

2025- 2027 INDIGENOUS HEALING AND WELL GRANTS INFORMATION GUIDE

The City of Vancouver is accepting applications for the **2025-2027 Indigenous Healing and Wellness (IHW) Grants** program. This guide provides information about the objectives, criteria, and application process.

APPLICATION DATES:	FUNDING AMOUNTS:	FUNDING CYCLE:
Close on Wednesday, November 13th, 2024 at 11:59 pm	<p>Maximum Annual Request: \$20,000 per year</p> <p>Maximum Total Request: \$40,000 per year</p>	<p>2 years: 2025-2026 2026-2027</p> <p>*Pilot 2-year multiyear funding.</p>

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The City of Vancouver is accepting applications for the **2025-2027 Indigenous Healing and Wellness** grant stream to fund **programs** that provide traditional, spiritual, and cultural healing, and wellness activities to Vancouver’s urban Indigenous community.

The goals of the IH&W grants are to:

1. Increase access to Elder and Knowledge Keeper services and Indigenous traditional, cultural, and spiritual services;
2. Improve mixing Elder and Knowledge Keeper services and Indigenous healing and wellness activities into mainstream health services;
3. Ensure Elders and Knowledge Keepers are supported to engage in their work in the community; and,
4. Improve community health and wellbeing outcomes.

WHAT TYPES OF PROGRAMS ARE FUNDED?

You can apply for this grant if your program meets any of the below:

- Provides access to Indigenous cultural/spiritual knowledge;
- Provide guidance, cultural and spiritual support;
- Share cultural knowledge and expertise through activities; and,
- Share spiritual knowledge and expertise through activities and ceremonies.
- Programs must take place in Vancouver and primarily serve residents of Vancouver.

NOTE: Funding is to support ongoing programming, not one-time events and/or projects.

GOALS OF WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

The program seeks to ensure:

- Elders and Knowledge Keepers are provided with appropriate levels of **financial and other supports**, a key focus of this grants program.
- Support for knowledge holders who are critical resources for providing healing & wellness supports to their peer group and/or people of other ages and backgrounds.
- Traditional knowledge keepers may include Cultural Workers, Cultural Advisors, Spiritual Advisors, Traditional Healers, and/or others who are not necessarily Elders, but whose involvement may also be key to achieving a program and community's healing and wellness goals.

Maximum Grant Amount Per Application: \$20,000/ year

Total Maximum Grant Amount Per 2-Year Application: \$40,000/ 2 years

Examples:

To see recently funded programs, please visit the "Past Programs" section [here](#). Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact a Planner for additional advice and guidance on our application. Contact information can be found below.

ORGANIZATION'S ELIGIBILITY

PLEASE NOTE: Both Indigenous and non-Indigenous led organizations may apply. If your organization is non-Indigenous, we will be looking for meaningful involvement and collaborative partnerships with Indigenous peoples, organizations and communities. This means actively engaging Indigenous organizations, committees, working groups and/or employees to ensure that program activities remain consistent with the goals of this funding program.

To be eligible for this grant, organizations must meet the following criteria:

- Be a registered non-profit society, community service co-op or social enterprise wholly owned by a non-profit and in good standing with the Registrar of Companies; OR, be a registered charity, in good standing with the Canadian Revenue Agency; OR, be a First

- Please note that if you are not registered as one of the above you may partner with a fiscal sponsor that is a registered non-profit society or registered charity in order to meet this requirement.
- Demonstrate accommodation, welcomeness and openness to people of all ages, abilities, sexual orientation, gender identities (including trans*, gender-diverse and two-spirit people), ethnicities, cultural backgrounds, religions, languages, underrepresented communities and socio-economic conditions in its policies, practices and programs, except in instances where the exclusion of some group is required for another group to be effectively targeted;
- Have an independent, active governing body composed of volunteers. The by-laws must have provisions that no staff member can be a voting member of the board or executive;
- Be in compliance with [the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms](#) and the [British Columbia Human Rights Code](#);
- Have the demonstrated functional capacity and sufficient resources to deliver the programs or work to which the City is being asked to contribute; and,
- Deliver the funded program in Vancouver to Vancouver residents or to Vancouver based non-profits. If not (e.g., land-based activities situated outside the city boundaries), the program must demonstrate it is primarily serving residents of Vancouver; and
- **A significant percentage of the people to be supported through the grant activities must be Indigenous.**

NOTE: Programs that have received IHW grants in the past are eligible to apply again.

