

Luminous Paths 2027

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS MICRO-GRANTS

\$200 - \$300 to help downtown businesses take part in the festival

Tourism Nanaimo, in partnership with the City of Nanaimo, is offering micro-grants to businesses in Downtown Nanaimo and the Old City Quarter to encourage creative participation in Luminous Paths 2027 (February 15 – March 12, 2027). The initiative is intended to extend the festival experience into the downtown, giving visitors more reasons to explore local businesses while enjoying the event.

[More about the festival](#)

How can businesses participate?

Micro-grants of \$200 – \$300 are intended to support a simple activation or display that connects with the themes and atmosphere of Luminous Paths, a winter art festival celebrating light, art, Land, and community.

HOST AN ACTIVATION	CREATE AN ILLUMINATED DISPLAY
Offer a themed or art-inspired activity that invites participation – for example, a lantern-making workshop, small creative drop-in activity, or another accessible experience connected to light, art and creativity.	Create an illuminated, art-inspired storefront or window display using light, colour, handmade elements or another creative approach that complements the visual atmosphere of Luminous Paths

Creating a broader downtown festival experience:

The goal is to encourage visitors to experience the festival and also enjoy all that downtown Nanaimo has to offer. Participating businesses are encouraged to connect their activation or display with the festival while bringing their own personality and creativity to it. Ideas do not need to be large or complicated – thoughtful, visible and welcoming participation is encouraged.

What participating businesses will receive:

In addition to the micro-grant, participating businesses will receive festival materials to make available to the public, helping visitors connect their downtown experience with Luminous Paths. Materials may include posters, postcards, festival guides, and applicable festival promotional items.

Who can participate?

Businesses located in [Downtown Nanaimo](#) and the [Old City Quarter](#) that are interested in helping create a creative, connected and welcoming Luminous Paths 2027 experience are encouraged to apply.

Timeline:

Application Deadline	November 15 11:59pm PST
Notification to Businesses	Early December
Luminous Paths 2027 Festival – Opening Event	February 15 5 – 9pm
Luminous Paths 2027 Festival – Closing Event	March 12 5 – 9pm

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Sunday, November 15 | 11:59pm PST**

[APPLY NOW](#)

Questions? Please contact cultureandevents@nanaimo.ca | 250-755-4483

Luminous Paths 2027

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS MICRO-GRANT APPLICATION

Tourism Nanaimo in partnership with the City of Nanaimo

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Sunday, November 15 | 11:59pm PST**

Use this form to tell us how your business would like to participate in Luminous Paths 2027. Micro-grants of **\$200 – \$300** are intended to support a festival-related activation or an illuminated, art-inspired window/display. Simple, creative and welcoming ideas are encouraged. [More about the festival.](#)

1. Business information

Business name: _____

Business address: _____

Primary contact: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

2. How would you like to participate?

Select one or both:

- ☐ Host a themed or festival-related activation / workshop
- ☐ Create an illuminated, art-inspired storefront or window display

Briefly describe your proposed activity or display:

Date/ Time of your proposed activity or display: _____

3. Connection to Luminous Paths

How will your idea connect with the festival's themes or atmosphere of light, art, creativity and shared experience?

4. Micro-grant request

Amount requested: ☐ \$200 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$300 ☐ Other amount between \$200 – \$300: \$_____

What will the micro-grant help pay for? (e.g., art/craft supplies, lighting, display materials, workshop materials or other direct activation costs)

5. Participation details

- ☐ I understand that the activity/display should be appropriate for a public, family-friendly festival environment.
- ☐ I am willing to display and/or distribute Luminous Paths materials provided to participating businesses, such as posters, postcards, festival guides and applicable promotional materials.
- ☐ I understand that participation details and micro-grant approval are subject to confirmation by Tourism Nanaimo and the City of Nanaimo.

6. Accessibility & Inclusion

The City of Nanaimo is committed to creating welcoming public spaces that are accessible and inclusive for everyone.

Participants of Luminous Paths 2027 must demonstrate commitment to City of Nanaimo Policy C4.2 Equity and Inclusivity:

“Equity recognizes that each person has different circumstances and allocates resources and opportunities to support more positive outcomes for all regardless of age, ability, gender, sexual orientation, faith practice, ancestry, or background. By identifying inequities and targeting investment in prevention and intervention, the wellbeing and inclusion of the diversity of people that make up our entire community can be enhanced, creating a city that puts people first and supports a sense of belonging.”

The expectation is that participating businesses will:

- Create a welcoming, inclusive atmosphere where all people feel safe, comfortable and represented (Policy C4.2.1)
- Encourage diversity awareness and build a culture of compassion for people of all cultures, genders, orientations, ages and abilities (Policy C4.2.8)

Anything else you would like us to know?

Submitted by (please print): _____ **Date:** _____

Signature: _____

Thank you for helping bring Luminous Paths into the heart of downtown Nanaimo.

