Beati

GUIDING FRAMEWORK

Regular Program
Call for Initiatives

2027

projets@fondationbeati.org

fondationbeati.org

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WELCOME

The purpose of this guiding framework is to provide you with all the information about the call for initiatives in a transparent manner.

The goal is not to discourage you with a large application file, but rather to give you all the tools you need.

We hope you find it useful, and if you still have questions, please write to us.



SINCE 2025

The Foundation wishes to support initiatives that profoundly transform existing structures and that envision inclusive and equitable futures. These initiatives aim to highlight the diversity of experiences and knowledge, particularly those of equity-seeking groups.

In addition, our approach is based on collaboration and trust-based philanthropy. We are committed to minimizing bureaucracy and making the administrative process as light as possible so that you can focus on implementing your initiatives.

Beginning in 2025, we therefore offer:

- A simpler, lighter, and more inclusive process, in two steps, with tools to support you as needed.
- Two themes to better target transformative initiatives.

FUNDING AND SUPPORT

THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THIS FUNDING

- All selected initiatives will receive **$30,000 per year for three years,** for a total grant of $90,000 over three years.
- We will be able to select and **support 8 new initiatives.**
- The funding is **unrestricted**, meaning without conditions. Organizations are free to use the funds according to the initiative presented, in alignment with their mission and based on their needs.
- The criteria are **aligned with our values**; our exclusion criteria and equity objectives, for their part, are **deliberate and political.**
- The selection process is **democratic**: the selection committee is independent from the team and the Board of Directors, and has full decision-making power in the final choice of initiatives.
- In addition to funding, organizations will have access, without any obligation, to **complementary support**: tools, resources, workshops, and training.

THE THEMES

The Foundation wishes to support initiatives that profoundly transform existing structures and that enable all of us to imagine inclusive and equitable futures—initiatives that highlight the diversity of experiences and knowledge, particularly those of equity-seeking groups.

To ensure that we support initiatives of this kind, we have refocused the call of our regular program around two themes. Whenever possible, the funds will be distributed evenly between the two themes.



Unconditional Solidarity

To commit fully to welcoming others, without conditions.

Create safe and welcoming spaces where everyone's rights and dignity are respected.

Transform power structures and ways of working to build spaces that are genuinely inclusive and equitable.



Emancipatory futures

Support the emergence of new visions for the future—original perspectives that embrace the voices and viewpoints too often overlooked in our history.

Foster collective innovation and creativity, for a more just and equitable society, through the exploration of alternative futures. Challenge the present, while imagining and building together a profoundly transformed future.

UNCONDITIONAL SOLIDARITY

What is it?

Unconditional solidarity represents a deep commitment to welcoming others without conditions. By transforming power structures and ways of doing things, it becomes possible to create spaces that are truly inclusive and equitable.
Within an approach of unconditional solidarity, it is possible to create safe and welcoming spaces that respect the rights and dignity of every person, and to foster respectful and empowering exchanges.

The Foundation therefore wishes to support organizations and collectives in Quebec that are concretely building these 'radical hospitalities,' or that are reflecting on how to do so more deeply. Whether through projects of dialogue, exchange, mediation, or initiatives of cultural and political transformation, the goal is to help shape a more hospitable and inclusive world.

What might that look like?

- **Direct solidarity actions:** For example, safe shelters for people experiencing homelessness without access restrictions; community meals open to all regardless of resources or status; safe gathering spaces that foster inclusion and solidarity; and women's centers that welcome all women without exception.
- **Actions aimed at transforming structures and policies:** For example, support for organizations advocating for inclusive, anti-discriminatory policies or defending the rights of marginalized communities; and projects that aim to transform institutions to become more welcoming and respectful of diversity.
- **Actions to foster cultural transformation:** For example, educational programs and awareness campaigns that promote a culture of inclusion and respect; initiatives that address harms experienced by marginalized communities; and efforts that advance reconciliation.

“Does ‘unconditional’ mean that the Béati Foundation supports all types of initiatives?”

