

A vibrant, stylized illustration of a diverse neighborhood. The scene includes a church, a school, a bus, a cafe, a playground, and various people engaged in community activities like gardening, walking, and playing. The color palette is dominated by teal, green, and yellow, with a bright sun in the sky.



The City of Calgary community social work program offers grants of up to \$1000 to residents in select neighbourhoods. Check out the complete list of eligible neighbourhoods on page three. If you have questions, please email NeighbourhoodGrants@calgary.ca or speak with your neighbourhood community social worker.

Neighbourhood Grant Information

Thank you for your interest in the Neighbourhood Grant program. Please find more information about the program below. If you have any more questions after reading this, please contact your community social worker or NeighbourhoodGrants@calgary.ca.

What projects can I use the grant for?

Small actions can make big impacts. Our grants help residents take action towards building inclusive neighbourhoods. Below are the four categories the Neighbourhood Grant program will fund. We have provided some examples to help spark ideas, but please apply or reach out if you have other ideas or want to discuss.



Social Inclusion

This means:

- **Helping everyone feel welcome and included**
Examples: Neighbour Day events, welcoming new neighbours, community walk/tour, etc.
- **Build connections between neighbours from different backgrounds**
Examples: Share your cultural events, conversations about local issues, art workshops, etc.
- **Build a stronger sense of community**
Examples: Community murals, mental health and wellness workshops, etc.



Economic Participation

This means:

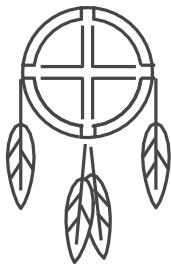
- **Helping people in the community save money**
Examples: Community gardens, community cooking, lending libraries (tools, sports equipment), etc.
- **Helping people learn new skills**
Examples: Sewing or beading group, canning workshop, resume building, renters rights workshops, etc.
- **Supporting local community members/entrepreneurs**
Examples: Host a local community market, hire a local artist/Elder, purchase supplies from a small business in your community, create networking opportunities for home-based businesses, start a sewing group, etc.



Anti-Racism

This means:

- **Supporting efforts that seek to eliminate racism and discrimination in your neighbourhood**
Examples: Anti-racism book club, workshops on anti-racism, creating safe spaces for dialogue, storytelling, photo or video projects on anti-racism, etc.
- **Building understanding and unity between different cultures and faiths in your community**
Examples: Documentaries and discussions, community art projects, dialogue between different cultural groups, Elder talks, cultural celebrations and learning, Black History Month, Lunar New Year, Eid, Diwali, etc.
- **Creating opportunities for Indigenous, Black, and diverse Racialized people to build safer spaces where they can have conversations about racism.**
Examples: Black youth community conversations, creating anti-racism spaces for Indigenous, Black, and diverse Racialized residents, and creating social media posts, etc.



Truth and Reconciliation

This means:

- **Building relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous neighbours**
Examples: National Indigenous History Month events and teachings, Round Dance, mini-powwow, documentary and discussion with an Elder, etc.
- **Create opportunities for Indigenous residents to build or strengthen connections with traditional ways.**
Examples: Elder storytelling, ribbon skirt making, rattles, drum or beading workshops, smudging, Seven Sacred Teachings, land-based teachings and ceremonies with Indigenous Elders, etc.
- **Learning and acknowledging the past and present impacts of colonialism**
Examples: Teachings (i.e. KAIROS Blanket exercise), workshops on decolonization, book club, learning about the Truth & Reconciliation Commission, 94 Calls to Action, etc.

Land Acknowledgement

We encourage successful grant applicants to include a Treaty 7 Land Acknowledgment within their project. This can be done orally (i.e., at the beginning of your event) or on a poster board, depending on the project you are organizing.

Why:

A Land Acknowledgment is a statement recognizing the traditional territory of the Indigenous people who called the land home before the arrival of settlers and, in many cases, still call it home. It is an act of reconciliation. This is an opportunity to reflect on your relationship to land, time and community.

Below is an example of a Land Acknowledgement you can use or adapt. You can also share your personal reflection before the acknowledgement to fit your activity.

Calgary is located on the ancestral and traditional territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy, made up of the Siksika (Seeg-see-kah), Piikani (Bee-gun-nee), Amskaapipiikani (Om-Skaa-bee-bee-Gun-nee) and Kainai (G-ai-nah) First Nations; the Îlethka Nakoda Wîcastabi (ee-YETH'-kah nah-COH'-dah WHISK'-ah-tah-bay) First Nations, comprised of the Chiniki (Chin-ick-ee), Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations; and the Tsuut'ina (Soot-tenna) First Nation. The City of Calgary is also the homeland of the historic Northwest Métis and to the Otipemisiwak (Oti-pe-mes-se-wa) Métis Government, Métis Nation Battle River Territory (Nose Hill Métis District 5 and Elbow Métis District 6). We acknowledge all Indigenous people who have made Calgary their home.

We are thankful for the opportunity this sacred place provides us to engage in reconciliation and make life better every day for all who call Calgary home.

Honorarium

Honorariums are gestures of appreciation recognizing knowledge, expertise and lived experience. For your community events, you may require an Indigenous Elder or Cultural Leader to provide a traditional protocol such as an opening prayer, blessing or ceremony, a welcome to the territory or a closing ceremony. Please contact your community social worker for the recommended amounts.

Community social workers can cover honorariums for Elders and Knowledge Keepers through a separate budget to allow more funds for your project. For more information on protocols and connecting with Elders, please contact your community social worker for more details.



Who can apply?

Grants are available for residents that live in select neighbourhoods where community social workers work. Please follow the link below for an up to date list of communities.

[Granting Programs \(calgary.ca\)](https://calgary.ca/granting-programs)

Live in another neighbourhood?

There are several other programs that provide grants for community projects.

Contact NeighbourhoodGrants@calgary.ca for a list of alternatives.



What expenses are allowed?

If you doubt an expense is eligible, please speak to the community social worker in your neighbourhood.

Eligible expenses:

- ✓ Projects that are started and led by area residents or community associations.
- ✓ Projects that promote community well-being and benefit the neighbourhood.
- ✓ Items needed to host your initiative (small items, snacks, rentals, honorarium, etc.)
- ✓ Culturally appropriate items such as ceremonial tobacco to be used by an Elder.

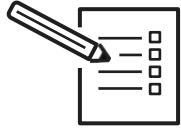
Ineligible expenses:

- ✗ Items for personal use, including basic needs, computers, sewing machines, etc.
- ✗ Non-ceremonial tobacco, cannabis and alcohol.
- ✗ Funding events that promote the conversion of religion, supporting political parties, personal events or events that charge residents to participate.
- ✗ Expenses from projects that have already taken place.



Frequently asked questions:

- **Can youth apply for the grant program?**
Yes. Youth can apply and lead the project in their community; however, funds must be overseen by someone who is 18 years of age.
- **Will the grant funds impact my income?**
No. Grant funds are not considered personal income and will not impact benefits such as AISH, income support or taxes.
- **Can a project be funded more than once?**
Yes. We know good ideas sometimes take time. Some grant projects can be funded more than once.
- **When do I have to complete my project?**
All projects must be completed by December 15th of the year you receive your grant.
- **Can I provide an honorarium to other residents helping with my project?**
The intention of the community grant is to promote volunteerism; however, it is important to recognize the time, energy, skills and commitment that volunteers contribute. We can recognize contributions and services residents provide through honorarium when appropriate. Honorariums are often given for the following services: musicians, artists or instructors facilitating or teaching; cultural performances, interpretation or guest speakers sharing a skill or cultural practice. If you would like to offer an honorarium, please discuss this with your community social worker.



Ready to apply?

You can apply in a few different ways. Here are some options:

- Apply online
- Download and fill out the application on your device and email it
- Download and print the application and fill it out
- You can request a paper copy to be sent to you by contacting NeighbourhoodGrants@calgary.ca
- Create a short video to talk about your idea
- You could present your idea to the Neighbourhood Advisory Committee
- Connect with your community social worker to discuss your idea. They can help complete the application
- Bring together a small group of residents interested in your idea and fill out the application together.

Next steps:

- Give yourself as much time as possible between submitting your Neighbourhood Grant idea and starting your project. We suggest two months.
- Depending on how you apply, connect with your neighbourhood community social worker to submit your grant application or arrange a presentation. You can apply online or send it to NeighbourhoodGrants@calgary.ca
- Your application will be forwarded to an Advisory Committee. The committee is made up of resident volunteers.
- The Advisory Committee reviews and makes recommendations on grant applications.
- Once your application is approved, a member of the Advisory Committee will walk you through all the information.
- Questions? You can contact NeighbourhoodGrants@calgary.ca or your neighbourhood committee social worker.