

Grantmakers Together for the Common Good

A community of changemakers

Become a member of



Philanthropic
Foundations
Canada

Fondations
Philanthropiques
Canada

We believe in the power of philanthropy to
effect change and promote the **common good**



Join our network of Canadian grantmakers
and unlock the collective strength of philanthropy



Who is PFC?

Philanthropic Foundations Canada (PFC) is Canada's national network for grantmakers. A registered charitable organization, we strengthen philanthropy — in all of its diversity — in partnership for a just, equitable and sustainable world.

We are an enabler for the common good, working in collaboration with civil society, the private sector and governments. For more than 20 years, we have been bringing grantmakers together to connect, learn, and advance the best solutions for change on the issues that matter most.

Our members are Canadian grantmakers – composed of private, public, and community foundations, corporate giving programs, donor-advised funds, charitable organizations, and nonprofits. Our members support issues and communities across Canada, and range in asset size, geography, type and funding areas.

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As philanthropy has become more professionalized, the field has become both more diverse and more complex. PFC's thought leadership, range of supports for both new and experienced funders, and expert government relations enable its members to be more effective. If we didn't have PFC, we'd have to invent it.

”

Allan Northcott
President

Max Bell Foundation, Calgary



What does it take to join?

PFC membership is open to organizations whose primary functions and activities are charitable grantmaking to multiple, unrelated organizations. They must also be:

Registered with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) as a:

- **Private or public foundation, or**
- **Charitable organization**

Or, if you are not registered with CRA you must be a:

- **Corporate giving program**
- **Registered nonprofit**

Apply Now

All members must accept [PFC's Purpose Statement](#) and adhere to PFC's [non-solicitation policy](#).

The membership application is an easy three-step online process. [Fill out the membership application](#) and submit your application today!

Members have voting rights and their representative can serve on the PFC board or join committees and taskforces to provide leadership on the strategic directions of the organization.

Membership is valid for one year from January to December, and cost is based on a sliding scale, which can be calculated [here](#).

Grants or direct payments can be made to PFC for membership fees.

Why Join PFC?

To contribute collectively to the common good

Support the growth and impact of Canadian philanthropy by contributing your experience, leadership, and expertise through various forums, such as our CEO retreat, task forces and investment roundtable.

To advocate and influence policy

PFC is government's go-to expert on policy and regulation specific to foundations and funders. Contribute your insights to improve the regulatory and policy frameworks governing our sector.

To collaborate and expand your network

Participate in collective action, from the response to the pandemic to climate action and beyond. Connect with peers through open member calls, affinity groups, events and webinars. Benefit from peer mentorship. Get discounted access to PFC's annual conference.

To learn continuously

From grants management and technical grantmaking know-how, to programmatic opportunities to better integrate good practice into your programming and investments. Access updates and publications, such as advisories on tax and regulatory issues and research on foundation investment, compensation, management practices, and more.

To keep developing professionally

Whether you are a seasoned grantmaker or new to philanthropy, connect to the resources, programs, and networks that best fit your needs. Access all PFC publications, and participate in any number of our learning programs, affinity groups, and communities of practices.

To receive advice and guidance

Receive tailored advice from our professional and highly experienced staff on topics such as grantmaking practice and governance. Get recommendations for business professionals serving the sector - from impact investing experts to firms conducting evaluation analysis, and more.



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PFC has been an indispensable ‘go to’ resource to help me learn more about the philanthropic sector. PFC provides me with current information, tools, advice and resources which are extremely relevant to our foundation.

”

Lucie Santoro

Director of Administration, Communications
and Stakeholder Relations
Martin Family Initiative, Montréal



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Foundations have the interesting and challenging job of balancing the delicate task of being fair, just, and prudent custodians of capital, while furthering, enhancing, and championing the socioeconomic-environmental-health (and other) purposes for which they were created. PFC helps foundations understand and unleash the power of (all forms of) their capital, to further their mission, vision, and values.

”

MJ Sinha

Director
Helderleigh Foundation, Toronto



Our Work at a Glance

Here is a snapshot of some of our most popular resources:

Affinity Groups

Funder affinity groups are collaborations of grantmakers with a shared interest. These networks provide rich resources for partnership, collaboration, learning and mentorship.

Canadian Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change

Housed at PFC, and in collaboration with Canada's largest funder networks, the commitment invites funders across Canada to act on climate, and supports them on their journey with unique resources and exchange opportunities.

JEDI Accelerator

A comprehensive peer-learning program for grantmakers to move from interest and commitment in Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, to real action and impact.

Snapshot of Foundation Giving in Canada and Trends

This research report provides a snapshot of giving by Canada's top 150 private and public grantmaking foundations and also looks at historical asset and granting trends.

Primer on Working with Non-qualified Donees

This guide presents the basic elements of how foundations and other registered charities can work with front line organizations and other non-charity groups.

Primer on Analyzing Financials

This primer serves as a resource for funders to help them analyze the financial statements of potential grantees in order to better understand their financial health and history.



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Our practice of philanthropy has been greatly influenced by the access to other foundations via membership in PFC and our participation in various worthwhile events. As a new foundation, PFC was very supportive during the start-up phase and provided us with extremely helpful information and advice.

”

Kathleen LeGrow
President

Jimmy Pratt Foundation, St. John's



“

Through our PFC membership I have met other like-minded Foundations and together we have agreed to fund causes that each of us could not afford to do separately. 1+1 = 3.

”

Barry Cole
President

Cole Foundation, Montréal



Become a PFC member

For more information

[Visit our website](#) to learn more about us and our member-focused programs and services.

View our latest [annual report](#) and [audited financial statements](#).

Have questions?

Contact our dedicated membership services team:



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