

Environmental Impact Grant Funding Guidelines



Purpose

To provide support for community-led initiatives which reduce waste and emissions- working toward Banff becoming a model environmental community.

History

As part of the Town of Banff's goal to become a model environmental community, Banff Town 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 community-led initiatives that will work toward 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- aligning with the Town's targets and strategic priorities.

Eligibility for Funds

Those applying for funds must be:

- Individuals, or an informal group of individuals or neighbours, or non-registered groups/ community organizations or registered charities or societies
- Residents of Banff or Lake Louise, consistently, for the past 6 months

\$20 000 of funds are available and may be given to applications 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 (ex. 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 for individuals or groups to take action on environmental issues
- Take people's ideas into action

- Have an established track record for successful project delivery
- Present a well thought out and clear proposal
- Show evidence of clear goals and expected outcomes
- Show evidence of financial need for the project and any other sources of funding including in kind
- Show uniqueness of service
- Indicate involvement from other community partners
- Fit with the Banff Community Plan and/or Council priorities of Master Plan documents
- Note- other types of initiatives are encouraged and will be considered- but must still result in direct, measurable reductions in GHG emissions and waste Show evidence of need for service or project

Funds may support:

- Projects, programs or events
- Operating costs
- Startup funding
- Rental or purchase of supplies or equipment
- Rental of space
- Advertising and/or promotion
- Honorariums
- Contractor support or wages

Ineligible applications:

- Those submitted by businesses, for profit organizations or government bodies
- Those which have not met the responsibilities of a previously provided grant
- Expenses related to annual fund-raising campaigns, debt retirement, alcohol or drugs
- Those submitted for activities restricted to people of specific religious groups. *Note, churches may apply for projects that are open to the whole community*

Conditions:

- Grant recipients shall spend grant funding solely for the purpose for which it was granted
- Grant recipients will be required to show proof of purchases and complete mandatory grant reporting to summarize their project
- All information collected from the application is collected under the authority of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to determine qualification for the Municipal Community Grants program

Application Requirements:

- Applications must be submitted in the prescribed form
- Applications for project funding must include a project budget- showing proposed expenses and other revenues
- Applicants must provide complete information regarding the program/project/event objectives, services provided, operating costs and financing details
- Applications must be submitted by the due date established for the funding year
- Late or incomplete applications will not be considered

Application Review

Applications will be reviewed and ranked by the Community Grants Committee, made up of five public members. Decisions will be made by the end of May and approved by Banff Town Council by the end of June. All applicants will be contacted regardless of the outcome.

The Committee will assess if the grant application:

- Fits within the grant criteria
- Benefits residents of Banff
- Aligns with Town of Banff's current vision, goals and any other relevant Master Plans or strategic planning documents
- Provides project/idea timelines & budget
- Demonstrates an ability to deliver on the project/idea
- Supports a project/idea which meets community needs

Ways to apply:

- Complete an Environmental Impact Grant application online at [Banff.ca/grants](https://banff.ca/grants)
- Download and complete a Environmental Impact Grant application from [Banff.ca/grants](https://banff.ca/grants) and submit via email to fcss@banff.ca
- Pick up a paper copy of the Environmental Impact Grant application at Banff Town Hall (110 Bear St.), Monday to Friday between 8:30am – 4:30pm. Complete and submit paper applications to this same location in person.

Questions?

Please contact the Community Development team with questions about your eligibility or the grant process- 403.762.1229 or fcss@banff.ca.