Reimagining Ethics, Learning And Transdisciplinary Evaluation

RELATE

Call for

SEEDLING SMALL GRANTS

Nurturing and sharing good practices in research ethics and evaluation – growing possibilities for change



What is RELATE?

Reimagining Ethics, Learning and Transdisciplinary Evaluation (RELATE) is a three year project (from 2026 to 2028), convened by researchers from University of Saskatchewan in Canada, and Rhodes University in South Africa, and funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

The goal is to make visible alternative ways of doing research ethics and evaluation while building and sustaining an open community of practice. Working alongside different actors and communities, we aim to drive lasting institutional change when working on transdisciplinary research.

Transdisciplinary research seeks to address complex global challenges–such as climate change, biodiversity loss, social inequality, among others–through diverse forms of knowledge and involving multiple actors, especially the communities concerned. However, current ethics and evaluation approaches – used by universities and funders – are often misaligned with contextualised research practices that are useful, fair and meaningful to all involved.

What are the grants for?

Support local comunities, researchers, and NGOs to create accessible learning resources – like booklets, handbooks, posters, videos – that show practices or methods that support more contextually meaningful and reciprocal research ethics and evaluation

What we will look for in your proposal?

We welcome proposals that advance the project goals, by meeting these criteria:

- Co-producing knowledge
- Drawing from existing partnerships or projects
- Showing a rigorous and creative approach
- Contributing to rethinking ethics and/or evaluation
- Ensuring accessibility for different audiences
- Aligning a feasible plan, with budget and timeframe

What do you need to know?

We fund the production of **learning resources** that make visible existing experiences of respectful, relational ethical research and evaluation practices.These are not research grants.

What are the grant amounts?

The grant amounts vary from CAD $500 – $2,500 (Matching cash or in-kind contributions are encouraged)

Small Grants (CAD $500-$750):
For short and specific projects: film, infographics, local encounter for co-production

Large Grants (CAD $1,500+)
For broader initiatives: encounters for co-production, multimedia resources, educational resource packages

If you are thinking of an initiative that exceeds 2500CAD, contact the RELATE team before submitting your application, to confirm eligibility.

Who can apply?

Communities, academics, NGOs and practitioners who who have experiences and guidance to share on relational, inclusive research ethics and evaluation

How will you receive the funds?

- **Agreement:** via a simple service contract with the University of Saskatchewan.
- **Setup:** receive and complete your contract, invoice template, and wire transfer forms.
- **Disbursement:** Paid via wire transfer in 2-3 installments (final payment released upon output delivery).
- **Reporting:** Brief mid-term report required

Where will the resources be shared?

On a shared online platform with resources from around the world on diverse experiences and practices of approaching ethics and evaluation in alternative ways.
We will also create opportunities to showcase some of the produced resources during online and face to face events.

How to apply?

Complete the **APPLICATION FORM (CLICK HERE)**

Important dates!

6 November 2026: Open call for applications
7 December 2026: Submission deadline
Mid-end December 2026: Announcement of selected proposals
April and July: Join the online progress sessions
January-November 2027: Create the learning resource anytime during the year, when it best aligns with your project cycle

Questions? Contact us!

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T-learning website*

TRANSECTS website*

Funded by: IDRC · CRDI
Canada

*Both websites contain the same information