



Grant Overview

Designed to help municipalities and Indigenous communities prevent gun and gang violence by tackling its root causes, Public Safety Canada released its Building Safer Communities Fund. The City of Edmonton was successful in its application. The City of Edmonton completed a Developmental Phase to develop a deeper understanding of the gaps, needs and current ecosystem of initiatives on gang/guns in Edmonton through ecosystem mapping, data collection and literature review. From this report, recommendations were put forward to address gang violence. In alignment with the recommendations, having community-led programming and initiatives was paramount to successful intervention and prevention of gang violence. For 2024 we have \$1,545,520.

Grant Priorities

- Enhance robust community and evidence-based **prevention** programming specifically for gang violence.
- Enhance robust community and evidence-based **intervention** programming specifically for gang violence.

Funding Streams

- *Gang Prevention*
To be used by communities, organizations and groups to support people who are at-risk of gang involvement. To be used to support initiatives that prevent young people entering into gangs. Programming should address specific risk factors being targeted.
- *Gang Intervention / Exiting Program*
To be used by communities, organizations and groups to support people who are currently involved in gangs. To be used by communities, organizations and groups to support individuals leaving gang involvement. Proposals are expected to address specific risk factors, strategies to address the cyclical nature of gang exiting, and/or barriers to exiting gangs.

Priority in all funding streams will be given to program proposals focused on those disproportionately impacted by gang violence within Edmonton which includes culturally diverse communities and Indigenous communities. Up to 50% of funding will be given to programs delivered by Indigenous-led organizations or groups and culturally diverse-led organizations and groups. Cultural considerations, and community-specific program elements (eg. ceremony,

cultural knowledge sharing and experiences) are encouraged to address the needs of Indigenous peoples and diverse cultural communities. Program proposals should consider the integration or collaboration with wrap-around services that address a multitude of factors such as mental health, addictions, housing barriers, poverty, food insecurity, employment barriers, education barriers, physical health, etc.

Eligibility

Applicant:

To be eligible for the BSCF Grant, the applicant is one of the following:

- Non-profit organization registered for at least one year and in good standing with the incorporating body (Alberta Society, Non-profit Private Company, Non-Profit Public Company, Extra-Provincial Non-profit Company, post-secondary institution);
- Local grassroots group or interested individual that has a fiscal agent or partnership that meets one of the above eligible categories. (If the applicant is awarded funding through this grant program, the fiscal agent/ partner must agree to act on the applicant's behalf to sign a funding agreement with the City and to receive, administer and report on the grant. A Fiscal Agent may charge for these services.).

Organizations/fiscal agents must be based in Edmonton and serve Edmontonians.

Applicants currently receiving other City grants or funding must be in good standing with the City in terms of reporting requirements.

Project/Programs:

The project/program must:

- Demonstrate the use of evidence-based practices in the development of programming and initiatives.
- Consider the cyclical nature and various reasons for gang involvement.
- Be a new initiative that fills a gap in gang-specific programming and does not duplicate existing programming OR add a new expansion to existing programming (For example the new element can serve a new population. If programming serves men for example, the new element can focus on women, however only the new element is eligible for funding)
- Incorporate cultural considerations into program development where applicable, given the ethnocultural nature of many gangs.

Eligible Expenses

Examples of eligible expenses include:

- Salaries and benefits
- Recruitment and training costs
- Administrative costs and fees up to 15% of total project cost (e.g., legal fees, accounting/bookkeeping fees, bank/financing related charges, ongoing operational expenses such as rent/lease payments etc.)
- Travel (within Edmonton)
- Office equipment, supplies and materials

- Translation and simultaneous interpretation costs
- Meals and/or refreshments for participants, max of \$50 per month per person
- Culturally appropriate expenditures

Ineligible Expenses

This funding cannot replace or displace existing federal or provincial funding.

Ineligible expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Pre-existing programming or initiatives, which include costs already supported through existing police service agreements, however the expansion or diversification of an initiative may be eligible.
 - For example men are primarily served, but the new addition will focus on women
- Project expenses that are incurred before the application has been approved.
- Capital and facility upgrades, renovations and construction greater than \$10,000.
- Debt reduction, financing charges, interest payments on loans and/or amortization.
- Direct government lobbying or partisan political activities (i.e. activities related to advocacy must demonstrate non-partisan approaches.)
- Goods and services that, in the opinion of the Government of Canada, are normally provided by the First Nation community or by the federal, provincial, territorial or local municipal government

Funding Requests

This is one-time funding. Requests should not exceed \$250,000/year. Applicants may request one-year or two-year funding. Programs must be completed by December 31, 2025 and program budgets should reflect the program length.

Grant Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- *Program/project addresses gun and gang violence through evidence-based crime prevention and intervention activities.*
- *Demonstrate Project Need and Benefit to the Community, including how this program/project will address existing gaps in the sector.*
- *Project Viability and Financial Feasibility - a clear plan with timelines, activities, resourcing and readiness to implement exists. A complete and balanced budget exists.*
- *Evaluation Plan.*

Grant Timelines

January 31 - Application deadline (No late submissions will be accepted)

January 31 - February 28 - Application review

March - Applicants notified of funding decisions

Applicants approved for funding will be required to sign a funding agreement with the City before funding will be provided.

Reporting

- Projects must be completed in accordance with Public Safety Canada reporting Guidelines. Year 2 funding will be conditional upon completion of reporting requirements for year 1

- A common evaluation framework has been developed. All BSCF grant recipients must agree to report on the metrics.
- For programming from April 1 - September 30, interim reporting is required by October 31 and for programming between October 1 - March 31, interim reporting is required by April 30, of each program year. A template for the interim and final reports will be provided with the funding agreement and includes financial reporting. Failure to provide interim reports will result in loss of additional funding.
- A final report is due within 60 days of the project completion

The following required documents must be attached to the on-line Application. If you are using a fiscal agent please include their documents:

- Project Budget Form (link in application)
- Most recent audited year-end financial statements, signed by 2 Board members
OR
- Most recent internally generated financial statements (those that are not presented either as a notice to reader, a review or an audit) signed by 2 Board members and must include a bank reconciliation and bank statement as at the fiscal year-end

For more information about the Building Safer Communities Fund Grants Program contact:
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