The idea of unconditional solidarity, even understood in a very broad sense, remains anchored within the framework of our core values. We do not in any way support groups or activities that are anti-choice, that deny trans and non-binary identities, that are conspiracy-driven, masculinist, climate-skeptical, or that deny intersectionality, systemic racism, and other forms of oppression.
See also: our exclusion criteria.

What makes solidarity truly… unconditional?

- **Respect and dignity:** Treat every person with respect and dignity, regardless of their origin, status, or beliefs. Recognize and value the diversity of knowledge, experiences, and cultures.
- **Safety:** Provide an environment where people feel physically, psychologically, and emotionally safe. Ensure protection against all forms of violence, discrimination, or harassment.
- **Listening and empathy:** Listen to people’s needs and concerns without judgment, with genuine empathy. Show understanding and compassion toward the lived experiences of others.
- **Non-judgment:** Welcome individuals without expecting them to conform to norms or to change their behavior. Accept people as they are, without conditions.
- **Accessibility:** Ensure that services and spaces are accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities. Eliminate physical, social, and economic barriers that may hinder access.
- **Participation:** Engage the people involved in decisions that affect them, honoring their voices and perspectives. Encourage active involvement and foster autonomy throughout the welcoming process.
- **Inclusion and non-discrimination:** Ensure that actions uphold the principles of inclusion and non-discrimination. Foster an environment where all people, regardless of origin, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or any other characteristic, feel truly welcomed and valued.

To go further...

Other examples :

- **Safe and inclusive spaces:** Creating environments where everyone feels safe and respected.
- **Respectful exchange of knowledge and cultures:** Promoting the exchange and valuing of diverse knowledge and cultures.
- **Strengthening community solidarity:** Initiatives aimed at reinforcing solidarity within communities, especially those striving for equity.



Historical and theoretical foundations

Jacques Derrida and Emmanuel Levinas are among the philosophers who most influenced the notion of radical hospitality. Derrida distinguishes between conditional hospitality, subject to rules, and unconditional hospitality, without restriction, where the host must welcome the other without condition, even if such a welcome could disrupt the established order. Levinas, for his part, views hospitality as an ethics of responsibility toward the other, where “otherness” is welcomed as an expression of our shared humanity.

Radical hospitality is also at the heart of many social justice movements that seek to dismantle systems of oppression and discrimination. This concept is present across various religious traditions, from Christianity to Islam, where the generous welcoming of guests and support for those in need are valued. Certain local initiatives and community practices, such as those developed in shelters for people experiencing homelessness and food cooperatives, embody this principle by offering resources and unconditional support to those made vulnerable by oppressive systems.

EMANCIPATORY FUTURES

What is it?

In this theme, we want to encourage visions and practices that challenge existing power structures and offer viable alternatives to systems of oppression. In short, in a world of persistent inequalities, we aim to support the creation of new imaginaries of the future.

For us, “emancipatory futures” are new perspectives that take into account, among other things, the overlooked perspectives of our history. They are projects that foster collective innovation and creative thinking. Pathways toward a more just and equitable society through the exploration of alternative futures, encouraging the emergence of innovative solutions to contemporary challenges. Tools for critiquing the present, and tools for imagining and co-constructing a profoundly different future.

What perspectives are we referring to?

Here is a list of possible perspectives — you are invited to add your own:

- **Indigenous perspectives** that value cultural transmission, sovereignty, harmony with nature, and community resilience in order to imagine inclusive and sustainable futures.
- **Decolonial perspectives** that support future visions inspired by the knowledge and perspectives of the Global South, challenging Western-centered ways of thinking and encouraging diverse and inclusive ways of imagining the world.
- **Anti-capitalist perspectives** that offer visions of the future where economic structures of domination are abolished, advancing economic justice and true democracy.
- **Afrofuturist perspectives** that reimagine the Afro-descendant experience through science fiction, technology, and African history, blending African traditions and futurism to imagine alternative, liberating futures.
- **Regional perspectives** that encourage local communities to imagine sustainable and equitable futures, valuing local knowledge, regional culture, and community resilience.

