
Strathcona County Community Grants

References:	<p>Family and Community Support Services Act, RSA 2000, c-F3 (FSCSA), s. 2(a)</p> <p>Family and Community Support Services Regulation AR 218/1994 s. 1, s.2.1(1), 2.1(2)</p> <p><i>Municipal Government Act</i>, RSA 2000, c M-26 (MGA) s. 201 (1)(a)</p> <p>Strathcona County Bylaw 24-2025 Chief Commissioner's Bylaw, s. 2-77.</p>
Cross-reference:	SER-005-001 Strathcona County Social Framework Community Grants Program

Policy Statement

The Strathcona County Community Grant Program funds Prevention and Early Intervention supports, services, initiatives and events that contribute to the outcomes of resilient individuals, supportive families, and engaged communities across Strathcona County.

The grants program demonstrates Council's commitment to a safe and supportive community.

Three streams of funding are available:

- Core grant: for registered non-profit organizations to provide Prevention and Early Intervention social supports to individuals, families and communities.
- Community initiative: for residents of Strathcona County and registered non-profit organizations to pilot innovative projects or partnerships.
- Community connection: for events that contribute to a connected and engaged community.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for grant funding to support non-profit organizations, community organizations and residents to provide Prevention and Early Intervention supports, services, initiatives and events.

Definitions

"Early intervention" aims to enhance protective factors for specific groups or populations who are considered vulnerable or at higher risk by addressing issues at an early stage, strengthening the capacity of individuals and communities to reduce

risk factors and build resilience, and connecting those in need with appropriate resources and skill development.

“Prevention” aims to enhance protective factors for the general population or broad subsets of the population who may be at higher risk at an early stage by addressing root causes of social issues, promoting protective factors in the physical and social environment (including social relationships) and enhancing awareness and connection.

Guidelines

1. Grant eligibility criteria:

Grant stream	Eligible applicants	Funding cycle	Eligibility criteria
<i>Core Grants</i>	Registered non-profit organizations in good standing	1-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social supports must be delivered in Strathcona County. • Social supports funded by core grants must not receive other funding through the County’s annual budget process.
<i>Community Initiative (up to \$25,000)</i>	Registered non-profit organizations in good standing	1 year Opportunity to re-apply for a second year if there is a second phase or need for an extended project period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project must be delivered in Strathcona County. • Must serve Strathcona County residents. • Core grants and Community Initiative grants can be held by an organization simultaneously. • Projects funded by the Community Initiative stream must not receive other funding through the County’s annual budget process.
<i>Community Initiative (up to \$2,000)</i>	Residents of Strathcona County, informal groups, community leagues and halls	1 year Opportunity to re-apply for a second year if there is a second phase or need for an extended project period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project must be delivered in Strathcona County. • Must serve Strathcona County residents. • Projects funded by the Community Initiative stream must not receive other funding through the County’s annual budget process.

<i>Community Connection</i>	Residents of Strathcona County, informal groups, community leagues and halls	Single event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must foster community connections within Strathcona County.
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2. Exclusions:

Funding will not be granted to services that:

- Duplicate those provided by another organization, provincial or federal government or government agency.
- Support or promote political activities, private interests, proselytizing or any other public mandates.
- Deliver or primarily focus on sports or recreation programming.
- Are crisis intervention or treatment programs.

3. Funding limits:

- No organization's Core grant allocation can be higher than 15 per cent of the total grant budget.
- This Core grant cap does not apply to the Community Initiative or Connection streams.

Responsibilities

1. Council sets clear policy direction for Administration with appropriate budgetary parameters in alignment with the Municipal Government Act and ensures Administration provides the public the service level established by Council. This includes:
 - Setting direction through the Strathcona County Community Grant policy.
 - Approving the Strathcona County Community Grant grants budget allocation annually.
 - Approving the funding allocations for Community Initiative grants over \$2,000 and Core grants.
2. Family and Community Services manages the day-to-day operations of the grant program in alignment with Council-set policy direction and budget. This includes:
 - Administering the full grant lifecycle, including application intake, assessment, and approval processes.
 - Executing, managing, and, where necessary, amending or terminating funding agreements in accordance with program guidelines and operational requirements.
 - Providing strategic and operational oversight to ensure the program remains responsive to community needs and aligned with Council's objectives.
 - Approving funding allocations for Community Initiative grants equal to or less than \$2,000 and all Connection grants, in alignment with delegated authority.

3. Community Grants Advisory Committee is made up of volunteers and provides community expertise on Community Initiative grants over \$2,000 and Core grant decisions. This includes:
 - Reviewing grant applications for Community Initiative over \$2,000 and Core grants each year.
 - Providing funding allocation recommendations for Community Initiative over \$2,000 and Core grants to Administration and co-presenting recommendations to Council.

Policy Record

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Administrative Review: Family and
Community Services