

# Ontario Community Changers

## 2026 Application Form

Do you have a bold idea to improve public space, enhance civic engagement, and foster social inclusion in your community? Are you looking for some funding or guidance on how to implement your project idea? This is your chance to take action, inspire others, and create change in your city!

### Directions:

In order to make this application process as accessible as possible, Ontario Community Changers has made multiple options available to you to complete the application form. This 'hard copy' option will require you to download the PDF, print it or fill it out digitally, and then have it sent back to us via email or postage. Please see the end of this form for further directions.

There are **three (3)** sections to this application form that you will need to complete. When going through this application, please remember to fill out all areas to the best of your knowledge. Questions with a **red asterisk (\*)** are **required** for submission.

If you have any questions, please visit our website at [www.ontariocommunitychangers.org](http://www.ontariocommunitychangers.org) or reach out to us at [OCCSupport@880cities.org](mailto:OCCSupport@880cities.org)

## Section 1: Personal Information

This section is for the basic information that will allow us to understand who you are.

### 1) Legal Name \*

First Name

Last Name

### 2) Preferred Name (if any):

### 3) Pronouns: \*

A gender pronoun is a word that substitutes for a noun; in this case, it is a word that substitutes for your name. (For example, “Skye ate her pasta. She likes pasta with tomatoes.” is a female pronoun. “River ate their pasta. They like pasta with tomatoes.” is a gender-neutral pronoun). Check one or more options for the set(s) of pronouns you want people to use to refer to you.

**She/Her/Hers**

**He/Him/His**

**They/Them/Theirs**

**Other, please specify:**

### 4) Date of Birth \*

MM/DD/YYYY

### 5) Home Address \*

Street Address

Street Address 2

Location (City/Indigenous Community/Town)

Province

Postal Code (with space)

### 6) Phone Number

### 7) Email Address \*

E.g. example@example.com

## Section 2: Project Information

This section helps us understand your lived experiences and what your project is all about! Lived experience is personal knowledge about the world gained through direct, first-hand experiences and involvement in events.

### 1) Where will your project be based? \*

Projects can be based in your own community or another area in Ontario. Projects must take place in the Province of Ontario or in a First Nations Territory within the provincial boundary of Ontario.

### 2) What do you want us to know about you? (250 words or less) \*

Tell us about yourself and why you want to become an Ontario Community Changemaker? Did something happen in your life that sparked an idea for change? Do you see a barrier in your community that no one else has acknowledged? Tell us the reason you are applying to this program!

### 3) What is the name of your project? (8 words or less) \*

Your project name may change through the course of this program, don't worry if it's not perfect. This is just to get an idea of your vision!

**4) Summarize your idea in 25 words or less. \***

Give a brief description of your project idea. You'll have time to expand on your idea later.

**5) Which of the following program areas will your project address? Check all that apply: \***

Activate Public Space

Foster Social Inclusion

Enhance Civic Engagement

**6) Tell us a bit more about your project idea. What activities will take place and what impact do you hope it will have on activating public space, enhancing civic engagement, and/or fostering social inclusion in your community? (200 words or less) \***

7) Which of the following program areas will your project address? Check all that apply: \*

General populations

Children and youth

Women and femme folks

2SLGBTQIA+ communities

Racialized communities

Newcomer communities

Other, please specify:

Older adults

People with disabilities/ disabled folks

Indigenous communities

Black communities

Rural/ remote communities

Low income communities

8) Describe the neighborhood or community you want to help change. What is your relationship to this community? How does your idea build on existing work or leverage assets in the community? \*

9) List key organizations and/or people you will collaborate with to implement your project, and briefly describe their role(s). (200 words or less) \*

10) How would you benefit from the Ontario Community Changemakers program? What skills or knowledge are you hoping to gain? (200 words or less) \*

**11) What is the estimated total budget for your project? \***

Don't worry if your estimate is not exact. This is only the starting point for crafting your idea.

