

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

Carbon Landscapes

2018 Application Guidelines (updated June 2018 – see deadlines section)

METCALF FOUNDATION

The George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation’s mission is to enhance the effectiveness of people and organizations working together to help Canadians imagine and build a just, healthy, and creative society.

We focus our efforts on three areas:

- improving economic livelihoods for low-income people in Toronto;
- building a low-carbon, resource efficient, and resilient Canada; and
- leveraging opportunities for new approaches and shared learning in the performing arts.

Our work is grounded in the belief that change happens when we share hopeful visions of the future, work and learn collectively, think broadly in pursuit of comprehensive solutions, and take a meaningful role in the decisions that affect our lives.

We believe that non-profit organizations play a critical role as catalysts who animate and facilitate lasting change. They create space for people to connect, communicate, and participate. We are interested in organizations that are deliberately engaging communities in their work and developing new strategies and collaborations.

We encourage success by:

- supporting dynamic leadership – celebrating, developing, and strengthening leaders who are contributing to positive change;
- nurturing new ideas and practices – exploring and developing innovative approaches to tackling tough problems and seizing opportunities; and
- fostering integrated thinking – creating opportunities for ongoing dialogue, collaborative learning, and reflection to build new knowledge and inform action.

In our work, we aim to be clear, open, reflective, and responsive. We actively seek to learn from our experiences with funded projects and from our ongoing exploration of issues and ideas. We expect our grant-making practices to evolve as we strive to realize the full potential of our commitment and resources.

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

Our Environment Program aims to help build a low-carbon, resource efficient, and resilient Canada. We believe our ability to mitigate the impact and severity of climate change and transition to a low-carbon society is one of the major challenges of our time. While the issues associated with this challenge are great we see an opportunity for substantial action, at both a policy and community level, in three important areas. These areas comprise the focus of our funding and align with our long-standing commitment to advance pragmatic approaches in support of bold visions. They are:

Carbon Landscapes (information and application follow)

Climate Blueprints

Cycle City

CARBON LANDSCAPES

The goal of Carbon Landscapes is to connect climate action and conservation initiatives in Canada in order to help advance nature-based solutions to climate challenges across the country.¹

Well-functioning ecosystems play a critical role in maintaining a stable climate here on Earth. Forests and oceans serve crucial roles in storing and absorbing carbon from the atmosphere. If it were not for these ecosystem services, the state of our planet's climate due to carbon emissions from human activities would be much worse. A comprehensive response to climate change must take advantage of the efficient and relatively cost-effective services provided by natural ecosystems.

When it comes to Canadian climate philanthropy, funders including Metcalf have primarily focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from top emitting sectors (e.g. transportation, buildings, industry, electricity). But emissions reductions represent only one side of the climate solutions coin. Nature-based solutions involving carbon storage and sequestration services are also critically important yet often under-represented in climate strategies. From peatlands to kelp forests and grasslands to seagrass, Canada is home to a diversity of carbon rich ecosystems. Yet to date limited action has been taken to protect, restore, and steward the carbon services of terrestrial and marine ecosystems as part of provincial, territorial, and national climate strategies.

Carbon Landscapes has a two-track funding strategy to achieve our goal:

Funding Strategy 1

Build sector capacity, intellectual leadership, and public understanding of linkages between climate and conservation issues to create space and support for advancing policy priorities and place-based actions. Examples of the type of work we envision supporting under this strategy include:

¹ Nature-based solutions as defined by the International Union for Conservation of Nature: "Actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits."

Public Policy Research and Analysis

Funding to support the production of timely, well-researched, and accessible reports to inform the design of new policies and programs, financing mechanisms, legal frameworks, and other levers to help achieve climate and conservation goals in tandem.

Convening and Collaboration

Funding to convene non-governmental organizations, scientists, public officials, and other sector leaders to build bridges and common understanding of the climate and conservation interface. Granting in this area would help convene leaders from within and across sectors to better link, coordinate, and advance mutually supportive climate and conservation priorities.

