



United Way
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN
**PEEL, TORONTO
& YORK REGION**

South Markham Community Action Grants Information Session

Round 2 - 2026



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Land Acknowledgement



Illustrations by Chief Lady Bird



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Community Action Grants Overview



Purpose of the Community Action Grants



Support community-led projects that **respond to local priorities** and **advance actions in local plans**, including the York Region Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (CSWB Plan) and South Markham Community Action Plan.



Build and enhance collaboration between residents, local agencies and partners, as part of projects and local networks, such as the South Markham Community Action Table.



Brings residents, organizations and other local partners together to work on **shared goals**.



Strengthen **social cohesion and inclusion** of priority populations.



Helps communities take action on local plans and share resources for **lasting impact**.



Funding Streams



Agency/ Collaborative



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



\$25,000 - \$75,000
individual agency applications



\$50,000 - \$100,000 per for collaborative application between two or more agencies



Projects must be completed by **May 31st, 2028**



Residents/ Grassroots



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



\$5,000 - \$20,000 per project



Projects must be completed by **August 31st, 2027**



Project Eligibility

Projects will support initiatives in South Markham with outcomes focused on improving one (or more) of five the Grant Focus Areas:



**Employment &
Economic
Stability**



**Housing
Stability**



**Community
Safety &
Violence
Prevention**



**Vibrant
Spaces**



**Mental Health &
Well-Being**





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Project Eligibility

Projects are intended for the South Markham community





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CAG Timeline

Applications Open

Application Reviews

Contracts Begin



May 25
2026

Sept 11
2026

Fall 2026

End of
Nov. 2026

Jan 2027

Applications Due

Applicants Notified



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Grant Streams



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Resident/Grassroots Group Stream

Project Eligibility Criteria



Group must
operate in
South Markham



Project must focus
on **South Markham**
(see map)



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



Deliver on at
least 1 of the
**Grant Focus
Areas**



CAG Amounts and Cycle



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



Budget will need to include **10% trustee cost**



Expected to be delivered over a period of **6 months or less** and completed by **August 31, 2027**.



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



Trustee relationship



Successful applicants will work with **ACSA Community Services**, UWGT's trustee partner for South Markham.



Funded groups will **sign an agreement** outlining funding, reporting, and available training and support.



Groups will **meet regularly with ACSA** to share updates, discuss challenges, and celebrate progress.

