



City of Nanaimo Social Planning Grants 2024

Guidelines & Criteria

2024 Deadline:

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 (12:00 pm)

**For more information, please contact Community Planning
at 250-755-4464 or socialplanning@nanaimo.ca**

Introduction

The Social Planning Grant program strives to encourage "a caring, healthy, accessible, inclusive, and safe community that empowers its community to realize their aspirations." (City Plan 2022)

Purpose

The purpose of the Social Planning grant program is to assist organizations in responding to issues of a social nature with initiatives that enhance social cohesion, address the root causes and effects of poverty, contribute to the vitality of our community and foster social inclusion and social equity.

Eligibility Criteria

Organizations applying for funding must be based in Nanaimo and/or be proposing a project that primarily serves Nanaimo residents.

The following types of organizations are eligible to apply:

- A non-profit society incorporated under the BC Provincial Societies Act or federally designated as a registered charity;
- A recognized religious group with ongoing activities and a congregation; or,
- A neighbourhood association recognized by the municipality.

Strategic Priorities

The City of Nanaimo's strategic funding priorities for the Social Planning Grant program support the desired outcomes and policies in City Plan, in particular, the project should contribute to City Plan's goal for A Healthy Nanaimo: Community Wellbeing & Livability:

"A Healthy Nanaimo is about both the wellbeing of all our residents and the livability of our city. A healthy city means that all people have the opportunity to access and maintain a high standard of living – regardless of their life stage, family composition, abilities, or socio-economic status. Nanaimo envisions a city where a person can live an entire lifetime, finding comfort and happiness in a safe and secure community with access to affordable housing, recreation, culture, and wellness services, healthy food, parks, nature, and education. A Healthy Nanaimo is where people are securely housed, fed, and cared for. It is a city where we can all thrive."

For more information on the goals and policies under "A Healthy Nanaimo", see City Plan pages 66 to 89.

Grant Categories

There are two categories of Social Planning Grants, which are allocated on an annual basis:

- **Social Response Grants**
Intended for initiatives and projects of a more significant scope. The total budget available for this category is \$60,000; individual applications for up to \$60,000 will be accepted for 2022.
- **Community Vitality Grant**
Intended for projects of a smaller scale. The total budget available for this category is \$25,000.

Ineligible Projects

Funds from the Social Planning Grants may not be used for the following purposes:

- Ongoing operational expenses incurred during the normal course of business;
- Projects occurring outside the City of Nanaimo; or
- Payment of pre-existing debts.

Projects will not be funded for more than two consecutive years in a row; however, an organization may submit an application for a separate project.

Ineligible Organizations

- Groups or organizations with outstanding balances owed to the City of Nanaimo.
- Organizations may not be eligible for Social Planning Grant funding if they have received other funding assistance through the City of Nanaimo within the same grant year period.

Please contact socialplanning@nanaimo.ca with any questions you may have.

Application Review Criteria

30% - Merit

Proposal quality, project alignment with organization's mandate, community support

40% - Relevance/Feasibility

Does the project reflect the City's Strategic Funding Priorities for the Social Planning Grant Program?

Does the project reflect the relevant City Plan goals?

What is the capacity and demonstrated ability of the applicant?

30% - Potential Impact

How many will be impacted? How great the impact? How critical is the issue being addressed?

Grant Process

Applications will be received and reviewed by the Community Planning section, and recommendations will be forwarded to the Finance and Audit Committee and then to Nanaimo's City Council for approval. Once disbursed, funding must be spent within the next twelve (12) months and a report provided at project completion or at the end of the twelve month period, whichever comes first. If the applicant chooses to submit an application for the following year, a report regarding the previous project funding grant must be received prior to the submission of the new grant.