



Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) McMaster

Support Granting Policy

OPIRG McMaster's objectives are to

1. Engage in charitable non-profit research and activities to advance the welfare of the University and general community;
2. To execute, sponsor and publish educational studies and programs to advance the welfare of the University and general community;
3. To facilitate and encourage students to develop their research and advocacy skills in order to become active and informed citizens;
4. To make diverse view points available to the University and general community.

As part of accomplishing these objectives, OPIRG McMaster grants some of its institutional resources and funds to OPIRG Working Groups and like-minded off-campus groups working on events or projects in the public interest. The types of Support available to groups includes, but is not limited to:

- * Funds or in-kind donations not exceeding the standard annual dollar sum granted to OPIRG Working Groups;
- * Room bookings or similar facilitation in accessing University resources;
- * Public awareness raising including support in printing, button-making or otherwise publicizing the event such as access to OPIRG listserv;
- * Institutional support such as assistance in volunteer recruitment, organizing, planning and/or training;
- * Any other reasonable request to access a resource held by OPIRG McMaster.

Any Request for Support exceeding \$500 or its fair-value equivalent, or that would otherwise unduly stress OPIRG McMaster's resource base is considered either a Special Project or an opportunity for partnership and requests of this nature are to be specially addressed by OPIRG McMaster's Board of Directors.

All applicants will have to submit a Request for Support application to the OPIRG Office by the 15th day of the month. OPIRG McMaster will review and grant or deny all internal and external requests for Support based on their applications and on the criteria listed in this document at their next scheduled board meeting. Applicants may be asked to come in and speak with the review group about their request, and answer questions about the event or project in question and the type of Support requested.

OPIRG McMaster will only consider formal Requests for Support submitted using the most current application procedures as set out in the Application for Support. The standard OPIRG McMaster Application for Support form is considered a part of this policy and shall be reviewed at the end of each budget year and revised and approved by the OPIRG McMaster Board of Directors if deemed appropriate by that body.

OPIRG McMaster will deny Requests for Support in cases where:

- * The event or project proposed in the Request for Support does not represent OPIRG McMaster's organizational values, and/or does not aid the organization in fulfilling its objectives.
- * Insufficient organizational resources exist to properly fulfill the request;
- * A Supported event or project is directed by, in support of, or primarily funded by a political party.
- * There is any reasonable concern that granting the Support will negatively affect the reputation of the organization, its working groups, or its community partners on and off campus.
- * The OPIRG Board of Directors has any other reasonable concern that Supporting an activity, event or project will impact negatively on the organization, its members, its working groups and any of its community partners on and off campus.

OPIRG McMaster reserves the right to re-evaluate all applications and reverse decisions at any point before completion of the proposed event/project.

Successful applicants who accept OPIRG McMaster Support, especially if they intend to use OPIRG McMaster name or logo on promotional materials or otherwise promote their association with OPIRG McMaster throughout the course of their event/project agree to act in the best interests of OPIRG McMaster over the course of their booking and act lawfully and responsibly at all times.

Successful applicants are responsible for any extraneous costs charged to OPIRG McMaster that are in excess of the Support granted and will be billed accordingly.

All successful applicants may be required to submit a follow-up report on their event/project.

All Supported events/projects will be thoroughly reviewed after their completion, and any subsequent reporting from the event/project will be used in reviewing future Requests for Support by the applicant or applicant organization.

Approved by OPIRG McMaster Board of Directors: AUGUST 20, 2010