- **Anti-fascist perspectives** that propose futures where authoritarian structures are abolished, fostering societies based on social justice and freedom for all.
- **Crip perspectives** that explore possible futures by integrating the viewpoints of people with disabilities, highlighting their experiences and imagination to create alternative and inclusive visions of the future.
- **Feminist perspectives** that envision futures where women's rights are fully realized, including gender equality, the end of gender-based violence, and the promotion of women's leadership.
- **Political ecology perspectives** that support futures where relationships between humans and nature are transformed, in response to the ecological crisis and in favor of environmental justice.
- **Intersectional perspectives** that encourage futures where oppressions linked to race, gender, class, and sexuality are abolished, enabling everyone to live freely and equitably.

What might this look like in terms of projects?

Workshops and collective reflection labs:
Collaborative workshops for the co-creation of future imaginaries; social innovation labs; spaces for reflection and experimentation leading to concrete projects.

Concrete experiments:
Pilot projects of self-sustaining communities that test sustainable ways of living.

Artistic and cultural initiatives:
Projects involving the creation of speculative fiction, futurist art festivals, and events celebrating the arts and future imaginaries.

Educational and community programs to raise awareness of alternative futures:
Community storytelling initiatives; that is, projects where the community shares its visions of the future.

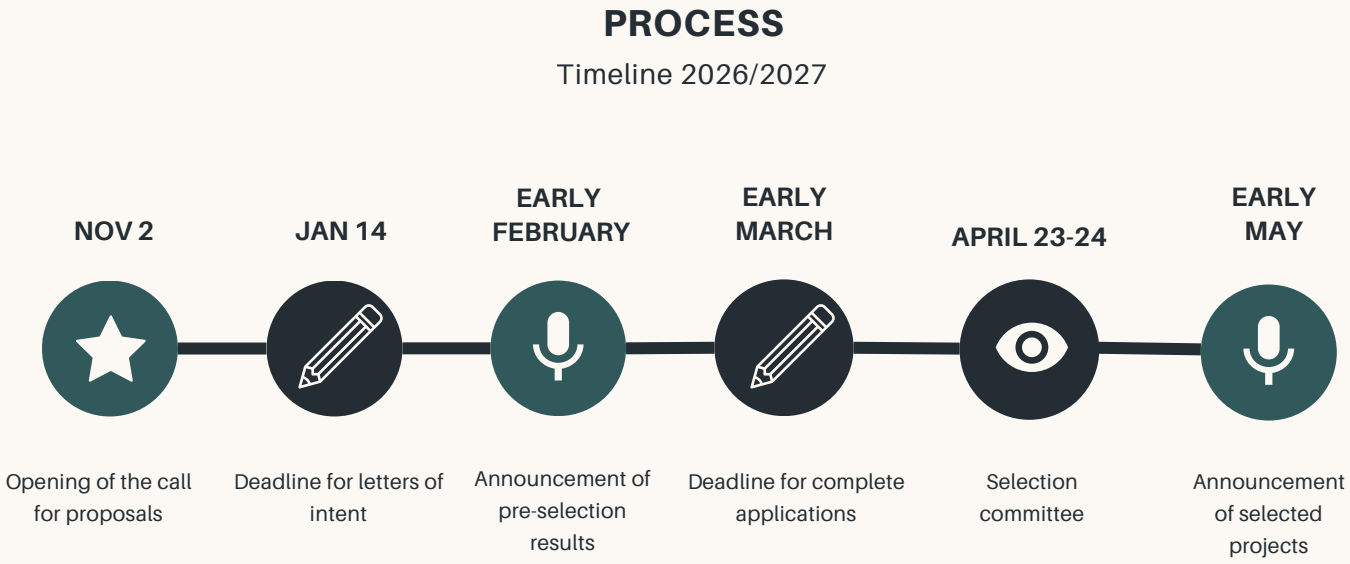
Collaborative and participatory platforms:
Digital platforms for future imaginaries, designed for sharing and co-creation; projects mapping out alternative futures.

