/or specialized staff directly involved in delivering the program or service. • Describe the role of each frontline and/or specialized staff member involved in service delivery and how they support participants and program outcomes.	
Regional Strategic Alignment	Select the Regional priority your program or service aligns with. Select all that apply. (Please refer to appendix F in the Application Guidelines to access strategies) Continued ▼	Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan
		Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy
		Peel Public Health Strategic Plan
		Seniors Services
		Peel Housing and Homelessness Plan
		Early Years and Child Care
		Strategy to Address Human Sex Trafficking in Peel Region
		Climate Change Master Plan

Focus Area	Instructions	Responses
		Accessibility Plan
		Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategy
Equity deserving community primarily served through the program or service	Select the communities that your program or service primarily serves	
Population primarily served through the program or service	Select the demographic that your program or service supports Select top 3 communities	
Are you seeking to expand or enhance the program or service?	Select only one: Expanding - increasing the reach, service volume, geographic coverage, or participant access of an established program or service. Enhancement - strengthening the quality, cultural responsiveness, accessibility, coordination, or effectiveness of an established program or service.	
Geographic location of program or service expansion/enhancement	Using the Neighborhood Information Tool , Identify the neighbourhood(s) you intended to expand or enhance your program or service and the wellbeing score for each neighbourhood.	Below enter the municipality, the neighbourhood Census Tract and wellbeing score for each neighbourhood.
	Municipality #1	
	Neighbourhood Census Tract #1	
	Wellbeing Score #1	

Focus Area	Instructions	Responses
	Municipality #2	
	Neighbourhood Census Tract #2	
	Wellbeing Score #2	
	Municipality #3	
	Neighbourhood Census Tract #3	
	Wellbeing Score #3	
	Municipality #4	
	Neighbourhood Census Tract #4	
	Wellbeing Score #4	
	Municipality #5	
	Neighbourhood Census Tract #5	
	Wellbeing Score #5	
Community well-being	If the wellbeing score for each neighbourhood is above 73, describe the unmet need or gap and provide at least one additional source that demonstrates the unmet need or gap. Include a working link or upload the supporting document to the Service Provider Profile on GovGrants. In your response, state that you have uploaded your document on GovGrants. Missing required evidence may result in the application being considered incomplete.	

Focus Area: Funding Support

Identify how Equity funding will support your organization's expansion or enhancement efforts to address the community need? (For definitions, please refer to Appendix C of the Application Guidelines)

Note: The Region will consider frontline and specialized staff not listed on condition that the position does not duplicate funding received from other Regional programs, Federal, Provincial, and Municipal sources.

	• Administrative Costs (Capped at 15% of the total funding amount) ◦ Insurance, lease and occupancy costs, and utilities only
	• Program Supplies (Capped at 5% of total funding)
	• Salaries and Benefits - Frontline staff ◦ For example, Youth Worker, Case worker, Senior Support Worker, etc.
	• Salaries and Benefits - Specialized staff ◦ For example, Counsellor, Crisis Support Worker, Navigator for human sex trafficking survivors, etc.
	• Staff Training and Development

Outputs

1. Baseline data and anticipated outputs are important to establish current service levels, identify the expected reach and results of the proposed activities, and measure progress achieved through Equity Fund investments.

Complete only the measures that are relevant and available for the proposed program or service.

If a measure is not collected or not applicable, enter 0. Applicants will not be penalized solely for lacking a measure that is not proportionate to their size, service model, or data-collection capacity. (For definitions, please refer to Appendix G in the Application Guidelines).

Output	Current Output	Anticipated Output
Percentage of Peel residents served by the organization		
Total # of unique Peel residents directly served through the proposed program or service in the last completed fiscal year		
Wards, municipalities, and/or neighbourhoods served in Peel		
Total # of participants served in the proposed program or service in the last completed fiscal year		
Total # of program sessions, workshops, delivered for the proposed program or service in the last completed fiscal year		
Total # of program or service outreach activities delivered in the last completed fiscal year		
Total # of unique Peel residents from Black, South Asian, Asian, and/or Indigenous communities directly served by the proposed program or service		

Output	Current Output	Anticipated Output
Total # of referrals, navigation supports or service connections provided in the last completed fiscal year for the proposed program or service		
Total # of volunteers or peer leaders involved in delivering the proposed program or service.		
Total # of frontline staff involved in directly delivering the proposed program or service		
Total # of specialized staff involved in directly delivering the proposed program or service		
Total # of partners involved in delivering the program or service		

Outputs

- 1. For each output measure, please provide a detailed responses that answers the following:
 - a. **Data Source:** Identify where the information is coming come from.
 - b. **Data Collection Method:** Describe how the information is gathered.
 - c. **Data Collection Frequency:** Provide how often the information is collected.
 - d. **Responsible Role:** Specify who is responsible for collecting, managing, and reporting the information.

