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MDS Canada Spirit of MDS Fund Application 2023-24

To apply for funding, download and fill out this form, then save and e-mail it to **somds@mds.org**. You can also print it and mail to MDS Canada, 200-600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 2J1.

**Criteria**

*As a Canadian Anabaptist/Mennonite agency, our primary focus for the fund is Canadian Anabaptist/Mennonite churches and ministries. However, we will consider grants to Canadian non-Anabaptist/Mennonite churches or organizations.*

1. As an agency that is primarily a network of volunteers, our hope is that grants will help mobilize volunteers within churches and ministries to be the hands and feet of Jesus to people in need. Grant applications that highlight how the funds will utilize and mobilize volunteers will be given priority.
2. Grants are available to assist people in the community who are experiencing a crisis or other need. This may include:
   1. Construction or renovation projects of homes of people in need;
   2. Food or other needed resources for those in crisis (e.g. through a food bank);
   3. Ministry and service projects that involve volunteers serving the neighbourhood;
   4. Other creative ideas that are a fit with MDS Canada’s two Core Values: Faith in Action and Caring Relationships.

*Note: For church renovation projects, projects that will be considered are those that enable a church to serve the community better (e.g. to renovate a kitchen to make it more efficient for a food pantry or soup kitchen.)*

1. Where able, MDS Canada might also offer assistance in leadership or volunteers for building or construction projects.
2. Grants of up to $5,000 are available, with some exceptions.
3. Grants are only available to Canadian churches or organizations.
4. Normally, only one grant per year is given to an organization

**Process**

After receiving your application, it will be reviewed by MDS staff and provincial unit leaders, with information about approval to follow within two weeks of receipt of application.

*October 2023*

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**2023-24 Spirit of MDS Application Form**

Date

Name of person making the application

Name of congregation

Congregational affiliation

**Name of pastor or church leader (if not the same as the person making the application)**

Address (street, city/town, postal code)

Contact E-mail

Contact Phone

Church website address

**Amount applying for** (Maximum $5,000)

Please share to the best of your ability how funding from MDS can help you respond to needs in your community.

What do you need assistance for? (The need or needs you want to address, who you want to assist, why they need the assistance, etc.)

How do you plan to meet this need? (How will you use the funds? When and how will it they be disbursed? How will volunteers be involved? How will it improve the lives of those you want to help?)

**If you would like MDS to provide support** in the form of leadership for construction or repair projects, or other assistance such as having someone experienced in construction do an assessment of the project you want to undertake, indicate below noting what kind of assistance you could use.

**Agreements (Write “yes” if you agree)**

We agree to send MDS Canada a report about how the funds were used no later than 30 days after they are disbursed. (Note: Funds will not be granted without agreeing.)

We are open to sharing this story with MDS Canada, to tell the story of the church in action to meet needs in our community/neighbourhood. (Where requested, anonymity of recipients will be honoured.)

E-mail your completed application to [somds@mds.org](mailto:somds@mds.org). You can also print it and mail to MDS Canada, 200-600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 2J1. We will try to get back to you within two weeks with information about your application.

Thanks for applying! It’s our privilege to come alongside local congregations “in the spirit of MDS.”