

The Stride Forward Fund is an annual granting program designed to provide meaningful financial support to organizations and grassroots initiatives that drive social, environmental, and economic progress in the regions we serve. If your organization is planning a significant project that fosters rural vitality and growth, we invite you to apply during the annual intake period.

For event sponsorships, team support, or smaller donation requests, please submit a traditional sponsorship request to marketing@stridecu.ca.

1. Application call & Response Times:

Applicants are invited to submit one Stride Forward Fund application per year. The 2025 intake period is September 1, 2026 - October 2, 2026. Successful applicants will be notified on or before November 20, 2026.

2. Grant Amounts:

Stride Credit Union has set aside \$200,000 to be allocated to organizations serving these communities:

- Portage
- MacGregor
- Austin
- Gladstone
- Neepawa
- Carberry

The funds distributed to each community will be proportionate to the share of business each of these communities has with Stride Credit Union.

3. Eligibility Criteria:

The grantee can be a member or a non-member of Stride Credit Union and operate in one of Stride's serving communities and areas. Funding will not be provided to the following organizations or purposes. Meeting eligibility criteria does not guarantee funding.

- For-profit organizations
- Pursuits benefiting one or few people (i.e., crowdfunding)
- Religious organizations
- Political organizations

- Professional development
- Travel
- Research
- Membership or registration fees
- Regular ongoing operating expenses of established organizations or programs, such as wages, salaries, utilities, rent, insurance, annual fees, and/or licenses, etc.

4. Application Process:

Please visit stridecu.ca or strideforwardfund.ca to start the application process. If you are a successful applicant, Stride's Grant Committee will be in contact on or before November 20, 2026 to set up a time for a cheque presentation and photo opportunity. If you have any questions on the Stride Forward Fund, please email grants@stridecu.ca.

4. Grant Review Committee & Application Review

The Grant Review Committee will review applications after the October 2 deadline, selecting grantees based on project viability and alignment with Stride's values and strategic goals.