



ASPEN FOUNDATION GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE LEARNING



Who We Are

The Aspen Foundation works to educate young Albertans about the social and economic issues in our communities, both locally and globally. We work to promote the benefits of collaborative action through labour and social justice organizations, and we seek to foster the development of active citizens who are knowledgeable, critical and engaged in creating a healthy, just and democratic workplace, community and society.

Purpose of the Grants

The Aspen Foundation offers grants of up to \$1,500 to help schools fund innovative projects that develop student engagement and leadership in social justice activities. These grants serve to promote a school community guided by empathy for others, and which values social justice over charity. The intent is to help schools foster and support the intellectual, social and emotional qualities in students that instill a commitment to engaged citizenship and to promote social justice-minded values such as empathy, fairness, cooperation, social harmony, equality, gender equity, peace and environmental sustainability.

Criteria for Eligibility

1. School community applicants must be in the public or Catholic public school systems.
2. Projects must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Educate or communicate and advance or develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that foster engagement in social justice issues among students, school staffs and their communities. Projects may focus on issues related to the following:
 - i. Empathy, compassion and community development
 - ii. Intercultural education and racial and ancestral studies
 - iii. Sexual orientation, gender identity and gender equity
 - iv. Poverty elimination
 - v. Workplace structures, rights and safety
 - vi. Peace, global education and solidarity
 - vii. Environmental sustainability
 - b. Advance the mission of public and Catholic public education.
 - c. Develop in students the capacity and agency to be citizens in a democratic society.
 - d. Promote lifelong learning and a desire to reach one's full potential as well as encourage others to achieve their full potential.
 - e. Demonstrate or reflect the roles of empathy, co-operation, and respect in approaching and resolving social justice issues in communities.
 - f. Be sustainable and of continuing value to students, school staffs and school communities.
3. Preference will be given to projects that indicate or demonstrate the involvement in planning of students and those for whom the social justice action is intended to make change.
4. Grants will not be awarded for the following purposes:
 - a. Sponsoring one-time events or purchases like T-shirts or food that are not linked to a broader social justice action plan
 - b. Purchasing materials such as textbooks and capital equipment or services that can ordinarily be obtained using school funds
 - c. Providing flow-through money to a charity for which the class or school is fundraising

Approval and Administration

1. The Aspen Foundation's Curriculum Committee will recommend approval for funding to the foundation's board based on how well projects meet the criteria stated above.
2. One-half of the grant will be paid when the grant application is approved.
3. The balance of the grant will be paid on completion of the project and once the recipient has provided an accounting and evaluation report that describes the implementation process; explains how well the project achieved its intended outcomes; provides indicators of student involvement, learning and reflection; and suggests how the project might be improved in the future. The Final Report Form is available in pdf form at www.afle.ca.
4. The Aspen Foundation retains the copyright and ownership of any materials produced as a result of a grant.
5. Only one application per school each year will be considered. In future years, preference will be given to new applicants.

Application

1. Access the online form at www.afle.ca.
2. Print off a copy. Fill in the application form. Maintain a copy.
3. Submit the application.

APPLICATION FORM

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Please complete the grant application form below and print a copy for your records prior to submitting the application. Also, please identify student involvement in planning, implementation and assessment of this project.

Project Title: _____

Name of contact person submitting application: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

School District: _____

How did you hear about our grant? _____

You must also supply the following information. Please stay within word maximums.

1. Overview (40 words);

2. A description of the issue or need being addressed by this project and how it was identified as affecting your community (100 words);

3. A list of the goals to be achieved;

4. A list and description of the activities that will help accomplish the goals (200 words);

5. A detailed timeline;

6. The name of the community groups, schools and/or locals involved in the project;

7. A budget with specific expenses;

8. A description of the method you plan to use to assess your project, including student feedback regarding their involvement and learning. (100 words).

9. How will you publicly acknowledge the support of the Aspen Foundation for this project?

Application deadline: October 2, 2018

Grants of up to \$1,500.00 are awarded on the basis of how well the projects meet the criteria of the Social Justice Learning Grant Program. (See the Aspen Foundation for Labour Education website, www.afle.ca, for a list of supporters who make the grants possible.)

For further information and to submit application form, contact **Gary Hansen**, Executive Director, Aspen Foundation for Labour Education, at
11 Bonin Place, Leduc, AB T9E 6H6
E-mail: afle@telus.net Phone: 780-986-1745