Sustainability Plan

2. If you receive this funding, how will your organization sustain the program or service expansion or enhancement beyond the funding period without Regional funding?

Select all that apply	
☐	Seek funding from other grant programs (municipal, provincial and federal)
☐	Seek foundation grants and charitable funding
☐	Organization fundraising activities and campaigns
☐	Corporate sponsorships and donations
☐	Individual donor contributions
☐	Seek in-kind contributions (space, equipment, volunteers, etc.)
☐	Reallocate existing organizational resources
☐	Volunteer recruitment and engagement
☐	Partner with other not-for-profit organizations and share resources
☐	Transfer the program or service to another organization
☐	Other (please specify)

Sustainability Plan

3. Please provide further details on the sustainability strategy. Only include details that are relevant to the selected strategies:
- a. Explain how the organization will maintain the benefits of the funded work
 - b. Potential future funders and diversification strategies
 - c. Transition plan and how the organization will manage impacts. The plan should be proportionate to the funding term and may include continued delivery, integration into existing operations, partnership agreements, tools, practices, relationships, a communication plan on how priority communities will be informed of and supported through any service transition.
 - d. Partnership development and shared-resource opportunities
 - e. Key milestones, timelines, and responsible roles
 - f. A contingency or wind-down plan if replacement funding is not secured or program/service is not transferred to another organization

SECTION 3 - Alignment with Regional Strategic Priorities

Regional Priorities, Emerging Needs, and Collaboration

The following questions seek your organization's input on emerging community needs, Regional priorities, and opportunities to strengthen collaboration between community organizations and the Region.

Please note: The remaining questions in this application, from this section through to the Acknowledgements, are intended for information-gathering and planning purposes only. Responses will help the Region better understand community needs, service trends, and opportunities for collaboration, but will not be assessed, scored, or considered when determining Equity Fund eligibility, application rankings, or funding decisions.

For the definitions of the terminology used in the following questions, please refer to Appendix G of the Application Guidelines.

Poverty

Question	Response
1. Does your organization currently compensate all employees at or above the current Peel living wage rate (\$27.20/hour), either through wages alone or through a combination of wages and eligible employer-provided benefits?	
2. If yes, are you a certified living wage employer through the Ontario Living Wage Network?	
3. If no, are you interested in becoming a Certified Living Wage Employer?	
4. If your organization is interested in becoming a Certified Living Wage Employer, within what timeframe could you commit to meeting the certification requirements?	

Please visit the OLWN website to learn more about becoming a Living Wage Employer, [Ontario Living Wage Network; A Guide to Becoming a Living Wage Employer](#)

Housing Services

Question	Response
1. Does your organization currently provide community-based supports that help equity deserving communities have access to supports and services to prevent homelessness and achieve long-term housing stability?	
2. Does your organization currently receive housing funding from Peel Region or other sources?	
3. Does your organization currently provide housing subsidies?	
a. If no, would you be interested in growing the capacity of your organization to provide housing subsidies in the future?	

Income and Social Supports

1. How many individuals receiving social assistance does your organization currently support?
2. What are the primary barriers and challenges experienced by the clients receiving social assistance who are served by your organization?
3. Other than funding, what supports or resources from the Region would help your organization better support clients receiving social assistance?
4. Is your organization currently an Employment Ontario (EO) service provider?

Acknowledgements

☒	Please review the following statements and use the corresponding checkboxes to indicate your acknowledgement:
☐	I certify that the information provided in this application form is accurate and complete.
☐	I acknowledge that I may use artificial intelligence tools to assist in preparing an application; however, I remain responsible for all submitted content. I verify the accuracy, originality, completeness, and appropriateness of AI-assisted content and must not enter confidential, personal, proprietary, culturally sensitive, or participant-identifying information into an AI tool unless authorized and protected by appropriate safeguards. False, misleading, fabricated, plagiarized, or privacy-breaching content may result in disqualification or other action under the Funding Agreement.

For more information visit [peelregion.ca](https://www.peelregion.ca)

