



Exhibition and Fair Funding Opportunities

Updated: January 2025

In Nova Scotia, several grants and funding opportunities are available for exhibitions, particularly those focused on arts, culture, and heritage. Here are some key funding programs that exhibitions in Nova Scotia may be eligible for:

Provincial/Regional Opportunities

- **Atlantic lottery sponsorship program**- This program focuses on festivals, exhibitions and events that celebrate the culture that is unique within each community/region.
- **Community recreation capital grant**- projects less than 30K- 1/3 of project cost (up to \$8K funding)
- **Community ACCESS-Ability Program**- Accessibility upgrades less than 50K
- **Community Facilities Improvement Program**- 75% up to \$50,000
- **Recreation Facility Development Grant Including the Rink Revitalization Fund**- 30K-150K projects 2/3 coverage
- **Planning Assistance Program**- 50% up to 10K
- **Connect2Program**- 3 different buckets with various caps up to \$100K
- **Festival and Community Development Program** - maximum of \$10,000. Average amount allotted in 2023: \$3,200.
- **Digital Content Marketing Program**: next intake in Dec for 2026
- **Free Business/Event Listing**: Free listing with Tourism NS
- **Diversity and Community Capacity Fund & Community and Cultural Identities Fund**
- **Heritage Funding- Strategic Development Initiative**- exploring common heritage objectives
- **Programs promoting Mi'kmaw, African NS, French language, Acadian and Gaelic Cultural Activities**

Nova Scotia Labour Skills and Immigration programs

- **NS Student Summer Skills Incentive (SKILL)**- \$10.50 wage subsidy
- **Other Labour Program List**

NS Department of Economic Development

- **NS Community Economic Development Fund**- Max on a single project is \$3 million.

NS Department of Agriculture

- **NS Speaker Series Assistance Program**- should re-launch April 1, 2025

Non-Direct Government Funding Options

- **Community Investment Grant Program -CUA-** will relaunch Jan 2025
- **Efficiency NS Program- Building Optimization-** up to \$5K feasibility study
- **Efficiency NS Program- Custom Energy Retrofits Program-** .15/WKH incentive
- **Efficiency NS Program- Business Energy Rebates-** 75% rebate and interest free period
- **Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund:** intake will open in new year

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Government of Canada

- **Legacy Fund**- 50% of eligible project expenses up to a maximum of \$500,000. For anniversary years- 100, 125, 150 milestones etc.
- **Local Festivals – Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage** 100% of eligible expenses up to a maximum of \$200,000
- **Celebrate Canada program**- will re-open in 2025
- **National Acadian Day Funding**
- **Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities Program**
- **Canada Summer Jobs**- the general youth employment program 50% or 100% of min wage.

Other National Funding Organizations

- **Green Municipal Fund: Climate-ready plans and processes**- max \$140,000 – make the plan
- **Green Municipal Fund: Implementation: Climate Adaptation in Action**- 60% (\$1 million) execute the plan
- **Green Municipal Fund: Capital project: GHG impact retrofit (for shovel ready projects)**- 25% grant with remainder being loaned. Up to \$5 million – execute the plan
- **Green Municipal Fund: Capital project: GHG reduction pathway retrofit**- similar to above with different metrics or execute the plan.
- **Green Municipal Fund: STUDY- GHG reduction pathway feasibility**- maximum of \$200,000 to cover up to 80% of eligible costs (maximum grant per building cannot exceed \$65,000).- make the plan

Links to other Local & Municipal Capital and Community Grant Programs

Notes:

- this list is NOT exhaustive as it was created based off of common streams that may be of interest to Exhibitions, depending on non-profit status.
- many of the following programs come from government dollars in some way shape or form so pay attention to any government stacking guidelines if utilizing multiple programs for larger projects.

Additionally, there is a Nova Scotia Grants Finder that can be found here if you have something specific in mind.

<https://beta.novascotia.ca/find-grants-offered-through-department-communities-culture-tourism-and-heritage>

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

PROVINCIAL/REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Atlantic lottery Sponsorship Program

Funding Available: Community initiative sponsorship amounts vary and typically start at \$2,500.

Link: <https://www.alc.ca/content/alc/en/corporate/giving-back/sponsorships.html#1124-0>

Eligibility:

Atlantic Lottery supports community initiatives making a positive impact in Atlantic Canadian communities. Community initiatives take many forms and may include community and cultural celebrations, large-scale events and festivals, or civic and charitable initiatives that align with Atlantic Lottery's values and priorities. Under this broad banner, our primary focus is on community initiatives that support and promote culture and heritage, community and economic development, and wellness.

- **Culture and Heritage:** Supports the expression and celebration of Atlantic Canada's art, culture, and heritage that is representative of the diverse communities in which we live.
- **Community and Economic Development:** Drives economic activity through community-building initiatives, business-related events, tourism, and community-led innovation.
- **Wellness:** Supports and enhances the overall physical and mental wellbeing of the community, including healthy play practices.

Application Details:

Apply by: quarterly intakes, dates listed below:

- Online application form
- The application will be assessed on its own merit.
- Attach any appropriate documents (i.e.: sponsorships benefits, sponsorship levels, sponsorship overview) that will help understand what the event is all about. You can upload up to 5 files for a total of 10MB. These files can be images (JPEG, GIF or PNG), Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Powerpoint, PDF, plain text, video or audio files.

TRANSITION YEAR: Please keep in mind the following dates when looking to apply for funding in 2025:

- Wave 2 (May 1-September 31): applications due March 15, response provided on April 1
- Q3 (October-December): applications due June 1, response provided on July 1
- Q4 (January-March): applications due September 1, response provided on October 1

In our next fiscal year, beginning in 2026, the review period will follow this breakdown:

- Q1 (April-June): applications due December 1, response provided on January 1
- Q2 (July-September): applications due March 1, response provided on April 1
- Q3 (October-December): applications due June 1, response provided on July 1
- Q4 (January-March): applications due September 1, response provided on October 1

Application Tip:

Know exactly what your organization is registered as (non-profit, charity, etc.) as that will help determine eligibility to certain funding, grants and/or programs.

NS Registry of Joint Stocks # and/or applicable federal registration should be up to date:

<https://beta.novascotia.ca/search-business-or-non-profit-information-filed-registry-joint-stock-companies>

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Community Recreation Capital Grant

Funding Available: up to 1/3 of total project cost to a maximum of \$8,000.

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/community-recreation-capital-grant>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- The facility must have recreation, sport and/or physical activity as its primary function, and must be open to all members of the public at reasonable times and reasonable rate or no cost.
- Registered community associations and non-profit societies with active status including clubs and associations.
- Mi'kmaq Band Councils, Municipalities and Villages.
- Post-secondary education institutions, and schools, (through their Regional Centre for Education and Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial whose facilities are available for community use).

