

Purpose

Single project funding to a maximum of \$1,000 will be available to community organizations that partner on initiatives that are in accordance with the objectives of this policy. The purpose of the Valley REN Collective Impact Project is to provide leadership in the Annapolis Valley in supporting Collective Impact and the “We Choose Now” Action Points.

Objective

The objectives of the Collective Impact Project are:

1. To encourage collaboration and partnerships between community organizations.
2. To build and foster relationships with community-based organizations, both with each other and with the Valley REN.
3. To support community organizations that are following the collaborative action plan outline in the We Choose Now playbook.
4. To provide funding for a single project or event, to a maximum of \$1000, to registered community organizations located in the boundaries of the Valley REN municipal or First Nation stakeholders.

Scope

Application of the Collective Impact Project is restricted to two or more non-profit community-based organizations who are partnering on a single project or event to support initiatives that speak to the “We Choose Now” priorities.

Eligibility Criteria

The following criteria will serve as a guide for the review of funding applications:

1. No organization will be “grandfathered.” Previous funding does not guarantee future funding. In fact, preference will be given to new applicants.
2. Community Organization applicants need to be registered as a charity or non-profit organization governed by a community-based volunteer board of directors eligible for grant funding pursuant to ss.65 (au) of the *Municipal Government Act*
3. Community Organization applicants need be located in the municipal or First Nation boundaries of the Valley REN stakeholders.
4. The funding is for single projects or events. Applications require a detailed budget and rationale, describing how the project or event aligns with and furthers the “We Choose Now” Action Points.
5. The single project or event partnership needs to meet the methodology of Collective Impact. *Please see the box below for further explanation.*

6. The single project or event purpose needs to meet the priorities set out in the “We Choose Now” priorities.
7. Organizations must accept the evaluation and reporting requirements if awarded a grant.
8. Organizations must place “Supported by the Valley REN” text and the Valley REN logo on all promotional materials for the project or event.

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Collective Impact	Is defined as: bringing together stakeholders in partnerships to design and implement projects. Successful collective impact initiatives typically have five conditions that together produce alignment and lead to powerful results: a common agenda, shared measurement systems, mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communication, and backbone support organizations. Organizations must be willing to invest sufficient resources in the facilitation, coordination, and measurement required for organizations to work together in this way.
We Choose Now Action Points	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Early Years: Starting Strong b. Our Future is Young c. Universities and NSCC as Innovation Hubs d. Immigration and Welcoming Communities e. Our ICT Momentum f. Going Global: Innovation and Competitiveness g. Nova Scotia’s Ocean Advantage <p>More information available at http://www.wechoosenow.ca/</p>
Boundaries of the Valley REN stakeholders	Municipal and First Nation communities that fund the Valley REN.
Grandfathered	To exempt (one involved in an activity or business) from new regulations.

Applications

Organizations seeking Collective Impact Project funding shall complete and submit an Application Form.

1. Applicants shall be required to provide information including, but not limited, to:
 - a. Proof of incorporation under the Societies Act;

- b. Confirmation of good standing on the Registry of Joint Stock Companies;
- c. If applicable, proof of charitable registration status under the Income Tax Act;
- d. Statement of objectives, partners, purposes and activities;
- e. Budget for project or event;
- f. Statement of intended use for grant funds.

Loss of Eligibility

Organizations in the application process shall be required to notify the Valley REN Administrative Officer immediately of any loss of good standing or loss of charitable status or other material change potentially affecting eligibility for Collective Impact Project funding.

Note: Loss of eligibility shall disqualify an organization from receiving project or event funds.

Advertising and Promotion

Notice to applicants: Each organization that is partnering in a project or event supported by the Valley REN Collective Impact Project must clearly and visibly include, on all promotional material (physical or digital) for the project or event that is being funded, the official form of the logo and this text: “Supported by the Valley Regional Enterprise Network”.

Reporting Requirements

No later than 2 weeks (10 business days) after the completion of the project or event, the applicant of the Collective Impact Project must submit the 1 (one) page *End of Project Report* to the Valley REN Administrative Officer or agree to a follow-up interview with Valley REN staff. The report and follow-up interview will include the following information:

1. Outcome of the project or event.
2. Value of the project or event to the “We Choose Now” priorities.
3. Value of the Collective Impact and partnership with other organizations.