

# Ontario Financial Empowerment Champions (Ontario FECs) - Application guidelines -

### **Ontario FEC selection criteria**

Prosper Canada, in consultation with Ontario's Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS), will select and support at least five Financial Empowerment (FE) organizations, partnerships and/or collaboratives to act as Ontario Financial Empowerment Champions (Ontario FECs). Eligible sites will be identified through Prosper Canada's financial empowerment network and will comprise of Ontario non-profit organizations and/or registered charities. Ontario FECs will be selected on the strength of their applications and the goal of achieving fair representation across Ontario.

In selecting Ontario FECs, Prosper Canada will choose organizations that demonstrate the following:

| Selection criteria   |
|--|
| Mission of organization aligns with providing financial empowerment interventions to individuals |
| living on low incomes  |
| Staff is client focused  |
| Past and present success providing FE interventions  |
| Organization collaborates and partners with others to achieve outcomes                           |
| A large number of clients reached through programs   |
| An achievable four and a half year plan for the expansion of FE interventions                    |
| A strong financial position  |
| A strong evaluative capacity   |
| The following are considered an asset, but are not required                                      |
| Experience partnering with "service systems"   |
| Organizations located in northern Ontario  |
| Capacity to provide programs in French   |
| Experience serving Aboriginal communities  |



## **Selection process timeline**

| September 20, 2016       | Call for applications is sent out |   |  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| October 4 & 6            |                                   | Informational webinars                        |  |
| November 4               |                                   | Application deadline                          |  |
| November 28 - December 9 |                                   | Phone interviews with short-listed applicants |  |
| December 19              |                                   | Selection of 5 Ontario FECs                   |  |
| January 2017             |                                   | Develop and sign MOUs with Ontario FECs       |  |

# Main activities: Projected timeline

|                          | Timeline   |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Call for applications    | <ul> <li>Call for applications is sent out</li> <li>Information sessions are held via webinars</li> <li>Prosper Canada collects all applications</li> </ul>  | September 20<br>to November 4,<br>2016 |
| Ontario FEC selection    | <ul> <li>Prosper Canada and selection committee review applications and selects Ontario FECs</li> <li>Prosper Canada develops short list of up to 20 organizations</li> <li>Selection Committee reviews short list and recommends 7 -10 organizations to be interviewed</li> <li>Prosper Canada interviews and selects 5 Ontario FECs</li> </ul> | November 4 to<br>December 19,<br>2016  |
| MOU                      | <ul> <li>Draft and sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with<br/>Ontario FECs</li> </ul>   | January 2017                           |
| Training                 | <ul> <li>Training of Ontario FECs (All site training as well as individual<br/>on-site training for each Ontario FEC)</li> </ul>   | February to<br>April 2017              |
| Program support          | - Ongoing technical assistance and knowledge exchange  | 2017 to 2021                           |
| Evaluation and reporting | - Throughout the project with specific deliverables set out in MOU   | 2017 to 2021                           |



#### Information sessions

There will be two webinar information sessions for organizations to ask questions about the application process. The information provided during these sessions is beneficial for understanding our selection process, but participation in the webinars is not mandatory. Please review application materials and register for one of the following sessions:

October 4, 2016

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (EDT)

October 6, 2016

11:00 am - 12:00 pm (EDT)

## **Application guidelines**

Please complete all questions in the application, and ensure you attach the following documents:

- Completed online application
- Completed Ontario FEC work plan
- Completed Ontario FEC budget
- Audited financial statement
- Reference letter(s).

If you have any questions about filling out the application, please review the <u>Applicant Advice</u> document and the <u>Application FAQ</u> document. These documents provide advice and examples of how to answer each question in the application.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please limit your responses to the word count posted next to each question. Complete the <u>online application</u> and submit all relevant documents by **5:00 p.m. (EDT)** on **Friday**, **November 4th**, **2016**.

#### For more information:

Please contact Ana Fremont at <a href="OntarioFEC@prospercanada.org">OntarioFEC@prospercanada.org</a> or 416-665-2828 ext. 2237.