

Regional Grants-in-Aid Evaluation Criteria

(Rankings 1 to 5 with 5 being highest value/quality)

1. New, Incremental Initiatives

(1 being program/event/project already available in the community and/or operational in nature; 5 being a completely new initiative that does not require funding support for operational/administrative functions)

- a. Project provides for a new event/program/service/infrastructure in the community.
- b. Project funding does not support core operational/administrative functions.
- c. Multi-year (3 year maximum) projects test new or enhanced capacity or services and are designed to be sustainable over time.

2. Community Need

(1 being narrow benefits; 5 being broad)

- a. Is the scope/reach of the service/project narrow or broad?
- b. Is there a clear and sound rationale for the project?
- c. Are the anticipated project benefits clear and significant?
- d. Is there good value for the funds requested?
- e. Are there other agencies providing the service/project?
- f. What are the impacts of not delivering the service or completing the project?

3. Geographic Scope

(1 being more local in nature [serving up to 9 jurisdictions]; 5 being fully regional [serving all 13 jurisdictions])

- a. Who does the project serve – residents in a local area, sub-region or entire region?
- b. To be considered regional, projects should serve residents in a minimum of 9 of the 13 jurisdictions

4. Community Development

(1 being minimal community development benefit; 5 being significant benefit)

- a. Project builds capacity in the community to address needs
- b. Projects encourages, supports, strengthens volunteerism
- c. Project brings leveraged funds into the community (e.g., grant funding, tourism dollars) and/or creates jobs and/or results in cost avoidance or cost mitigation (crime prevention)
- d. Project has innovative characteristics

5. Cost Effectiveness

(1 being low; 5 high)

- a. Project has a low ratio of grant requested to project cost (Note that higher ratios may be acceptable for lower cost projects (<\$5000))
- b. Capital grants not to exceed \$50,000
- c. Project budget is realistic for proposed activities
- d. Joint funding arrangements are in place
- e. Significant effort has been made to keep project costs to a minimum.

Project Category

- 1. Social
 - a. Projects that support the health, well-being and diversity of individuals and communities
- 2. Environmental
 - a. Projects that enhance or protect, enhance or restore environmental values
- 3. Sport/Recreation
 - a. Projects related to the provision of sports or recreation activities, tournaments or events
- 4. Arts/Culture
 - a. Projects that enhance the provision and availability of arts and culture services and amenities
- 5. Heritage
 - a. Projects that protect and interpret the region's heritage values
- 6. Economic Development
 - a. Projects related to creating or enhancing economic opportunities