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## STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES 2017/18

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### **Strategic Opportunities Frequently Asked Questions**

***My organization is receiving Operating Assistance. Can I apply?***

Clients receiving Operating Assistance should instead refer to Enhanced Capacity for special project support. The exceptions in 2017/18 are Arts Periodicals, Arts Training Organizations and Community Arts Councils.

This program is intended for project clients, with the exceptions noted above.

***As an Operating Assistance client, I've had access to a version of this program in the past. Why can I no longer apply to this version of the program?***

As part of the program review for operating clients, the BC Arts Council introduced Extended Cycle that accepts applications for multi-year operating funding and Enhanced Capacity that accepts applications for multi-year special project funding. Operating clients have been transitioning to this new model since 2016. Enhanced Capacity, in effect, has replaced what was called Capacity & Innovation and Interim Special Projects Assistance in past years.

***I'm with a Media Arts, Museum, or Professional Festival organization currently receiving Operating Assistance and have not had access to Enhanced Capacity yet. Why is my organization ineligible to apply?***

Media Arts, Museums, and Professional Festival organizations will have the opportunity to apply Enhanced Capacity in the fall of 2017 as part of their Operating Assistance applications.

***I'm with an Arts Training, Arts Periodical, or Community Arts Council organization currently receiving Operating Assistance. The guidelines state that my organization is an exception and is eligible to apply to Strategic Opportunities. Does this mean my organization will not have access to Enhanced Capacity?***

Arts Training, Arts Periodical and Community Arts Councils will be eligible for Strategic Opportunities until they transition to having Enhanced Capacity included in their Extended Cycle Operating Assistance applications, which will happen after the 2017/18 fiscal year.

***I'm with an organization that has received only a Youth Engagement Program or Early Career Development grant since April 1, 2015. Am I eligible?***

No, your organization must have received at least one discipline-specific Project Assistance grant since April 1, 2015 to be eligible.

***I'm with a publisher that has received at least one Title Assistance or Block Funding grant from the BC Arts Council since April 1, 2015. Is my organization eligible?***

Yes, publishers that have received Title Assistance or Block Funding grants are eligible to apply.

***Can I apply to this program for the same kind of special projects as I did with Interim Special Project Assistance (ISPA) and Capacity & Innovation?***

Yes, the exact same kinds of projects are eligible.

***Why do you keep changing the name of this program?***

This program served several different purposes during the transition from the previous funding model for operating clients to the new Streamlined Operating Assistance model. The name changes reflected the purposes it served throughout the transition.