



THE FOUNDATION CONTINUES ITS COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

May 15, 2020 - Since the beginning of the crisis, the J. Armand Bombardier Foundation has strived to respond to the best of its capacity to the challenges faced by not-for-profit organizations due to the global pandemic.

FROM SPRINT TO MARATHON

Like many philanthropic actors, we are aware that this situation will evolve through three important steps:

- An acute emergency phase, which is now over (March-April)
- A post-emergency, transition phase (May-September)
- A long-term phase (September - undetermined)

From the very first days, we have put in place certain actions aimed specifically at organizations we support:

- Flexibility for organizations in the use of funds already allocated ;
- Confirmation of payments for multi-year projects (even if projects are delayed or reassessed);
- Maintaining the schedule of granting committees to avoid delays in the renewal of funding (including scholarship programs);
- Freeze accountability requests until further notice.

In addition, an emergency financial assistance was provided through collective initiatives to support front-line organizations.

Based on grantee feedbacks scans of our environment and conversations with our peers, we are currently in Stage Phase2. The Organizations have had to make important decisions, change the way they operate, readjust their services, lay off staff, etc. With the vast majority of fundraising activities having been cancelled, the organizations are trying to find solutions.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Important behind-the-scenes work is taking place in the midst of the crisis to coordinate the response of grant-making foundations and capacity building actors. As such, the Foundation team is involved in:

- Webinars and discussions hosted by key players in the Québec and Canadian philanthropic community;
- Multiple meetings with other grant-making foundations;
- The FGM's COVID-19 Collective Fund advisory committee.

A RENEWED GRANTING STRATEGY

The Granting Committee will meet once a month to review applications related to COVID-19, in order to give a quicker response to organizations.

For all grant requests, including those related to COVID-19 or any other project, [please fill out the intent form](#).

We will try to give you an answer within 30 days of your request.

CAPACITY BUILDING

After being forced to cancel in-person activities scheduled for the remainder of the current Philagora season, the Philanthropic activities team is now working on a new programming offer. We have identified two main focus areas for our activities:

- Create a dedicated space for notfor-profit Executive Directors : join the Coin des des DG (*ED's Corner*), a virtual lounge where we meet every 2 weeks to discuss various hot topics brought forward by participants. To receive the invitation, subscribe to our mailing list. (This activity is held in French)
- Reflect on exit strategies : we are evaluating the best way to offer long-term support to organizations as they reflect upon their own activities in light of the crises.

Like many of you, we are going through a steep learning curve: new technologies, new ways of doing things, etc. However, the Foundation's team wishes to keep its ear close to the ground, listening to grassroots needs, all the while supporting front-line organizations.

Let's continue to help each other, connect, and grow together.