

OVERVIEW of COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECTS

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT (CEP)?

Community Engagement Projects are experiential learning opportunities that **partner** individuals or small groups of students with local organizations in need of project-based support.

CEPs are **student-driven** and represent a great way for students to take the lead in identifying community needs and developing innovative and exciting projects, workshops, programs or events to contribute to a stronger community.

CEPs allow students to develop and expand their involvement with local organizations, while building personal and professional skills including leadership, project planning, and communication skills.

CEP funding is open to all students in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities. Students are encouraged to collaborate across programs and apply as individuals, groups or societies.

Examples of projects may include (but are not limited to):

- Community workshops
- Forums, panels or speaker series events
- Programs or initiatives designed to support, advocate or create awareness of community issues

HOW IT WORKS

Projects can run any time between **November 1, 2018** and **March 15, 2019**.

To apply for CEP funding, students must complete the **Community Engagement Project Application** package and submit by email to sshpracticum@uoit.ca. Students are encouraged to work with the Practicum Office and/or Faculty members to explore potential partner organizations and for ongoing project support.

The deadline for CEP applications is **December 5, 2018**.

Following the successful completion of a Community Engagement Project, students will submit and present a post-project report in March 2019. This is a great opportunity to share more information about project details and outcomes with the larger UOIT community.

Please note: Students will not receive any form of academic credit or remuneration for their participation in CEPs.

FUNDING

EXAMPLES EXPENSES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING:

- Programming supplies
- Promotional materials and other printing costs
- Venue or equipment rentals
- Event decorations
- Snacks or meals for participants
- Kitchen supplies or ingredients
- Transit fare for participants

EXAMPLES OF EXPENSES **NOT** ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING:

- Past events or expenses
- Fundraising or charity events
- Alcohol
- Capital expenses (i.e., computers, furniture)

EXAMPLES of COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECTS

Group A is working in partnership with the **Canadian Mental Health Association of Durham (CMHA)**. Through a series of workshops, they are introducing mental health wellbeing to elementary schools across South Oshawa. By exposing young students to the basic concept of mental health and wellness, this project aims to reduce the stigma associated with mental health and increase the awareness of services available to youth who may be encountering mental health issues.

In partnership with **Durham Outlook**, Student B is setting up a pop-up shop to distribute essential hygiene items, along with information about employment opportunities and services in the downtown core. The goal is to continue to expand on the pop-up shop model, increasing its reach, frequency, and effectiveness in improving access to essential hygiene products and to increase employability for the local population.

Group C is working in partnership with the **Brain Injury Association of Durham Region (BIAD)** in creating a series of educational workshops for youth, teachers, and parents to raise awareness of brain injuries. Utilizing both existing and new programming, Group B aims to bring BIAD's knowledge of brain injuries into the classroom in fun and innovative ways—while also creating spaces for parents and teachers to come learn more about the misconceptions of brain injuries and the resources available to those impacted by it.

Group D has partnered with the **LivingRoom Community Art Studio** to run an Indigenous Arts and Culture Youth Workshop Series. The goal of the workshop series is to engage as many youth as possible to provide education on what it means to be present on Indigenous land, and how they can engage with and lead the work of Reconciliation. This project aims to bring together all types of people within the community such as secondary schools, non-profit organizations, indigenous artists and facilitators, youth participants, and volunteers.