Project Eligibility:

- Projects with a total cost no greater \$30,000. For projects with higher costs, please refer to the Recreation Facility Development Grant, information on page 3.
- Investment must be in publicly accessible facilities or assets.
- Initiatives that will be completed between **April 1 – March 1** of the approved year.
- Renovation or expansion of existing community recreation facilities.
- To develop new small-scale facilities.
- Equipment that is permanent, non-consumable and capital in nature.
- Investment in the operational or structural integrity of the facility, such as replacing a roof, furnace, or playground component.

Application Details:

Apply between: April 1st – December 1st

- Potential applicants are requested to contact a Regional Manager to discuss the proposal, determine eligibility
- A completed, signed application form
- Proof of ownership or clear title to the land. A long-term lease (minimum 5-year renewable lease) or a joint-use agreement is also acceptable. o
- Relevant quotes and estimates (3 preferred). Applicants are expected to follow the procurement policies of their organization. If less than 3 quotes are included, please provide a rationale.
- Copies of permits and reports where required.
- Please allow at least 30 business days after the confirmed receipt of completed application prior to following up on the status.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Community ACCESS-Ability Program

Funding Available: 2/3 of accessibility-related improvement, up to \$50,000, with the applying organisation responsible for the remaining funding.

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/investing-our-future/community-funding-and-awards/community-access-ability-program>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Registered non-profit organizations, such as Community Halls, Legions, Churches, Day Cares, Shelters, Recreation facilities, etc...
- Municipalities, Towns, Villages and First Nations communities.
- Public institutions, such as libraries, museums, schools, hospitals, etc.
- All Applicants Must:
 - Operate primarily for the benefit of community, culture, and diversity, AND
 - Provide programs that serve a broader community and not strictly the organization's membership, AND • Own the property where the work will take place OR maintain a long-term lease of at least 5 years with the owner of the property where the work will take place.

Project Eligibility:

- Work and Expenses to happen April 1, 2025-March 31, 2026
- Eligible Projects should focus on improving accessibility in community spaces and may include (but are not limited to):
 - Physical Accessibility: Installation of ramps, automatic doors, accessible washrooms, elevators, or other modifications for improved mobility access.
 - Sensory Accessibility: Adjustments for visual and auditory accessibility, such as braille signage, tactile paving, visual alarms, or hearing loop systems.
 - Technology Enhancements: Installation of assistive technology to improve access to services for people with disabilities.
 - Outdoor Accessibility: Accessible pathways, seating, and inclusive play areas in parks, trails, beaches and community gathering spots.
 - Accessible Transportation, Education, Communication, Goods and Services
 - All projects that alter the built environment should meet, or exceed, the Nova Scotia's Building Code, which is the minimum standard. Items not required by the building code may be considered if they are designed to improve accessibility.

Application Details:

Apply by: February 14, 2025

Application Tip:

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM: Business Access-Ability program if eligibility criteria is a concern.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Community Facilities Improvement Program

Funding Available: will not normally exceed 75% of total estimated project costs, and not exceed a maximum of \$50,000.

- Applicants must contribute 25% of total project costs but only 10% cash contribution is required, the remaining 15% can be in-kind contribution (in-kind = donated materials or time)

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/investing-in-our-future/community-facilities-improvement-program>

Eligibility:

The Community Facilities Improvement Program supports community-led projects which enhance the public use of existing facilities. This includes repairs and improvements to building exteriors, and interior features that are integral to the long-term sustainability of the facility. In alignment with the Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage's Climate Change Adaption Strategy, applying organizations are encouraged to incorporate a long-term view of facility improvements that decrease their building's environmental impact.

Applicant Eligibility:

- Joint Stocks-registered Not-for-Profit Societies in good standing, OR
- Federally registered Charities or Not-for-Profit Corporations in good standing, OR
- Nova Scotian Mi'kmaw bands. All applicants must:
- Operate primarily for the benefit of community, culture, and diversity, AND
- Applicants Must:
 - Provide programs that serve a broader community and not strictly the organization's membership, AND
 - Own the property where the work will take place OR maintain a long-term lease of at least 5 years with the owner of the property where the work will take place.

Project Eligibility:

- Expenses and work to be completed between April 1, 2025 and January 15, 2026.
- Exterior facility improvements, such as siding, gutters, roofing, or other projects.
- Interior facility improvements, including kitchen upgrades.
 - Large appliances may be eligible if they are part of a larger kitchen renovation, subject to approval by the Department.
- Improvements related to the Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations, including electrical upgrades.
- Improvements to building efficiency such as insulation, windows, doors, or heat pumps.
- Project Notes:
 - Energy Efficiency Upgrades: If you are applying to energy efficiency upgrades, such as heat pumps, you are strongly encouraged to contact Efficiency NS to determine if you can get a rebate. This rebate should be named on your application in 'funding sources'
 - For projects that are primarily accessibility improvements, the applicant should apply to the Community ACCESS-Ability Program | Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage
 - The applicant must comply with all necessary legislative requirements such as, but not limited to, the Fire Safety Act, the Building Code Act, the Accessibility Act, and the Heritage Property Act.

Application Details:

Apply by: February 14, 2025.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to speak with department staff far in advance of the deadline and before applying. See department contact information on website.

- Applicants must include at least one quote from external contractors/suppliers
- Application Forms must be signed and dated by the Chairperson / Chief.
- Applications can be delivered by email, in-person, fax, courier or sent by regular mail.

****Applications will be reviewed by Communities, Culture and Heritage staff and recommendations for approval made to the Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage. The entire review and approval process may take 12 - 16 weeks.****

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Recreation Facility Development Grant (Including Rink Revitalization Fund)

Funding Available: Eligible projects may apply for up to 2/3 of the total project cost, to a maximum request of \$150,000.

This program includes the Rink Revitalization Fund (RRF), which helps organizations that operate rinks to invest in needed repairs and upgrades.

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/recreation-facility-development-grant>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Registered associations, non-profit societies with active status in Joint Stocks.
- Mi'kmaq Band Councils, Municipalities and Villages.
- Post-secondary education institutions, and schools, whose facilities are available for community use (through their Regional Centre for Education and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial). AND
- All applicants must:
 - own the property or facility where the work will take place OR maintain a long-term lease of at least five (5) years with the owner of the property. Proof of ownership or lease is required as part of the application.
 - have recreation, sport, and/or physical activity as its primary function, and must be open to all members of the public at reasonable times, at either no cost or at a reasonable rate.

