



ARTS BUILD ONTARIO

COMMUNITY
FORWARD
FUND

FONDS
DE PROGRÈS
COMMUNAUTAIRE

ENERGIZE MICROLOAN FUND FOR THE ARTS

Founding
Sponsor



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ArtsBuild Ontario (ABO) and Community Forward Fund (CFF) have established the Energize Microloan Fund for the Arts, a fund of \$60,000, to support efforts to make arts facilities more energy efficient.

This fund will provide nonprofit arts organizations small loans from \$2,500 to \$5,000 at an interest rate of 3.5%* that can be used for the purpose of funding projects that could reduce their energy consumption or towards plans, reports or audits needed to qualify for/understand the energy efficiency of their buildings.

TD Bank generously granted \$30,000 towards this loan fund. We will be working in partnership with Toronto Hydro and other Local Distribution Companies to ensure that the organizations borrowing from this fund access saveONenergy^{OM} incentives, where applicable, to save them the most money.

Please connect with ArtsBuild Ontario, lindsay@artsbuildontario.ca, to learn more about the incentives that could further reduce the energy consumption in your facility.

*ArtsBuild has subsidized the rate of interest in the amount of 4.5%, so organizations can borrow at 3.5%

What will it fund?

The Energize Microloan Fund for the Arts will fund projects to:

- Allow organizations to undertake and complete needed small energy efficiency or conservation related projects, renovations or energy-efficiency improvements that reduce their annual operating expenses;
- Commission energy audits that allow for business planning and that are required for many incentive programs; and/or
- Complete the planning and business case preparations, for the required capital investment in larger improvements.

Examples of Eligible Small Improvement Projects

- Installation of energy efficient lighting systems
- Installation of low flow toilets
- Insulation
- Replacement of any system or component with an energy efficient system/component
- Replacing windows or roofs

Additional program support provided by:



The project should:

- Reduce the organization's monthly energy expenses
- Contribute to the sustainability of the facility

The Energize Microloan Fund for the Arts will not fund the following:

- Ongoing operating expenses such as salaries, wages, benefits, rent, insurance and utilities
- Unproven technologies

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Arts Organizations

- Nonprofit arts organizations in Ontario responsible for the maintenance of their facilities and who pay for their own utilities;
- Have gross annual revenue no greater than \$5 million;
- Are addressing an environmental, energy efficiency or conservation challenges in their creative spaces

Eligible Borrower Criteria

- A charitable or nonprofit arts organization in good-standing
- Annual revenues in excess of \$75,000 but less than \$5,000,000
- In existence for at least 3 consecutive years
- Financial statements for last three years
- Consistent and positive operating cash flow
- Operating budget for current year
- Positive fund balances
- Owner occupied building or long term lease for 5 years or greater
- Adequate all perils insurance in place
- Non-breach of any financial obligation
- Proven management and governance
- Evidence of community support, i.e. sales, donations, grants, etc.
- Positive credit reference from a principal financial services provider
- Organization has alternative sources of repayment and is not solely reliant on energy savings to repay loan over term

Additional program support provided by:



LOAN DETAILS

Interest Rate/Fees/Term

- Borrowers will pay an interest rate of 3.5%
 - CFF charges 8% annual fixed rate of interest on this loan. ArtsBuild Ontario is subsidizing this annual fixed interest rate in the amount of 4.5%, to make it more affordable for your organization
- \$250 non-refundable application fee, to be paid by applicant
- Unsecured, demand, extendable 24 month loan, with maximum term of 36 months

Loan Application Process

Loan application can be provided to ArtsBuild Ontario by simply contacting lindsay@artsbuildontario.ca or visiting our website site at <http://www.artsbuildontario.ca/financing/energize-microloan-for-the-arts>

- Submit your completed application with attachments to ABO along with your non-refundable check for \$250.00 (made payable to COMMUNITY FORWARD FUND)
- Loan applications received and reviewed for completeness by ArtsBuild, and those eligible forward to CFF
- CFF will evaluate the application for loan underwriting.
- ArtsBuild will communicate the results of the application within two weeks

Loan Monitoring

- Borrowers will be required to report to ArtsBuild annually on financial performance and progress to completion of projects, studies and business plans – these terms will be included in the loan agreement.

Loans

- Loans will be repaid directly to CFF by borrower in monthly installments of principal and interest (the repayment schedule will be included in the lending agreement)
- Principal can be rolled over into a subsequent loan, if the organization proceeds with investment in facilities, and if there is a business case that can sustain the investment and loan

APPLY TODAY!

To apply to the Energize Microloan Fund for the Arts, download the application at

<http://www.artsbuildontario.ca/financing/energize-microloan-for-the-arts>

If you have any questions about the program please contact Lindsay MacDonald, Director of Programs at lindsay@artsbuildontario.ca

We are currently accepting applications. At this time there are only 12 loans available.

Additional program support provided by:

