



Environmental Impact Grants Program Guidelines 2022

As a part of the Town of Banff's goal to become a model environmental community, Council adopted targets to send zero waste to landfill by 2050 and achieve a 30% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030.

Extensive community consultation was conducted during the establishment of the Town's Environmental Master Plan, which indicated strong support for Town of Banff or community-led initiatives that will help advance environmental targets. Similarly, in the Banff Community Social Assessment, "appreciation of nature and environmental stewardship" was cited as one of the top strengths and priorities in Banff.

While the Town is working on many projects that will help achieve these targets, the value of community-led initiatives cannot be overstated. Community-led initiatives have proven to be extremely valuable in reducing waste and emissions, along with mobilizing community members to take further action in these areas, which align closely with The Town of Banff's targets and strategic priorities.

Total amount available is \$20,000, up to \$10,000 per grant.

If you, someone you know or a group you are part of are interested in strengthening Banff's goal to become a model environmental community, consider applying.

How does the Environmental Impact Grant Program Work? Environmental Impact Grants support projects that:

- Result in the direct elimination or diversion of food waste
- Result in the direct elimination of single-use items
- Result in direct reductions to the consumption/purchase of other material goods in the community (i.e. sharing/lending services, upcycling projects)
- Directly support a mode-shift to public transit or active transportation
- Directly support enhanced diversion of wood waste for use as a space heating fuel
- Directly support carbon sequestration through enhancement of the urban forest (tree-planting)
- Enhance community connections
- Welcome and involve a diversity of people
- Demonstrate a grassroots, locally driven approach
- Empower and/or build capacity so that other individuals or groups to take action on environmental issues
- Take people's ideas into action

Other types of initiatives are encouraged and will be considered, but must still result in direct, measurable reductions in waste or GHG emissions. are not eligible.

Funds can support:

- Projects/programs/events
- Operating costs such as rental of space, advertising/promotion, supplies, honorariums, etc.
- Rental or purchase of equipment
- Startup funding
- Honorariums
- Contractor support/wages

Funds will not support:

- Initiatives that would otherwise be supported by other Town of Banff programs (i.e. Environmental Rebate Program, Solar PV Incentive Program)
- For profit business ideas
- Purchase of alcohol

Who can apply:

- Individuals
- Informal group of individuals or neighbours
- Non-registered groups /community organizations
- Must be a resident of Banff for a minimum of 6 months.

Who cannot apply:

- Businesses
- For Profits organizations
- Government bodies

Follow up and Accountability: If you are a chosen recipient of the Environmental Impact Grant Program you will be required to show proof of purchases through completing an expense report and providing receipts. Recipients will also be asked to complete a reporting template to outline qualitative and quantitative achievements of the project, along with key outcomes and indicators of impact.

Examples of projects that would be eligible (and have been funded in the past) include:

Banff Food Rescue:

- A local not-for-profit society that partners with local grocery stores and other food-service businesses to rescue edible food waste from the landfill or compost.

Banff Isn't Disposable:

- A local grassroots initiative working to normalize re-use instead of disposable, by initiating a reusable container scheme in collaboration with local businesses.

Community Cruisers:

- A local not-for-profit that supports and encourages bicycle use in the Bow Valley, with programs specifically aimed at increasing winter cycling

How to apply:

- Download an Environmental Impact Grant Program application from Banff.ca or complete online
- Decisions will be made by the end of September and approved by Council by the end of October. All applicants will be contacted regardless of outcome.
- Questions: Please feel free to call the Environmental Team should you have any questions about your projects eligibility or the grant process.

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