

PROJECT PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

THE PROJECT PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA INCLUDE FOUR COMPONENTS:

- A. 'Screening' criteria which all projects must meet;
- B. Key community-based, environmental and social goals;
- C. General project criteria including practical factors; and
- D. Community support.

The screening criteria will be applied early in the proposal review process to avoid unnecessary consideration of projects that do not meet key aspects of this program. The remaining three categories – key community criteria, general project criteria and community support - will be assigned a point value for evaluation and ranking of proposals. A maximum of 100 points will be distributed as follows: 40 points to key community criteria, 45 points to general project criteria and 15 points to community support.

The four components of project evaluation are described in detail below.

A. SCREENING CRITERIA

The application is reviewed by the program coordinator to ensure that all questions have been answered adequately, and if required the project proponent may be contacted for further clarification.

B. KEY COMMUNITY CRITERIA

A maximum of 40 per cent of the total points will be assigned to assess the fulfillment of these goals by a project proposal. The distribution of points for each category is included below. If a category is deemed to be not applicable to the project then those points will be omitted from the final calculation and the other qualifying categories will be prorated to make up the 40 percentage points. Projects will be evaluated on only one set of goals as indicated in Question 1 Section B of the application.

ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

The following goals apply in the context of contributing to environmental quality and health in a way that makes a difference:

1. Improvements to ecological and environmental conditions

(*maximum 10 points*) Includes factors such as:

- habitat conservation, reclamation and/or rehabilitation
- protection / recovery of endangered species
- maintain healthy wildlife populations
- reduce human-wildlife conflicts

2. Increase ecological and environmental knowledge/stewardship amongst citizens, businesses, government (*maximum 10 points*)

Includes factors such as:

- environmental coordination programs
- educational programs and knowledge dissemination
- recognition and incentive programs for environmental awareness / stewardship
- special events and celebrations

3. Reduction / Improvement of environmental impacts of human activities

(*maximum 10 points*) Includes factors such as:

- toxic waste reduction
- air & water quality improvements
- noise & light pollution reduction
- solid waste management
- increase recycling activities
- energy efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gases

4. Increase scientific knowledge (*maximum 10 points*)

Includes factors such as:

- improve archiving, accessibility and use of ecological / environmental information and expertise
- biological research and inventories
- environmental monitoring

5. Land Use Planning Processes (*maximum 10 points*)

Includes factors such as:

- sustainable resource management
- urban forest, parks and green space
- reservoir operations
- forest management
- wetlands management

SOCIAL GOALS

The social goals are intended to include all **age groups, ethnic/cultural diversity, gender and economic groups** in the community. It is expected that social projects will be consistent with the Community Development Strategy.

1. **Social Support Network and Leadership** (*max 15 points*)
 - Strengthen existing programs and services to meet current needs
 - Create new programs and services to meet emerging needs
 - Develop leadership and organizational capacity
 - Support community participation, sense of belonging and volunteerism

2. **Wellness and Health / Safety and Security** (*max 10 points*)
 - Access to and provision of adequate services (physical, mental & social well being)
 - Promotion / education of healthy lifestyles
 - Provision of affordable housing
 - Address conditions leading to substance abuse
 - Address conditions leading to violence and crime
 - Address poverty

3. **Education** (*max 10 points*)
 - Create first-class, integrated, lifelong community learning opportunities
 - Provision of adult education to meet individual skill development requirements
 - Build community support for the school (K-12) system
 - Address literacy and learning disabilities

4. **Recreation, Arts, Culture and Spiritual Values** (*max 15 points*)
 - Develop diverse recreational opportunities
 - Increase participation in arts and cultural activities
 - Expand recreation, arts, culture and heritage infrastructure

C. **GENERAL PROJECT PROPOSAL CRITERIA**

These criteria assess a number of practical factors. A maximum of 45 per cent of the total points will be allocated to these criteria. The distribution of these points between the criteria is noted below.

1. **Project planning** (*maximum 10 points*)
 - project proponent has the demonstrated organizational capacity and appropriate expertise
 - adequate and logical background and planning leading to a technically sound proposal

- project encourages innovation and shows a creative approach
 - ability to sustain project ongoing and maintenance costs
2. **Funding** (*maximum 10 points*)
 - leverages funds from other sources
 - best funding option (i.e. there is not an alternative funding source)
 - cost effective
 3. **Urgency** (*maximum 8 points*)
 - seriousness of the issue addressed
 - ongoing work requiring continuity
 - time sensitive
 4. **Builds community capacity** (*maximum 7 points*)
 - builds capacity (knowledge, expertise, organizational ability, etc.) within community organizations
 - provides opportunities to develop local skills and knowledge
 - builds collaborative community and broader partnerships
 5. **Economic** (*maximum 10 points*)
 - supporting long-term economic stability and growth
 - increases economic diversity
 - increases employment opportunities
 - encourages financial investment
 - benefits the community

D. COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Community support will be measured through a community meeting as described in the Proposal Review and Approval Process – Step 4. A maximum of 15 per cent of the total points will be allocated to community support.