

REACH AND STRETCH GRANTS IN THE DIOCESE OF ONTARIO

INTRODUCTION

The New Ministry Fund was established in 2018 as part of the Canons of the Diocese of Ontario. It is consistent with the Mission of the Diocese of Ontario.

When congregations are dis-established or property sold, the net proceeds (investments, buildings, land, other property) are placed in a Restricted Fund. The Fund is overseen by the Diocesan Executive Board, under the governance of Synod Council.

The New Ministry Fund is intended to support the exploration, establishment, and nurturing of new and innovative ministries within the Diocese of Ontario. Funds are available to congregations and groups through programs and processes approved by Synod Council.

There are two classifications of grants available upon approval of applications. REACH grants (up to \$5,000) and Stretch grants (up to \$10,000).

REACH GRANTS

These grants are eligible for up to \$5,000 to further church or group ministry in a meaningful way. Specific consideration will be given to new ministry initiatives that are related to:

Reconciliation – to build or improve relationships with people including indigenous people, creation care, be a peacemaking initiative for issues in the community, support social justice issues including bullying, human trafficking, homelessness, and poverty.

Lay Leadership – within the Parish, Deanery or Diocese, to train, equip and cultivate lay leaders through training and workshops; to support and encourage lay leaders through education and spiritual engagement.

Evangelism – the church is entrusted with the Good News of God in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit and is called to tell our Lord's timely and timeless message. The work of evangelism is accomplished in raising and nurturing disciples of Christ.

Social Action and Justice – the church is called to be agents of peace and ministers of wholeness and be mindful of and responsible for the need of people and creation within our local communities and the wider world.

Creation of a Culture of Gratitude – our churches, groups and diocese are dependent on the faithful stewardship of our people in partnership with others to deliver ministry. We rely on the grace and love of God. For all these things, we are thankful. Gratitude is the act of feeling and communicating appreciation for the people, circumstances and material possessions entrusted to us. It allows us to cherish our present in ways that make us feel in abundance rather than deprived. We are motivated to serve. When people are thanked, they become more trusting with one another and inspired to help one another. Creating and enhancing a culture of gratitude throughout our Diocese is a key goal for us all.

How to Apply for a Reach Grant:

Applicants will complete the application form and a 2-page proposal describing how the following criteria will be met:

1. Describe the ministry you would like to build with support from a Reach Grant including which of the criteria will be met.
2. Will the ministry be carried out with or without a Reach Grant?
3. What are the goals and objectives of your proposed ministry and whom do you propose to serve and why?
4. What kind(s) activity or program will you be offering?
5. What resources will be required and how much will it cost? (Include a 1-page budget as an appendix) Successful planning includes financial planning.
6. Describe the stages through which your ministry will evolve.
7. Where do you hope the ministry will be in six months, one year, two years?
8. How will the success of the ministry be measured?
9. To whom is the ministry accountable?
10. Application Form and 2-page supplemental and one page budget sent to:
grants@ontario.anglican.ca

Applications will be reviewed to ensure that the application is complete, in scope, and the church or group is compliant with all diocesan policies.

The next step is the “pitch” to the New Ministry Grant Panel. This involves a 10-minute opportunity to provide the panel with additional information or strengthen the application. The New Ministry Grant Panel will have three members representing (a) financial stewardship, (b) ministry stewardship, and (c) knowledge/skills for the project. The New Ministry Grant Coordinator will contact the applicants and provide support to help prepare for the “pitch”.

Approval:

The New Ministry Grant Panel has the delegated authority to make decisions regarding Reach Grant requests.

For accountability and transparency an interim report must be submitted by the end of the first year of ministry with a final report submitted by the end of the second year. The New Ministry Grant Coordinator will check in at the six-month mark.

STRETCH GRANTS

Stretch grants are one-time grants of up to \$10,000 designed to be a continuance grant for a successful Reach grant ministry or an established ministry that is moving to the next level. Stretch grants may need some more financial support to continue to explore their path to maturity. However, stretch grants require more detailed information initiatives, and are not assumed as a continuation of a reach grant.

How to Apply for a Stretch Grant:

Applicants will complete the application form and a 2-page proposal describing how the grant will satisfy the following criteria:

1. Describe the ministry you would like to build on with support from a Stretch grant including which of the above criteria will be met.
2. Describe the achievements and milestones of the ministry.
3. Describe what the vision is to take the ministry to the next level.
4. What resources will be required and how much will it cost? (Include a 1-page budget as an appendix) Successful planning includes financial planning.
5. It is expected the developing ministry is carried out through the collaboration with partners.
6. How will the success of the ministry be measured?
7. To whom is the ministry accountable?
8. It is expected that the ministry will carry on into the future. Where do you plan the ministry to be in three and five years. Be specific.
9. Application Form and 2-page supplemental and one page budget sent to:
grants@ontario.anglican.ca

The following criteria will be used to determine whether a Stretch Grant might be offered:

1. That the monies would be available as a second-stage funding once a successful outcome to a Reach Grant disbursement has been demonstrated or an existing successful ministry is ready to grow.
2. That the monies would only be available once a thorough report about what has been accomplished, what has worked and what has not.
3. That a limited proportion of the funds can be directed toward supporting personnel for ministry, up to, but not exceeding 50% of the total grant.

Approval:

The New Ministry Grant Panel has been delegated authority to make decisions regarding Stretch Grant requests.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR NEW MINISTRY GRANTS

1. There will be one, and possibly two intakes annually for Reach and Stretch Grants in 2024 with the deadline of April 1, and possibly October 1. There will be one intake annually for Reach and Stretch Grants beginning in 2025 with the deadline of October 1.
2. Congregations and groups may normally only apply for Reach Grants once every two years.
3. Reach Grants fund new initiatives only. There is no reimbursement for any costs for projects incurred prior to the grant approval date.
4. Reach and Stretch Grants shall not be used to pay salaries or to defray capital costs. Honoraria, program and equipment costs will be considered.
5. Applications seeking to reboot or recalibrate existing programmes to meet changing community or parish needs will be permitted for consideration.
6. Application forms (including supplemental proposal) must be received by the deadline date. Forms arriving after the deadline will not be considered until the following year's intake.

7. All parts of the form must be completed, and the Incumbent/Priest-in-Charge must sign the application on behalf of the churches and the recognized chair/leader and one other sign on behalf of groups.
8. All grants require a follow up report to the Diocesan Executive Board within one year of receiving the grant.
9. Reach and Stretch Grant monies are not permitted for general fund use, reserve funds or any other.
10. Applications are submitted to the New Ministry Fund Coordinator.

For Questions and Support email the New Ministry Coordinator: grants@ontario.anglican.ca