

**OTF Investment Summary Report**  
**Approval of Community Investments**  
**Prepared for the Board of Directors, December 1, 2016**



2016/2017 Cycle 3  
OTF Granting Investments

# OTF Investment Summary Report

2016/2017 Cycle 3

## Introduction

This is a summary of the OTF recommendations for grants in the Seed stream for its third granting cycle in the 2016/17 fiscal year.

In the report below, all historical comparisons are against the last 12 months of Seed granting, unless otherwise indicated. This includes the first 2 cycles of Seed granting this fiscal year, and the last cycle of Seed granting last fiscal year.

This Investment Summary Report includes:

*Schedule 1: Executive Summary Community Investments*

*Schedule 2: Community Investments Overview and Analysis*

*Schedule 3: Concluding remarks*

*Appendix A: List of Recommend Applications Community Investments for Board Approval*

*Appendix B: List of Declined Applications Community Investments for Board Approval*

## Schedule 1: Executive Summary Community Investments

### 1.1 Highlight: Increased funding to young and small organizations

There is a large increase in the proportion of recommended funding being made to young and small organizations this cycle. This cycle, 21% of recommended funding is to organizations 5 years or younger, more than double the 10% average over the last 12 months. Recommended funding to organizations with less than \$100,000 in revenue is 27%, a 42% increase from an average of 19% over the last 12 months.

### 1.2 Cycle Summary: Seed Investment Stream

This was a small granting cycle, with only Seed applications under consideration. We received **264 applications requesting \$15M** for investment. Of these applications, **93 are recommended for approval**, representing **\$5.3M dollars of investment** in Seed projects in communities across Ontario.

Total demand for dollars funded is lower than previous cycles, at **\$2.86 per dollar funded**, compared to \$4.01 average for the Seed stream in the last 12 months. This decrease is a result of a 40% decrease in demand from the average demand for Seed stream funding over the last 3 cycles. This may be due to the current cycle being the 3<sup>rd</sup> Seed deadline in the span of 5 months, closely following a cycle with record-high levels of demand for funding.

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Recommended investments from GRT meetings continue to come from all Action Areas in similar proportions to last fiscal year. The exception is in Promising Young People, where recommended investments this cycle make up 11% of total recommended investments. In the last fiscal year, Promising Young People accounted for 21% of Seed investments.

We continue to invest all across Ontario, to many different community types, age groups, populations, and organization type. For example, **4.9%** of recommended investments this round will benefit **Indigenous communities**, **10%** will benefit **rural and small communities**, and **1.8%** will benefit the **Francophone community**. Notably, **2% of** recommended investments this round will benefit the **LGBTQIA community**, as compared to none in the last 12 months and only 0.7% since the launch of the new Investment Strategy.

Finally, we continue to track indicators of internal and external knowledge of the new Investment Strategy.

- Technical Declines – **72%** of all applications received were technically eligible for OTF funds, a similar proportion as in previous cycles.
- Alignment with Grant Results – **79%** of recommendations are aligned with the selected Grant Result. This is a decrease from 87% alignment for Seed recommendations in the previous cycle, but an increase from the last Seed-only cycle, when 76.7% of recommendations were aligned with the selected Grant Result.
- Volunteer Scoring – We continue to see high engagement from volunteers. This cycle, **96% of volunteers scored all files** assigned to them. This proportion has been stable over the past 3 cycles.

## 1.2 Sign-Offs

Sign-Off from Chairs: Each GRT Chair and the Chair of the Ontario Fund Committee have signed off on the final list of grants recommended by the GRT or Ontario Fund.

Compliance with OTF Policy: The CEO has met with the Vice-President, Community Investments, and the Vice-President, Provincial Programs and Partnerships to review granting policy compliance. The CEO confirms that all recommended grants are within the granting policies of the Foundation.

