Q1. What is the Francophone Community Grants Program?

The **Francophone Community Grants Program** will provide opportunities for Francophone organizations in Ontario to implement cultural and community-based projects that will support the engagement of Francophones in their milieu.

Successful initiatives must align with one or more of the following priorities:

- Facilitate social integration, networking and volunteerism within francophone communities.

- Reduce barriers and increase support for vulnerable groups within Francophone communities.

- Provide opportunities to celebrate and promote an understanding of Ontario's Francophonie.

- Build the capacity of francophone organizations.

- Promote collaboration between service providers to better serve francophone communities.

Further details are provided in the Francophone Community Grants Program and Application Guide available on Grants Ontario.

Q2. What is the deadline to apply?

The deadline is 5:00 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 2, 2017.

Q3. Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must have been in continuous operation in Ontario for at least one year and may include incorporated and not-for-profit organizations, municipalities and Indigenous communities/organizations.

Applicants are expected to have francophone issues and programs as a clear part of their mandate.

Q4. How do I apply?

The Government of Ontario's online Grants Ontario System provides one-window access for users to draft and submit applications, check application status and manage reports.

Applications in any other format other than the application form on the Grants Ontario System will not be accepted.

All applicants must register as users with the Government of Ontario's encrypted ONe key log-in system at Grants Ontario and apply online.

Online modules and quick reference guides are available to provide support as you move through the site, and technical support is available during regular business hours. Your **Regional Advisor** can also help you with any questions you may have regarding your

applications (refer to Appendix C: Contact Information for Regional Advisors in the Program and Application Guide).

Q5. I am having problems accessing the Grants Ontario System. What should I do?

For technical support questions related to the system, please contact Customer Service, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at GrantsOntarioCS@Ontario.ca or at 416-325-6691 and 1-855-216-3090 (Toll-free).

Q6. How much funding may I receive for my project?

The maximum funding per application is determined according to three streams:

- **Stream 1**: Grants totaling a maximum $5,000.
- **Stream 2**: Grants between $5,001 and $25,000.
- **Stream 3**: Grants between $25,001 and $50,000. Grants in this category can extend over two years, meaning that eligible organizations are entitled to receive up to $100,000 in total funding for a two-year project.

Please note that:

- Organizations with total annual operating expenses of less than $50,000 can only apply for grants under **Stream 1**.
- Organizations with total annual operating expenses between $50,000 and $99,999 can only apply for grants under **Streams 1 and 2**.
- Organizations with total annual operating expenses of $100,000 or more can apply for grants under **Streams 1, 2 and 3**.

The following requirements will also apply:

- Funding will be restricted to a maximum of 80 percent of total eligible project costs, up to the maximum funding amount as outlined above.
- A maximum of 20 percent of the total Project budget can be made up of in-kind and/or cash contributions.
- Cash and in-kind contributions can come from the recipient, a partner, private funders/foundations or from other levels of government.
- Grants will be paid in two installments as indicated in the Program and Application Guide.

Q7. Can I submit my application in either English or French?

Yes. The Ontario Grants System allows for the submission of an application in either English or French.

Q8. Can my organization submit an application for more than one project?

No. Each organization may apply for **ONLY** one project per Fiscal Year.

Q9. How will my application be assessed?

All applications will be evaluated based on how well they meet the program's Eligibility, Funding and Technical requirements as indicated in the in the Francophone Community Grants Program and Application Guide available on Grants Ontario.

Q10. Should projects be fully accessible to persons with disabilities?

Each project will be required to consider accessibility for persons with disabilities in its planning to an extent that is relative to its needs. Expenses related to improved accessibility and services are eligible under the **Francophone Community Grants Program**.

Q11. When will I be notified if my application was successful?

The Ministry of Francophone Affairs will notify applicants of the decision regarding their application no later than December 31, 2017.

Q12. Can you recommend a professional grant writer to assist in preparing my application?

We can't direct you to a grant writer to assist you with your application, but your Regional Advisor is a great resource for answers to your specific questions regarding the **Francophone Community Grants Program.** Refer to Appendix C: Contact Information for Regional Advisors in the Program and Application Guide.

Q13. After my project is over, do I have to submit a report to the Ministry of Francophone Affairs?

Yes. All successful applicants must report on the outcome of their project through the Grants Ontario system.

For one-year projects, successful applicants must provide a final report on the outcome of their project within 90 days of the end of the initiative (Project End Date).

For two-year projects (funded under Stream 3), successful applicants must provide both an interim report, which is due within one hundred and eighty (180) days after the Project begins (project start date), and a Final Report, which is due within 90 days after the Project is completed.

Applicants must use the appropriate form template, which will be made available on the Grants Ontario system.

Q14. Does my event have to be in French?

Yes. The goal of the Francophone Community Grants Program is to support cultural and community activities for the Franco-Ontarian community. However, the program is open to both Francophones and Francophiles**.**