



Youth Engagement Projects Grant Guidelines

These guidelines are effective April 1, 2025 – previous versions no longer apply.

If you require support or have any questions after reviewing these guidelines, you can obtain more program information from the City of Chilliwack's Recreation and Culture Department.

Note: We are always working towards providing more accessibility within our offerings. If you have any access needs or questions please contact us and we are happy to provide additional support.

Please contact for any of the above:

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Community Coordinator
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City of Chilliwack Neighbourhood Grant Program

Great communities are built on the foundation of strong neighbourhoods. Since residents often know just what is needed to enhance the quality of life in their community, the Neighbourhood Grant Program has been developed to support residents and organizations that have small but powerful ideas that will bring people together and enhance connectedness and belonging.

Through matching grants, the Chilliwack Neighbourhood Grant Program supports locally driven projects that are planned, implemented and managed by and for the community. These grants can support the planning, organizing and implementation of neighbourhood and community projects. As this is a matching grant program, successful applicants must match their requested amount with contributions of volunteer labour and services, donated materials and/or resources. For example, if an applicant applies for a \$200 grant, they need to show or contribute an equal amount through volunteer labour, supplies or funds.

Residents can apply for amounts from \$100 to \$4,000, depending on the type of grant program stream selected. The different streams a person or organization may apply for under the Neighbourhood Grant Program are as follows:

- The Celebration and Activity Grant: \$100 - \$1,000
- The Grass Roots Grant: \$100 - \$4,000
- Youth Engagement Projects (YEP) Grant - \$100 - \$1,000

Our grant streams are to encourage residents and local community groups to engage in projects that bring people together and make the community a vibrant, inclusive and accessible place.

The Youth Engagement Projects (YEP) Grant

Great ideas can come from community members of all ages. Youth have a unique perspective and ideas for how to enhance the neighbourhoods they live in.

The *Youth Engagement Projects Grant* is a matching grant of up to \$1,000 that empowers youth to engage in their community through projects and events. These projects and events are to enhance one or more drivers of neighbourhood/community attachment: inclusion, education, aesthetics, leadership, safety, offerings, or relationships. As youth work together on their proposed projects, this grant will create the opportunity for them to build relationships and leadership skills, develop a sense of belonging and have fun!

This grant stream supports youth ages 13-24 that have ideas to engage their community through matching funding, resource assistance, and staff mentorship/guidance. When a grant is approved, the applicants will work to coordinate and implement their project with support from City staff.

What is my Neighbourhood/Community?

‘Neighbourhood/community’ refers to the area around your home **or** any area your group of people have a strong connection to. Please contact the Recreation and Culture Department at 604.793.2904 if you have any questions about this.

Funding Criteria and Eligibility

Who is eligible?

Any youth living in Chilliwack who is between the ages of 13-24 and have ideas to enhance their neighbourhood/community may apply. Please note, all applications require one adult sponsor aged 25 or older. If you do not have one, the City of Chilliwack can suggest support options.

What you need to know before you apply:

- Grants are available to youth residing in Chilliwack and require a minimum of one youth within the community.
- The project should occur within the community of Chilliwack. Contribution for matching funds can include in kind volunteer hours and/or materials, equipment, or dollar amount.

All applications should:

- Describe the project and how it will impact your community or neighbourhood.
- Enhance one or more of the drivers of neighbourhood/community attachment: inclusion, education, aesthetics, leadership, safety, offerings or relationships.

Grants shouldn’t be used for:

- The purpose of private or commercial gain.
- Any project in contravention of City bylaws.
- Payment of applicants’ operating expenses that are not directly related to the project for which the funding is being provided.
- Funding items that will be privately owned after the project is completed.
- Funding the purchase of any alcohol or tobacco related products.
- Support of ongoing programs or services.
- Payment of travel expenses.
- Fundraising activities.
- Retro-active expenses.

Applications and Approvals

- The application intake period will be ongoing. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis, depending on funding and staff availability.
- As each project is different and has unique needs/timelines, grant approval wait times will vary.
- Typically, Recreation and Culture staff will contact each applicant within seven business days to follow up on applications and provide more information on next steps and expected approval times.

Need more information?

Contact the City's Recreation and Culture Department at 604.793.2904.

Grant applications are available online at chilliwack.com/neighbourhoodgrants.