

City of Vancouver
Building Safer Communities Program Vancouver
Community Based Action Research Project Grants

The City of Vancouver will be supporting community based research projects as part of the Building Safer Communities Program Vancouver.

The City of Vancouver Social Policy & Projects Division is leading a scoping process for the implementation of the Building Safer Communities Program (BSCP) in Vancouver. Funded by Public Safety Canada, BSCP seeks to prevent and address the root causes of youth violence by creating safe spaces and empowering young people and communities to develop and implement solutions that set them up for success. The objective of the BSCP is to support Municipalities and Indigenous (First Nation, Inuit or Metis) governments in their efforts to address gun and gang prevalence within the youth population by providing funding to support community led projects.

BSCP Vancouver is focusing on prevention and intervention efforts that promote individual and community well being, safety and belonging in the city. As such, the City of Vancouver will work collaboratively with the non-profit sector, youth and public partners to identify ways to stop youth violence before it starts and identify community responses that effectively prevent its recurrence.

As part of the BSCP Vancouver, the City will be developing a Youth Safety and Violence Prevention strategy that will include:

- An assessment of the nature and scope of youth violence in Vancouver;
- Research on protective and resilience factors including effective prevention and intervention approaches;
- An overview of community based prevention and intervention strategies prioritized for the local context;
- An action plan and funding strategy for delivering prevention initiatives that address the risk factors associated youth violence in the city.

2023 BSCP Community Based Action Research Project Grants

Grants of up to \$10,000 will be available for youth groups and / or community stakeholders working with non-profit organizations to implement community based action research projects aimed to exploring the nature, trends, incidence and prevalence of youth violence in the city, as well as the characteristics of effective community based violence prevention strategies.

Key areas and questions to be explored through community based action research projects include:

- **Youth wellbeing and the social determinants of health:** How can we map the connections between youth experiences of violence and broader systems of inequities in the social determinants of health?
- **Youth safety and belonging in the city:** What factors are needed to enable a stronger sense of belonging and safety among youth in Vancouver?
- **Middle childhood and violence prevention and early intervention:** How can youth violence prevention programs be integrated into broader interventions to support healthy middle-years child development?
- **Gun and gang violence:** Given the diversity of youth in Vancouver, what targeted, culturally and other identity specific strategies should be developed to prevent gun and gang violence?
- **Prevention of child and youth exploitation:** What strategies are needed to prevent child and youth sexual exploitation?

- **Wrap around prevention services:** What supports could build capacity for the youth sector to implement effective wraparound service delivery models in Vancouver?

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; o 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-variant 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.

Projects Must:

- Be completed by December 2023
- Have a clear youth engagement strategy embedded in the research
- Demonstrate partnerships with other community organizations.
- Participate in a Community Based Research training session led by the Social Policy Research and Data Team
- Commit to quarterly check ins to report on preliminary findings

To apply:

1. Fill out an application form and project budget template
2. Submit electronically by December 9th 2022 to socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca.

Virtual Info Session November 23rd 2022 at 11:00am – 12:00pm

To register or for more information please email socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca