

## Cultural Core Support – Expression of Interest

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1: Which stream(s) of cultural core funding is my organization eligible for?

A1: Please see the **Eligibility Table** below:

	Cultural Operating Funding	Cultural Equity & Accessibility Funding and Cultural Indigenous Funding
<b>For new applicants: Previous Funding</b>	Received <b>3</b> grants from the City of Vancouver through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CASC</li> <li>• Cultural Indigenous</li> <li>• Cultural Equity</li> </ul>	Received <b>2</b> grants from the City of Vancouver through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CASC</li> </ul>
<b>Program Goal</b>	Provides core support for organizations with an arts and culture mandate	Provides core support for organizations delivering arts and culture programming that are led by and for Indigenous and equity-deserving communities
<b>Annual Budget</b>	Minimum: \$150,000 Annual budgets generally over \$200,000	Minimum: \$50,000 Annual budgets generally between \$50,000 - \$250,000
<b>Programming</b>	Have a clear mission and consistent delivery of arts and cultural programs or services for 2+ years	Annual programming may still be in development
<b>Staff</b>	Paid professional and experienced leadership (full-time or part-time) in artistic or administrative roles	Growing capacity with some paid leadership in artistic or administrative roles.
<b>Reporting</b>	Recipients are required to report through CADAC (Canadian Arts Database)	Annual reporting in VanApply is supplemented by mid-year check-in meetings.

<b>Financial Statements</b>	Financial statements must be independently prepared, in the form of a compilation engagement, review engagement, or audited statements.	Financial statement must be prepared by certified professional.
<b>Application</b>	Full application	Streamlined application
<b>Program Timelines</b>	Applications open: Sept 2025 Applications close: Nov 2025 Funding approved: April 2026 Grant payment: April 2026	Applications open: Aug 2025 Applications close: Oct 2025 Funding approved: Dec 2026 Grant payment: Jan 2026
<b>Grant Amounts</b>	Grants awarded to new organizations will generally be between \$15,000 - \$20,000. Grants will not exceed 50% of previous year's actual expenses.	New organizations generally start with a grant of \$15,000. Grants will not exceed 50% of previous year's actual expenses.
<b>Available Funds</b>	Potentially 2 or more groups depending on financial resources	Anticipate funding 8-12 new groups across both programs
<b>Other Requirements</b>		
<b>Location</b>	Be physically located in and deliver programs and services within Vancouver.	
<b>Structure</b>	Be a non-profit, charity or co-op	Be a non-profit, charity, co-op or First Nation Band council
<b>Pay Artists</b>	Compensate artists and cultural workers at minimum standard industry rates.	
<b>Policies</b>	Have an equity policy or plan, accessibility plan, and respectful workplace policies, procedures and practices in place	Growing capacity and developing policies

Q2: If we are eligible for more than one stream of core funding, which one should we select?

Please select the program that is the best fit for your organization using the chart above, or by discussing your organization with staff.

Q3: Can we indicate interest in more than one program?

No. You may only select one program in the form (and you may submit only one EOI form), but staff will contact you if your organization is a better fit for another program.

Q4: Do we need to fill out the EOI if we are already receiving COFA, CEG, or CIG?

No, you do not. You should only submit an EOI if you are not currently receiving core support, or if you are currently receiving CEG or CIG and wish to express interest in applying for COF.

Q5: When will we hear if we will be invited to apply to a core support program?

Applicants will be contacted in August

Q6: What if my organization does not get invited to apply to a core funding stream, after submitting an EOI?

Your organization can continue to apply to the CASC program (next intake in September for projects taking place January-June 2026). If your organization is invited to apply to a core funding stream, we recommend you still apply for CASC in September, since funding is not guaranteed.

Q7: Will this EOI be an annual intake or just a one-time intake?

To be determined based on available funds.

Q8: How is the EOI reviewed?

Staff will review the EOIs for eligibility and consider the demonstrated track record of organizations in meeting program priorities according to peer assessments and previous CASC projects.

Q9: What is the assessment process for COF, CIF, and CEAF program applications?

COF applications will be reviewed by a peer assessment committee comprised of two community assessors and one staff member, as outlined in the COF Info Guide. CEAF and CIF applications will also be reviewed by a peer assessment committee comprised of community and staff members.

Q10: What is an Expression of Interest? What is the purpose?

An Expression of Interest (EOI) is a formal way of showing interest in a particular opportunity, in this case, cultural operating funding streams. The Grants & Awards team is

using this process to identify potential applicants prior to a more detailed selection process.

As funding is limited, and core funding applications require a lot of labour, the EOI process is intended to reduce time and resources by focusing on eligible applicants that fulfill the funding program criteria.

The EOI process also enables us to implement an open process to identify applicants and gives a clear indication of program demand in order to plan and allocate future resources.

Q11: Who can I contact if I have VanApply issues or questions?

Please contact the Grant & Awards team's VanApply technical lead, Anthony Hoang ([Anthony.hoang@vancouver.ca](mailto:Anthony.hoang@vancouver.ca)).

Q12: Who can I contact if I have questions about the EOI, grant programs, or the process?

Questions about the CEAF and CIF programs – contact Joyce Rosario ([joyce.rosario@vancouver.ca](mailto:joyce.rosario@vancouver.ca)) or Marnie Rice ([marnie.rice@vancouver.ca](mailto:marnie.rice@vancouver.ca))

Questions about the COF program or EOI process – contact Miko Hoffman ([miko.hoffman@vancouver.ca](mailto:miko.hoffman@vancouver.ca)) or Brenda Grunau ([brenda.grunau@vancouver.ca](mailto:brenda.grunau@vancouver.ca))