



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate distribution

\$3 000 distributed to support Franco-Ontarian organizations

Ottawa, June 9, 2020 – The Cooperation Council of Ontario (CCO) and the Fondation franco-ontarienne (Fondation) distributed \$3,000 in solidarity funds to two associations: La Maison d'hébergement pour femmes francophones in Toronto and Action Positive VIH-sida.

The [Maison d'hébergement pour femmes francophones](#) received \$2,000 to provide personal and basic hygiene products to women and children. The funds will be used to purchase certain products such as baby diapers, sanitary napkins, soaps, body lotion, and medicines.

[Action positive](#) received \$1,000 to provide grocery cards to its most needy members and help them equip themselves with personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, etc.).

On April 9, the CCO and the Fondation announced the creation of a solidarity fund to mobilize additional resources to counter the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this fund is to help, support and assist Franco-Ontarian associations affected by COVID-19 during and after the pandemic. It remains [open for donations](#).

"We are extremely proud of this cooperation project! The CCO and the Fondation are committed to renewing this fund to help Franco-Ontarian organizations in need of support in the medium to long term. We hope to receive more donations to help more and more Franco-Ontarian organizations," said Julien Geremie, Executive Director of the CCO.

"These two contributions to organizations are a perfect illustration of how tangible donations from individuals can help others in their needs. We would like to thank the first donors and encourage the public to donate to take action," explains Marc Chénier, Executive Director of the Fondation.

An internal committee plans to meet every three months to channel funds to organizations that have previously registered using the dedicated [form](#). The next committee meeting will take place in early September to select the organization(s) receiving other funds.

-30-

For more information:

Julien Geremie

Executive Director of the Cooperation Council of Ontario

julien.geremie@cco.coop

416.364.4545, ext. 113



Marc Chénier

Executive Director of the Fondation franco-ontarienne

mchenier@fondationfranco.ca

613.565.4720, ext. 222

About the Cooperation Council of Ontario:

The [Cooperation Council of Ontario](#) is an Ontario non-profit social enterprise founded in 1964. The CCO works to promote, develop and innovate cooperatives and social enterprises (collectively called collective enterprises) in Ontario. They are major players in community economic development, they do social research and innovation, they are experts in organizational management and they build international business relationships between collective enterprises here and abroad.

About the Fondation franco-ontarienne:

The [Fondation franco-ontarienne](#), created in 1986, manages more than 50 endowment funds that have been created by educational institutions, organizations and sometimes, individuals. It also gives a hand to ad hoc projects and / or community projects through their FondAction. These tools aim to promote the influence of the Francophonie in the communities of the province. In addition, the Fondation offers microcredit financing - jointly with the Société de développement communautaire de Prescott et Russell and the federal agency FedDev (through the Economic Development Initiative, the IDE) - so that Francophones, in particular women and immigrants, can launch their business project. In this era of pandemic, the Fondation quickly collaborated to create the Solidarity Fund mentioned above.