Project Eligibility:

- This program is for projects with total project value over \$30,000.
- Facility development: recreation centres, pools, rinks, athletic fields, parks, playgrounds, and enhancements to schools for community use and other recreation facilities that promote active living. –
 - The Rink Revitalization Fund (RRF) assists organizations who operate rinks or arenas to invest in the revitalization or upgrading of arena/rink infrastructure. Outdoor rinks are considered eligible if it is an investment in permanent infrastructure. – For large-scale projects that take several years to complete, such as major renovations or construction, applicants must submit a multi-year development plan and outline the phases of development with pertinent details. Applicants may reapply for funding each year during the length of the project. Funding in one year does not guarantee funding in subsequent years.
- Upgrades and repairs: Capital conservation work involving repair and/or replacement needs that form part of the recreation facility's structural or operational integrity.
- Large equipment: Purchase of large permanent furnishings or equipment that is essential to facility operations (for example: soccer goals, ice re-surfacer, ice plant components).

Application Details:

Apply by: February 14, 2025.

- Applications will be reviewed by CCTH staff based on the guidelines outlined above. Final decisions will not be made until after April 5th, 2025.
- Applications can be emailed, mailed, faxed, or dropped off at a Regional CCTH office. If mailed, applications must be post-marked no later than February 14th, 2025.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

2025 Planning Assistance Program

Funding Available: 50% of the total cost of the project to a maximum of \$10,000

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/planning-assistance-program>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Registered community associations & non-profit societies with active status including clubs/associations
- Mi'kmaq Band Councils, Municipalities and Villages.
- Post-Secondary education institutions, and Schools

Program Eligibility:

- The Planning Assistance Program assists community organizations and municipalities in obtaining professional assistance in planning, designing and researching proposed and existing sport and recreation facilities.
- General facility planning including needs assessments, feasibility studies, master plans and facility operation plans.
- Schematic Design for new or renovated facilities and landscaping. Schematic design illustrates the scale and character of a project showing how the parts of the project relate to each other. This work includes preliminary cost estimates. The preparation of detailed design or construction documents are eligible under main capital program and therefore are not eligible.
- Building Audits forecast the replacement of building components by professional consultants and result in the development of a Life Cycle Plan for a facility.
- Research involves projects which have province-wide application e.g., exploring/testing alternative energy sources, maintenance strategies or usage.

Application Details:

Apply between: April 1st - December 1st

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Connect2Program

Funding Available: varies based on project – see Project Eligibility below

Link: <https://novascotia.ca/connect2/>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Registered non-profit society/cooperative in good standing
- Federally incorporated non-profit organization
- Nova Scotian Mi'kmaw Bands
- Municipalities
- Post Secondary Education Institutions
- Community groups
- Equity seeking communities and organizations

Project Eligibility:

Active transportation infrastructure and design Projects under this category may include:

- temporary installation of bike lanes, public space and active transportation routes
- core active transportation network infrastructure or design
- engineering or feasibility studies

Connect2 provides grants of up to 75% to a maximum of \$100,000 per project in this category.

Shared mobility and bicycle fleets Projects under this category may include:

- active transportation shared mobility services pilot projects
- bicycle fleet pilot projects

Connect2 provides grants of up to \$75,000 per project in this category.

Capacity building and community engagement Projects under this category may include:

- municipal staff training, capacity building, or networks
- marketing and communications – social marketing
- public engagement activities

Connect2 provides grants of up to 75% to a maximum of \$50,000 per project in this category.

Application Details:

Apply by: February 14, 2025

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Festival and Community Event Development Program

Funding Available: The department may contribute up to a maximum of \$10,000.

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/festival-and-community-event-development>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Not-for-profit organizations registered to do business in Nova Scotia
- Municipalities (any city, town, or village in Nova Scotia)
- Mi'kmaq communities

Project Eligibility:

- Applicants can apply for one festival or event per fiscal year through the Festival and Community Event Development Program
- The program does not fund an entire event but is designed to assist with a project or component of the event.
- Event revenue cannot be solely from the Festival and Community Event Development Program.
- Combined government funding (municipal, provincial, federal) should not exceed 50% of total event revenue.
- Applications cannot be submitted for an event that has already taken place.
- Your event must take place between April 1 and March 31 of the upcoming fiscal year.
- Applications are assessed and scored by a funding panel. Not all applications for funding will be successful.

Application Details:

Apply by: February 28, 2025, 4:00 PM (Atlantic time)

Digital Content Marketing Program

Funding Available: Applications for the 2025-26 Digital Content Marketing Program are now closed.

Link: <https://tourismns.ca/digital-content-marketing-program>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Tourism businesses, National Parks, municipalities and other tourism-related organizations
- Businesses and organizations must be in good standing with the provincial Registry of Joint Stock Companies
- Roofed accommodations businesses must be registered with the provincial short-term rental registry
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel of marketing experts from Tourism Nova Scotia and our agency of record to select our 2025 program partners

Project Eligibility:

- Digital Marketing: The minimum partner investment is \$7,500, plus a 15% media buying fee (\$8,625 total investment). TNS will match the partner investment and media buying fee. Digital marketing campaigns will be scheduled and billed between April 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026.
- Content Creation: The minimum partner investment is \$10,000. TNS will match the partner investment. Consortium groups are highly encouraged to apply to create a larger project budget encompassing a region or a specific product offering. In some cases, TNS may look to merge projects to increase overall impact.

Application Details:

Apply by: December 18, 2024

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Free Business/Event Listing

Funding Available: Businesses that meet the following eligibility criteria may apply to be listed free of charge on NovaScotia.com and in the Doers & Dreamers Guide.

Link: <https://tourismns.ca/eligibility-and-listing-requirements>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- You must be open and operational a minimum of 4 days per week with set open and close times prior to applying for a listing.
- The tourism business/service you are promoting must meet all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws, regulations, by-laws and business requirements, including liability insurance.
- If not open year-round, the tourism business (excluding events & experiences) must be open to the public for a minimum of 4 days per week with set open and close times for 13 consecutive weeks between opening and closing. Operations that are open by chance or by appointment only generally are not able to serve visitor needs and will not be listed.
- The operation must operate in a single, fixed location or have defined and published meeting points (e.g. for tour companies).
- You must be open to the general traveling public without restriction (e.g. a membership is not required to visit your tourism business).
- You must provide customers with an easy way to find accurate information about your business, including location and operational details (i.e. a website, social media pages).
- You must update your business listing at least once per calendar year.
- All packages/experiences listed on NovaScotia.com must also be listed on the lead business' website, to help ensure there's a clear path to purchase for visitors.
- Fixed-roof accommodations must be registered with the Province.
- Fixed-roof accommodations and campgrounds must report monthly occupancy data. Occupancy data must be submitted to Tourism Nova Scotia within seven calendar days following the end of each month they are operating. See Accommodations Occupancy Reporting for more information.