Community-based and activist research:
Participatory and community-led research, studies exploring local alternative futures, and action-research with activist groups imagining future practices.

THE PROCESS

In this section, you will find the main guidelines, our exclusion criteria (what we do not fund), our equity objectives (what we prioritize), our evaluation criteria (how we select projects), and finally the evaluation process (who makes the decisions).

The process timeline



We are here for you!

Above all, we aim to encourage your initiatives and to fund those that align most closely with our core objectives, even if we would like to be able to support more. With this in mind, we have proposed several support measures throughout the process, summarized in the dedicated section.

2 simple steps

1. Letter of intent or video **by January 14**
2. For shortlisted projects: **Submission of the complete application by early March**

Who can apply?

Initiatives submitted to the Foundation must take place in Quebec and come from non-profit organizations or collectives, whether or not they have charitable status (i.e. with or without a charitable number).*
There is no longer a waiting period; you may apply even if you received a negative response last year, or if previous Béati funding for your organization has ended.
** However, organizations must at minimum be incorporated as a legal entity at the provincial level (REQ).*

What can be submitted?

The Foundation has adopted the principles of trust-based philanthropy. We therefore provide **unrestricted** funding, allowing groups to decide how best to use the resources - whether for programs, projects, their overall mission, staff salaries, research, or other needs.

THE SELECTION OF INITIATIVES

"Does 'unrestricted' mean that we fund everything?"
Not quite: here are our exclusion criteria, our selection criteria, and our equity objectives

Exclusion criteria

We have adopted clear and deliberate exclusion criteria that reflect our values and ethics, and that apply to all of the Foundation's grants.

Origins of applications:
Funding requests related to academic research, submitted by other philanthropic foundations, or involving initiatives led by public, publicly funded or municipal institutions (universities, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, municipalities, etc.) are excluded. The Foundation prioritizes initiatives led by community organizations, collectives, movements, and independent non-profit organizations.

Excluded groups:
We do not support groups or activities that are anti-choice, that do not recognize trans and non-binary identities, that are conspiracy-driven, masculinist, climate-skeptical, or that deny intersectionality, systemic racism, and other forms of oppression.

Excluded objectives and projects:
General fundraising campaigns, real estate construction, debts or previously completed activities, scholarships, internships, religious activities, partisan political activities, and projects outside Quebec. Certain rights advocacy activities – Excluded when the activity involves illegal conduct, partisan political activities, non-compliance with the requirements of the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), Elections Canada, or the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec (DGEQ), endangerment of public safety, or significant private benefit.

Who selects the initiatives?

In the first step, the letter of intent or video, the Foundation's team conducts a pre-selection. This involves removing ineligible applications and reviewing the remaining ones based on alignment with our mission, themes, and equity priorities.

In the second step, the final decision stage, an independent selection committee chooses the initiatives to be funded. Members of the Foundation's team do not have voting rights.

The selection committee

The selection committee is entirely independent and is composed of eight (8) members who play a central and decisive role in the annual project funding process. The members of this committee are the only ones with voting rights on the selection day.



This committee brings together a wide range of skills and experiences. It includes individuals from diverse backgrounds, including experts in social and political issues, community leaders, activists, and professionals with in-depth experience of the realities faced by marginalized or equity-seeking populations and communities. This diverse composition ensures a balanced and inclusive approach in selecting the initiatives to support, in line with the Foundation's values of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Equity objectives

To go even further, we have adopted equity objectives. This helps us move beyond unconscious biases that may influence the distribution of funds and ensures a more equitable and objective approach. We are therefore committed to meeting these equity goals across all of our regular granting:

Objectives for underfunded groups:
Allocate a minimum of 50% of funds to initiatives led by and for Indigenous, Black, and racialized people; LGBTQ2SAI+ communities; religious minorities; persons with functional limitations or disabilities; and neurodiverse individuals.

