
**COMMUNITY CENTRES PROGRAM 2013 - 2014
GUIDELINES FOR ASSISTANCE**

ECBC will work with economic development stakeholders, community leaders, and organizations to identify and develop key infrastructure initiatives that strengthen and enhance the economic foundations of communities so that they are attractive place(s) to live and invest.

ECBC interests include supporting community centres that have a direct relation with festivals and events. It has been recognized by festival and event organizers that as the facilities age, the declining physical condition of the infrastructure put the festivals and events at risk. This program is in response to providing matching dollars to a maximum of \$20,000 for upgrades to existing facilities, thereby capitalizing on the capacity, strength and opportunity present in communities across Cape Breton Island.

CRITERIA:

All projects will be evaluated against the following criteria:

1. economic benefits and expected results;
2. capitalize on the strengths and opportunities in the community;
3. host festival(s) and event(s);
4. have no negative impact on local competition;
5. need for financial assistance;
6. on-going sustainability and operations of the facility; and
7. partnerships between government, communities and other stakeholders.

ASSISTANCE:

ECBC may provide a non-repayable contribution to incorporated, non-profit organizations that meet the above criteria. Funding will be disbursed at a maximum rate of 50% of approved eligible costs to a maximum of \$20,000 in assistance.

ELIGIBLE COSTS:

- building/structures;
- furnishing/fixtures;
- machinery/equipment;
- professional fees;
- signage; and
- land improvements

INFORMATION REQUIRED:

1. A completed ECBC application form;
2. A project description including an outline of detailed proposed project costs and sources of financing;
3. A detailed description of the facility; the economic benefit and the expected results;
4. A detailed description as to who uses the facility, its availability to the general public, and any festivals and events hosted at the facility;
5. Quotations for the costs to be incurred;
6. Names, contact information, and qualifications of those responsible for the management of the project;
7. A copy of the organization's most recent financial statements; and
8. Proof of ownership and appropriate insurance coverage for the community centre.

PLEASE NOTE: Applications may be received at any time throughout the year. The review of the application and the approval of funding will be subject to ECBC's annual budget restrictions for the community centre program. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated against the program criteria.