



CANADIAN  
UNITARIAN  
COUNCIL

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## CUC Edward Bevan Ratcliffe Leadership Development Fund

The Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) is committed to increasing the financial accessibility of leadership development opportunities for Canadian UU leaders. To help make this possible, we have created the CUC Leadership Development Subsidy, financed from a combination of annually budgeted program funds, the **Edward Bevan Ratcliffe Leadership Fund**, and donations. The *Edward Bevan Ratcliffe Leadership Fund* was established by Elinor Gill Ratcliffe C.M., O.N.L., to help strengthen the Canadian Unitarian voice as the Canadian Unitarian Council celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011. The Canadian Unitarian Council is very grateful for this financial gift to the Canadian UU community.

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Leaders serving their congregations in the areas of worship, lifespan learning, governance, growth and other areas of shared ministry are encouraged to attend regional and national conferences, and other leadership development opportunities as a way of increasing congregational vitality.

Successful applicants will be those who express a commitment to gain new skills, knowledge and experience at these events in order to strengthen and enrich their congregations, and the wider Unitarian Universalist movement in Canada.

The CUC will provide subsidies to individuals based on need, to support participation in professional /volunteer development and capacity-building<sup>1</sup>.

*We are inspired by the concept of abundance rather than scarcity  
and encourage generosity and creativity across the board in securing funding  
for attendance at training and leadership development opportunities.*

### Application Guidelines

This subsidy is need-based, and the following criteria will be applied in the consideration of each application:

- 1) Subsidies are available to leaders of all ages, who are actively serving congregations and/or Canadian Unitarian Universalism, and wish to attend a leadership development or enrichment event. (E.g., a board member, a Director of Religious Education (DRE), a committee chair, a Youth Advisor, an Annual General Meeting delegate, a lay chaplain, Minister etc.)
- 2) Subsidy funds can be used for registration fees, accommodation, and/or travel costs.
- 3) The travel distance to attend the event will be considered.

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<sup>1</sup> The subsidy awards committee retains discretion over the funds allocated to any given individual and may choose to increase or decrease the award given based on the applicant's individual circumstances and expressed needs.



- 4) Subsidy awards will be sent by cheque to the home of the recipient, or in the case of a CUC-run event, the award will be applied to the event's registration fee.
- 5) Subsidy requests must be received a minimum of three weeks prior to the event. In the case of the Annual Conference and Meeting, full applications must be received by the end of the first week in March.
- 6) Unused subsidies (for instance if the applicant cannot attend due to unforeseen circumstances) will to be returned to the CUC.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

1. Have expressed financial limitations;
2. Are first-time applicants;
3. Have not received funding in the previous two years;
4. Are from congregations which have not previously sent a representative to a similar event;
5. Need to leave their region to gain this event;
6. Are applying to attend an event that fosters congregational vitality especially in areas of: worship, multi-generational/ whole church thinking, and or anti-oppression/multicultural awareness. (See below for a more complete list of leadership development opportunities that this subsidy could be applied to.)

If other criteria are satisfied, subsidies are awarded on a first-come first-serve basis, per event.

Email [subsidies@cuc.ca](mailto:subsidies@cuc.ca) or call the CUC Office at 1-888-568-5723, for further information.

Please allow a minimum of three weeks turnaround for funds once approved.

### **Possible Leadership Development Opportunities**

Events and training opportunities that this subsidy could be applied to include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Religious education and lifespan learning training
- Lay Chaplaincy training
- a UU Musicians Network conference
- other trainings or workshops on issues of safety, multigenerational ministry or another area of lifespan religious education
- being a delegate at the CUC's Annual General Meeting
- leadership development or learning opportunity at the Annual Conference and Meeting or Regional Fall Gatherings
- Canadian UU Leadership School or Goldmine
- Youth and Young Adult events
- a conference on congregational leadership, worship or music
- other trainings or workshops on issues of stewardship, volunteerism, growth, welcoming, inclusion, multiculturalism or another area of congregational life and shared ministry
- UUA or other continental events



**CUC Edward Bevan Ratcliffe Leadership Development  
Subsidy Application Form**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

POSITION/ROLE:

(Paid  Volunteer )

CONGREGATION:

REGION:

Conference or training you plan to attend:

Registration fee: \$

Requested amount of subsidy: \$

Registration fee: \$

Estimated distance and cost of Travel:

Please return this completed form along with an attached document with answers to the following questions below. (Incomplete applications will not be considered.)

A) Describe your current Congregational or Denominational Involvement

B) Why do you want to attend this event? In what ways do you hope the training, information or experience you will receive will benefit your congregation and yourself?

C) Please outline any financial considerations you think would be useful for us to be aware of.

D) List other sources of funding you have pursued (including your congregation, and any other sources)

Congregational Endorsement:

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Name

Signature

Congregational Role

Please e-mail completed applications to [subsidies@cuc.ca](mailto:subsidies@cuc.ca) or mail them to the Canadian Unitarian Council, 100-344 Dupont St., Toronto ON M5R 1V9.