Project Eligibility: Listings must include:

- A link to your ratings on a peer review site (ie: TripAdvisor, Expedia, Google Business, Yelp, etc.)
- Contact information including an address, phone number, and email
- A written description of the services you provide
- Open and close dates and times
- A minimum of one, maximum of 10, horizontal images sized 1920 pixels wide by 1080 pixels high. Logos and/or photos with writing on them will not be accepted.
- Accommodation listings must include rates, number of rooms, and available amenities

Application Tip: Tourism Nova Scotia also highly encourages you to include a video (must be uploaded to YouTube), a link to your website, link(s) to your social media channel(s), and link(s) to online booking platform(s).

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Diversity and Community Capacity Fund & Community and Cultural Identities Fund

Funding Available: Not exceeding more than 75% of eligible costs, up to a maximum of \$10,000.

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/investing-in-our-future/diversity-and-community-capacity-fund>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Registered, Nova Scotia-based, non-profit society/cooperative in good standing
- Mi'kmaw Band Councils
- Registered Canadian charities actively operating in Nova Scotia
- Federally incorporated non-profit organization
- Municipalities, townships, etc.
- Social enterprises/community interest companies

Project Eligibility: The following are activities are ineligible for program funding:

- Fundraising events or activities
- Operating expenses, e.g., salaries, heat, rent, etc.
- Major building development or major equipment purchases
- Projects in which the main objective is employment
- Applications from individuals
- Costs and expenses incurred prior to the deadline date are ineligible.
- Research, studies, focus groups or public meetings. The DCCF/CCI grants are intended to support action-oriented activities that will guide future action in diversity and social equity.

Application Details:

Apply by: April 15, June 15, or September 15 each year by 11:59 PM (Atlantic time) on the deadline date.

Application Tips:

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to speak with the Program Officer to discuss their proposed activity well in advance of the deadline and before applying.
- All projects must have defined start and end dates.
- Relevant support materials such as photos and support letters are encouraged.
- Application submissions must include completed cover and budget pages with project details given on separate pages as detailed in the application.
- Completed application forms must be signed and dated. Applications can be submitted by email (preferred), delivered by hand, courier, or sent by regular post.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Heritage Funding – Strategic Development Initiative

Funding Available: Initiative funding will not exceed 75% of project costs and not exceed a maximum of \$10,000.

Link: <https://cch.novascotia.ca/investing-in-our-future/strategic-development-initiative>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Archives, community organizations, heritage associations, municipal governments, and other heritage-related bodies working for the benefit of Nova Scotian heritage are eligible.
- An organization applying must provide a non-profit registration number and be a registered not-for-profit society or not-for-profit cooperative in good standing with the Provincial Registrar of Joint Stock Companies or federally registered under the Corporations Act as a not-for-profit society or cooperative based and operating in Nova Scotia.
- Applications that include multiple partners are given preference.

Project Eligibility:

- Collaboration, Partnership and Interchange: demonstrates partnership, promotes the interchange of knowledge and other resources within the heritage sector (please include letters of commitment).
- Quality: reflects a clear organization, methodology and project management structure.
- Context and Goals: are clear, realistic and achievable. Proposed evaluation methods will adequately measure outcomes.
- Costs: complete and reasonable budget for expected results, supported with quotes. Sources of other financial support are confirmed.
- Relevance: project directly relates to at least one program goal.

Application Details:

Apply by: December 31, 2024

Application Tip: Programs that include the following get priority consideration:

- Demonstrate a multi-partner approach.
- Demonstrate regional or provincial impact.
- Employ an innovative approach.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Programs Promoting Mi'kmaw, African Nova Scotian, French Language, Acadian and Gaelic Cultural Activities

A variety of programs promoting cultural activities may be found using the CCTH Grants Finder: <https://ccth-grants.novascotia.ca/en/finder>. Selected programs have been highlighted below.

Funding & Eligibility: Dependent upon the specific program.

Links:

Mi'kmaw Cultural Activities Program:

- <https://cch.novascotia.ca/investing-in-our-future/mikmaw-cultural-activities-program>

African Nova Scotian Affairs – Grants and Contributions Program:

- <https://ansa.novascotia.ca/grant>

French Language & Acadian Cultural Activities – Programs to Support the Community:

- <https://acadien.novascotia.ca/en/services#community>

Gaelic Affairs – Programs:

- <https://gaelic.novascotia.ca/work>

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

NOVA SCOTIA LABOUR SKILLS AND IMMIGRATION PROGRAM

Student Summer Skills Incentive (SKILL)

Funding Available: Eligible employers will receive a subsidy of \$10.50 per hour (\$11.50 if the student is a member of designated diversity group; see below) for the wages you pay to your student employees. Students must work at least 240 hours during their work term. The program will reimburse up to 525 hours.

Link: <https://novascotia.ca/programs/student-summer-skills-incentive/>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility: Organizations can apply for the subsidy if they:

- are a not-for-profit organization registered as a charity or active society with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies
- plan to hire a university or college student for 8-14 weeks between April and August
- pay their summer student-employee minimum wage or more (plus vacation pay) for full-time work (at least 240 hours during their work term)
- aren't receiving funding from any other government employment program for the same position

Designated Diversity Groups:

- Mi'kmaq or Indigenous
- African Nova Scotians
- Visible minorities (including persons of African descent)
- Persons with disabilities (consisting of a physical, cognitive or mental impairment that presents a persistent barrier to work)

Work Integrated Learning Eligibility: If an organization hires a student from a Co-op or other Work-Integrated Learning program (such as an internship or work placement) the program requirements are slightly different.

- The student's work term must meet both the requirements above and the educational requirements of their program
- You must provide written confirmation (a letter or email) from a representative of the educational program that shows the position will allow the student to earn course credits.
- If the work-integrated-learning program does not require it, the student you hire does not need to be returning to school in the fall (for example, a program where the work experience is the last program requirement.)
- You must pay at least \$1 more than minimum wage. We will increase the subsidy amount by \$1 from the regular SKILL rate.
- To qualify for this increased subsidy rate, select SKILL/Co-op as the position type on page four of the SKILL application.

Application Details:

Apply by: January 31, 2025

Application Tip: When you apply online you need to create a LaMPSS Account or sign in.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Other Labour Program Listings

A variety of programs and services to assist with hiring and training staff can be found at: <https://novascotia.ca/grow-your-business/>. Selected programs have been highlighted below.

Funding & Eligibility: Dependent upon the specific program.

Links:

Job Creation Partnership:

- <https://novascotia.ca/employmentnovascotia/programs/job-creation-partnerships.asp>

START:

- <https://novascotia.ca/employmentnovascotia/programs/start.asp>

Nova Scotia Works Employment Service Centres:

- <https://novascotia.ca/works/>

Job Bank:

- <https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/browsejobs/province/NS>

One Journey Work and Learn:

- <https://novascotia.ca/lae/one-journey-work-and-learn/>

Inspire to Hire:

- <https://inspiredtohire.ca/index.html>

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Community Economic Development Fund

Funding Available: The maximum amount that can be approved (without Treasury Board approval) on a single project is \$3 million.

