

City of Fort St. John

Building Safer Communities Strategy Initiative Implementation

Funding Guidelines – Youth Recreation, Arts, & Culture Access Grant

Introduction

In line with the Building Safer Communities Fund administered by Public Safety Canada (PSC), the City of Fort St. John is seeking applications from community organizations and schools that work with youth at risk to facilitate access to recreation, arts, and culture. This initiative has been identified as a form of community-based prevention to tackle the underlying factors contributing to gun and gang violence within the community.

Funding Overview

Building Safer Communities Fund: This fund, managed by Public Safety Canada, has earmarked funds to support communities in British Columbia, intending to address prevention needs for youth at risk to mitigate the root causes of gun and gang violence. The City of Fort St. John has been approved for funding from the Building Safer Communities Fund. The funding available to support projects in the community is allocated in annual increments as follows:

- Fiscal Year 2023-24 - \$276,925.00
- Fiscal Year 2024-25 - \$253,805.00
- Fiscal Year 2025-26 - \$253,805.00

The City of Fort St. John has identified six initiatives that will be funded through the Building Safer Communities Fund. The Recreation, Arts, and Culture Access Grants is one of these initiatives and will receive \$10,000 annually over the next three fiscal years.

Project Overview

Scope

The Recreation, Arts, and Culture Access Grant will facilitate access for youth at risk to recreation programs with the intention that funded activities support pro-social activities and peer interactions. This grant program does not include fees related to youth participation in organized sports as there are currently several available options for funding in the community. Instead, this grant program will support activities that promote participation in other forms of recreation (e.g., dance, music, theatre, fine arts, etc.). Youth at risk aged between 8 and 17 are eligible.

Examples of possible funding applications that would be supported through this grant include:

- Payment of tuition/fees for youth to access a specific recreational or arts/culture based programs or classes (eg. music, painting, cultural arts)

- The planning and delivery of specific arts, culture, and recreation programs for youth at risk

Applicant Eligibility

Non-profit organizations, societies, collectives and schools that work with youth at risk between the ages of 8 and 17 are invited to apply for funding under the grant installment.

Submission Requirements

Applicants are asked to submit a concise proposal in .pdf format that includes the following information:

1. **Organizational Overview:** Brief description of the organization, mandate, key team members, and experience working with youth at risk.
2. **Target Audience & Impact:** Describe how the action(s) proposed in the application will support youth at and contribute to funding goals to mitigate the root causes of guns and gang violence.
3. **Application of Funds:** Explain what the funding is going to be used to do--what is the action/project/program and a short justification of why it should be funded.
4. **Budget Details:** Include a high-level budget overview that includes anticipated expenses (e.g., program supplies, wages, and any other expenses). Indicate how much funding is needed for the desired action(s) and if the project will be able to go ahead should partial funding be received.

Please try to keep your response to no more than 2 pages.

Application Process

Interested applicants must submit their proposal, addressing the requirements outlined above. Applications to be assessed as received until all funds are dispersed.

Submissions should be submitted electronically to arts-culture@fortstjohn.ca

Selection Process

The department of Arts & Culture with the City of Fort St. John will assess all completed application submissions. Proposals will be evaluated based on demonstrated understanding of the scope of work, relevance for youth at risk, budget, and any other information provided by proponents.

The City of Fort St. John retains the final decision-making authority and may choose to fund in whole or in part the selected proposals.

All selected proposals will be asked to submit a short final report 30 days after the event.

Further Information

For any additional information or clarification regarding the application process, please contact Eryn Griffith at egriffith@fortstjohn.ca.