Regional targets:
Allocate a minimum of 50% of funds to initiatives located outside major urban centers.

Selection criteria

The following criteria, used by the selection committee, is applied to evaluate the submitted initiatives. When making decisions, the committee emphasizes an initiative's approach, focus areas, community embeddedness, and overall social impact.

Theme and Vision

- The initiative is explicitly aligned with one of the two themes: Unconditional Solidarity or Emancipatory Futures.
- It responds in a timely manner to the current social, political, and/or environmental context, seizing the momentum to advance justice and equity.

Innovation

- The initiative opens up original perspectives: it proposes new or groundbreaking solutions to existing challenges, or revives marginalized practices that remain relevant in the face of dominant institutions.
- It renews sector practices by introducing creative, inclusive, intersectional, and transformative approaches.
- Within the framework of Emancipatory Futures, it explores alternative collective imaginaries, rethinking current structures to outline visions that are more just and equitable.

Approach

- The initiative fosters self-determination and empowerment of the people directly concerned, with participation ranging from being "informed" to being "decision-makers."
- It prioritizes collective and participatory solutions, centered on the needs of equity-seeking individuals and communities.
- The proposed approaches are inclusive, alternative, or intersectional, and are adapted to the cultural, social, economic, and geographic realities of the communities.

More specifically, for Unconditional Solidarity:

- *The initiative embodies complete openness to others, without expectation of reciprocity.*
- *It is committed to transforming power dynamics and creating spaces where everyone feels physically and emotionally safe, respected, and valued.*
- *It seeks to create truly inclusive and equitable spaces, where bonds of solidarity are sustained over time.*

Community Embeddedness

- Born out of citizen mobilization, the initiative is carried out by credible organizations, recognized within their community and working in networks.
- It demonstrates closeness to and deep knowledge of the subculture or territory it addresses.
- Local resources and knowledge are mobilized, fostering a collaborative and solidarity-based approach.

Relevance and Social Impact

- The initiative offers a meaningful response to contemporary challenges and shows potential for cultural, social, or political transformation at collective and/or systemic levels.
- It seeks to generate significant benefits for equity-seeking populations (social and environmental justice, inclusion).
- It has the potential for broader influence: sharing knowledge, inspiring similar initiatives, and contributing to lasting change.

Operational Capacity

- There is a clear alignment between objectives, human and financial resources, and the timeline.
- The action plan is coherent, the objectives are realistic, and the organization demonstrates a proven ability to mobilize.
- Governance is sound and transparent, with the necessary expertise in place or strategies to acquire it.

Financial Management

- The organization presents balanced financial statements (or budget forecasts), a transparent operating budget, or, where applicable, a realistic recovery plan.
- Its management practices support the development and/or maintenance of an equitable salary structure, demonstrating integrity, accountability, and transparency.

STEP 1 LETTER OF INTENTION

Written or Filmed

For the first step, complete the form on the Béati Foundation website before Thursday, January 14th, 2027 at noon, with:

- Your contact information
- Socio-demographic information
- A letter of intent, written or filmed



A letter max. 3 pages

OR



A video max. 3 minutes

Guidelines for the Letter of Intent

*(written or filmed — **anything beyond 3 pages or 3 minutes will not be considered**)*

For guidance, here are some content ideas to include in the Letter of Intent:

Project Presentation

- A clear and descriptive title.
- Indicate whether your project falls under Unconditional Solidarity or Emancipatory Futures.
- A brief description (150–200 words) of the project, its objectives, and planned actions.

Who is leading the project

- A description of your organization, including its mission, history, and main areas of work.
- Details of your organization's experience and expertise related to the chosen theme.
- An explanation of how the project is led by and for the people directly concerned. Include the composition of your team, highlighting the representation of the communities targeted.

Detailed Project Description

- The specific objectives of the project and how they address the priorities of the chosen theme.
- A description of the main activities planned to achieve these objectives.
- An explanation of the methods and approaches you will use to implement the project.

