

Appendix J  
The Presbytery of Niagara  
Fund for the Equipping & Enhancing of Ministry

Guidelines

1. General Principles

- (A) The Presbytery of Niagara Fund for the Equipping and Enhancing of Ministry (hereafter called the Fund) was established by the Presbytery of Niagara from the residue of the assets of the former St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Merritton, for the general purpose of providing matching grants to equip and enhance the ministry of the Presbytery of Niagara and Congregations within the Presbytery which meet certain criteria set out in the guidelines below.
- (B) The Fund is overseen by the Service Committee of the Presbytery of Niagara.
- (C) The committee is directed in its oversight of the Fund by these guidelines approved by the Presbytery of Niagara.
- (D) The committee makes recommendations to the Presbytery of Niagara for expenditures from the Fund. No expenditure can be made from the Fund without the approval of the Presbytery of Niagara.
- (E) The Fund is established as a permanent endowment fund, with 5% of the total value of the fund as of January 1 of each year available for disbursement in the same calendar year. Capital will be invested in The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Consolidated Portfolio, a professionally managed, balanced portfolio of high quality bonds and equities under the administrative oversight of the PCC's Trustee Board.
- (F) While intended as a permanent endowment fund, up to 20% of the value of the fund will be available for disbursement in cases of emergency needs or emerging opportunities with 2/3 approval of the commissioners at a regular stated meeting or special meeting of Presbytery, advanced notice being given to the Presbytery a minimum of two Sundays prior to the next meeting of Presbytery.
- (G) The Service Committee may choose to recommend no funding allocations or reduced funding amounts even if total funding requested is less than the amount available for allocation.
- (H) The Service Committee will provide an annual report to the Presbytery of Niagara including a financial statement and details of the Fund's activity over the past year.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING

- (A) Only ministries, programs and projects of congregations, committees, or the court of The Presbytery of Niagara of the Presbyterian Church in Canada shall be eligible for funding.

## 3. GRANTS

- (A) Grants are for projects or opportunities that serve to equip and enhance the ministry of the Presbytery of Niagara and Congregations within the Presbytery. It is generally expected that funding will be matched by at least an equivalent amount from other sources.

Projects and opportunities may include, but are not limited to: new church development, congregational, institutional and other building programs, congregational ministries, institutional ministries, summer students, special and short term ministries.

- (B) Grants shall be decided upon once annually – at the April meeting of Presbytery.

## 4. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

- (A) Applications for grants from the Fund must be approved by the Session or the judicatory that exercises oversight over the body making the request and transmitted to the Clerk of the Presbytery of Niagara. In the case of Presbytery committees, application may be made directly to the Service Committee via the Clerk of Presbytery.
- (B) Notice of available funds will be given by the Service Committee at the February meeting of Presbytery.
- (C) Grant request applications are due by March 15 for consideration at the April meeting of Presbytery. Funds will be available for distribution only following Presbytery approval.
- (D) Grant application forms are available upon request from the Clerk of Presbytery.
- (E) Grants that are not drawn within one year shall be forfeited and a new application must be made.
- (F) The Presbytery of Niagara has the authority to approve, deny, amend, defer, or otherwise deal with all recommendations from the Service Committee regarding the Fund.
- (G) Notwithstanding the above guidelines, the Presbytery of Niagara may, in its discretion, approve recommendations beyond the guidelines, giving specific reasons for so doing.
- (H) These guidelines may be amended by the Presbytery of Niagara on notice of motion given at a previous meeting.