

**APPLICATION FORM
STRATEGIC PRIORITY FUND
CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING & LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE**

COUNCIL LEAD(S): Councillors Block, Dubois, Gersher, Gough and Loewen

PROJECT TITLE: Women Leading: Civic Engagement Forum for Immigrant and Refugee Women in Saskatoon

PROJECT SPONSOR: Councillors Block, Dubois, Gersher, Gough and Loewen

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$12,000.00

DATE OF APPLICATION: 2023/06/14

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT: To provide Immigrant and Refugee Women a dedicated opportunity to connect with their local government and local government leaders and to learn about leadership opportunities.

Immigrant and Refugee women are under-represented in leadership positions including on civic boards. Connections and information are the first step to breaking down barriers to leadership. Furthermore, connected residents are more likely to see public services positively and to seek support when they need it.

*The use of the term Woman above is intended to be inclusive. Trans women are women and are included in our use of this term. We also welcome non-binary people to this space.

HOW IT ADVANCES THE WORK WITHIN THE PRIORITY AREA(S):

- improved understanding of civic government, services and access;
- exposure to leadership opportunities;
- opportunity to meet other community members and civic leaders;
- opportunity to hear from Immigrant and Refugee women about their experience of the City/community, including any barriers for participation.

PARTNER(S) INVOLVED: While this is an event led by the Working Group and International Women of Saskatoon, community partners may include, but are not limited to, Saskatoon Igbo Cultural Association, Hindu Society of Saskatchewan, Karen Community Association, The Baha'i Community of Saskatoon, Truly Alive Youth and Family Foundation, Saskatoon Open Door Society, Saskatchewan Intercultural Association, Saskatoon Police Service, The People Bridge Advocacy and Pakistan Canada Cultural Association.

FUNDING PROVIDED BY PARTNER(S): No guaranteed funding support from other partners at this time. We anticipate support would either be in kind or compensated through honorariums. The primary funding is intended to be covered through the Strategic Priority Fund.

PRELIMINARY WORK COMPLETED: Work remains ongoing to ensure this event is planned based on feedback from the Immigrant and Refugee community. To date, a framework for the day has been completed, along with the goals of the event. Next steps include contracting a facilitator, addressing barriers for participation, engaging community partners regarding attendees/RSVPs. Planning work will continue up until the event takes place.

COMPLETION TIMELINE: The event is planned for September 16, 2023. We anticipate being able to provide a summary report to the Governance and Priorities Committee before year-end.

OTHER: This project looks to utilize the Working Group model outlined in the City Council Strategic Priority & Leadership Initiative Policy in Section 8. The Working Group would include Councillors Block, Dubois, Gersher, Gough and Loewen, April Sora, Mayor's Office and Monique Legault. If more members join the Working Group, this will be reported out at the completion of the project.