

Fourth call for proposals launched under SBCCI to support Black-led, Black-serving non-profits

Edmonton — The Supporting Black Canadian Communities Initiative (SBCCI) has officially launched the 4th Call for Proposals, offering funding of up to \$100,000 to support Black-led and Black-serving not-for-profit organizations across Canada.

This opportunity, funded by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) and delivered through the Black National Funders Intermediary Network across the nation, is about helping organizations grow stronger, create lasting change, and improve the spaces where Black communities gather, work, and thrive.

Through two funding streams — Capacity Building (\$10,000–\$45,000) and Capital Assistance (\$10,000–\$100,000) — SBCCI will support projects that:

- Build leadership, governance, and financial sustainability.
- Invest in equipment, renovations, or retrofits to make workspaces and community hubs more welcoming and accessible.

“SBCCI is about strengthening organizations that are already doing incredible work,” said Salome Asea, director of programs and accountability, Africa Centre. “We want to make sure these organizations have the resources they need to continue building safe spaces, offering vital programs, and creating opportunities for our communities.”

Since 2021, Africa Centre has supported 391 organizations, distributing over \$14 million in funding as one of four intermediaries delivering the SBCCI.

Past recipients have already seen the difference this funding can make.

Nia Centre of the Arts (SBCCI recipient): “With support from the SBCCI, we transformed a 14,000-square-foot facility into Canada’s first multidisciplinary professional arts space dedicated to showcasing art from the African diaspora. This support helped us respond to real needs by creating sustainable opportunities for Black artists to thrive.”

Eligible applicants are Black-led, registered nonprofits in Canada. At least two-thirds of leadership must identify as Black. SBCCI especially welcomes applications from organizations

led by Black youth, disability-led groups, 2SLGBTQI+ members, seniors, Francophone communities, and rural organizations.

Funding cannot be used for wages, lobbying, decorative renovations, or property purchases. Fourth call for proposals launched under SBCCI to support Black-led, Black-serving non-profits. Fourth call for proposals launched under SBCCI to support Black-led, Black-serving non-profits. Projects must conclude by March 31, 2026. Organizations will simply need to share receipts and reports to show how funds were used.

Quick Facts

- Capacity Building stream: \$10,000–\$45,000 for training, governance, strategic planning, HR, fundraising, or digital tools.
- Capital Assistance stream: \$10,000–\$100,000 for equipment purchases and renovations to community spaces.
- Applications close: October 5, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. local time.
- Since 2021, Africa Centre has supported 391 organizations and disbursed over \$14 million in SBCCI funds.

How to Apply

Visit <https://africacentre.ca/supporting-black-canadian-communities/> to review eligibility, find application resources, and submit your proposal online.

About the Program:

The Supporting Black Canadian Communities Initiative (SBCCI) is a federally funded program created through Employment and Social Development Canada. Its goal is to increase the capacity of Black-led grassroots and non-profit organizations that serve Black communities across Canada.

Africa Centre is one of four intermediary organizations delivering the program, along with the Black Business Initiative, Groupe 3737 and Tropicana Community Services. Together, we form the Black National Funders Initiative Network (BNFIN), working collectively to ensure a fair and transparent granting process nationwide.



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The Council for
Advancement of
African Canadians
in Alberta

Media Contact:

Liisa Otchie

Communications Coordinator, Africa Centre

Phone: (825) 404-5090

Email: liisa.otchie@afriacentre.ca

780 455 5423 - info@afriacentre.ca - #100, 11808 St Albert Trail NW Edmonton, AB T5L 4G4

Creating opportunities for access and full participation of the African descent community in Alberta