**12) What will the \$5,000 microgrant be used for? Please provide general budget categories. Be as specific as possible. (200 words or less) \***

Eligible expenses include:

- Project materials such as building materials, technology, etc.
- Capacity building expenses related to planning and implementing the project (such as case studies, site visits, conferences & trainings within Canada)
- Project fees
- Honorariums

Ineligible expenses include:

- Materials/equipment for personal business not related directly to the project
- Purchasing land and buildings

**13) Are you implementing this project independently or as part of an organization? This does not affect eligibility. Regardless of your answer, you should be the project lead and major decision maker. \***

**Independently**

**As part of an organization**

**If you checked 'as part of an organization', please indicate the name of the organization you will be working with: \***

**14) Submit links to any websites, Twitter accounts, and/or Instagram accounts you'd like to share. (Optional. This will only be used to gauge your online presence - not as a personal background check.)**

**15) Are you available to participate in the online orientation session taking place on October 14, 2026? \***

IMPORTANT: The intergenerational Studio is a three-day program that will equip participants with the tools they need to begin implementing their community projects and connect them with other Changemakers from across the province. Preference will be given to participants who can participate in the full program on all three days i.e. October 14, 23 and 24, 2026. Travel, meals, and accommodations will be provided to successful applicants for the 2026 program.

**Yes**

**No**

**16) Are you available to participate in the in-person studio sessions in Toronto on October 23 and October 24, 2026? \***

IMPORTANT: Travel, meals, and accommodation will be provided at no expense to the successful applicants that are chosen for the 2025 program.

**Yes**

**No**

**17) Do you have any concerns about attending the online orientation or in-person studio session? Is there anything we should be aware of? \***

If you are selected, we will work on a case-by-case basis to ensure you are able to fully participate during Studio. When you fill out the intake form, you will be able to book a one-on-one meeting with the program manager to address your needs. This may include accommodations related to communication, physical accessibility, transportation, childcare, etc.

**Yes**

**No**

**Prefer not to say**

If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, please describe any concerns you have so that we can find ways to accommodate you. **(Optional)** (200 words or less)

**18) How did you hear about Ontario Community Changemakers?**

Social Media

Community Groups

Word of Mouth

News Story/TV

Search Engine

Website

Poster/Flyer

Other, please specify:

E-mail Newsletter

If you chose "Social Media". Check the platforms where you heard about the Ontario Community Changemakers program.

Facebook

Instagram

LinkedIn

Twitter (X)

TikTok

Other, please specify:

## Section 3: A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT YOU!

We want to ensure there is diversity and representation within our Changemakers and the proper support is available in case you need help. These questions allow us to get to know you better and accommodate any needs you might have!

### 1) What gender do you identify as? \*

Gender identity is the gender that people identify with or how they perceive themselves, which may be different from their birth-assigned sex (i.e. female/male).

Woman

Man

Trans woman

Trans man

Non-binary, Gender fluid, or Gender non-conforming

Two-Spirit

Intersex

Prefer not to say

Other, I identify as:

### 2) Please indicate if you identify with any of the following ethnic backgrounds. Check all that apply: \*

Black (e.g. African, Afro-Caribbean, African-Canadian descent)

East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Korean, Japanese)

Indigenous (e.g. First Nations, Inuit or Métis)

Latino (e.g. Latin American, Hispanic descent)

Middle Eastern (e.g. Arab, Persian, Afghan, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Turkish, etc.)

South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Indo-Guyanese, etc.)

Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, etc.)

White (e.g. European descent)

Prefer not to say

Other, I identify as:

**3) Please indicate if you identify with any of the following sexual orientations. Check all that apply: \***

Sexual orientation is a person's emotional, romantic, and/or sexual attractions to another person. There are many ways a person can describe their sexual orientation and many labels a person can use.

**Straight or heterosexual**

**Lesbian**

**Gay**

**Bisexual**

**Queer**

**Pansexual**

**Asexual**

**Prefer not to say**

**Other, I identify as:**

**4) Please indicate what generational background you identify with: \***

NOTE: This information is being collected for research purposes only and will not impact your application.

Definitions:

- 'First Generation' includes persons who were born outside Canada. Eg: people who are now, or once were, immigrants to Canada.
- 'Second Generation' includes persons who were born in Canada and had at least one parent born outside Canada. Eg: children of immigrants.
- 'Third Generation or More' includes persons who were born in Canada with both parents born in Canada.

