

Opportunities Fund Policy

Effective September 1st, 2021

- Each member association in good standing shall, by December 1st of each year, receive a disbursement to spend on allowable expenses, subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The completed membership application and fee for the current year were received by August 31st of that year.
 - b. A report on the use of the previous year's grant is submitted and approved by the CSDF board, including a financial statement, activities, participation numbers, and overall impact in order to report the successes to the McLeese family.
 - c. That the submitted report shows that at least one of the following criteria has been reached in some manner:

Funds support initiatives that promoted debate:

- o In an innovative manner
- o In a new geographical area
- In FNMI communities
- o In our second official language
- o Growth for the member association overall
- 2. Exceptions shall be made to the above clause: a) in the case of a newly formed/forming member association and, b) for the first year of implementation.
- 3. Since the intent is for members to have \$1000.00 at the beginning of each year, the amount of disbursement will equal the amount spent in the previous year, up to \$1000.00.

4. Eligible expenses are:

- a. Workshop hosting: location rentals, materials, and honorariums
- b. Promotion: printing and distribution of brochure materials, etc., travel (mileage, gas, vehicle rental, meals, accommodations) and registration to events to promote debate
- c. Resource development: multimedia (video and web sites), guides, translations, etc.
- d. Software purchases and communication expenses
- e. Hosting services such as Zoom for online debate events
- f. Development of unique debating events that promote debate
- g. Bursary support for financially needy students to participate in CSDF debating programs, if it is clearly documented that they would be otherwise unable to participate (Seminar is an example)

5. Ineligible expenses:

- a. Travel and registration fees to local, regional, provincial, inter-provincial, and international events, including the National Seminar (except as noted above)
- b. Capital expenditures
- c. Entertainment, receptions, or hospitality expenses
- d. Team Canada expenses of any description, including travel and registration fees for try-outs
- The CSDF President shall work with each member organization to assess the need for financial support for more costly initiatives. Upon approval of the CSDF Board, further funds may be directed to the member organization for such projects.
- 7. This policy replaces the previous application process from November 21st, 2008