



# GENDER EQUITY GRANT POLICY

## 1. STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs, through the Gender Equity Unit, may provide funding to support community-based projects designed to enhance gender equity across the Northwest Territories.

## 2. PRINCIPLES

The Department will adhere to the following principles when implementing this Policy:

- 1) Policies, programs, and projects affect women, girls, men, boys and 2SLGBTQQIA people differently. Each gender diverse person has different perspectives, needs, and interests which may require gender-specific supports to eliminate inequalities.
- 2) Providing equal or equitable opportunities for gender diverse people in the Northwest Territories is a benefit to society, and is the responsibility of all residents, as well as government and non-government organizations.

## 3. SCOPE

This Policy applies to non-government organizations, community governments, and Indigenous governments undertaking community-based projects designed to enhance gender equity across the Northwest Territories.

## 4. DEFINITIONS

The following terms apply to this Policy:

2SLGBTQQIA: is an acronym standing for the categories of two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual people.

Community-based Project: a specific, usually short-lived event or undertaking in a specific geographical location or region.

Community Government: a municipal corporation established under territorial legislation.

Contribution: A conditional and accountable transfer of funds to a third party to fulfill a statutory obligation or other Government objective within a specified time frame.

Gender: refers to the roles, behaviours, activities, and attitudes that a given society may construct or consider appropriate for women, girls, men, boys and 2SLGBTQQIA.

Gender Diverse: refers to one or more gendered groups, including but not limited to women, girls, men, boys, and 2SLGBTQQIA.

Gender Equality: refers to equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for gender diverse people.

Gender Equity: refers to fairness, impartiality and justice in the distribution of benefits and responsibilities between women, men and all other gender diverse people.

Grant: an unconditional transfer of funds assets where the recipient's eligibility and entitlement to it may be verified.

Indigenous Government: includes Indigenous governments that have, or are in the process of negotiating, a self-government agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada.

Non-Government Organization (NGO): any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group that is not directly part of the structure of any government organization.

## 5. AUTHORITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

### (1) General

This Policy is issued in accordance with Financial Management Board (FMB) direction to delegate to Ministers the authority to establish grants and contribution programs. Authority and accountability is further defined in Financial Administration Manual policies 805 and 810 and as follows:

#### (a) Minister

The Minister Responsible for the Status of Women (the Minister) is accountable to the FMB for the implementation of this Policy.

#### (b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister of Executive and Indigenous Affairs (Deputy Minister) is accountable to the Minister and responsible to the Minister for the administration of this Policy.

### (2) Specific

#### (a) Minister

The Minister may:

- (i) Approve changes to this Policy;
- (ii) Approve grants or contributions according to the terms and conditions outlined in this Policy; and

(iii) Delegate authority to administer this Policy to the Deputy Minister.

(b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister may:

- (i) Conduct periodic evaluations of the effectiveness of this Policy;
- (ii) Have the following authority and accountability, which may be delegated:
  - a. Approve grants or contributions according to the terms and conditions outlined in this Policy;
  - b. Accept and review applications for grants and/or contributions made under this Policy; and
  - c. Monitor compliance with the provisions of this Policy.

## 6. PROVISIONS

### 1) Eligibility

This Policy applies to community-based projects that promote the elimination of gender-specific inequalities in the Northwest Territories. Eligibility is restricted to non-government organizations, community governments, and Indigenous governments. Community-based projects eligible for grant funding will address one or more of the following objectives:

- a) To support programs and services that address historical and social gender-based inequalities;
- b) To promote awareness, education, or social action on gender equity;
- c) To advance gender equity through partnership building, capacity building, policy development, or applied community research; or
- d) To support the development and capacity of organizations to effectively enhance gender equity in the Northwest Territories.

### 2) Criteria

When assessing a grant application, the Minister or delegated authority will consider the extent to which the proposed project:

- a) Supports a service, program or initiative that addresses gender inequality;
- b) Demonstrates the potential to effectively provide gender-based support through the development of either meaningful collaboration or increased knowledge;
- c) Is a community-based project carried out in the Northwest Territories;
- d) Results in a final project (e.g. report, presentation) that can be shared with project participants and the broader community;
- e) Has community support;
- f) Is financially feasible; and
- g) Fits other criteria listed within the specific call for applications.

### **3) Condition**

Total grants and contributions will not exceed the amount appropriated for the Gender Equity and Women's Initiative Grant's in a given fiscal year.

### **4) Applications**

A call for applications will be issued at the beginning of each fiscal year. Applicants must submit a completed Gender Equity Grant Application Form to the contact listed in the call for applications, by the designated time. Applications submitted after the application deadline may be considered, provided there is funding available.

### **5) Review and Determination**

Applications will be reviewed by a review committee and prioritized based on how well the proposed project meets the objectives and criteria set out in this Policy. Approved projects will be ineligible to receive funding under the Women's Initiatives Grant in the same fiscal year.

Decisions on grant awards will be made and communicated in writing to all applicants no later than sixty days after the application due date.

## **7. FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

Financial resources required under this Policy are conditional on approval of funds in the Main Estimates by the Legislative Assembly, and there being a sufficient unencumbered balance in the appropriate activity for the fiscal year for which the funds would be required.

## **8. AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION**

The maximum amount of funding made available is \$5,000 per community-based project. The amount awarded will be based on the Provisions in this Policy.

## **9. PREROGATIVE OF THE MINISTER**

Nothing in this Policy shall, in any way, be construed to limit the prerogative of the Minister to make decisions or take actions respecting grants in support of gender equity initiatives. In this regard, the Minister may make an exception to the rules set out in this Policy.

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Honourable Caroline Wawzonek  
Minister Responsible for the  
Status of Women

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Date