Link: <https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-project-funding-community-economic-development-fund>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Non-profits
- Industry associations
- Sector organizations
- Social enterprises
- Municipalities
- Academic institutions
- Other organizations that benefit the public (not private shareholders)

Project Eligibility: Funding proposals need to:

- Improve Nova Scotia's competitiveness and increase productivity.
- Demonstrate partnerships with other organizations (partnerships can include the private sector, academic institutions and non-profit organizations).
- Create or develop widespread benefits for a sector or industry within Nova Scotia.
- Describe metrics for success and a method to monitor progress.
- Demonstrate long-term benefits for a specific sector or industry within Nova Scotia.
- Demonstrate a combination of proven leadership, financial capital and human capital in a project.
- Projects can include initiatives for sector development, economic diversification, workforce competitiveness, applied research and development and pilot projects.

Application Details:

Apply by: January 31, 2025 (current intake period). The fund is open for applications 3 times per year.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Speaker Series Assistance Program

Funding Available: The Speaker Series Assistance Program is now fully subscribed, and the program is now closed for applications. Expected to re-open April, 2025; 2024 funding was available up to a maximum of \$5,000.

Link: <https://novascotia.ca/programs/speaker-series-assistance/>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- To be eligible, you must be an agriculture industry association that represents Nova Scotia agriculture and agri-food products.

Project Eligibility:

- Speaker Fees for Strategic Events, Industry Workshops, Annual General Meetings (AGMs)

Ineligible Expenses:

- Administrative / general overhead
- In-kind contributions
- Operating expenses / existing staff salaries
- Travel
- Nutrition breaks and meals
- Entertainment
- HST

Application Details:

Typical Application Deadline: December 31

Typical Claim Deadline: March 31 of the following year.

Application Tip: Collaborate with a local commodity or agricultural organization on a speaker to add an educational draw for industry. This program filled early in 2024, so apply early.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

NON-DIRECT GOVERNMENT FUNDING OPTIONS

2025 CUA Community Investment Grant Program

Funding Available: For the Community Category, there is a total of \$25,000 available, providing grants up to \$10,000.

Link: <https://www.cua.com/en/in-our-community/community-investment-grant-program>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Non-profit organizations and community associations in Nova Scotia
- Applicants must operate in Nova Scotia, employing or enlisting (e.g., employees, volunteers, board members) one or more Nova Scotian residents and either serving Nova Scotians or selling products and services anywhere in the world from their Nova Scotia headquarters.
- Applicants are not required to be current members of CUA.
- Applicants must not have previously received funds through the Community Investment Grant Program.

Project Eligibility:

- Investment in a one-time purchase, program or initiative that would otherwise not be possible and enhances the organization's impact on clients and communities.
- Funds must be used for projects planned in 2025 and may not be used for ongoing staffing, administrative or operational costs such as wages, rent, heat, electricity or standard maintenance.
- Delays outside of recipients' control (e.g., supply chain disruptions or rescheduled construction dates by skilled tradespersons) causing delays to project execution will not result in CUA rescinding grants, once awarded.
- Wages or staffing costs can be considered applicable (a new hire or role expansion) for the sole purpose of implementing your proposed project or initiative.
- Areas for consideration include, but are not limited to, housing affordability and/or security, affordability of goods and services, poverty reduction, improved access to social services, improved quality of life, leadership, sense of belonging and access to education and/or training.

Application Details:

Apply by: January 31, 2025 at 4:00 PM (Atlantic time)

Application Tip: The application contains 33 questions, some of which require open-ended responses. It is recommended that applicants first download the application worksheet to finalize responses before proceeding to the application

Please note, only one submission should be received on behalf of an applicant organization or business. Please review CUA's eligibility criteria before choosing a category for application.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Efficiency NS Building Optimization Program

Funding Available: Funding covers 100% of an Investigation Study cost, up to \$5,000, to assess building systems and recommend operational improvements.

Link: <https://www efficiencyns.ca/programs-rebates/building-optimization-program>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Available to institutional, charitable, commercial and industrial facilities in Nova Scotia.

Project Eligibility:

- Eligible projects should save at least 15,000 kWh of energy per year and be implemented in under a year.
- Facility (or facilities) must have a functioning Building Automation System (BAS) and not have been recommissioned in the past three years.
- Common measures include:
 - Time-of-day scheduling to limit equipment runtime
 - Overnight temperature setbacks
 - Calibration of temperature sensors and controls
 - Repair of mechanical equipment, such as dampers
 - Lighting controls with occupancy and daylight sensors

Application Details:

Application intake is on a case-by-case basis with no formal deadline.

Efficiency NS Custom Energy Retrofits

Funding Available: Total Project Incentive: typically \$0.15/kWh. Implementation Incentive: Total Project Incentive minus Study Incentives. Projects without Study Incentives: Implementation Incentive equals Total Project Incentive.

Link: <https://www efficiencyns.ca/programs-rebates/building-energy-retrofits>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Open to commercial, institutional, non-profit and industrial facilities served directly or indirectly by Nova Scotia Power.

Project Eligibility:

- Projects must be in the planning stages with no prior commitments or equipment purchased.
- New construction projects aren't eligible.

Application Details:

Application intake is on a case-by-case basis with no formal deadline.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Efficiency NS Business Energy Rebates

Funding Available: Up to 75% of product costs in rebates for energy efficient products or interest-free financing for up to 24 months.

Link: <https://www.energyncs.ca/programs-rebates/business-energy-rebates>

Eligibility:

Project Eligibility:

- Ideal for new construction or retrofit projects.
- Pre-approval is recommended for all projects, but necessary for rebates over \$15,000 and for datacentres, water heating and solar measures. Fill out the Before You Buy form before you buy to qualify.
- Facility/facilities must be located in Nova Scotia to qualify.

Application Details:

Application intake is on a case-by-case basis with no formal deadline.

Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund – Mitigation Stream & Adaptation Stream

Funding Available: The Fund will provide non-repayable grants between \$75,000 and \$1,000,000 per project that range from 60 – 80% of eligible project costs. A minimum of 20% of eligible project costs must be contributed by the applicant.

Link: <https://nschallengefund.ca/funding-opportunities/#1664986155533-ef5bbb0c-b646>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Nova Scotia municipalities
- First Nations bands and tribal councils
- Post-secondary institutions
- Non-profit organizations operating in Nova Scotia, including:
 - Registered, Nova Scotia-based, non-profit societies/ cooperatives in good standing;
 - Registered Canadian charities actively operating in Nova Scotia; or
 - Federally incorporated non-profit organizations operating in Nova Scotia.
- Collaboration, partnerships, and regional approaches between organizations and sectors are encouraged.

