



REQUEST FOR SUPPORT APPLICATION FORM

Date of Request	April 3 - 2024
Organization/Group making the request	L'Association des Francophones de Nanaimo
Contact Person	Camille Veillon
Address	31-1925 Bowen Road. V9S 1H1
Telephone	250 729 2776
Email Address:	direction@francophonenanaimo.org
Type of Support Requested (Select one)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Letter of Support in Principle <input type="radio"/> In-Kind Contribution <input type="radio"/> Partnership → would be best! <small>Note: This policy is not applicable to requests for grant funding by the City, including Permissive Tax Exemption requests, or in-kind funding for facility rentals (see Grants Policy and Guidelines for further details)</small>

IF APPLICABLE:

Name of grant or program for which you are applying:

Communauté francophone Accueillante

Amount of Funding Requested: TBD Grant Due Date: April 15

Grant Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Please provide an executive summary or short narrative that addresses each of the points outlined in the "Council Support policy". Include any supporting documents or materials and a detailed list of other funding partners (if applicable).

Please submit this form, with accompanying materials, to the attention of the Corporate Officer, Legislative Services, City of Nanaimo, 455 Wallace St. Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6, or by email to: legislative.servicesoffice@nanaimo.ca.

Respecting Your Privacy

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Request Application Form – Association des Francophones de Nanaimo

Executive Summary

Date : April 3, 2024

Request from : L'Association des Francophones de Nanaimo / Nanaimo Francophone Association

Created in 1978, the AFN is a non-profit organization mandated to respond to the needs and expectations of the Francophones and Francophiles population of the Nanaimo region.

Contact person : Camille Veron – Executive director

31-1925 Bowen Road, V9S 1H1

direction@francophonenanaimo.org

250-729-2776

Background information : L'AFN has been providing community services related to French culture and language (such as welcoming and helping francophone newcomers in Nanaimo, offering French class, francophone summer camp, a francophone multimedia library), but also social and cultural activities in french for all age groups (children, adults, elders) and cultural events to gather the local community around the French language. Every year, l'AFN also organizes the most famous bilingual event in the Island, the Maple Sugar Festival du Sucre d'Erable, with shows for the schools during the week + 3 days of celebration for all (around 4500 participants this year, 85 volunteers from all ages).

Last year, they have been a couple of laws, both federal and provincial, to reinforce the development of French as an official language in a minority setting.

Federal : [Bill C-13 from Minister Petitpas Taylor to modernize the Official Languages Act receives Royal Assent - Canada.ca](#)

Provincial : [British Columbia introduces French-language policy | BC Gov News](#)

This results in higher expectation from the population regarding services in french.

With the francophone community growing, and also the strong interest of English-speaking residents in learning French, L'Association des Francophones de Nanaimo has reached a critical point in its need for development to meet the expectations of the population.

Funding source of the proposed program: The project we are presently requesting support is funded by IRCC (Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada)

Services that are to be offered: If Nanaimo is chosen by IRCC to be the new CFA- Welcoming Francophone Community, the AFN will collaborate with its partners to design and implement a community action plan. Its goal will be to attract more French speaking newcomers to Nanaimo and improve community services in French.

Target groups to be served, including the number of individuals to be served and where the services will be offered :

This services will benefit to the growing francophone community but also whole population of Nanaimo district interested in learning French culture and language.

Eventually, we expect more bilingual people to settle in Nanaimo and offer their workforce in field like education, front desk or tourism, where their French skills will be a great value for the City of Nanaimo.

Timeframes or dates of when the proposed program is expected to be administered.

April 15th 2024 : application due date

June 2024 : IRCC decision

June-July 2024 : Creation of a Community Advisory Committee

August-September 2024 : Identification of needs (inventory and priorities for action)

September-November 2024 : Drafting of Community Plan

November-December 2024 : Evaluation of plan by IRCC and funding agreements

January 2025 : Implementation of activities

Anticipated outcomes of the program:

Attracting More Francophone Newcomers in Nanaimo

Providing Quality Services to Francophone Newcomers

Supporting the Growing Demand for Jobs (not only bilingual positions)

Facilitating Newcomer Integration in the Community

Maintaining Diversity and Inclusivity in Nanaimo

The proposed budget, in detail : There is no budget at this time of the process. There will be a negotiation between AFN and IRCC (if Nanaimo is chosen) along with the creation of the community action plan.

Indication of whether or not similar programs exist in the Regional District of Nanaimo area : There is 13 Welcoming Francophone Communities in Canada, but sofar only 1 in BC : Prince George. If Nanaimo is chosen, it will be the only Welcoming Francophone Community on the Island.

Indication, if known, of other organization(s) applying for the same funds : Other BC francophone organizations can apply in behalf of the community they belong.

If this is an on-going or continuation grant or project, indicate results of previous years : NA

Coordination with other entities : This project is coordinated by AFN and involves local and provincial partners such as:

Education :

- Ecole Océane (Nanaimo francophone school)
- Federation des parents francophones de CB (francophone daycare)

Welcoming Newcomers :

- Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society
- Le Relai Francophone d'Immigration

Economic integration and opportunities :

- Local employers
- Nanaimo Chamber
- SDE (Société de Développement Economique)

Provincial French Community Services :

- Resosante
- College Educacentre
- Réseau Femmes CB
-

[City of Nanaimo Letterhead]

[Date]

Association des Francophones de Nanaimo
31-1925 Bowen Road,
Nanaimo BC V9S 1H1

Dear A.F.N.,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Nanaimo to express our full support for the Nanaimo Francophone Association's application for Welcoming Francophone Community status in connection with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).

Nanaimo is a diverse and inclusive community that values cultural richness and linguistic diversity. The Nanaimo Francophone Association plays a crucial role in promoting French language and culture within our city, fostering a sense of belonging and inclusion among Francophone residents and contributing to the vibrant tapestry of our community.

By obtaining Welcoming Francophone Community status, the Nanaimo Francophone Association will be better equipped to provide essential services and support to Francophone newcomers, helping them integrate into our community more seamlessly. This designation will not only benefit Francophone individuals and families but will also enhance Nanaimo's reputation as a welcoming and inclusive city for all.

We have been supporting the association for years and trust them to carry out this project successfully.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Your Title]
[City of Nanaimo]