

the  
**SPARK**  
initiative

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GETTING BEHIND THE INSPIRED SPARK IN  
YOUNG SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

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[www.thesparkinitiative.ca](http://www.thesparkinitiative.ca)

## Why is BIC Canada doing The Spark Initiative?

One of our strategic initiatives is to “get behind a new wave of young leaders”. In addition to cultivating young ministry leaders, we know that following Jesus and sharing his message of peace must include developing young leaders in the social & business sector – entrepreneurs who are motivated by their faith in Jesus to make an impact on the major social concerns of our day.



## What is this?

The Spark Initiative is a *10-month leadership grant* that acts as an accelerator for young social entrepreneurs. They will have access to financial grants as well as strategic mentorship relationships and other services that will bring their ideas and organizations to the next level. Applicants will be young leaders from across Canada.

## Who Can Apply?

- Applicant must be 35 years of age or younger as of July 1, 2016
- Applicants will have a passion for how their Christian faith impacts their work.
- Applicants are the leader of their non-profit, charity, NGO, or social enterprise
- Be located and operating in Canada, though the social benefit may occur anywhere in the world

## We are specifically excited about granting awards to:

- *Leaders with an innovative approach & entrepreneurial spirit & leadership experience*
  - Organizations that have a new idea and approach to major social issues
  - Our applicants are natural leaders who can take an idea from inception to completion.
- *Key decision makers with a teachable heart*
  - We look to work with leaders in the organization that are open to true mentorship
- *Sustainable enterprise or fundraising plan & method of measuring your results/impact*
  - Organizations should have a plan of how they will sustain themselves financially
  - Our applicants excel at creating measurable results and are constantly evaluating
- *Applicant who has product or service already in-market, no matter how small*
  - In-market feedback is crucial and we want our applicants to have a place to work from beyond the initial spark or idea. This means you can be a start-up, not-for-profit, or fully operational charity.

## We anticipate giving 8 Spark Initiative Grants. Each recipient will receive:

- One-time cash awards between \$5000-\$20,000 (used between November 1, 2016 – September 1, 2017)
- Over \$6,000 in training/development courses & over \$3000 of “in-kind” business services/consulting
- One year of access to one on one mentorship with professionals
- Peer community of young social entrepreneurs including prayer support for leadership & organization
- Free publicity and promotion about your organization/product
- Access to philanthropists and other donors to gain further capital and/or mentorship
- Attendance at the awards gala and mentoring weekend, October 28-30, 2016.

## Will you invest in The Spark Initiative?

We would be grateful for your investment in a way that produces significant SSROI (Spiritual and Social Return on Investment). If you would like to have more information, please contact:

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