

Nanaimo Youth Resilience Grant Guidelines & Criteria

Grant Program Summary

The [Nanaimo Youth Resilience Strategy](#) (NYRS) guides the activities and objectives for the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF) over the next three years. Non-profit organizations, public sector entities, or government bodies are strongly encouraged to apply for the **Nanaimo Youth Resilience Grant** funded by the BSCF. Successful program applicants will receive funding between October 2023 and March 2026 toward programming that will meaningfully support youth at risk, ages 11-25. Programs must be new or add notable enhancements to existing programs. Additional information may be found on the *Frequently Asked Questions* document.

Completed application packages must be submitted by **noon, Monday, August 14, 2023**. Applications may be submitted by email, mail, or in-person. Please review the application form carefully for submission instructions. Successful applicants will receive written notification of Council's decision by the end of September 2023.

6 Key Focus Areas in the Nanaimo Youth Resilience Strategy

The Nanaimo Youth Resilience Grant is to fund programs that support the focus areas in the NYRS. The programs must be new and/or augment existing efforts in the community that meaningfully connect with and support youth at risk (ages 11-25).

Please read the *Nanaimo Youth Resilience Strategy*, a copy can be found [here](#).

The focus areas in the NYRS are:

- **Safe Youth Gathering Spaces**
 - To establish safe, free, youth gathering spaces within existing facilities. The City is working to identify two locations for safe youth gathering spaces. The Nanaimo Youth Resilience grant may be used to fund programs in these spaces.
- **Youth Outreach**
 - To expand street outreach and related programs including service hours and locations to build relationships with youth at risk, and to meet a wide range of their needs such as providing food, harm reduction, engagement in recreation, access to counseling, etc.
- **Connecting Youth To Land And Water Through Snawaylth (Teachings)**

- Enhance existing and/or create new opportunities to connect youth to the land and water through Snawaylth to strengthen their mental, emotional, spiritual, and cultural resilience.
- **Youth Mentoring Program**
 - To connect youth, especially youth at risk, with diverse role models and significant/caring adults (e.g. tutors, trades or vocational role models, mentors, teachers, coaches, etc.).
- **Enhancing Existing Programs**
 - To improve existing programs for youth by adding new components that fill gaps and build protective factors for children and youth-at-risk (e.g. sports, culture, education, health and wellness, life skills, socio-emotional learning, volunteering etc.).
- **Media & Communications**
 - To build relationships with media and develop key positive messaging to highlight successful youth programs and initiatives that counter repeated negative media attention that perpetuate discrimination and stigmatization against youth.

Risk Factors of Focus

The NYRS identifies risk factors that are significant for Nanaimo and the recommended focus areas listed above are intended to reduce these risk factors for youth and children. These risk factors are:

- **Land & Waters Level**
 - Limited or lack of access/availability to healthy lands & waters, including Indigenous sources of foods and medicine
- **Societal Level**
 - Large number of people living in poverty
 - Significant prevalence of discrimination, stigmatization, and oppression, such as racism
 - Lack of affordable, appropriate, and safe housing
 - Lack of adequate services (social, physical health, mental health, addictions, etc.)
 - High unemployment
- **Community Level**
 - Presence of organized crime & human trafficking
 - Repeated negative media attention
 - Availability of street level weapons, including firearms
 - Fear of social disorder (e.g. homelessness, public drug use)
 - Lack of adequate services (cultural, recreational) »Large number of residents reporting feeling unsafe in their neighbourhood
 - Neighbourhoods that show neglect and lack of sense of ownership and pride by residents
- **School Level**
 - Too few teacher role models

- Lack of attention to bullying (including cyberbullying)
- Negative labelling by teachers
- Access to street level drugs within the school
- Low educational aspirations
- **Peer Level**
 - Friends who are part of a gang
 - Friends with problematic substance use challenges
 - Interaction with peers in conflict with the law
 - Lack of meaningful peer connections
- **Family Level**
 - Intimate partner and family violence
 - Abuse and neglect of children
 - Criminalized or incarcerated parents
 - Lone parent household with limited economic means

Fund Distribution

The City of Nanaimo has access (through the BSCF program) to \$1,156,699 to fund programs under the 6 focus areas. The estimated distribution of the funds available is listed below. Funds under this grant program are available between October 1, 2023, and March 31, 2026. **Programs do not need to run continuously but must occur between the funding timeline and start during the Fall/Winter 2023.**

	Focus Area	Steering Committee Rating 'Impact – Effort'	Proposed % of BSC Program Funds
1.	Safe Youth Gathering Spaces	High Impact – High Effort	30%
2.	Youth Outreach	High Impact – High Effort	25%
3.	Connecting Youth to Land and Water Through Snawaylth	High Impact – Medium Effort	15%
4.	Youth Mentoring Program	High Impact – Medium Effort	10%
5.	Enhancing Existing Programs	High Impact – High Effort	15%
6.	Media & Communications	High Impact – Low Effort	5%

Application Timeline

Applications must be submitted by **12 pm Monday, August 14, 2023.**

Applications received after this date will only be considered if there are unused funds. Late requests may be considered in exceptional or unforeseen circumstances. Successful applicants will receive written notification of Council's decision by the end of September 2023.

