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 1 Projects

Funding for the first year of the CSF (2020-21) was provided to 21 civil society organizations across the province. Successful grant recipients are supporting civil society's recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Organization	Project Title and Description	Grant Amount	Geographic Scope
ABC Head Start Society	**The Heartland Community Commons** Project strengthens collaboration, coordination and service integration across social serving agencies, faith-based groups and industry in the Heartland region.	$500,000	Regional
Above & Beyond Caregivers Association	**A Resource Guide Online Directory of Support Staff** Project will develop a provincial online directory of disability support workers to help individuals and their families find caregivers they need and educational supports for caregivers.	$50,000	Provincial
Alberta Community and Co-operative Association	**Alberta Community & Co-operative Shared Services (ACCESS)** Project will develop an online platform where civil society organizations can access a range of shared services such as human resources, to build capacity, minimize costs through economies of scale, and increase efficiency and service delivery integration.	$500,000	Provincial
Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association	**Addressing the Local News Gap and How Geography Impacts Media Usage** Project studies the use of newspapers in rural communities to assess their role in keeping communities connected. The project also funds 12 internships for Mount Royal University journalism students to support Aboriginal storytelling and journalism.	$145,000	Provincial

Banff Canmore Community Foundation	**Moving Mountains in the Bow Valley** Project brings together organizations in Bow Valley to collaborate, share resources and access social enterprise supports to strengthen their capacity and improve financial sustainability.	$400,000	Regional
Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Alberta	**Organizational Transformation through Collaborative Service Delivery** Project brings together three local Boys' and Girls' clubs in Southern Alberta to develop innovative, sustainable service delivery models that expand access for vulnerable children, youth and families. Project learnings will be shared with other clubs across the province.	$400,000	Provincial
#NotInMyCity	**Alberta Human Trafficking Data Portal Project** Project will develop and implement a human trafficking database to improve tracking, data collection, reporting and service delivery to vulnerable populations.	$250,000	Provincial
Canada West Foundation	**Collaborative Models and Capacity in Civil Society** Project will produce a handbook of scalable civil society best practices and tools to support coordination and collaboration and integration, and strengthen the adaptive capacity and resilience of civil society organizations.	$400,000	Provincial
Alberta Seed	**Transforming Social Enterprise and Social Finance in Alberta** Project brings together stakeholders to support emerging and existing social enterprises to collaborate, share information and access social finance and market opportunities, and improve the social enterprise and social finance ecosystem.	$350,000	Provincial
Chic Geek Society	**TalentBuilders – Digital Peer Circles** Project is building a digital platform to engage womxn in the intermediate stage of their technology careers and build gender diversity in Alberta's technology ecosystem.	$200,000	Provincial

Alberta

Concrete Theatre Society	**The ARC (Anti-Racism and Change) Project** Project will produce short plays and films with discussion resources for elementary and high school students to advance conversations related to anti-racism, racial equity and social integration.	$77,000	Provincial
Franciscan and Friends (Music) Mission	**We Can Do This! Indigenous Community Circles Project** Project engages Siksika and Tsuut'ina First Nations and relevant partners in Southern Alberta to identify pressing social issues and then develop, implement and evaluate pilot projects to address them.	$350,000	Regional
Leftovers Foundation	**Leftovers Alberta: A Mosaic Approach to Province-Wide Food Redirection** Project is addressing issues of food waste and food insecurity by expanding a food redirection program in Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Grande Prairie and the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. The Foundation is adapting its Food Rescue App and exploring opportunities to expand their programs across the province.	$200,000	Provincial
Lethbridge Senior Citizens Organization	**CBSS Regional Capacity Building and Sector Coordination Initiative** Project engages stakeholders to build a centralized infrastructure (regional hub and spoke model) that strengthens capacity, supports collaboration and improves service delivery across Community-Based Seniors Serving (CBSS) organizations.	$800,000	Provincial
Next Step Ministries Society	**Social Enterprise Offers Skill-Based Training to Empower At-Risk Women** Project expands Next Step Ministries Society's social enterprise with a screen-printing business and other curated products, to help diversify their revenue and provide skill-based training for women survivors of sexual exploitation and human trafficking in the Calgary area.	$150,000	Local
Nigerian Canadian Association of Edmonton	**NCAE Family Wellness Project** Project assists the Nigerian community to address family violence and promote wellness and social integration with culturally sensitive educational supports around parenting in two cultures and youth mentorship.	$200,000	Local
Pro Bono Law Alberta Society	**Digital Transformation of Court-Based Programs** Project is developing a virtual program management platform that increases supports for self-represented litigants through improved volunteer management, client	$91,000	Provincial

	intake, communication, legal documentation and reporting.		
Region 6 Council of the Metis Nation of Alberta Association	**MNA Region 6 Productivity Review and Organizational Reconceptualization** Project examines operational and administrative processes of the local organizations in the Metis Nations of Alberta Region 6, and identifies opportunities for innovation and efficiency in service delivery.	$282,000	Regional
Sagesse Domestic Violence Prevention Society (IMPACT)	**Building the Architecture to Eradicate Domestic and Sexual Violence** Project brings together stakeholders to develop a data hub, called Data2Action, to collect information on domestic and sexual violence, service use, and provide system mapping. The project will train stakeholders to use Data2Action to build ongoing capacity.	$800,000	Provincial
Social Venture Partners Calgary	**Capacity-building Resource Teams Pilot Project** Project is creating networks of skilled and experienced private sector volunteers (Resource Teams) and developing a training curriculum to prepare these volunteers to build civil society organizations' capacity, innovation and resilience.	$300,000	Local
Vivo for Healthier Generations Society	**ActiveCITY 2.0** Project is bringing together stakeholders to create foundational infrastructure to build the active economy sector in the Calgary region. The project is aligning activities and resources, developing shared measures, and advancing public support and securing funding.	$500,000	Regional