**First Generation**

**Not Applicable**

**Second Generation**

**Prefer not to say**

**Third Generation or more**

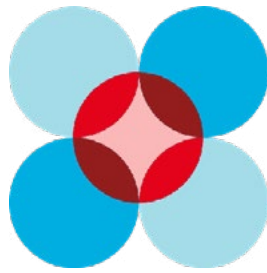
5) Do you identify yourself as a person with a disability? \*

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

Describe any disabilities (physical, cognitive, etc.) that may impact your learning capabilities or project over the course of this program: **(Optional)** (200 words or less)



# Ontario Community Changers

## Congratulations!

## You have made it to the end of the application!

Before submitting, please read the **Terms and Conditions** attached to the end of this application form

**By checking this box**, you have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions attached to this application form. The information you provide will be used for the sole purpose of application assessment, research, and reporting purposes. **Only applications with a checked box will be processed.**

**By checking this box**, I certify that all content in my application and attached documents was created by me without the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) or automated content generation tools. I understand that the use of such tools to misrepresent my skills or create content constitutes a violation of application integrity, resulting in the immediate rejection of my application.

**By checking this box**, I agree to being contacted by email for other opportunities with 880 Cities.

### Submission Details

You have two options for submitting this 'hard copy' version of the application form:

1. Submit your application by email to [OCCSupport@880cities.org](mailto:OCCSupport@880cities.org) with the email heading:

**ATTN: OCCSubmission\_FirstName\_LastName**

**OR**

2. Submit your application by post to:

**Ontario Community Changers  
880 Cities  
401 Richmond St W., Studio 364  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5V 3A8**

### **Important!**

All applications must be received by **July 31st, 2026 at 5:00 pm ET**.  
If submitting by post, please ensure enough time for delivery and transit.  
**Submissions received later than this time will be disqualified.**

# Data Protection Policy

[Ontario Community Changemakers under 8 80 Cities]

Last updated	May 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
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## 1. Data protection principles

8 80 Cities is committed to processing data in accordance with its responsibilities under Ontario’s Digital and Data Strategy which can be viewed here <https://www.ontario.ca/page/building-digital-ontario#secure>

Personal data shall be:

- a. processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals;
- b. collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes;
- c. adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed;
- d. accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay;
- e. kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by Ontario’s Digital and Data Strategy in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals; and
- f. processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.”

## 2. General provisions

- a. This policy applies to all personal data processed by 8 80 Cities;
- b. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually.

## 3. Lawful, fair and transparent processing

- a. To ensure its processing of data is lawful, fair and transparent, the 8 80 Cities shall maintain a Register of Systems;
- b. The Register of Systems shall be reviewed at least annually;

- c. Individuals have the right to access their personal data and any such requests made to the not for profit shall be dealt with in a timely manner.

#### **4. Lawful purposes**

- a. All data processed by 8 80 Cities must be done on one of the following lawful bases: consent, contract, legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests;
- b. Where consent is relied upon as a lawful basis for processing data, evidence of opt-in consent shall be kept with the personal data;
- c. Where communications are sent to individuals based on their consent, the option for the individual to revoke their consent should be clearly available and systems should be in place to ensure such revocation is reflected accurately in the Not for profit's systems.

#### **5. Data minimisation**

- a. 8 80 Cities shall ensure that personal data are adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.

#### **6. Accuracy**

- a. 8 80 Cities shall take reasonable steps to ensure personal data is accurate;
- b. Where necessary for the lawful basis on which data is processed, steps shall be put in place to ensure that personal data is kept up to date.

#### **7. Archiving / removal**

- a. To ensure that personal data is kept for no longer than necessary, 8 80 Cities shall put in place an archiving policy for each area in which personal data is processed and review this process annually;
- b. The archiving policy shall consider what data should/must be retained, for how long, and why.

#### **8. Security**

- a. 8 80 Cities shall ensure that personal data is stored securely using modern software that is kept-up-to-date;
- b. Access to personal data shall be limited to personnel who need access and appropriate security should be in place to avoid unauthorised sharing of information;
- c. When personal data is deleted this should be done safely such that the data is irrecoverable;
- d. Appropriate back-up and disaster recovery solutions shall be in place.

#### **9. Breach**

In the event of a breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorized disclosure of, or access to, personal data, 8 80 Cities shall promptly assess the risk to people's rights and freedoms and if appropriate report this breach to [Ontario Digital Service](#).

*By clicking the box indicated on the bottom of the Ontario Community Changemakers application form for 2026, you consent for your data to be used for research, reporting and assessment by 8 80 Cities and our funding partner Balsam Foundation. Your data will not be given to third parties.*

END OF POLICY