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# **South Markham Community Action Grants Round 1- 2025**

## **Information Session**



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# Land Acknowledgement



Illustrations by Chief Lady Bird



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# Agenda

- Welcome & Acknowledgement
- Grant Focus Areas
- Grant Streams:  
Resident/Grassroots group and  
Agency/Collaborative
- Application questions
- Application and Selection  
Process
- Important Dates
- Q & A



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# Context

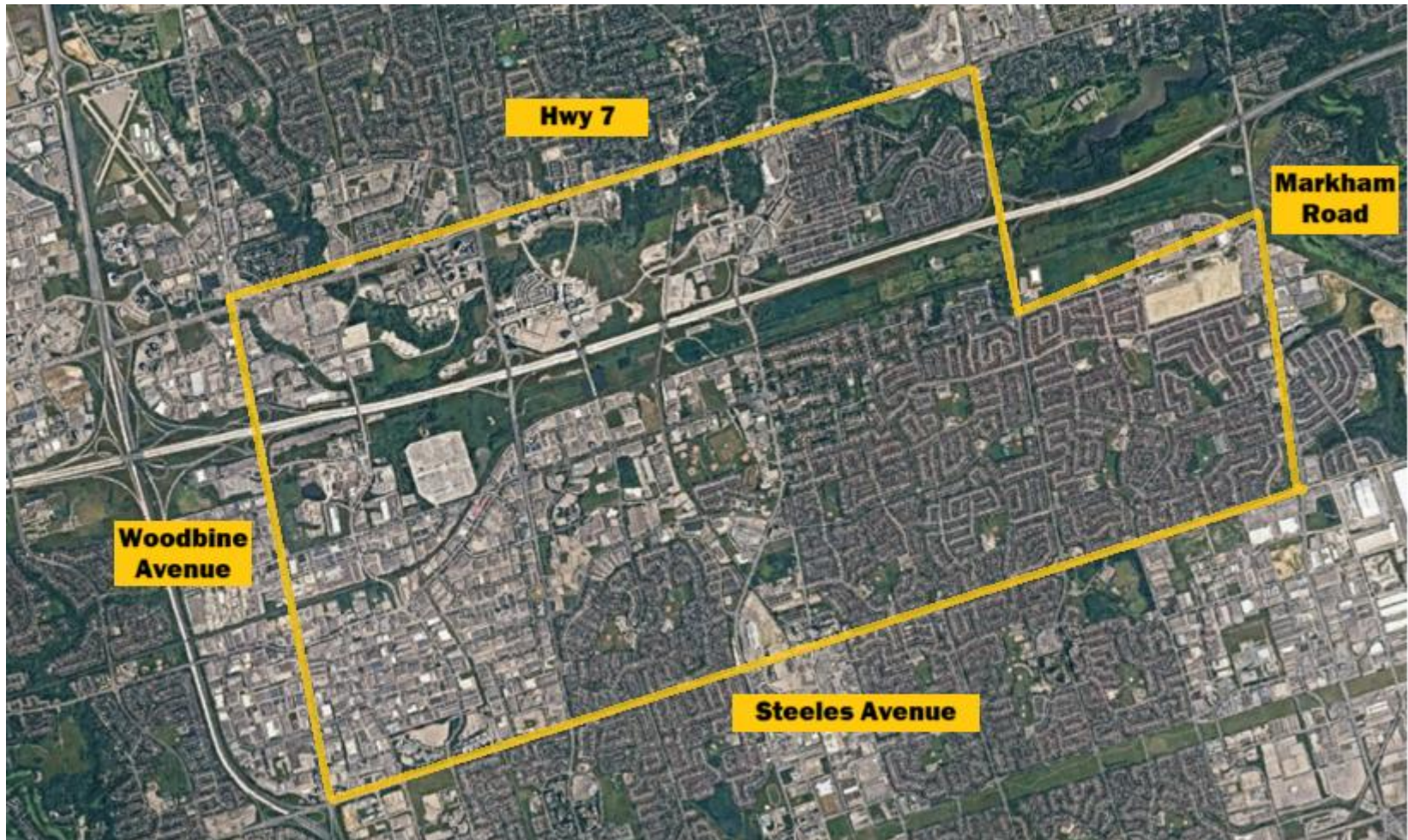
The South Markham Community Action Grants (CAG) are designed to support neighbourhood-focused initiatives that advance key community-informed priorities and actions. These priorities and actions are outlined in local plans such as the York Region Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (CSWB).