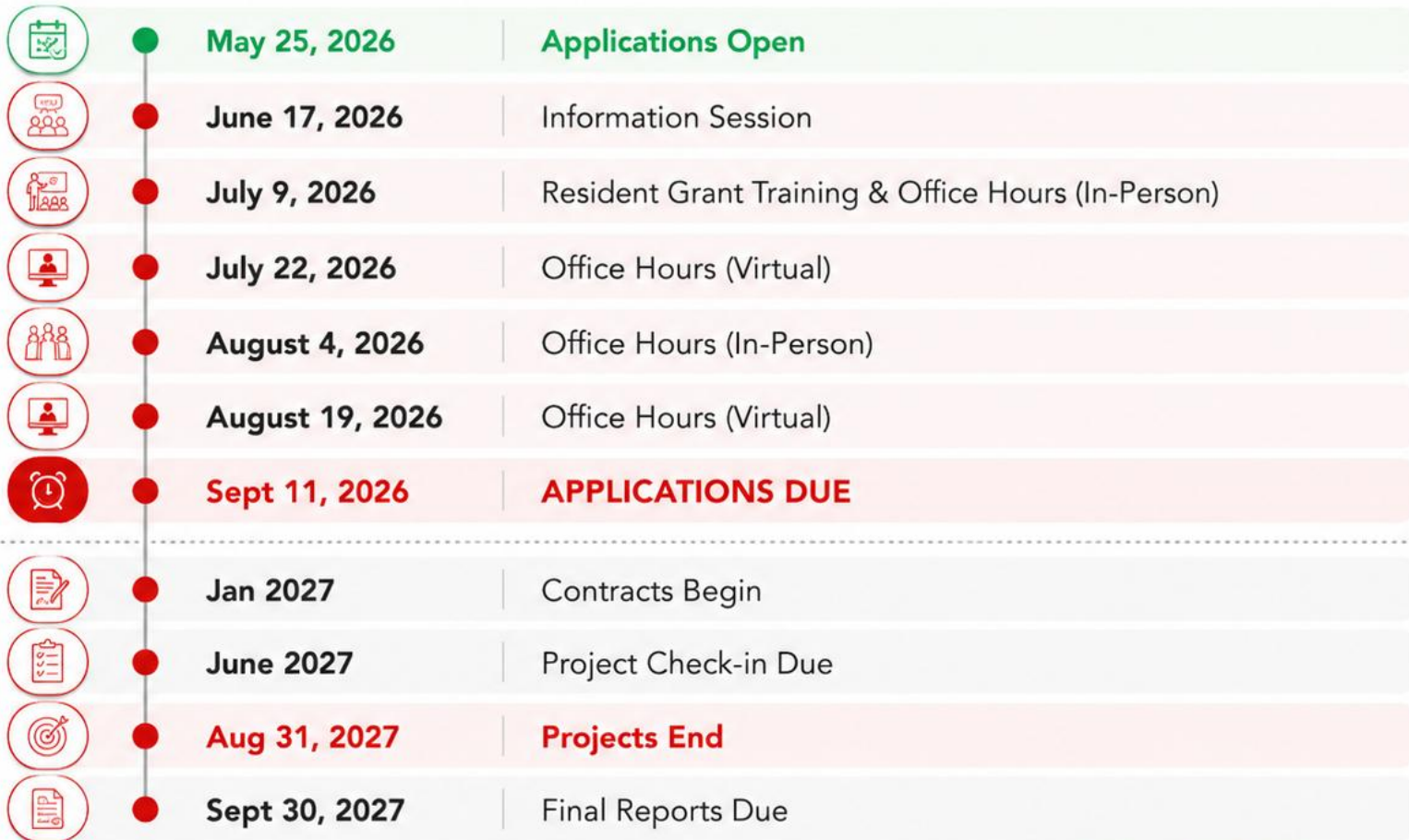


Funding is provided for the project as outlined in your final project contract.

Any significant changes to activities or budget should be discussed with ACSA and UWGT in advance.



Resident / Grassroots **CAG** Timeline



Resident/Grassroots Application Process



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

OR



Request the resident application by emailing CAG@uwgt.org,
Subject: **South Markham** Community Action Grant



Applicants must complete the application in the Microsoft word format and submit the application via email to CAG@uwgt.org by **September 11th** at 5:00 PM



**Connect with
United Way
staff to
discuss your
project idea
via email or
during Office
Hours**



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CAG Agency/Collaborative Stream



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AGENCY APPLICATION



Single agency lead with opportunity for other community partners or residents to support the delivery of the project



COLLABORATIVE APPLICATION



Multiple agencies or groups applying together for a common project



Clear roles, shared decisions, shared accountability



Focused on impact beyond a single project



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Grant Amounts and Cycle



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



\$25,000 to \$75,000 per project
for individual agency applications



\$50,000 to \$100,000 per project
for collaborative application between
two or more agencies



The projects are expected to be completed
by **May 31st, 2028**



Agency/Collaborative Project Eligibility Criteria

1



Located in
South Markham
or be actively
participating at the
**South Markham
Community Action Table**
(or other local table)

2



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

3



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



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Collaborative Applications



Max **\$100K**;
one charitable
lead agency
manages funds
& reporting



One application
per lead; cannot
also apply
individually



Signed partner
agreement required;
must confirm
eligibility with
UWGT



Only one
collaborative
likely funded



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 trusted by a registered charity that has financial statements for at least one year