Populations Reached and Impact

- A description of the populations targeted by your project, including information about their current situation and how they will benefit from the project.
- An explanation of the expected outcomes of the project, both short- and long-term.

STEP 1 LETTER OF INTENTION

Written or Filmed

Partners and Local Embeddedness

- List the partners involved in the project, specifying their roles and contributions.
- Explain how your project is grounded in local realities and how it addresses the specific needs of the community.

Organizational Capacity

- Present key highlights of your organization's human and financial resources. Be sure to demonstrate that your organization has the necessary capacity to successfully carry out the proposed initiative.
- Describe your organization's governance structure and management practices.

Conclusion

- Restate the key points of your letter of intent and emphasize the importance of your project in relation to the chosen theme.



If you choose to submit a video:

- Your video must include the same elements as the Letter of Intent.
- It must be accessible via a link (and should not require downloading).
- You may protect it with a password if you wish.

STEP 2 COMPLETE APPLICATION

All groups that submitted an application will receive a response, positive or negative, at the beginning of February.

If you are shortlisted for the next stage of the process:

1. You will receive clear instructions regarding the full application and will have one month to complete it.
2. You will also have the option to schedule a meeting to receive support with preparing your full application.

Documents to attach (if they are not already available online)

- Board resolution or delegation of authority confirming legal responsibility for the management of any funds received from the Béati Foundation (see sample resolution provided on the website).
- List of board members (name and position).
- Activity report or annual report.
- Most recent financial statements, organizational budget, or budget forecast, depending on what is available.

Questions that will be asked

- A more in-depth presentation will cover: your organization: an overview of your organizational structure (governance, organizational model, community or membership life).
- The design of the initiative: the context, desired impacts, and planned processes.
- The implementation of the initiative: your objectives, action plan, and how the people concerned will be involved.
- Support for the initiative: your community connections, collaborations, and other potential sources of funding.

The follow-up visit

The application process concludes with a virtual visit, which will take place during the month of March.
This allows us to meet each other, to minimize any gaps in understanding regarding the initiative after receiving the full application, and to provide a moment for you to ask us your questions.

TO SUPPORT YOU

At all times

1	You can write to us at projets@fondationbeati.org
2	Consult the guiding framework for all the details for applying
3	Stay connected on our social media — we'll be posting the most frequently asked questions… and their answers

FOR STEP 1: Letter of Intent

4	You can book a 15-minute meeting to discuss your project specifically. Please visit our website to schedule a time slot, which will become available when the call for proposals opens.
5	You can use our AI tool, designed specifically to help you draft your letter of intent for this call for initiatives.
6	You may write in the language of your choice: the artificial intelligence tool will translate it into French, our working language.
7	You may submit a video version of your letter of intent instead of a written letter.

FOR STEP 2: The Complete Application

8	You can already know what will be required for the final application. No surprises!
9	If needed, you will be able to book a 60-minute meeting to help you prepare your application.
10	After submitting your application, you will still have the opportunity to clarify your project during the virtual follow-up visit.

THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TOOL



What is the tool used for?

AI helps you spend less time on funding applications and more time on your projects and the people you serve - and we love that!
You can also choose to write in the language you're most comfortable with and then translate it; we'll receive it in French, our working language.

There's no obligation to use it - it's simply another tool we're making available to you. It's all about balance: we offer technological tools, while also creating opportunities to meet and connect, human to human.

How does it work?

The tool (or chatbot) is programmed with our questions and criteria, using a simple and straightforward tone that goes straight to the point. You answer the questions, and the AI provides you with a draft letter. You can revise it, and once it's ready, you save it in your usual document format.

To make the letter feel more "in your voice," you can share a document that reflects your style and that you're particularly proud of. The AI will adapt your letter accordingly.

In the end, when you're ready, you simply fill out the (very short) intention form and attach the letter. That's it!



- For going through the process and submitting an application
- For your time
- For your interest



- For everything you do for your communities
- For your commitment!



- **Results of Stage 1**: early February!
- **Final selection:** early May!

Beati FOUNDATION

Projets@fondationbeati.org

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