

GREENEST CITY FUND



Greenest City Community Grants Program Overview

Background:

The City of Vancouver has created a plan to make Vancouver the greenest city in the World by 2020. No organization can do this alone. To reach this goal will take the involvement, and the commitment of the entire community. It will require residents and businesses, public and private sector, for-profit and non-profits to work together.

In that spirit, in 2012 the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation partnered on a four-year project called the "Greenest City Fund." Each contributed \$1 million to help fund community-led initiatives to green our city.

Part of this fund has been dedicated to the Greenest City Community Grants program, which will fund Vancouver projects that are led by charitable organizations.

An upcycling program to encourage converting old or discarded materials into something useful... water conservation initiatives for resident or commercial landscaping...these are just a few of the kinds of green projects that could be considered for a Greenest City Community Grant. We invite charitable organizations to send us their best ideas to help make Vancouver the greenest city by 2020.

The 2015 deadline for Letter of Intent submissions is Friday, July 24, 2015.

Eligibility and Restrictions:

- Applicants must be a registered charity or qualified CRA donee.*
- Organizations from outside of Vancouver may apply but projects must take place in Vancouver.
- We will fund up to a maximum of 75% of the project budget.**
- Funds will not be awarded to maintain on-going work by an organization.
- Projects must begin after January 1, 2016.
- Funds will not be awarded for land acquisition or large-scale capital costs.

**A public charity can only make grants to qualified donees which are organizations that can issue official donation receipts according to CRA standards under the Income Tax Act (i.e. registered charity, municipality or university).*

***Funding not covered by Greenest City Community Grant can come from organization contributions, other grants, in-kind donations or volunteer hours.*

Grant size

Up to \$50,000 per project (*this includes multi-year grants*)

Average grant size is around \$20,000. Only one or two grants will likely get the maximum.

Project Parameters:

Eligible projects must address one or more of the [Greenest City 2020 Action Plan goals](#).

- **Climate Leadership:** climate change adaption or renewable energy strategies
- **Green Buildings:** reducing energy use and green house gas emissions
- **Green Transportation:** enabling active transportation
- **Zero Waste:** increasing composting, re-use and recycling, circular economy
- **Access to Nature:** increasing the urban forest, creating habitat and natural spaces
- **Lighter Footprint:** promoting low impact food and purchasing and lifestyle choices
- **Clean Air:** enabling electric vehicles
- **Clean Water:** reduce per capita water consumption
- **Local Food:** increasing city and neighbourhood food assets
- **Green Economy:** supporting social enterprises; greening businesses and green jobs

Please visit www.vancouver.ca/greenestcity for more information.

Assessment Criteria

- **Impact:** Potential to *measurably* advance one or more of the Greenest City Action Plan goals.
- **Realistic Plan:** Does the proposal offer a realistic plan for achieving its goals and objectives?
- **Community Engagement:** Project involves those affected by the proposed work and increases the skills and assets of Vancouver residents.
- **Community Benefit:** Is the project inclusive and have the capacity to benefit all city of Vancouver residents?
- **Community partnerships:** Does the project show evidence of collaboration with others in the same field?
- **Budget:** Can the project realistically be accomplished with the proposed budget? Has additional funding sources been secured or approached? Is the project sustainable once the Greenest City Community Grant funding ends?
- **Learning & Knowledge Transfer:** Is there a plan and willingness to share findings and lessons with community organizations and members?
- **Innovation:** Does the plan look at a problem or issue in a new way? Does it adapt an initiative from another city to potentially work in Vancouver?

Selection Process

The Greenest City Community Grant program has a two-stage application process. The first stage is a Letter of Intent (LOI). If staff determine that, based on your LOI, your proposal is viable and strongly aligns with one or more Greenest City goals, you may be invited to the second stage, which is the submission of a full grant application. Funding decisions are made by an independent community advisory group comprising individuals with expertise across the range of Greenest City goals.

How to apply

Only online applications will be accepted. To submit your proposal, go to www.vancouverfoundation.ca/grants/greenest-city-community-grants and follow the instructions. Additional application details can also be found on this page.

Deadline for applications

The deadline for Letter of Intent submissions is Friday, July 24, 2015.

For those invited to submit a full application, the deadline is Friday, September 18, 2015.

For more information on Greenest City Community Grants, go to:

www.vancouverfoundation.ca/grants/greenest-city-community-grants

GREENEST CITY FUND

Now entering its fourth year, the Greenest City Fund is a four-year, two-million dollar fund for community-led green projects that support Vancouver's [Greenest City 2020 Action Plan goals](#). A partnership between the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation, the Greenest City Fund comprises three granting programs: **Generation Green Grants**, which fund youth-led projects; **Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants**, which fund projects created by Vancouver residents that benefit their neighbourhood; and **Greenest City Community Grants**, which fund Vancouver projects led by community-based charitable organizations. The goal of the Greenest City Fund is to help make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020.

For more information, visit www.vancouverfoundation.ca/initiatives/greenest-city-fund