Communications and Public Education

Funding to establish a public narrative and heightened level of awareness among Canadians and public officials that climate and conservation efforts go hand-in-hand. Making these connections will assist efforts to integrate and strengthen nature-based solutions as part of provincial, territorial, national, and international climate action plans.

Further below are application details for work under Funding Strategy 1.

Funding Strategy 2

Support a targeted set of place-based protection, restoration, and stewardship efforts to store and sequester carbon that also results in cultural, economic, and social benefits. Our place-based areas of focus are the **Hudson Bay and James Bay Lowlands** and the **Mackenzie River Basin**. Funding proposals for work under Strategy 2 are by invitation-only.

Application Details for [Funding Strategy 1](#)

Eligibility

Organizations may apply individually or in collaboration with others. Lead applicants must:

- be committed to advancing nature-based climate solutions at the local, provincial, territorial, and/or national levels in Canada; and
- have a current, valid charitable registration from the Canada Revenue Agency.

Deadlines

For 2018, the deadlines for applications to Carbon Landscapes under Funding Strategy 1 are:

April 17, 2018, 2:00pm

October 17, 2018, 2:00pm*

***Due to overwhelming demand in our April round and the high calibre of applications received, we have made the tough decision to cancel the October deadline. New 2019 funding deadlines will be announced in late 2018.**

Funding Decisions

Applications will be reviewed by the Foundation's Board and staff, assisted by an advisory panel with knowledge of the sector. For the April round, funding decisions will be announced in mid-June.

* Please Note *

In advance of applying, prospective applicants are asked to contact Metcalf's Environment Program Director, Andre Vallillee, to discuss proposal ideas: avallillee@metcalffoundation.com or 416.926.0366 x 230

2018 Carbon Landscapes Application for [Funding Strategy 1](#)

General Information

Lead Organization:

Project Partners (if applicable):

Primary Contact Name and Position:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Website:

Charitable Registration Number:

Project Summary

Project Title:

Total Amount Requested (per year if multi-year request):

Project Duration:

Please provide a summary of the proposed work (max 250 words):

Project Details

Please address the following eight points in your application, using no smaller than 11 point type and 1.5 line spacing. Proposals longer than 8 pages will not be reviewed.

1. **Context is key.** Please describe why this work is important to advancing nature-based climate solutions in Canada. Context to consider: timeliness of proposed work; potential for significant impact; response to community need; opportunity for collaboration.
2. **What success looks like.** In specific terms, please identify the goal(s) you aim to achieve through your proposed project.
3. **Your strategy for achieving your goals.** Please describe the plan for achieving your goal(s). What evidence, experience, or underlying rationale led you to this approach?

4. **How you will know if you are succeeding or missing the mark.** Please explain how you will be evaluating progress for the duration of the proposed project. What indicators of success will you be keeping an eye on? How will you collect and process feedback, information, and experiences to determine whether midcourse corrections are necessary?
5. **Tell us about yourself.** Given the nature and focus of the proposed project, why is your organization(s) and its staff well-positioned to achieve success? Include reference to individual skills, experience, and qualifications related to similar projects and areas of work.
6. **How you will leverage other resources for greater impact.** How are you leveraging other sources of funding, building on work-to-date, and/or collaborating with other partners with shared goals?
7. **Work plan and budget.** In a table format, please include a work plan and budget for each year of requested funding. The table should include the following columns: Activity; Deliverable; Lead(s); Timing; Budget (please note other funding that is confirmed or pending).
8. **Additional information.** In addition to your 8-page proposal, please submit
 - The lead organization's most recent financial statements.

Applications are to be submitted in **electronic form only**. Please email **one pdf file** with all materials to **hdunford@metcalffoundation.com** by the date and time listed.

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Note: A Word version of the Application section is available at <http://metcalffoundation.com/downloads/>