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# South Markham Map







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# Grant Focus Areas

Projects will support initiatives in South  
Markham with outcomes focused on  
improving one of five Grant Focus Areas



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# Employment & Economic Stability: Eligible Project Objectives



- Increasing local hiring, education & training opportunities
- Strengthening local workforce development models
- Evaluation efforts related to employment, economic development

*\* Refer to Appendix A of Grant Guidelines for full list of eligible project objectives*



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# Housing Stability: Eligible Project Objectives



- Supporting community-led housing solutions and affordable housing ideas
- Encourage community voices in housing discussions and policies
- Increasing education on tenant rights, and support for tenant led groups, eviction prevention

*\* Refer to Appendix A of Grant Guidelines for full list of eligible project objectives*





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# Community Safety & Violence Prevention: Eligible Project Objectives



- Increasing education on conflict resolution, violence prevention, violence intervention
- Increasing local mentorship opportunities for youth impacted by, or involved in violence
- Increasing safety-focused collective impact initiatives and research

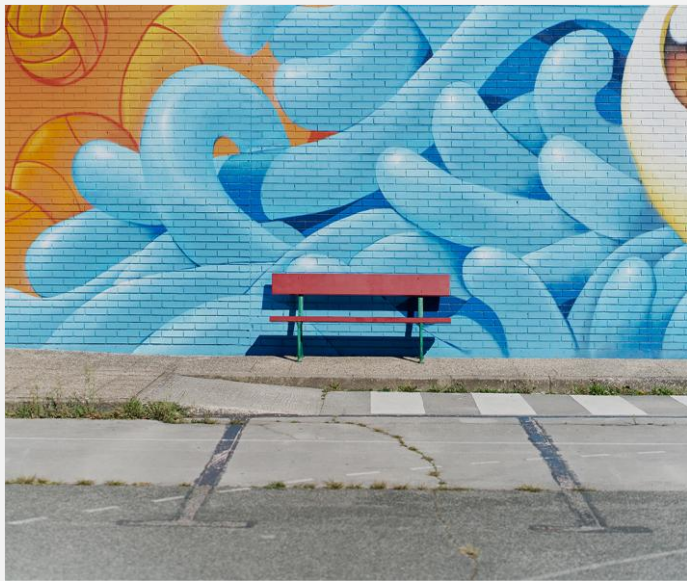
*\* Refer to Appendix A of Grant Guidelines for full list of eligible project objectives*



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# Vibrant Spaces: Eligible Project Objectives



- Activating local community spaces while also advancing local collaboration and resident leadership
- Leveraging local developments and existing underutilized spaces for enhanced service delivery
- Support better collaboration and services in shared community spaces.

*\* Refer to Appendix A of Grant Guidelines for full list of eligible project objectives*



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# Mental Health & Well-Being: Eligible Project Objectives



- Addressing mental health concerns related to safety through collaboration
- Enhancing mental health service coordination amongst local partners
- Increasing culturally competent resources focused on mental health and/or well-being

*\* Refer to Appendix A of Grant Guidelines for full list of eligible project objectives*



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# South Markham Community Action Grants (CAG)

Successful CAG initiatives will:

- Support residents, groups, agencies, and partners to take action and drive progress against community identified priorities.
- Increase social cohesion, ensuring that key priority populations are able to contribute to creating equitable communities.
- Foster and strengthen relationships between residents, partners, and other stakeholders
- Mobilize resources and collaborative activities to effectively action local priorities.



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# Grant Streams



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# **Resident/Grassroots Group Stream**





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# CAG Amounts and Cycle

Initiatives led by local residents or small groups active in the South Markham community.

The requested amount may be between \$5,000 - \$20,000 per project.

Expected to be delivered over a period of 6 months or less and completed by August 31, 2026.



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# Project Eligibility Criteria



Operate in  
South  
Markham



Focus on  
South  
Markham and  
project  
timeframe of 6  
months or less



Project have at  
least 5  
residents  
submitting, with  
two identified  
as primary  
leads



Deliver on  
at least 1 of  
the Grant  
Focus  
Areas



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# Resident Eligibility Criteria



Live in the South Markham neighbourhood



Should not be leading this grant as part of their employment



A resident can only be listed as the 'primary lead' once



Must be willing to work with ACSA Community Services as the project trustee



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# Resident/Grassroots Application Process

CAG applications available as of Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> 2025

Download the application from United Way website  
(<https://uwgt.org/south-markham>)

OR

Request the resident application by emailing [CAG@uwgt.org](mailto:CAG@uwgt.org), Subject:  
South Markham Community Action Grant

Applicants must complete the application directly in the Microsoft word format and submit the application via email to [CAG@uwgt.org](mailto:CAG@uwgt.org) by September 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM



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# **CAG Agency/Collaborative Stream**



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# Agency/Collaborative CAG

Projects or initiatives will be led by a local agency, collaborative or group of partners in South Markham

**The requested amount may range from \$25,000 to \$75,000 per project**

Projects expected to be delivered over a period of up to 18 months (must be completed by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027).





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# Agency/Collaborative Project Eligibility Criteria



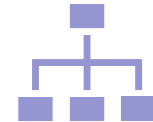
Lead must  
operate in  
South  
Markham



Occur within  
18 months,  
and must  
end by May  
2027



Project may  
be part of a  
broader  
initiative but  
must include  
activities in  
South  
Markham.



