

The Abbotsford Community Foundation Smart & Caring Community Fund provides grants to charitable organizations for projects, programs, and initiatives addressing social issues specifically related to local children, youth and families at risk within our community. This includes, but is not limited to: poverty reduction, housing, food security, education & literacy, family violence, and youth mental health & wellness.

Our goal is to fund new and existing projects that support equity, diversity and inclusion, build resilience, and create opportunities to uplift and/or meet the emergent needs of some of our community's most vulnerable citizens.

Together, we build a stronger, more caring community.

## Getting Started

---

### **Are you a registered charity or qualified donee?**

Abbotsford Community Foundation Smart & Caring Community grants are intended to support programs, projects and initiatives of charities that meet the designation as a qualified donee under Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) guidelines or as identified by the Income Tax Act, *Sec 149.1(1)*.

### **Who does your program, project or initiative benefit?**

Smart & Caring Community grants support programs, projects and initiatives that provide a direct benefit to the citizens of the Abbotsford Community Foundation's geographic area of interest, specifically within Abbotsford. The purpose of this grant is to support those programs, projects, or initiatives working with children, youth, and families at risk.

### **Have You Submitted Your Project Evaluation Report?**

If you have previously received a Smart & Caring Community Grant from the Abbotsford Community Foundation you must submit the **Smart & Caring Grant Project Evaluation Report** before this, and/or any future funding applications will be considered.

### **Changes to Eligibility & Multi Year Funding Requests**

Please note that for this year, we are piloting some changes to our Smart & Caring Community Grants program. Please read the eligibility requirements carefully, as well as the *Important Considerations*.

# How to Apply

If you have questions about accessing the online application or if you are having trouble uploading required documents online, please contact: Anmol Baryer- [anmol@abbotsfordcf.org](mailto:anmol@abbotsfordcf.org) or 604-850-3755.

Please complete the online application, ensuring all requested documentation is attached including:

- Balance Sheet and Income Statement for the most recent completed year, preferably audited;
- Completed budget worksheet related this grant application.

## Important Dates to Note

- Sept 2, 2025 - Smart & Caring Grant program opens for applicants
- Oct 9, 2025 @ 2 pm - Smart & Caring Grant program closes to applicants
- Nov 7, 2025 - Decisions on grant awards to be communicated to all applicants
- Nov 25, 2025 - Cheque Presentation Ceremony

What is Eligible:	What is NOT Eligible:
The program, project or initiative outlined in the application must <b>primarily</b> benefit citizens of Abbotsford, be delivered within the geographic boundaries of Abbotsford, and be completed within <b>18 months</b> of grant approval. Strong preference is given to organizations <b>based</b> in Abbotsford.	Programs or projects primarily or exclusively delivered outside of the geographic boundaries of Abbotsford are NOT eligible.  This is not a sustaining grant. Previous funding is not a guarantee of future funding.
Grants can be awarded for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● A new project, program, or initiative with the potential for strong outcomes &amp; social impact;</li><li>● An enhancement of an existing project, program or initiative for bigger outcomes and broader social impact;</li><li>● An existing project, program, or initiative that demonstrates strong consistent outcomes and strong social impact.</li></ul>	Grants are NOT available for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Paying down mortgages or reducing deficits</li><li>● Funds for endowments or operating reserves</li><li>● Political and/or religious activities</li><li>● Retroactive funds for completed or partially completed projects</li><li>● An organization's on-going or core operating expenses</li><li>● Office equipment or furniture</li></ul>
Only 1 application per charitable organization per grant application cycle. Please be aware that if you were awarded funding in the past year, do NOT apply for that same project this year.	Please refer to <i>Important Considerations to Note</i> about eligibility around different rounds of funding. The new pilot of multi-year funding has changed eligibility for this year.
Grant requests of up to \$15,000* per application. You have up to 18 months to complete your project, program, or initiative.	Outstanding Grant Evaluation Reports will result in your application being <b>ineligible</b> . Please refer to your grant agreement for due dates.

\*Abbotsford Community Foundation will fund up to 60% of the total resources required for a project (to a maximum of \$15,000). In-kind contributions and/or cash contributions can be used to fund the remaining 40% balance.

If you would like clarification on eligible costs, please contact: Anmol - [anmol@abbotsfordcf.org](mailto:anmol@abbotsfordcf.org).

# Important Considerations to Note

---

- This year, we will be piloting multi year funding requests. You can apply for an 18-month grant of up to \$15,000 and a 32-month grant of up to \$30,000. The online application process will ask an additional question if you request a 32-month grant opportunity. You can apply for both, or just the 18-month, if you wish. Please note:
  - if you are awarded an 18-month grant, you will not be eligible to apply for that same project, program, or initiative for the next grant cycle. Your grant agreements will outline your eligibility and reporting requirements.
  - If you are awarded a 32 month grant, you will not be eligible to apply for that same project, program, or initiative, for 3 grant cycles. Your grant agreements will outline your eligibility and reporting requirements.
- Incomplete and ineligible applications will NOT be reviewed.
- While projects, programs, or initiatives may be funded multiple times, the Smart & Caring Community Grant program is not intended to be a sustaining grant. Previous funding is not a guarantee of future funding.
- All submitted materials become the property of Abbotsford Community Foundation.
- Final decision on all grants rest with the Board of Directors. Adjudication is confidential.
- Successful applicants will be required to complete a **Smart & Caring Community Grant Project Evaluation Report** at the conclusion of your project within the timeframes identified in your grant agreement. Late reports will impact your ability to apply for future grants.

## Approvals Process & Requirements of the Grant

---

Notification of Decision	Requirements of Grant Recipients
Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application by November 2025. A cheque presentation ceremony will be planned for the end of November.	As a condition of this grant, we request: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● a signed grant agreement</li><li>● acknowledgement of our financial contribution, as outlined in your grant agreement;</li><li>● submission of a Smart &amp; Caring Community Grant Evaluation Report as outlined in your grant agreement.</li></ul>

---

We know that completing any grant application takes resources and capacity and we want to help organizations make the best decisions they can about applying for a **Smart & Caring Community Grant**. If you would like to discuss these guidelines to help with your decision making on whether to apply for a grant, please contact Areni. If you have questions about the online application access and uploading required documents please contact Anmol.

Anmol Baryer, Grants & Admin Coordinator  
[anmol@abbotsfordcf.org](mailto:anmol@abbotsfordcf.org)

Areni Kelleppan, Executive Director  
[arenik@abbotsfordcf.org](mailto:arenik@abbotsfordcf.org)