Mitigation Stream Project Eligibility: The Mitigation Stream includes a wide range of project types, including:

- Buildings, transportation
- Energy generation and storage
- Waste management and circular economy
- Carbon storage and sequestration

Adaptation Stream Project Eligibility: The Adaptation Stream includes a wide range of project types, including:

- Built environment and climate-ready infrastructure. Where applicable, preference will be given to nature-based or ecosystem-based solutions in situations where there are viable alternatives to hard infrastructure.
- Ecosystems projects that protect, restore and manage land, freshwater and coastal ecosystems.
- Community coordination and planning that increases understanding of climate impacts and lays the foundations for wider efforts toward adaptive capacity.

Application Details:

Apply by: Next intake has not yet opened.

Application Tip: Some projects may have elements of both mitigation and adaptation; in this circumstance, the applicant is encouraged to contact program staff to discuss which stream to apply under.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA FUNDING

Legacy Fund – Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage

Funding Available: Recipients may receive up to 50 per cent of eligible project expenses up to a maximum of \$500,000.

Link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/building-communities/legacy-fund.html>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility: Eligible organizations must have been in existence for at least two years and plan to continue operating after the project's completion. They include:

- Local incorporated non-profit organizations
- Local band councils, tribal councils or other local Aboriginal government and organizations (First Nations, Inuit or Métis)
- Municipal administrations and their agencies, boards and commissions that demonstrate an active partnership with at least one community-based group for the purposes of the proposed project

Project Eligibility: Funding supports community-initiated capital projects that:

- Commemorate a significant local historical event or pay tribute to a significant local historical personality
- Mark a 100th anniversary or greater, in increments of 25 years (e.g., 125th, 150th)
- Involve the restoration, renovation, or transformation of existing buildings or exterior spaces with local community significance that are intended for community use
- Encourage arts and heritage activities in the local community that are intended for and accessible to the general public

Application Details:

Apply by: Projects must be submitted before the anniversary date of the event or personality to be commemorated.

Application Tip: Contact the Department of Canadian Heritage to: discuss your project with a program officer before preparing your application.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Local Festivals – Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage

Funding Available: Applicants may request up to 100% of eligible expenses up to a maximum of \$200,000 for festivals meeting the eligibility criteria.

Link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/building-communities/festivals.html>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility: Eligible applicants must represent one of the following community-based groups:

- A local non-profit organization or group
- A local band council, local tribal council or other local Indigenous government or organization (First Nations, Inuit or Métis)

In addition, applicants must:

- Encourage local community engagement through activities that promote, celebrate, and preserve local performing and visual arts or local heritage
- Have successfully organized a prior edition of the festival, within the last two years, that met all eligibility requirements of this component

Project Eligibility: Festivals must:

- Present the work of local artists, local artisans, local heritage performers, and local First Nations, Inuit, and Métis cultural carriers
- Actively involve members of the local community
- Are intended for and accessible to the general public

Application Details:

Apply by:

- January 31 – for festivals starting between September 1 and December 31 of the same calendar year
- April 30 – for festivals starting between January 1 and June 30 of the next calendar year
- October 15 – for festivals starting between July 1 and August 31 of the next calendar year

Application Tip: Requests for funding consistently exceed our available resources. Submitting an application does not guarantee that your project will be funded nor that the amount requested will be the amount awarded.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Celebrate Canada Program

Funding Available: Up to 100% of eligible expenses or up to \$50,000 per fiscal year in the case of grants. Please note that application intake is now closed.

Link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/celebrate-canada/application-guidelines.html>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- A Canadian not-for-profit organization, such as a corporation, trust, cooperative, unincorporated association
- A Canadian business corporation where projects are non-commercial in nature
- A Canadian educational institution, Canadian municipal government or other municipal, provincial/territorial institution
- An Indigenous Peoples institution or organization (Indigenous Peoples include Inuit, Métis, Status and Non-Status people)
- A local band council, local tribal council or other local Indigenous government or organization (First Nations, Inuit or Métis)
- Federal, provincial and territorial governments are not eligible for funding (with the exception of the Canada Place Corporation for Canada Day celebrations, as per the amendment to the Canada Marine Act)

Project Eligibility: To be eligible for funding from the Celebrate Canada program, your project must:

- Be organized during the Celebrate Canada period, which runs from June 21 to July 1 to celebrate and promote either one or more days among National Indigenous Peoples Day, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, Canadian Multiculturalism Day and Canada Day. Priority is given to events scheduled on the designated dates but in certain cases, funded activities may be undertaken up to five days prior to the Celebrate Canada period. Canada Day celebrations must be held on the designated day of July 1.
- Be free of charge (no admission fees or donation required for entry)
- Be open to the general public and promoted as such

The following activities are not eligible:

- Any events of a primarily religious, political, or commercial nature
- Activities whose primary purpose is fundraising or contests
- Conferences, symposiums, round-tables, workshops and other events not intended for the general public
- Activities that are (in whole or in part) an extension of regular or permanent programming
- Activities held on school grounds during school hours
- Events held on an individual's private property

Application Details:

Apply by: Application intake is now closed, but may re-open in 2025.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

National Acadian Day Funding

Funding Available: Amounts requested to the program to organize a community celebration for the National Acadian Day cannot exceed \$5,000.

Link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/national-acadian-day-funding.html>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- A Canadian not-for-profit organization, such as a corporation, trust, cooperative, unincorporated association, etc.
- A Canadian business corporation where projects are non-commercial in nature
- A Canadian educational institution, Canadian municipal government or other municipal, provincial/territorial institution
- An Indigenous Peoples institution or organization (Indigenous Peoples include Inuit, Métis, Status and Non Status people)
- A local band council, local tribal council or other local Indigenous government or organization (First Nations, Inuit or Métis)

The following organizations are not eligible:

- Federal, provincial and territorial governments

Project Eligibility: To be eligible for funding, your project must be:

- Held on August 15 or on the weekend before or after
- Free of charge (no admission fees or donation required for entry)
- Open to the public and promoted as such

Application Details:

Apply by: February 21, 2025 to submit a funding application for a community event.

Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities Program

Funding Available: See the link below for additional information.

Link: <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/reducingdiesel>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Rural community is defined as a community connected to the North American electrical grid and not connected to the North American piped natural gas network, with a population of fewer than 5,000 people and a population density of less than 400 people per square kilometre. A permanent or long-term (5 years or more) settlement with at least 10 dwellings.

Project Eligibility:

- The Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities (CERRC) program is currently accepting applications under the following streams: Biomass heating, district heating, and combined heat and power systems.

Application Details:

There is no deadline to apply. We review applications on an ongoing basis subject to available funds.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Canada Summer Jobs

Funding Available: Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) provides wage subsidies to support employers to create quality summer work experiences for youth aged 15 to 30 years.