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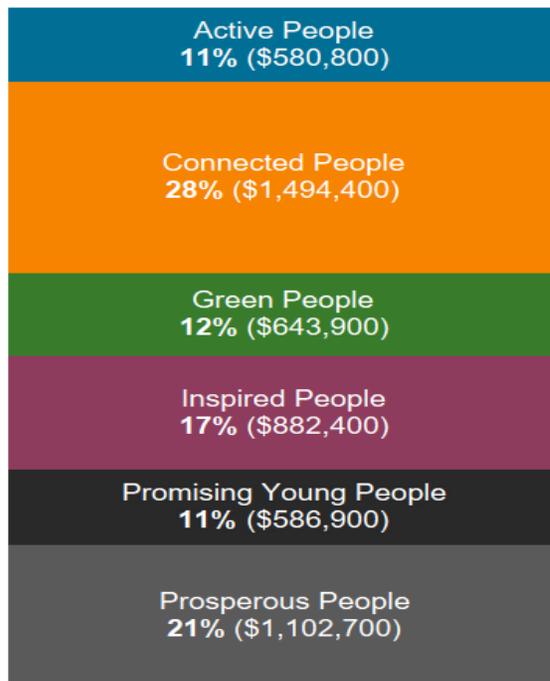
## Schedule 2: Community Investments Granting Overview and Analysis

### 2.1 Demand and Action Area Overview

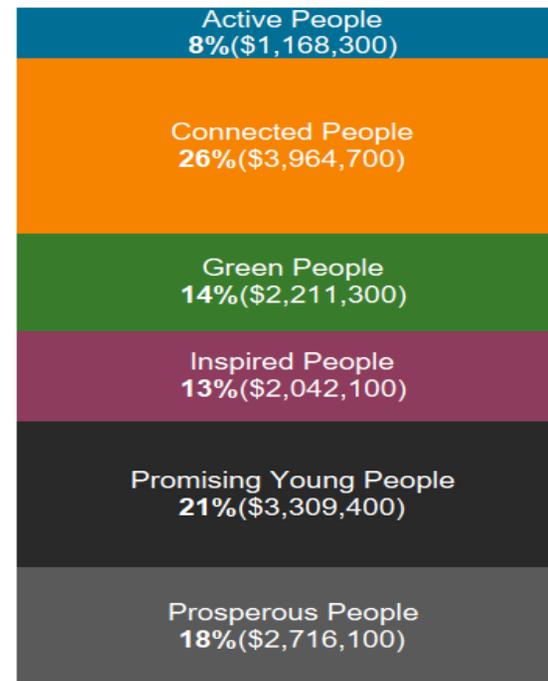
At \$2.84 requested for every dollar funded, demand for dollars was 29% lower this cycle than it was in the previous 12 months. This may be due to the current cycle being the 3<sup>rd</sup> Seed deadline in the span of 5 months, closely following a cycle with record-high levels of demand for funding.

With the exception of Promising Young People, recommended investments across Action Areas are at similar levels to the past 12 months. The highest proportion of recommended funding is to Connected People, which, at 28% this cycle is comparable to 26% over the past year. Of note, Promising Young People, which comprised 21% of Seed funding in the past 12 months, decreased to 11% this cycle. This decrease was due to both a decrease in demand and in the quality of applications. PYP demand fell by 29% compared to the previous 12 months. In addition, PYP accounted for only 11% of recommendations despite making up 15% of applications. This indicates that, on average, PYP applications were of lower quality than in other Action Areas. In contrast, Prosperous People saw an increase in high quality applications, making up 16% of applications, but 21% of recommended grants.

Recommended Current Cycle



Total Awarded Last 12 Months



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## 3.0 Concluding Remarks

This OTF Investment Summary Report outlines key highlights from the third quarter of 2016-2017 fiscal year of granting, encompassing \$5.2M of recommended investments. This cycle, OTF continues to support innovative programs that serve diverse populations across Action Areas. Additionally, we see increased investments being made to young and small organizations to support the creation of new evidence across communities in Ontario.

As only Seed stream decisions are being made this granting cycle, the quantity of applications and recommended investments are lower than the previous deadline. With this smaller sample, many analyses presented in previous investment reports do not yield meaningful comparisons and insights that can confidently be differentiated from statistical noise, contributing to a smaller investment report this cycle.