

Last Updated: July 2025

Donor Engagement Officer, Major Gifts

Impact Statement

The Donor Engagement Officer will maintain and develop a portfolio of MSF's major donor relationships. They will personally cultivate, solicit, and steward donors and prospects, and will play an integral role in the growth of MSF's major gifts program. They will be a passionate advocate for MSF's work and will relish the opportunity to meet with existing and prospective donors. A strategic thinker with a deep understanding of the humanitarian sector, they will be self-motivated and collaborative, confident in forging effective working relationships across the international movement and able to secure significant philanthropic support for MSF's work.

Key Responsibilities

Major Gifts

- Secure significant philanthropic support towards the international priority projects identified by MSF Canada in agreement with MSF's operating centre's
- Oversee a portfolio of major gift prospects and donors: identifying those with an interest in MSF's work, engaging with them, soliciting, and closing major gifts, and nurturing donor relationships to uncover opportunities for growth
- Develop and assist in the execution of cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship strategies for some of MSF's most significant donors and prospects
- Develop high-quality and impactful cultivation and stewardship tools for use with major donors and major donor prospects for use by the Philanthropy team within MSF Canada as well as colleagues in other MSF Fundraising departments
- Leverage relationships to garner introductions to prospects or other philanthropic influencers.
- Drives and implements moves management for their own portfolio, documenting all contacts and next steps in CRM. Build appropriate strategies and create the tools needed to initiate and cultivate these relationships, including crafting opportunities for restricted and multi-year giving
- Determine annual projections and regular reforecasting of major donors in their portfolio. Liaise with colleague's cross-departmentally, major donors, the MSF Canada Executive team, Board of Directors, and other stakeholders to execute cultivation, stewardship, and retention strategies, including provision of tailored briefing notes and event planning support

Department Administration

- Contribute to the development of the Major Giving annual plan, designed to meet priority funding needs, effectively communicate about MSF project activities and advocacy efforts, and meet the needs, objectives, and policies of MSF; Draft reports (including financial information), and provide high quality service to our foundation donors and prospective donors
- Improve systems to track donor information, history and maintain quality control.
- Complete data entry/review/analysis using donor database, keeping database current and accurate to maintain the privacy of donors' personal and financial data

Job-Specific Competencies

- Ability to build, manage, and maintain respectful and engaged relationships with diverse stakeholder groups
- Ability to analyze and synthesize complex and sensitive material and use it to develop proposals and reports, and to present appropriate, well-informed messages to current and prospective donors

MSF Transversal Core Competencies

- A Commitment to MSF's Principles; Proficiency Level 1: Acts towards the fulfilment of MSF's Social Mission
- Cross-cultural Awareness; Proficiency Level 3: Demonstrates an integrating attitude
- **Networking and Building Relationships;** Proficiency Level 3: Cultivates relations of respect and confidence with relevant actors/stakeholders
- Strategic Vision; Proficiency Level 3: Plans actions geared towards achieving objectives
- **Results and Quality Orientation;** Proficiency Level 3: Improves performance and sets ambitious and realistic goals
- **Planning and Organising;** Proficiency Level 3: Follows up, plans activities, and sets priorities, taking other team members into consideration

Knowledge and Experience

- Demonstrated professional oral and written communication skills, including correspondence with stakeholders
- Demonstrated time management and organizational skills
- Responsible, proactive, driven, and able to work independently
- Demonstrated development experience, preferably in Fundraising, Major Gifts, or with Multilateral/Bilateral funders
- Experience closing gifts at the six-figure level, including complex gifts using a variety of giving vehicles
- Excellent interpersonal, presentation, and negotiation skills
- Knowledge of humanitarian issues
- Experience in all aspects of donor cultivation (research, writing, follow-up, and stewardship)
- Demonstrated experience with Microsoft Office programs (specifically Word and Excel), fundraising databases, and conducting online research
- Knowledge and experience with major donors
- A valid driver's licence, and ability to travel to meet with donors or prospects as required
- Enthusiastic "all hands-on deck" style team player; able to operate and collaborate across multiple teams and thrive in a fast-paced culture

Education, Certifications, and Languages

- Fluency in spoken and written English
- Proficiency in French is an asset

Working Conditions

- Work is generally carried out during the day, Monday to Friday (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time)
- Flexible hours and a hybrid work model (minimum 40% in office per week)
- The office environment is open concept; workspace is shared with colleagues
- Workstations consist of sit/stand desks, anti-fatigue floor mat, swivel chair, laptop with dock and double monitor
- Work requires long hours in front of a computer/laptop screen
- Domestic travel required, ability to travel to meet donors. (Approximately 20%, travel mainly in Ontario)
- Regularly represents MSF programs and policies to senior representatives of foundations

Job Information

Position Level: Individual contributor Department: Fundraising / Philanthropy / Major Gifts Position Status: Permanent Activity Rate: 100 % (37.5 hours per week) Location: Toronto

Salary Grade: Level 14 on the MSF Canada Salary Grid, \$70,676 in starting year (non-negotiable)

Status: Must be legally authorized to work in Canada; MSF Canada is not in the position to support a work permit process for any applicant outside of Canada.

Benefits: Health Spending Account, Lifestyle Spending Account, group insurance (Life, Dependent Life, AD&D), Peace of Mind plan (i.e. prescription drugs, accidental dental, hospital care, etc.), 5% RRSP contributions (no matching required), starting 4 weeks' Vacation/year, flexible work hours, annual professional development budget, Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP), internal psycho-social resources, and a positive and innovative office culture grounded in our core values of humanity, integrity and results.

Additional Information

MSF Canada is a people-focused humanitarian organization that is proud to offer a diverse, collaborative, and inclusive work environment. We strongly believe this approach enhances our work and we're committed to equity in employment. The organization seeks to attract and engage the best professionals to join and maintain meaningful, productive, and lasting work relationships. We embrace diverse motivations and backgrounds of people working together to exhibit their passion in action for the social mission of MSF.

MSF Canada acknowledges the existence of systemic racism and oppression and is committed to sustaining and strengthening its anti-racism and anti-oppression (AOAR) efforts. As MSF Canada continues to grow and strive to remove barriers in its offices in Canada and in MSF work environments abroad, we welcome applications from individuals with unique experiences of intersectional oppression on the basis of their social markers such as their ethno-racial identity, age, gender identity, education, socio-economic status or place of origin. We encourage Black, Indigenous, People of Colour, LGBTQIA2S+ people, individuals living with disabilities and any individual deserving equity to apply.

In line with MSF's December 2021 pledge to reduce our carbon emissions by 50% by 2030, compared to our 2019 baseline, we encourage everyone to embrace and embed sustainable and climate-friendly practices. Applying a climate and planetary health lens will help us improve our operational impact. Facing climate change and environmental degradation through our operational activities by focusing on mitigation and adaptation will decrease our dependency on fossil fuels, reduce our ecological footprint and help protect human health. Everyone, at all levels, with all skill sets is needed to address the global threat of climate change.