



The York University TD Community Engagement Centre (CEC)

Annual Catalyst Grants

2023



Agenda

- › Background and context of the CEC's work
- › Purpose of the Catalyst Grant
- › Eligibility
- › Application process
- › Q&A

CEC Background

- › Opened in 2008
- › Aims to foster more meaningful relationships between Jane Finch and Black Creek Community



The York University-TD Community Engagement Centre supports the University's commitment to build a more engaged university by facilitating mutually-beneficial collaborations between York University and the Black Creek community.

CEC Core Areas

1. Coordinate institutional structure to respond to community requests and opportunities for **university-community collaborations**
2. Supports **access to post-secondary education**
3. Fosters teaching and learning through **experiential education** opportunities that fit community needs
4. Enhances capacity of York faculty/students and community partners to work collaboratively on **community-based research**
5. Support and outreach for **reskilling, retooling & developing opportunity** for people to thrive



CEC Core Areas

University-community collaborations



Opportunities for the university and community to work together (e.g., local hiring)

Access to post-secondary education



Removing barriers to further education (e.g., workshops in high school; participation in Walk with Excellence)

Experiential Education



York students apply their skills through placements, co-op, and other activities in a way that benefits the community (e.g., tax clinics).

Collaborative community-based research



Ensuring the community is involved in and benefits from research (e.g., Jane Finch Community Research Ethics Advisory)

Reskilling, retooling & developing opportunity to thrive



Supporting opportunities for skill development (e.g., for careers and entrepreneurship)

The Catalyst Grant

- › Existed since 2015
- › Over \$150,000 awarded to community University Partnerships
- › Average funding amount = \$5000
- › Intended as seed funding for pilot projects



Focus on the Black Creek /Jane Finch community

- Intended to serve the Black Creek Jane Finch Community in some capacity (Postal Codes: M3L, M3N, M3J, M3M)
- Can include youth, seniors, newcomers, any population living within the community



Alignment with Core Areas

1. Will the project allow York students to be involved through **experiential education**?
2. Will the project support access to **post-secondary education**?
3. Will the project support **research** that benefits the community?
4. Does the project promote **collaboration** between York and the community?
5. Does the project create opportunities for **training or reskilling**?

Eligibility

- › Youth reside in the Black Creek community
- › Projects benefit the Black Creek community
- › Projects may be new or build on existing initiatives



Where to Find the Application

- The CEC website has examples of past grantees, videos of information sessions and other additional information:

<https://cec.info.yorku.ca/catalyst-grants/>

YORK 

TD Community Engagement Centre

About ▾ Community-Based Research ▾ Students ▾ Community Resources ▾ Calendar News

TD Community Engag

The York University-TD Community Engagement Centre academic innovation through community building and collaborative research and partnerships. Our local approach in strengthening communities and addressing societal is

CEC Community Supports

Catalyst Grants

Black Creek Financial Action Network

Black Entrepreneurship Alliance (BEA)

Black Creek Food Justice Network

CLASP (Legal Services)

lite office of York Univers
nt for Black Creek Comm
community engagement



The grant application is found at the link:

[Call for Proposals 2023-24: Catalyst Grants- Youth-led Projects](https://cec.info.yorku.ca/catalyst-grants/)



The Application

5 Main sections (outlined in application form) including:

- › Contact information
- › About the applicants
- › Description of project
- › Project Goal and Outcomes (max.300 words)
- › Anticipated Work plan (with key project milestones and dates)
- › Budget

Application Deadline

**August 20, 2023
11:59pm**

Timeline

Completed applications will be reviewed by the *York-TD Community Engagement Centre Advisory Committee* consisting of university and community members who provide guidance to the overall work of the CEC.

Milestone	Date
Information Session #1	July 28, 2023- 10:00am- on Zoom
Information Session #2	August 1, 2023- 6:00pm- in person
Application Due Date	August 20, 2023- 11:59pm
Notification of selection	Early September
Project Duration	September 2023- March 2024
Reporting Deadline	March 31, 2024

Questions?

Email:

Anda Petro, Community Projects Coordinator | apetro@yorku.ca

Byron Gray, Manager | byrong@yorku.ca

Website: www.yorku.ca/cec

Twitter & Facebook : @YorkUTDCEC