APPLYING FOR WORK THAT WAS NOT FUNDED LAST YEAR? Talk to a planner! All new applicants are asked to contact a grants planner to discuss applications prior to submission. Applicants that were not successful in the previous year are also asked to contact a grants planner if you are considering applying again. This short phone call will ensure applicants are eligible and will be an opportunity to walk through the process, provide tips and answer questions.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Eligible expenses for the City grant funds include:

- **A minimum of 60%** of the City grant must be spent on honorariums, contracts or salaries for Elders or Knowledge Keepers (compensation for services must be reasonable and on par with similar programs);
 - If less than 60% is spent on the above, please share how funding has been used to support Elders or Knowledge Keepers.
- Local transportation costs for Elders or Knowledge Keepers (e.g., transit, taxi, mileage);
- Program supplies and expenses (e.g., traditional foods, drums, etc.);
- Rental of additional spaces like boardrooms, halls, or community cultural centres or long houses for feasts, ceremonies, or honourings; and,
- Additional training and development opportunities for **Elders or Knowledge Keepers** who work primarily with vulnerable or at-risk populations in the DTES.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants can complete an application:

- online through [VanApply](#); or
- call a planner for an oral application.

Please reach out to a planner if there is another way you would like to submit an

application. Ask a planner if you are unsure if you have an organization account on VanApply.

Applications will request information in the following areas:

- **Organization Information:** If you have previously applied for grants in VanApply, this section should already be completed and ready to auto-populate new grant applications.
- **Outline of Work:** Outlining the type and impact of the work to be supported by the application
- **Program-specific budget:** An upload of the program budget. Sample templates are available on the City of Vancouver's website.
- **Organization Financial Statements:** An upload of financial statements for the most recently completed fiscal year (i.e., audited, review engagement, notice to reader or some other type of financial statement).
- Additional supporting materials are required are as follows:
 - Board of Directors List
 - Incorporation Documentation
 - Annual General Meeting minutes
 - Minutes of the Most Recent Board Meeting (optional)
 - Annual Report (optional)
 - Organization's Policy on Diversity (optional)
 - Organization By-laws/Constitution

Please ensure you have all required documents on hand to upload, as you will be unable to submit an incomplete application.

TERMS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The term of an IHW Grant is one year from the date of payment. As this is a 2-year multi-year cycle, program activities will need to be completed 12 months after receipt of funds each year.

The following year's funding will be released upon receipt and satisfactory review of an annual report back to City staff. Report backs will be:

- Submitted on [VanApply](#). There may be a few programming related questions at the end of each funding year.
- Can include site visits, and/or additional communications.
- Organizations will be required to submit updated documentation, such as financials.

Call or email a planner if you would like to submit the summary orally or in a different format, such as a site visit.

GRANT REVIEW PROCESS AND TIMELINE

RECRUITING REVIEWERS:	Call for Community Reviewers: October 2024 – December 2024 Training for Community Reviewers: November – December 2024 Recruitment for City Reviewers: November 2024
REVIEWING APPLICATIONS:	November 2024 - January 2025
COUNCIL REPORT:	March 2025
PAYMENTS:	Year 1: April 2025 Year 2: April 2026
REPORTING:	Year 1: February – March 2026 Year 2: February – March 2027
<p>* Note: Dates may be subject to some change depending on recruitment for community reviewers.</p>	

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Social Policy will be incorporating community perspectives in the grant review process for the 2025 call for applications. Please reach out to the Social Policy email if you or any members of your organization are interested in participating as **community reviewers** or would like additional details.

Community reviewers will be compensated for their participation.

If you have questions or need assistance completing your application, please do not hesitate to contact us.

QUESTIONS

Phone: 604-673-8414

Email address: socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca