

Adam Langenmaier
Director of Financial Services
City of Courtenay
830 Cliffe Avenue
Courtenay BC V9N2J7

April 2, 2024

Re: City of Courtney – Grant-in-Aid Funding

Dear Adam,

Thank you for the opportunity to support the City of Courtenay's granting needs by distributing Grant-in-Aid funding via the Community Foundation's 2023/24 Community Granting programs.

Today, I am happy to share the list of community service organizations that were funded thanks to a combination of Community Foundation and Grant-in-Aid funding.

The criteria set out in the MOU were broad and inclusive, making allocation to eligible applications very easy. A threshold of \$5,000 was set as a solution to meet the requirement that "the project/activity must benefit the entire community (all ages all groups)". Going forward, opportunity exists for the Mayor and Council to refine criteria, if desired, to achieve specific granting outcomes.

The Foundation will be announcing and celebrating this year's recipients via a feature in the Comox Valley Record in late April. We will coordinate City of Courtenay acknowledgment via your Communications team.

Preparations are currently under way for next year's granting programs. If we can assist with further granting, please let us know by the end of May. I would be happy to share more information or answer any questions that arise.

Sincerely,



Jolean Finnerty
Executive Director

City of Courtenay Grant-in-Aid 2023/24 Recipients

This year, the Comox Valley Community Foundation (CVCF) distributed \$536,116 to 51 organizations through its granting programs. The following list summarizes the ten community service organizations that received a combination of CVCF and Grant-in-Aid Funding. The project description provides a snapshot of the project's purpose. More detail can be provided upon request.

Organization	Project Description	CVCF Grant Amount	City of Courtenay Funds Added	Total Funding
Comox Valley Arts	Supporting access to arts for all ages via operating support	\$3,404	\$5,000	\$8,404
Glacier View Lodge Society	Supporting food security for seniors and low-income caregivers	\$2,325	\$5,000	\$7,325
Comox Valley Hospice Society	Supporting programming for wellness in the end-of-life journey	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Comox Valley Transition Society	Supporting renewal of Amethyst House recovery programs	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Courtenay Elementary Community School Society	Supporting children/youth and food security via renovations that increase lunch program capacity	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$15,000
Eureka Support Society	Supporting mental health and food security via costs for the society kitchen program	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
LUSH Valley Food Action Society	Supporting operating needs and delivery of food security programs	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
Upper Island Women of Native Ancestry Society	Supporting wages for Cultural Family Networker and programs	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
Comox Bay Care Society	Supporting Car-A-Van mobile outreach, health, and social development services to unhoused and vulnerable populations	\$13,000	\$5,000	\$18,000
Project Watershed Society	Supporting water monitoring initiative of Comox Valley's surface and ground water health	\$22,048	\$5,000	\$27,048
	Total	\$120,777	\$50,000	\$170,777

Q & A: Community Granting Programs

The following information is offered to provide a general understanding of how granting services are achieved through Community Foundation programs. Granting across diverse community needs can be complex and may vary with unique cases. If you have specific questions related to granting, please contact us at office@cvcfoundation.org.

When were applicants invited to apply?

From August 14 – September 21, community service organizations in the Comox Valley were invited to apply directly online through the Community Foundation's website. Applicant inquiries were supported by our Community Engagement Manager who administers and coordinates all annual granting programs.

Who was eligible to apply?

Eligibility for grants is guided by Canada Revenue Agency and detailed on our website at cvcfoundation.org. In addition, the Foundation establishes two-year granting priorities to support a granting decisions framework. These priority areas are informed via community listening initiatives that include but are not limited to community research, focus groups, and surveys. In 2023/24, four priorities guided the distribution of funding for the Community Enrichment Grants program: 1) mental health & connection, 2) food systems & security, 3) arts, culture & heritage, 4) indigenous-led and benefitting initiatives. Three additional priorities were served separately through other granting streams: 1) environment, climate & conservation, 2) adults with diverse abilities, and 3) housing security/homelessness supports.

How are applicants selected?

Community-based granting models support our Granting programs. For example, our Grants Review Task Force, comprised of up to eight community members, serves as an advisory team to review, discuss, and consensus rank applications. Evaluation is based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to impact as it relates to the granting priorities, financial sustainability of the organization, accountability measures, and more.

How were the funding amounts determined?

Upon completion of the ranking, Community Foundation staff work in cooperation with the Task Force to ensure alignment with specific purpose funding and open funds. In the case of Grant-in-Aid, there were several ways to approach assigning funds. The criteria set out in the MOU were broad and inclusive, making allocation to eligible applications very easy. A threshold of \$5,000 was set as a solution to meet the requirement that "the project/activity must benefit the entire community (all ages all groups)". Going forward, opportunity exists for Mayor and Council to refine criteria, if desired, to achieve specific granting outcomes.

What's next?

Late April, grant recipients are celebrated in the Comox Valley Record. May, program evaluations and community input inform the coming year's granting priorities. And June is the participation timeline to renew granting services for 2024/25.