- **July 10, 2023:** Applications open.
- **July 12, 2023:** Online information session.
- **August 14, 2023:** Applications close at 12 pm
- **September 13, 2023:** Recommendations for fund distribution presented at the City of Nanaimo Finance and Audit Committee meeting.

- **September 25, 2023:** Official endorsement of Finance and Audit Committee recommendations at City of Nanaimo Council Meeting.
- **September 26 to September 29:** Finalize all agreements with successful applicants.
- **October 1:** Provide access to funds to successful applicants.

Application Criteria

The NYRS identifies the focus areas and the risk factors programs should address. In addition, the NYRS lists further criteria to ensure that programs are low barrier, accessible, and equitable. The following criteria were developed to guide the funding distribution. A program should meet most of the following criteria to be selected for funding:

- Focuses on children and youth (ages 11-25) at risk (as per risk factors)
- Fosters positive peer to peer interactions and connections
- Ensures that children and youth living in poverty are included in services and recreation (e.g., arts, culture, sports, and food distribution)
- Increases opportunities for integration of Indigenous and non-Indigenous services
- Includes a focus on anti-discrimination, anti-stigmatization, and anti-oppression (e.g., youth phobia)
- Provides opportunities to connect youth to the land
- Increases socio-emotional learning opportunities
- Offers services during peak hours for youth activity (e.g., 6 PM to 12 AM and weekends)
- Provides opportunities for youth to connect to diverse role models or significant/caring adults (e.g., trades role models, tutors, teachers, coaches)
- Includes trauma-informed practices and cultural awareness
- Works to remove barriers to access (transportation, costs, etc.)
- Focuses on culture, healthy relationships, and pro-social activities
- Includes supports for family members of youth participants
- Advances opportunities for wraparound approaches
- Clearly identifies the recruitment and referral process
- Establishes community partnerships with other service agencies to co-create and implement programs

Applications will be evaluated based on the above listed criteria and will be weighted by the following questions:

- **Relevance (25%)** – Does the program reflect the focus areas in the NYRS and work to address the identified risk factors?
- **Accessible and Equitable (25%)** – Does the program incorporate most of the criteria identified to ensure that children and youth at risk can access programming?
- **Impact (25%)** – What difference will the program make for the intended audience?
- **Efficiency (15%)** – How well are resources utilized.
- **Sustainability (10%)** – Will the benefits for the programs last beyond the funding cycle?

To access Public Safety Canada funding through the City of Nanaimo, only the eligible expenditures listed below will be funded:

#	Public Safety Canada Eligible Expenditures
1	Salaries, wages and benefits for temporary professional, clerical, technical and administrative services, and stipends (including expenses for international staff);
2	Professional and consultant costs, not limited to audit and evaluation expenses and professional fees related to the preparation of financial statements
3	Recruitment and Training Costs (e.g. courses, workshops, etc.);
4	Costs associated to conferences, including conference room, virtual conferences, and associated equipment rentals
5	Reasonable Travel, accommodations, and related expenses in accordance with National Joint Council Guidelines as well as bus tickets, tokens, and other reasonable participant related transportation reimbursements;
6	Rent, normal utilities such as electricity, heat, water and telephone, and maintenance of offices and other buildings where the expenses are directly related to the development and implementation of the project
7	Office equipment, supplies, and materials, including computers, printers/scanners, and communications equipment and associated costs
8	Minor renovations to the facility where the interventions are taking place (principally required to enhance security or to ensure program fidelity), where deemed essential for the success of the project. Minor renovations are defined as \$10,000 in total or less, over the course of the project
9	Translation and simultaneous interpretation costs;
10	Meals and/or refreshments for participants in activities and workshops directly related to the project
11	Honoraria, defined as time-limited remuneration for a volunteer service or participation in project delivery that is consistent with, and essential to the attainment of, the project's objectives. This can include, but is not limited to, volunteer services and guest speakers; but cannot be provided for individuals whose participation in a project is already being compensated (e.g., by their employer) or is being accrued as part of an in-kind contribution
12	Culturally appropriate expenditures including gifts (for a maximum of \$100), community feasts, ceremonies and ceremonial meals, gatherings, and circles in accordance with National Joint Council guidelines

#	Public Safety Canada Ineligible Expenditures
1	Goods and services that, in the opinion of the Government of Canada, are normally provided by the First Nation community or by the federal, provincial, territorial or local municipal government
2	Cannot be used to pay for regular or ongoing police services
3	Core or ongoing operating expenses
4	Hospitality, that does not meet the eligible expenses criteria
5	Interest charges or costs of borrowing; and
6	Amortization

Who Can Apply?

Organizations requesting funding will be established non-profit organizations, public sector entities or government bodies with experience working with youth.

Review Process & Appeals

Applications will be received and reviewed by the Steering Committee and City of Nanaimo, and recommendations will be forwarded to Nanaimo City Council for consideration of approval. Successful applicants will receive written notification of Council's decision by the end of September 2023.

For further information, please email: socialplanning@nanaimo.ca