Link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Employers from not-for-profit organizations and the public sector
- Private sector organizations with 50 or fewer full-time employees

The following applicants are ineligible for funding through the CSJ program:

- Members of the House of Commons and the Senate or members of their immediate family
- Federal Government Departments and Agencies
- Provincial Departments and Agencies
- Organizations that engage in partisan political activities
- Organizations that engage in activities that directly or indirectly infringe, undermine, weaken, or restrict the exercise of human rights legally protected in Canada

Project Eligibility:

- Provide full-time work experience in Canada between April 21, 2025 and August 30, 2025 for a minimum of 6 weeks and a maximum of 16 weeks and
- Provide a work experience in an inclusive non-discriminatory work environment that respects the rights of all Canadians
- The duration of the CSJ-funded portion of the job must be between 6 and 16 consecutive weeks
- Employment of less than the minimum 6 weeks in duration may be deemed ineligible. In this case, any incurred costs would not be reimbursed
- Jobs must be full-time (minimum of 30 to a maximum of 40 hours per week)
- If a youth is provided less than 30 hours of work for any week, their wages may be deemed ineligible for reimbursement unless consent has been granted from Service Canada for exceptional circumstances
- For example, to accommodate youth with disabilities or due to provincial laws that prohibit youth from working full-time hours
- If a youth works over 40 hours per week, incurred costs for hours worked over 40 hours per week are not eligible for reimbursement

Application Details:

Application Period: Typically mid-November to mid-December of the same year. Currently closed.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

OTHER NATIONAL FUNDING ORGANIZATIONS

Green Municipal Fund – Climate-Ready Plans and Processes

Funding Available: Up to a maximum of \$140,000 (based on the lead applicant's population size).

Link: <https://greenmunicipalfund.ca/funding/climate-ready-plans-processes>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Canadian municipal governments (e.g., towns, cities, regions, districts and local boards)
- Municipal partners, which include:
 - Municipally owned corporations
 - Regional, provincial or territorial organizations delivering municipal services
 - Non-governmental organizations
 - Not-for-profit organizations
 - Research institutes (e.g., universities)
 - Indigenous communities
- For-profit entities are not eligible partners.

Expected Output: Development of climate adaptation plans, climate-focused asset management strategies, community-wide climate risk assessments, and capacity-building initiatives.

Application Details:

Currently not accepting applications for this funding. Funding is scheduled to open in 2025.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Green Municipal Fund – Implementation Projects: Adaptation in Action

Funding Available: Grant for 60% of eligible costs, up to a maximum of \$1 million.

Link: <https://greenmunicipalfund.ca/funding/implementation-project-adaptation-action>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- Canadian municipal governments (e.g., towns, cities, regions, districts and local boards)
- Municipal partners, which include:
 - Municipally owned corporations
 - Regional, provincial or territorial organizations delivering municipal services
 - Non-governmental organizations
 - Not-for-profit organizations
 - Research institutes (e.g., universities)
 - Indigenous communities
- For-profit entities are not eligible partners.

Project Eligibility: Eligible climate adaptation implementation projects could include:

- Installing, retrofitting or upgrading public cooling/warming infrastructure (including natural infrastructure) to reduce community vulnerability to extreme temperatures (e.g., designated cooling/warming centres, cooling corridors, naturalized areas)
- Incremental operations to use existing assets to reduce hazard exposure during severe events (e.g., running heating/cooling centres) over a period of up to 18 months)
- Incremental costs associated with improving the design of a capital project to incorporate climate-resilient elements
- Enhancing municipal service levels to respond to climate risks
- Installing back-up power on critical infrastructure/facilities
- Relocating municipal infrastructure
- Installing, retrofitting or upgrading public structures or critical infrastructure for municipal service provision to reduce the risks associated with climate hazards
- FireSmart-aligned vegetative management or vegetation-based wildfire risk mitigation activities
- Installing, retrofitting or upgrading structural flood protection or stormwater collection works (e.g., sponge parks, flood conveyance works, pump stations, flood walls, flood boxes, debris catchment structures, jetties, detention ponds)
- Dam, dike or channel decommissioning and floodplain restoration
- Wetland restoration or construction
- Rehabilitating important aquifer recharge areas
- Installing, retrofitting or upgrading green infrastructure (e.g., rain gardens, bioswales, green roofs and/or permeable pavement)
- Shoreline rehabilitation, including restoring natural shoreline protection through natural infrastructure, beach nourishment and/or bank stabilization
- Slope stabilization projects that reduce the risk of debris flow, particularly in fire-impacted areas

Expected Output: Climate adaptation implementation projects designed to help communities adjust and respond effectively to the impacts of climate change.

Application Details:

Currently not accepting applications for this funding. Funding is scheduled to open with new application details Spring/Summer 2025.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Green Municipal Fund – GHG Impact Retrofit

Funding Available: Maximum of \$5 million per project. Up to 25% as a grant and the remainder as a loan. Combined loan and grant for up to 80% of eligible project costs.

Link: <https://greenmunicipalfund.ca/funding/capital-project-ghg-impact-retrofit>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- All Canadian municipal governments (with the exception of Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3) namesake municipalities)
- Municipal government project partners

Expected Output: Achieve a minimum 30% GHG emissions reduction through a retrofit of a community building when compared to baseline emissions.

Project Eligibility: To be eligible for this grant, projects must include at least one community building that is owned by a municipality or not-for-profit organization. Eligible projects may be a single comprehensive community building retrofit, or a portfolio of buildings provided the portfolio includes:

- More than one community building within the same municipality
- At least one community building and other municipal buildings within the same municipality
- Similar community buildings within multiple municipalities (subject to GMF review)

A community building is an enclosed public place or an enclosed workplace that is:

- Owned by a municipal government or not-for-profit
- Primarily used for the purposes of providing athletic, recreational, culture and community programs or services to the local community
- Widely accessible to everyone offering services designed to enhance the health and well-being, skills development, and economic development of individuals and communities

Community buildings include:

- Indoor ice rinks, indoor sports arenas, indoor swimming pools
- Community and recreational centres (e.g., community centres, clubhouses, seniors' centres and clubs, recreation centres, gyms, halls, curling rinks)
- Arts and culture facilities (cultural facilities, performing arts facilities, art galleries, and auditoriums)
- Libraries
- Multi-purpose buildings which include one or more of the above community functions as well as other services/administrative functions

Application Details:

Applications are accepted year-round, though this offer will close when all funding has been allocated.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Green Municipal Fund – Capital Project: GHG Reduction Pathway Retrofit

Funding Available: Maximum of \$5 million per project. Up to 25% as a grant and the remainder as a loan. Combined loan and grant for up to 80% of eligible project costs.

