

Building Safer Communities Program (BSCP) Vancouver
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROJECT GRANTS
 - Information Package -

General Overview of BSCP Vancouver Grants

The City of Vancouver Youth Safety and Violence Prevention (YSVP) Strategy outlines a comprehensive approach to enhancing the safety and well-being of youth in Vancouver. It aims to address root causes of youth violence and identify community responses that effectively prevent its occurrence and recurrence. Developed as part of the Building Safer Communities Program, the YSVP Strategy primarily focuses on early violence prevention efforts that promote individual and community well-being, safety and belonging in the city. The Strategy sets out a plan to create safer spaces and empower young people and communities to develop and implement solutions.

To support the implementation of Strategy, the City will be administering the Building Safer Communities Vancouver Grants Program between 2023 and 2026. Grants will be available via three unique streams: **Stream 1)** Youth Safety and Violence Prevention Program Grants; **Stream 2)** Organizational and Youth Sector Capacity-Building Grants; and **Stream 3)** Youth Engagement Project Grants.

Objectives of the Building Safer Communities Program Vancouver Grants

The BSCP Vancouver grants have three primary objectives:

- To develop and deliver early violence prevention programs that address risk factors associated with gun and gang violence.
- To build the capacity of youth-serving organizations to deliver early violence prevention and intervention programs and establish community-based wraparound service models.
- To increase a sense of safety and belonging through youth projects that enhance protective factors for youth violence.

What are the focus areas for BSCP Vancouver grants?

The focus areas for the BSCP grants are identified in the Youth Safety and Violence Prevention Strategy. The YSVP Strategy is guided by a *vision of a city where youth feel safe, supported, connected, healthy and free of violence*. Focused primarily on upstream early violence prevention efforts and some downstream treatment interventions, this strategy promotes community-based solutions to youth violence.

There are five focus areas and key priorities proposed for collective action. Applications must demonstrate alignment to one or more focus areas and clearly explain how the proposed initiative addresses the priorities included in the Strategy.

Focus Areas	Priorities
Focus Area 1: Create safer and protective community environments and public spaces for youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured and unstructured spaces for youth to gather • Safety in public spaces and on public transportation • Community based supports attached to schools, community centres and libraries • Community and civic programs that promote youth decision making and engagement in governance
Focus Area 2: Identify and strengthen community-based supports for healthy child development in the middle years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle childhood service provision and coordination of early violence prevention programs • Developmentally and culturally appropriate services and supports • Parent, guardian and family engagement in violence prevention and intervention Trauma informed middle childhood approaches and programs
Focus Area 3: Strengthen the coordination and provision of positive youth development services and programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve service planning and coordination • Targeted and identity specific strategies and programs for equity denied youth • Capacity building of the youth sector • Promotion of youth development through arts, sports, recreation and community participation

Focus Area 4: Connect youth to caring adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness about the importance of caring and supportive youth / adult relationships • Intergenerational programming • Mentorship programs • Youth sector staff development, capacity and recognition
Focus Area 5: Lessen the impacts of serious violence and crime on children and youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) reducing the risk, harm, criminality and future victimization • Mental health support for victims, offenders and bystanders • Intervention strategies for children and youth affected by cyberbullying, sexual exploitation and youth gang involvement

We recommend reviewing the [Strategy](#) to ensure your application is grounded in its focus area and respective priorities. The strategy also features in the research insights that may assist in developing a strong case for funding.

In addition, the Building Safer Communities Program Vancouver will be implementing an outcomes-focused approach to evaluation. If your grant application is successful, grantees will be required to complete an annual grant report and participate in evaluation activities with the support of the City’s evaluation consultant.

Basic Eligibility 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 Nations Band;
 - 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, welcoming 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, under-represented 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 bylaws 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.
- Note: Youth Engagement Project Grants must be supported by an organization that meets all above eligibility criteria.

Social Policy Contact Information:

Phone: 604-873-7005
Email: socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca (Please use ‘BSCP’ in your subject line for enquiries related to the BSCP Vancouver Grants.

Stream 3: Building Safer Communities Program (BSCP) Youth Engagement Project Grants

BSCP Youth Engagement Project Grants aim to increase a sense of safety and belonging among Vancouver youth through youth-led projects that build leadership and social-emotional skills that prevent youth violence. Initiatives must incorporate a peer-to-peer approach to project implementation. Projects should focus on addressing factors that reduce the likelihood of youth becoming victims of violence or engaging in violent behaviours.

