

Attachment 2

2024 BC Active Communities Grant Guide



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: Active Communities Grant Program

Overview

The Active Communities Grant Program provides resources to Indigenous and local governments to create or expand physical activity opportunities in their communities.

The purpose of the Active Communities Grants is to:

1. Support people in BC of all ages and abilities to increase their awareness of, and access to, community-based physical activity, sport, and recreation programs and opportunities.
2. Create physical and social environments within communities that encourage regular physical activity and ensure equitable and inclusive access and opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds, particularly those who come from disadvantaged or equity seeking groups.

Active Communities Grants are intended to build capacity, create or promote physical activity opportunities, support physical activity planning or infrastructure development, and increase physical activity participation with sustainable, community-level changes.

Some examples of potential projects include developing or enhancing supportive social and physical environments in areas such as healthy community design, active play, active transportation, policy development/implementation, partnership building, staff training in adaptive equipment or accessible programming and/or engaging community members to create participant-informed inclusive programming.

The Active Communities Grant Program was one of the successful initiatives to come out of the first Action Plan and investment in [BC's Physical Activity Strategy: Active People, Active Places](#). *Active People, Active Places* was designed to guide and stimulate coordinated policies, practices and programs in physical activity to improve the health and well-being of people and communities in BC. This second version of the Active Communities Grant Program has the continued goal of supporting local governments in strengthening existing cross-sector partnerships and community-based actions to increase physical activity levels.

Eligibility Criteria

The following local government organizations are eligible to apply:

- First Nations Bands
- First Nations Tribal Councils
- Métis Chartered Communities
- Municipalities
- Regional Districts

Applicants are encouraged to build cross-sector relationships to improve physical activity in the community. This collaboration should include a partnership between the Indigenous government or local government and the regional health authority and could also involve other community stakeholders such as local non-governmental organizations, school districts, businesses or community groups.

Active Communities Grant guidelines:

- Applicant must be based within, and the project must serve residents of British Columbia.
- Applicant is an Indigenous government (First Nation, Tribal Council, Band) or Chartered Métis Community or local government (municipality, regional district). Unincorporated communities are eligible through their regional district.
- Project activities must increase opportunities for physical activity, specifically through improving access, inclusion and healthy community planning and environments.
- Applicants should demonstrate existing or planned collaboration with the regional health authority or other cross-sector community partners over the project timeline.
- Projects are encouraged to demonstrate a link to broader and longer-term local policies, strategies and/or community knowledge and culture.
- Projects must include evaluation activities, including the collection of evaluation data.
- Project leads should be willing to participate in BCAHL led evaluation and knowledge exchange activities.
- Project expenses must be reasonable in relation to proposed activities.
- Capital expenses are permitted as a part of the project. Applicants should explain how any capital expenses are necessary to achieving project objectives and impacts.
- All proposed activities should be completed, and all funding spent, within 18 months of receiving the funds.
- Grants up to \$50,000 are available to communities. BCAHL may fund a portion of projects with higher budgets if other funding sources are contributing to the project. Alternatively, BCAHL may consider funding one portion of a larger project so long as it aligns with the purpose of the Active Communities Grant Program.