

Grants Newsletter

September 2010

Ask for an MD grant budget form and document checklist!

Upcoming Deadlines:

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| ◆ MD Capital Grants | September 30, 2010 |
| ◆ Community Initiatives | September 30, 2010 |
| ◆ Community Facility Enhancement Program | September 30, 2010 |
| ◆ Community Performing Arts Organization (operating) | October 1, 2010 |
| ◆ Safe Communities Innovation Fund | October 15, 2010 |
| ◆ Alberta Museum Association (staffing grant) | November 1, 2010 |

Tip: Include a cover letter with every application.- it will help make sure your application gets to the right place and you can use it to call attention to your most important selling points!

Visit the Charity Village website for some great online resources!

<http://www.charityvillage.com/cv/research/rprop.html>

In their research section, you will find great articles, such as:

- ◆ *How to take your proposals from "Trash it!" to "Fund it!"*
- ◆ *Selling your idea to funders*
- ◆ *Top ten ways to get your proposal read*
- ◆ *Proposals that appeal or appall*
- ◆ *Understanding the funder and the proposal*

All of these articles will help you improve your skill in grant-writing—and increase the odds that you will get funding for your organization. Have a look!

What is a "measurable outcome"???

Lots of grant applications ask how you will measure your success. This can be tricky because some outcomes can be nearly impossible to measure, especially during your project timeframe. For instance, let's say your project is to recruit more girls to your dance group and an overall objective is to increase fitness and self esteem in girls. A measurable outcome could be to increase the size of your dance group by 25%. One that is nearly impossible to measure is that 25% of the girls attending will have increased self-esteem. Make sure your outcomes are simple, direct and easily measurable within your project timeframe!

Check out the MD website! www.mdbiglakes.ca

We have a new look and new information online to help you find what you need. Look for brand new forms, maps, tourist information and municipal elections updates.

Find grant forms, policies and website links on the Grants Administration pages!

Municipal
District
of Big Lakes



Cathy Wilcox
Grants Manager

Box 239
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 1E0
Phone: 780-523-5955
Fax: 780-523-4227
E-mail:
grants@mdbiglakes.ca
Website: www.mdbiglakes.ca

Free Webinars (that just means free training...)

Check out My Charity Connects at <http://mycharityconnects.org/webinars>.

You will find a new slate of free information sessions on topics related to fundraising. Registration is free, the sessions are short, and you can invite several people to attend around one computer if you like. Here are the topics:

- August 18 - [Orientation for Charities Newly Registered with CanadaHelps](#)
- September 15th - [The 10 Things You Must Do Online And The 10 Things You Can Do For Free](#)
- September 29th - [BIG Gifts! Using CanadaHelps for Gifts of Securities](#)
- October 13th - [The Networked NonProfit: Using Social Media to Accomplish More With Less with guest presenter Beth Kanter](#)
- October 27th - [How Tweet It Is](#)
- November 10th - [SEO, SEM and Analytics for NonProfits](#)
- November 24th - [Everything Old is New Again: Getting Back to Fundraising Fundamentals](#)
- December 8th - [Do You Feel Technology Is a Source of Frustration or Creativity for your Organization?](#)

Claiming Volunteer Time

Most funders will credit you for volunteer time—within limits. Here are some guidelines to follow:

1. Have your volunteers keep track of the time they spend working and what they are doing—create a form for them to fill out.
2. Make sure that you include only the time they spend on the project—you cannot claim for time spent planning the project, filling out the application form or other fundraising.
3. You cannot claim for time spent before the grant is either applied for or received—check the guidelines!

DeliverGood.org is an online tool that matches people and companies who have stuff with charities who need stuff, by proximity, by mission, by name or by need.

This is a new business that charges a nominal fee to non-profit organizations to advertise their need (goods, money or volunteers) to potential donors—but the first six months of service is free.

Set up your **DeliverGood** profile and start letting donors know what you need!

<http://www.delivergood.org/>

Just a Reminder....

AVIVA Canada is giving away \$1,000,000 to help build better communities!

September 27 is the start date for the 2010 competition for \$1 million. Create your project idea, submit your idea online and then promote it (you win by getting your supporters to vote for your idea).

Visit their website at

<http://www.avivacommunityfund.org> to

Building next year?



Apply to the MD now for funding of your organizations upcoming capital projects! The deadline to apply for 2011 projects is September 30.

Call the Grants Manager now to find out how—or check the MD website under Services—Grants Administration for all the details!

Please Note: There is still money available for 2010 projects. Apply before December 31