



2021 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION INVESTMENT: FUNDED INITIATIVES

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project is a once-in-a-generation undertaking. Not only will the project deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travellers, it will also provide jobs and opportunities for growth to the Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan region. A key project element is the inclusion of a Community Benefits Plan which includes the Workforce Development and Participation Strategy and the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy.

The \$20 million Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy of the Community Benefits Plan includes the Community Organization Investment, an annual commitment to provide a \$100,000 (CDN) investment allowance for community organizations located in or servicing Sandwich/west Windsor or Delray/Southwest Detroit (the host communities) between 2020 and 2024. Funds will be used to support events, programming and infrastructure improvements that will benefit the host communities and align with one of the community investment priorities, including: community partnerships, community safety and connections, economic benefits, and/or aesthetics and landscaping.

From November 2020 to January 2021, eligible registered non-profit and charitable organizations were invited to apply for the program's second year of funding. Over 30 applications were received. Eligible applications were reviewed, scored and prioritized by members of the Local Community Group, which includes 16 stakeholders representing various perspectives from Windsor and Detroit. The prioritized applications were reviewed by senior project representatives from WDBA, Bridging North America and the State of Michigan to confirm funding recipients.

In July 2021, the Community Organization Investment will divide \$100,000 (CDN) to four organizations in Canada and four in the US:

CANADIAN INITIATIVES

ACROSS THE RIVER TO FREEDOM: EARLY BLACK HISTORY IN SANDWICH, ON

Organization: Essex County Black Historical Research Society

Funding: \$25,000

Initiative Type: Programming

The Essex County Black Historical Research Society will build off the success of the previously produced short film "*The North Was Our Canaan: Exploring Sandwich Town's Underground Railroad History*" (2018) to create three interrelated yet standalone short films that convey significant and engaging aspects of early Sandwich history. The project will engage post-secondary students in Windsor and will include a companion website and curriculum materials so the films can be used in educational settings.

WOMEN CAN SUMMIT SERIES

Organization: Border City Athletics Club

Funding: \$10,000

Initiative Type: Event

The Women Can Summit Series include a virtual conference aimed to empower Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) women from Sandwich/west Windsor in coaching, mentorship and leadership in sports. The virtual conference will be accompanied by a physically distanced day of fun and fitness for local BIPOC female athletes aged 10-14 while their mothers participate in an afternoon focused on health, wellness and physical activity.

A BRIDGE TO PLAY MCGIVNEY: NEW ACCESSIBLE RAMP

Organization: The John McGivney Children's Centre
Funding: \$8,400
Initiative Type: Infrastructure

A new accessible ramp will be installed to improve public access to Play McGivney, an accessible playground at The John McGivney Centre in Sandwich. The addition of the accessible ramp will further enhance the centre's on-site pathways, supporting the creation of an open-concept space for interaction and engagement for those of all ages and abilities.

SANDWICH COMMUNITY DIVERCITY BBQ

Organization: Windsor Police Services Community Service Branch in partnership with New Beginnings
Funding: \$6,600
Initiative Type: Event

The Sandwich Community DiverCity BBQ will be a free event celebrating diversity in the Sandwich and Windsor-Essex community. The event will include cultural performances, community art projects as well as sports and activities for children and youth. The event will also include representation from various local community organizations and non-profits.

AMERICAN INITIATIVES

COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE CENTER

Organization: First Latin American Baptist Church of Detroit, MI
Funding: \$25,000 (CDN)
Initiative Type: Infrastructure

First Latin American Baptist Church will use the funding to support renovations for its Community Recreation Center Service Center, focusing on completing the flooring in the gym, bathroom and basketball support and pads. The completion of this project will allow youth and families from Southwest Detroit to enjoy indoor recreation programming.

JOYFUL MOVEMENT OUTSIDE

Organization: Unity in Our Community TimeBank
Funding: \$5,000 (CDN)
Initiative Type: Events

A series of outdoor events including bike rides, park walks, outdoor yoga classes, outdoor theatre games, cross country skiing and ice skate will be held at neighbourhood parks and public spaces in Southwest Detroit to encourage outdoor exploration and highlight the many assets available for physical activity in the community.

DELRAY BILINGUAL PROGRAMS FOR FAMILY ASSISTANCE

Organization: Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
Funding: \$17,000 (CDN)
Initiative Type: Programming

Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation will provide critical community programming to Delray residents including offering case management to families to secure needed household items through the DTE Weatherization Program, providing bilingual financial literacy and counselling services to up to 20 families and offering interactive academic enrichment opportunities for children and youth from grades K-12.

SOUTHWEST DETROIT WINTER CARNIVAL 2022 AT CLARK PARK

Organization: Clark Park Coalition
Funding: \$3,000 (CDN)
Initiative Type: Event

To engage families and youth across Southwest Detroit, Clark Park Coalition will host the 2022 Winter Carnival. The Carnival will bring community members together through winter games and skating to celebrate the wonders of winter within Clark Park. This event will also be used to enroll community youth in spring recreation programs and to recruit local residents to participate in community service projects within the park.

Applications for the 2022 Community Organization Investment will be available in late fall 2021, with funding released to successful applicants in July 2022. Learn more about the program at www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com.

PUBLIC REPORTING

The Community Benefits Plan includes a robust documenting, tracking and reporting structure that demonstrates accountability to the region. The Community Benefits Plan is posted on www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com, along with quarterly reports on initiative progress and results. Updates on initiatives funded through the 2021 Community Organization Investment, will be posted during the delivery period.

For more information about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project visit www.GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com or call 1-844-322-1773. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/GordieHoweBrg, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GordieHoweBridge and connect with us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/wdba-apwd.