Project must  
seek to  
deliver on  
one (1) of  
the Grant  
Focus  
Areas.



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# Lead Agency Eligibility Criteria



Is a registered charitable organization, or an incorporated non-profit organization\* for a minimum of 2 years



Have financial statements for at least 1 year (audited) or be trustee by a registered charity that has financial statements for at least one year



Must operate in South Markham and complete a collaborative agreement if applying as a collaborative



If revenue is less than \$100,000, have a review engagement for at least one fiscal year, conducted by a licensed public accountant



Only 1 application per project lead agency is eligible to be approved



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# Agency/Collaborative Application Process

On SurveyMonkey Apply (SMA) starting  
**June 9<sup>th</sup> 2025**

To request access to SMA application, contact  
[CAG@uwgt.org](mailto:CAG@uwgt.org) by September 5<sup>th</sup> with subject line  
'South Markham CAG – SMA Set Up'

Applicants must use Survey Monkey Apply (SMA)  
to complete and submit the application by  
September 12<sup>th</sup> 2025

Agencies can refer to [United Way website](#) for any  
information updates



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# Application Questions



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# Resident / Grassroots Group Application Questions



Contact info for 2 primary leads & up to 5 group members



Are you submitting as a grassroots group?



How do you plan to engage residents in your project?



Are you working with any other partners in the community to implement your project?



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# Agency/Collaborative Application Questions



Lead organization info (incorporation or non-qualified donee information, Black/Indigenous led, serving, or mandated, 50/30 challenge)



If applying with partners or as a collaborative, who are the partners and what are their roles?



How does your agency / collaborative engage with and outreach to residents and other grassroots groups? In what ways does the project create leadership opportunities for residents?



Will residents be involved in leadership roles? If so, how many and provide info on their roles.





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# Questions in both applications

- What is the geographic focus of your project?
- Will your project work with a specific population?
- Briefly describe your group's experience working in South Markham
- Identify grant focus area
- Provide a summary of the project
- What does your project hope to accomplish?
- Project Start and End dates



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# Project Plan and Evaluation

Project Plan	Evaluation Plan
Steps (for outreach, implementation & evaluation)	What are the goals of your project and how do they relate to the grant focus area?
Who will be doing it? (to be completed by resident(s), a partner or other?)	How will you know if you have been successful?
When will it be completed? (timeframe for completion)	What information do you need to demonstrate the results of your project? How will you collect it?



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# Budget Template

A	B	C	D	E
Item	Description	Costs	In-kind/other resource contribution	Community Action Grant allocation
Example: Staffing	Example: 1 Program Coordinator 0.5FTE at \$25/hour for 32 weeks	\$ 16,000	\$5000	\$11,000



# Assessment Criteria & Selection Process



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# Assessment Criteria

Alignment with actions in local plans (e.g. CSWB Plan) and emerging opportunities in South Markham, associated with one the of four Grant Focus Areas and corresponding objectives.

Capacity to engage in community development activities & opportunities to engage residents in leadership roles

Support from diverse residents, grassroots groups, and agencies

Connection to emerging or ongoing redevelopment opportunities

Compelling case for project, based on identified need or opportunity

Ability to increase residents' skills to collaborate effectively and engage in community organizing and local revitalization efforts

Clear impact and benefit for structurally disadvantaged individuals/groups in South Markham

Project design with demonstrated knowledge of community and activities that can drive proposed impact

Clear impact indicators and evaluation plan to measure them & alignment between proposed activities and requested funds



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# Project Selection Process



The Review Committee for Round 1 CAG will be comprised of up to ten (10) members with a minimum of five South Markham residents, as well as other key stakeholders.



The Review Committee will provide the slate of recommended projects to UWGT.





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# **Additional Information**



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# Reporting Expectations for Successful Projects

- Descriptions of project activities
- Number of people impacted, residents leading and those participating in each project
- Description of how the funded projects advance the objectives of the selected Grant Focus Area
- Description of the decision-making processes and the ways in which community members and partners participated in this process



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# CAG Timeline

Applications Open

Application Reviews

Contracts Begin



**Applications Due**

Applicants Notified



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# Office Hours (In Person)

**Tuesday July 22, 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM**

Markham Public Library – Milliken Mills Branch  
(Program Room)

7600 Kennedy Road, Unit 1

**Friday August 15, 12:30 PM - 3:30PM**

Aaniin Community Centre (Community Office)

5665 14th Ave, Markham



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# Office Hours (Virtual)

Thursday July 17, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Wednesday August 20, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Tuesday August 26, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

*Use [Zoom Link](#) to drop-in and join*



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# Contact Information



Email Community Action Grants –  
[cag@uwgt.org](mailto:cag@uwgt.org). Please indicate “  
“South Markham Community Action  
Grant” in the subject line



For further application info, as well  
as full Grant Guidelines for both  
Resident/Grassroots &  
Agency/Collaborative



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**THANK YOU**