Link: <https://greenmunicipalfund.ca/funding/capital-project-ghg-reduction-pathway-retrofit>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- All Canadian municipal governments (with the exception of Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3) namesake municipalities)
- Municipal government project partners

Expected Output: A sequence of GHG reduction measures that allow local recreational and cultural facilities to achieve 50% GHG reductions within 10 years and achieve best practice energy targets within 20 years. GHG reduction pathway capital projects are conducted in phases towards near-net zero, supported by an ongoing strategy to ensure existing equipment and systems operate optimally. An example of the pathway could include:

Phase 1: Improvements are made to a community building envelope that also address critical building upgrades (e.g., insulation, energy efficient windows, etc.) in year 1

Phase 2: Focus on high rate-of-return GHG reduction measures in years 5 – 6

Phase 3: HVAC system is replaced at end-of-life in year 10

Phase 4: Solar PV is added to the roof in year 15

This is just one example of a GHG reduction pathway. Each pathway will reflect unique objectives, constraints and preferred measures. Funding applications must consist of at least one phase in support of a GHG reduction pathway. Funding recipients may then re-apply in the future for further GHG reduction pathway retrofit capital project funding for subsequent phases subject to funding availability.

Application Details:

Applications are accepted year-round, though this offer will close when all funding has been allocated.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Green Municipal Fund – Study: GHG Reduction Pathway Feasibility

Funding Available: *Single building:* Grant for a maximum of \$65,000 to cover up to 80% of eligible costs. *Portfolio of buildings:* Grant for a maximum of \$200,000 to cover up to 80% of eligible costs (maximum grant per building cannot exceed \$65,000).

Link: <https://greenmunicipalfund.ca/funding/study-ghg-reduction-pathway-feasibility>

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility:

- All Canadian municipal governments (with the exception of Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3) namesake municipalities)
- Municipal government project partners

Expected Output: Integrate energy and GHG reductions into longer-term management plans for local recreational and cultural facilities. Studies will include feasibility work to support near-term and long-term capital projects while mapping out a course to extend asset life and reduce cost of ownership (i.e., the total capital, operating and maintenance costs over the building's remaining useful life).

Project Eligibility: To be eligible for this grant, projects must include at least one community building that is owned by a municipality or not-for-profit organization.

A community building is an enclosed public place or an enclosed workplace that is:

- Owned by a municipal government or not-for-profit
- Primarily used for the purposes of providing athletic, recreational, culture and community programs or services to the local community
- Widely accessible to everyone offering services designed to enhance the health and well-being, skills development, and economic development of individuals and communities

Community buildings include:

- Indoor ice rinks, indoor sports arenas, indoor swimming pools
- Community and recreational centres (e.g., community centres, clubhouses, seniors' centres and clubs, recreation centres, gyms, halls, and curling rinks)
- Arts and culture facilities (cultural facilities, performing arts facilities, art galleries, and auditoriums)
- Libraries
- Multi-purpose buildings, which include one or more of the above community functions as well as other services/administrative functions

Application Details:

Applications are accepted year-round, though this offer will close when all funding has been allocated.

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

LOCAL/MUNICIPAL GRANTS

This is not an exhaustive list, as you may have multiple layers of local township, municipal districts, counties, regions, etc.

County of Annapolis:

Municipality of the County of Annapolis Grant Application Form (Community Facilities or Community Projects)

<https://annapoliscounty.ca/our-community/community-grants-and-funding/grants-to-organizations/390-grants-to-community-organizations> [https://annapoliscounty.ca/images/Community Grants Policy Application Form - Fillable PDF.pdf](https://annapoliscounty.ca/images/Community_Grants_Policy_Application_Form_-_Fillable_PDF.pdf)

Amherst Community Grant:

<https://www.amherst.ca/documents/forms/4499-fillable-community-support-grants-application-2022/file.html>

Town of Antigonish Grant Program: February 28th, 2025 Deadline

<https://www.townofantigonish.ca/community-grants-funding.html>

Municipality of the County of Antigonish Community Partnership Grants: Typically due April 1.

<https://antigonishcounty.ca/community-partnership-grants/>

Bridgewater Operational or Project Grants: Deadline March 1.

<https://www.bridgewater.ca/town-services/parks-recreation-a-culture/grants-to-organizations>

Cape Breton Regional Municipality Grants: Festivals & Events Funding: Due March 31.

[https://www.cbrm.ns.ca/images/PDF/Festival Events Funding Guide Application Form.pdf](https://www.cbrm.ns.ca/images/PDF/Festival_Events_Funding_Guide_Application_Form.pdf)

Cape Breton Regional Municipality Grants: Capital/Operating Funding:

[https://www.cbrm.ns.ca/images/PDF/Capital Operating Funding Guide Application Form.pdf](https://www.cbrm.ns.ca/images/PDF/Capital_Operating_Funding_Guide_Application_Form.pdf)

Colchester County Community Events Grant Program:

- Community Events Grant (ongoing intake 2025).
- Grants to Non-Profit Organizations (Due Jan 31, 25).

<https://www.colchester.ca/grants-and-funding>

Cumberland County General Grants:

Capital, Operation and Maintenance, Programs, Special Events & Initiatives. Deadline typically April 15. Contact local councillor or mayor for more information.

<https://www.cumberlandcounty.ns.ca/grants-to-organizations.html>

Digby County Community Grants Application: Deadline March 26, 2025.

<https://digbymun.ca/community-grants-application-2025-26.html>

Halifax Regional Municipality Community Grants:

Annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the Halifax region. Project grant of up to \$5,000 or a capital grant of up to \$25,000.

<https://www.halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/community-non-profit-resources/community-grants>

District of Lunenburg Community Grants Program:

Multiple programs: Recreation Capital Grant, Major Event, Community Event, Community Recreation Capital, etc. Various deadlines, often March 1.

<https://www.modl.ca/grants.html>

2025 Available Grants or Funding Opportunities

Municipality of Shelburne Grants: Deadline March 31, 2025.

Operating, Capital, and Community Events

<https://www.municipalityofshelburne.ca/2025/01/07/grants-to-organizations-2024-2025/>

Region of Queens Municipality Community Investment Fund:

Operating Investment fund: Deadline January 31, 2025.

Capital Upgrade, Capital New, Events, Training, Travel Assistance, and Tournament Assistance. Year-round intake.

<https://www.regionofqueens.com/municipal-services/recreation/grants-services/grants/>

Victoria County Municipal Grants Program: Deadline typically March 31.

<https://victoriacounty.com/government/municipal-grants-program/>

West Hants Grants and Contributions: Deadline February 20, 2025.

<https://www.westhants.ca/grants-and-contributions.html>

Yarmouth (District) Municipal Grants: Deadline typically April 15.

<https://munyarmouth.ca/government/finance/municipal-grants-bursaries>

Town of Yarmouth:

Property Tax Grant or Operational Grant

<https://townofyarmouth.ca/community-grants.html>