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

Agency/Collaborative **CAG** Timeline

APPLICATION PERIOD



May 25, 2026

Applications Open



June 17, 2026

Information Session



July 9, 2026

Office Hours (In-Person)



July 22, 2026

Office Hours (Virtual)



August 4, 2026

Office Hours (In-Person)



August 19, 2026

Office Hours (Virtual)



Sept 4, 2026

Application Portal Access Deadline



Sept 11, 2026

APPLICATIONS DUE



Jan 2027

Contracts Begin



Sept 2027

Mid-way reports due



May 31, 2028

Projects End



June 30, 2028

Final Report Due

PROJECT DELIVERY
& REPORTING



Agency/Collaborative **Application** **Process**



Applicants must use Survey Monkey Apply (SMA) to complete and submit the application by **September 11, 2026**



To request access to SMA application, contact CAG@uwgt.org by **September 4 at 5:00 PM** with subject line 'South Markham CAG – SMA Set Up'



**Connect with
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staff to
discuss your
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via email or
during Office
Hours**





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Application Questions

Application Overview

1. Agency/ resident group background
& community engagement experience

2. Project overview: purpose, target
population, and local relevance

3. Detailed Project Plan

4. Project Evaluation

5. Budget

Agency/Collaborative Background



Lead organization info (incorporation status, audited financial statement, Black/Indigenous-led, **50/30** challenge)



Partner organizations and roles (if applying with partners or as collaborative)



Services and activities provided in South Markham



Resident and grassroots engagement, including leadership opportunities



Resident leadership roles and number of residents involved



Resident / Grassroots Group Background



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?



Project Overview: Location, Audience and Topic



Project description (make sure someone unfamiliar with your organization will be able understand the project at a glance)



What is the geographic focus of your project?



Will your project work with a specific population?



Briefly describe your agency's/ group's experience working in South Markham

Examples of eligible project objectives by Grant Focus Area



EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC STABILITY

Increasing local hiring, education and training opportunities.



HOUSING STABILITY

Supporting community-led housing solutions and affordable housing ideas.



VIBRANT SPACES

Activating local community spaces and advancing resident leadership.



MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Addressing mental health concerns through community collaboration.



COMMUNITY SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Increasing education on conflict resolution and violence prevention.








Refer to Appendix A of Grant Guidelines for the full list of eligible project objectives.

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?

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





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Assessment Criteria & Selection Process

Assessment Criteria



Alignment with
local priorities and
Grant Focus Areas



Resident
engagement and
leadership
opportunities



Support from
residents,
grassroots groups,
and partners



Connection to
redevelopment or
community
opportunities



Clear community
need and
project rationale



Builds resident
skills and
community
collaboration



Benefits for
structurally
disadvantaged
groups in
South Markham



Strong project
design and
community
knowledge



Clear impact
measures and
realistic use
of funds

Project Selection Process



The Review Committee for **Round 2** 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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Key Dates and Next Steps



Office Hours (In Person)



Thursday, July 9, 3 – 5 PM

📍 Aaniin Community Centre
5665 14th Ave, Markham, ON L3S 3K5



Tuesday, August 4, 5 – 7 PM

📍 Markham Public Library – Milliken Mills Branch
7600 Kennedy Rd #1, Markham, ON L3R 9S5



Agencies and residents are welcome to drop-in.



Office Hours (Virtual)



Wednesday July 22, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Wednesday August 19, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM




Use Zoom Link (on website) to drop-in and join



Resident Grant Writing (In Person)



Thursday, July 9, 5 – 7 PM

 **Aaniin Community Centre**
5665 14th Ave, Markham, ON L3S 3K5



Residents must register in advance.

 **Registration link on website.**



Contact Information



Email Community Action Grants – cag@uwgt.org. Please indicate “**South Markham Community Action Grant**” in the subject line



For further info, review full Grant Guidelines for both **Resident/Grassroots & Agency/Collaborative**





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THANK YOU



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 **Q & A**