# Community-Based Budgeting Project

Have an idea for a small action, event or project?

Help decide how to spend public money in Ward Karhiio or Ward Nakota Isga!

You could win up to \$2,000 for your project!

**WORKSHOP #1: BRAINSTORMING** June 24, 2022. 5:30-7:30pm

WORKSHOP #2: DEVELOP & DESIGN July 22, 2022. 5:30-7:30pm

FOR MORE INFO, AND TO SUBMIT A PROJECT PROPOSAL, VISIT:

tinyurl.com/communitybudgeting

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# **Community-Based Budgeting Project**

#### WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS CAN I PROPOSE?

- Think of projects or community events that are small and quick to implement, but that might spark conversation or positive change in your community.
- As much as possible, we encourage buying and using local resources.
- In the words of a community member who participated in our info session, projects that "use community knowledge to make better use of underutilized spaces, an all around great way to make neighbourhoods unique and add great assets to our wards."

#### **PROJECT DETAILS**

- The Community-Based Budgeting Project is about celebrating communities in Ward Karhiio and Ward Nakota Isga. You must have a connection to Ward Karhiio or Ward Nakota Isga. The lead applicant(s) must be a resident of Ward Karhiio or Ward Nakota Isga OR your project must take place within Ward Karhiio or Ward Nakota Isga.
- You will need to find a sponsor community organization to work with (e.g. your community league, a non-profit in your community). If you don't have one in mind, our team can help you.
- No age limits! We encourage youth to participate! We are actively engaging schools and classrooms.
- You must be able to complete your project, action or event between September 2-October 31, 2022.
- Funds need to abide by the <u>Councillors' Budget and Expense Policy, C618A</u>. They can also include honorarium for artists, Elders, and facilitators. Contact our team at <u>participatorybudgetyeg@gmail.com</u> if you have questions.
- Funding will be provided to the winning projects as a reimbursement, between September 30-October 31, 2022 (depending on when you submit your receipts and expense form). This means you will need to pay for the costs upfront. If this is a barrier, contact our team and we will work with you.
- With the budget available, we will be able to support 10-15 small-scale projects with up to \$2,000 in funding per project.

#### TIMELINES

- Workshop #1: Brainstorming: June 24, 2022, 5:30-7:30pm
- Workshop #2: Develop & Design: July 22, 2022, 5:30-7:30pm
- Submit your project proposal (details coming soon on how to submit): July 20-August 12
- Voting Week: August 19-26
- Winning projects are notified: September 2, 2022
- You implement your project: September 2- October 31, 2022

#### THE SMALL PRINT

- Submitting a proposal does not guarantee funding. The Councillors reserve the right to fund some, all, or none of the suggestions submitted.
- Ideas submitted by community members will be reviewed and approved by the Councillors prior to voting and selection.
- All payments or reimbursements must comply with the <u>Councillors' Budget and Expense Policy</u>, <u>C618A</u>. Note, certain expenditures from ward budgets are not permitted under the Policy.

#### **QUESTIONS?**

Contact our team: <u>participatorybudgetyeg@gmail.com</u> Visit the project webpage: tinyurl.com/communitybudgeting



#### WHAT IS PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING?

 Participatory budgeting is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend a part of a public budget.
Participatory budgeting empowers people to decide together how to spend public money. The process of participatory budgeting deepens democracy, builds stronger communities and makes public budgeting more equitable and effective.

#### **PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING:**

- Increases civic engagement, where input has real impact
- Stronger and more collaborative relationships between residents, government, and community organizations
- More inclusive political participation, especially by historically marginalized groups
- New community leaders, community spaces, and projects
- More equitable and effective public spending

#### **CASE STUDIES**

- In 2013, Halifax City Councillor Waye Mason worked with community partners to design and lead a participatory and public process that would allow residents to decide how his \$94,000 discretionary budget would be spent.
- The City of Montreal initiated a participatory budgeting process in 2021 that included the following parameters for project submissions:
  - Contribute to social and ecological transition
  - Serve collective interest
  - Represent an investment expenditure
  - Be realizable by the city

#### **OUR PROJECT**

This summer, Councillor Andrew Knack and Councillor Keren Tang will be testing out a community process called Participatory Budgeting. We will be asking Ward Karhiio and Ward Nakota Isga community members to help us decide how to spend part of our office budgets. We want to hear resident ideas for small, on-the-ground, projects that seed and stimulate improvements in your communities.

#### TIMELINE

April 21, 5:30PM-7:30PM: Public Information Session May-June: Planning June-August: Sessions (up to 3 sessions with final one being an open forum vote) August-September: Implementation of projects with communities September-December: Evaluations

# **DESIGN THE PROCESS**

A kickoff meeting (<u>April 21, 5:30PM-7:30PM</u>) to introduce Participatory Budgeting and invite communities to create rules and set parameters together for the project and a process that are inclusive and meet local needs.

### **BRAINSTORM IDEAS**

- Workshop #1: Residents share and discuss ideas for projects and form connections.
  Additional meetings and online tools will help refine your ideas.
- Given the size of funds, projects will be small in scale but there are endless possibilities!

# FUND AND IMPLEMENT

- Funding decisions are announced and funds are deployed through your sponsor or host organization.
- Implement your project! It could be one day, it could be a few days, it could be a permanent set up

# **DEVELOP PROPOSALS**

- Workshop #2: Develop your idea into a feasible proposal, working with neighbours, friends, and family.
  - Seek help from our small but mighty Participatory Budgeting
    team if you need.
    - If possible, find a "Sponsor or Host" (community league, school, place of worship, etc)
      - to build connections and act as your fiscal agent if your project is selected

# **VOTE**

- Workshop #3: Residents vote to divide the available funds among the proposals.
- Teams can also collaborate, further refine the decisions that allow more projects to be funded.

# **MONITOR AND EVALUATE**

- Tell us about your experience and what you learned in the process:
  - Was putting your idea into action easy to do? What would have made it better?
  - Was there enough interest in the community?
  - Are there new opportunities for connection and collaboration?
  - Is there interest in doing this again in the future on a larger scale?