Proposed projects must align to at least one of the five focus areas area identified in the City of Vancouver Youth Safety and Violence Prevention Strategy. Applicants should clearly explain how the project addresses the priorities included in the [Strategy](#).

A youth-friendly version of this information package and application will be available in November 2023.

*Grant type: 1 year project grant, up to \$10,000 per grant
Call for applications: January 2024 and January 2025*

**Applications open: January 8, 2024
Deadline to Apply: February 5, 2024**

Funding Guidelines:

BSCP Youth Engagement Project Grants must:

- Be a youth-led initiative;
- Deliver a project to improve youth safety and well-being in local communities or neighbourhoods by strengthening protective or reducing risk factors associated with youth safety;
- Address issues identified by youth that affect safety, well-being and belonging in Vancouver;
- Have a host non-profit organization to support the administration of the grant. (If the youth group does not have a host organization please contact a planner at socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca.)
- Project must be completed by December 2024
- Programming must occur in the city of Vancouver

Eligible expenses:

Funds may be used for expenses that relate directly to the proposed project:

- Professional and consultant costs
- Recruitment and training costs
- Costs associated to conferences
- Travel, accommodations and related expenses
- Rental fees for venues
- Project supplies and materials
- Translation and simultaneous interpretation costs
- Meals and refreshments for participants in activities or workshops related to the project
- Honoraria
- Culturally appropriate expenditures, including gifts for community feasts, ceremonies and ceremonial meals, gatherings and circles (for a maximum of \$100 per gift expenditure).

Ineligible expenses:

- Capital equipment;
- Administration and staff costs for the host organization
- Activities that take place outside of the project or expenses incurred prior to the approval of the project.

How to Apply:

Deadline to apply is [February 5, 2024](#)

All applications will be accepted **via email** at socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca

Note to the host organization: Administration of the grant including completion of grant agreement, payment and reporting must be done through VanApply under the host organization’s account. If your organization does not already have an account in VanApply, you will be asked to create one *if the grant application is successful*.

Applicants need to provide the below information with their submission. [Please use the two templates provided here](#) (under “BSCP Youth Engagement Project Grants”). The completed documents can be emailed to us in in Word or PDF formats.

A. Project Planning Template:

Organization Information

- Name
- Contact information

Outline of Work:

- Project Name
- Describe your project idea: What are you planning to do, why are you doing this project, where and when will the project take place, who are you involving in this initiative?
- How does the proposed project align with the focus areas and priorities of the Youth Safety and Violence Prevention Strategy?
- What do you want to happen as a result of the project? How will you know if you are successful with your project?

Project Plan:

- Provide a timeline including activities or the steps you will take to implement your project and the outputs you hope to achieve.

Description of Activity / Task	Outputs (tangible results you hope to achieve or deliver)	Completion date

B. Project Budget Template:

PROJECT BUDGET	Amount	Status (applied for, approved or received)
PROJECT REVENUE		
1. CITY of VANCOUVER GRANT		
2. Other funders		
3.		
4.		
5.		
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE	\$0	
PROJECT EXPENDITURES		
Expenditure Category	Amount	Expenses and description
Costs Associated with research conferences / workshops / dialogues / sessions		
Meals / refreshments for participation		
Honoraria		
Supplies and materials		

Professional and consultant costs		
Recruitment and training costs		
Translation / interpretation		
Travel accommodation and other related expenses		
Culturally appropriate expenditures		
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENDITURES		\$0

In alignment with the City’s ongoing work in reconciliation, equity, and accessibility, staff are available to support you or the youth leaders of this project in the application process. Should you require assistance please contact us at socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca.

Grant Timeline and Review Process

Applications will be assessed by an adjudication community comprised of staff and youth. Recommendations will be presented to Council for approval in March 2024.

Term of Grant and Reporting

The term of a BSCP Youth Engagement Project Grant is from March-December 2024.

The Building Safer Communities Program Vancouver will be implementing an outcomes-focused approach to evaluation. If your grant application is successful, grantees will be required to complete an annual grant metrics and participate in evaluation activities with the support of the City’s evaluation consultant.

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