

ATTACHMENT A

2026 Social Planning Grants Program – Applications Received

| Organization | Project Description | Request | Recommended Allocation |
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| Altrusa Club of Nanaimo | Altrusa Baby Bundles: An initiative that provides baby bundles to the Perinatal Unit of the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH) to mothers experiencing financial hardship and social challenges. Each baby bundle contains diapers, wipes, clothing, blankets, a board book and other enrichment and essential items. | \$9,000 | \$0 |
| Art Action Earwig | The Pulling To Gather Earth Day 2026: An eco-art project, co-produced by Art Action Earwig (AAE) and Nanaimo Forest School Co-operative, bringing ecological restoration and arts together through a series of local artist-led and community-driven activities/events. | \$8,000 | \$0 |
| BeLoved City Church DBA Koffeology | My City Care: A social enterprise café in the Old Nanaimo Bakery to create inclusive employment opportunities for individuals facing barriers such as addiction recovery or limited work experience. The funding request would support their program and workplace development, a training room, program marketing, and volunteer training and engagement. | \$80,000 | \$0 |
| BGC Central Vancouver Island | BGC Safe Spaces Programming: Provides a dedicated youth space at their 5th Street location designed specifically for Youth Hub programming focused on mental health, self-regulation, self-esteem and confidence, teamwork, healthy friendships, and more. | \$65,000 | \$0 |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Vancouver Island (BBBSCVI) | Mindful Mentoring Expansion: A 7-week, after-school program that offers 90-minute mindfulness and yoga-based movement sessions that practices social-emotional learning (SEL) and resilience-building activities designed to strengthen self-regulation, confidence, and peer relationships. | \$10,000 | \$0 |
| Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society | The Digital Literacy for Senior Newcomers Mentorship Program: A new initiative, in partnership with the Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL), that aims to address the growing need for digital literacy among senior newcomers by connecting them with youth mentors to provide digital skills tutoring. | \$25,000 | \$20,858 |
| Connective Society | The Gateway Navigator Project: Is designed to provide individualized navigation support to unhoused and precariously housed community members, particularly those aging out of provincial assistance programs, those who have exhausted available community resources, or those facing service bans due to complex behaviours. The project aims to help participants access essential services, secure necessary documentation, and obtain the resources they need to stabilize their lives and successfully transition toward independence. | \$30,000 | \$0 |

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| Harewood Neighbourhood Association | Enhancing and Strengthening Community for a Healthier Harewood: Phase 1 of this project proposes hiring a community engagement specialist to lead an engagement process, including a free outdoor neighbourhood social event, to gain participation and collaboration of Harewood residents and stakeholders to envision, design, and locate a public art piece to mark and celebrate the Harewood Neighbourhood. | \$7,000 | \$0 |
| Haven Society | Celebrate Life Project: Is designed to support women survivors of domestic violence in the third stage of healing. It integrates professional counselling, mindfulness, and creative expression, offering women practical tools for grounding, reflection, and sustained emotional wellness. | \$15,000 | \$14,000 |
| Island Deaf and Hard of Hearing Centre Association | Sound of Change Initiative: A program that offers free refurbished hearing aids, hearing assessments and personalized communication and aural rehabilitation support to vulnerable and at-risk populations, specifically low-income seniors and adults. | \$30,000 | \$0 |
| Mid-Island Métis Nation Association | Michif Mamawapowuks (Métis Gatherings): Proposes to host four seasonal gathering events to share and experience Métis culture, build community connections, play games, share food and recipes and offer resources on important issues such as education, health, environment, youth, housing, seniors, etc. | \$20,000 | \$0 |
| Nanaimo Brain Injury Society | Concussion 101: Workshops delivered year-round in schools, that are a grade-appropriate, science-based interactive presentations explaining concussions and prevention strategies, alongside relevant impactful stories from presenters with lived experience with concussion. | \$15,000 | \$13,700 |
| Nanaimo Canoe and Kayak Club | Water Wellness: A 6-week spring program that aims to offer multi-boat paddling opportunities including water safety and paddling skills on Long Lake. These sessions are free of charge to non-profit organizations and supportive community groups with plans to expand to local school classes who are challenged financially. | \$15,000 | \$0 |
| Nanaimo Child Development Centre | Community Playgroup Comfort and Connection Enhancement: A free, inclusive program supporting children ages 0–6 of all abilities and their families is seeking to enhance programming with a new couch to support a more welcoming and inclusive space for adults with infants. | \$5,000 | \$0 |
| Nanaimo Community Kitchens Society | Growing Healthy Families Cooking Program: A hands-on, community-based initiative designed to support families in Nanaimo in learning practical, affordable, and healthy cooking skills. The program promotes nutrition education, food literacy, and family engagement while fostering a sense of community and empowerment around healthy eating. | \$7,500 | \$0 |

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| Nanaimo Family Life Association | Reducing Community Barriers for Seniors: An initiative that aims to directly support seniors and elders with resources for accessing the medical system, applying for handyDART, transit passes, meal services, taxi vouchers for appointments, wellness programming, and acquiring household items when transitioning into housing. | \$10,000 | \$10,000 |
| Nanaimo Foodshare | Shared Harvest: A pilot series of community-oriented workshops and cooking circles to strengthen food security by improving access to seasonally available foods and the knowledge to prepare them. The events will address food insecurity while fostering social connection and community resilience. | \$12,669 | \$11,442 |
| Nanaimo Redcap Chinese Sports and Recreation | Play. Connect. Belong: Community Recreation and Sports in Nanaimo RedCap: A community-focused sports and recreation program that promotes physical health, cultural inclusion, and social connection. This initiative aims to provide accessible and engaging recreational badminton, soccer, and pickleball opportunities for residents of all backgrounds in Nanaimo. | \$3,000 | \$0 |
| Nanaimo Youth Services Association | The Healthy Manhood Project: A 12-month pilot initiative designed to support young men aged 18 -25 in redefining masculinity, building essential life and relationship skills, and fostering respectful, informed engagement with women and feminism. This project aims to address rising concerns around mental health, gender-based violence, toxic masculinity, and social disconnection among young men, offering an empowering alternative rooted in dialogue, education, mentorship, and community. | \$15,000 | \$0 |
| Reconciliation Theatre Society | Thursday Nights at the OV heART Centre: Aims to provide consistent access to performing arts Youth Theatre and Women's Theatre Initiative programs for residents of the south end and downtown Nanaimo. | \$2,640 | \$0 |
| Salvation Army | New Hope Breakfast Program: Prepares and feeds breakfast to Nanaimo's vulnerable communities through their emergency shelter and various community partners. | \$27,000 | \$0 |
| Selby Mission | Thursday Lunches: A free, weekly community lunch at St. Andrew's United Church held through the winter until June 2026, offers food and beverages, musical entertainment and spiritual counselling that is welcoming to all. | \$26,550 | \$0 |
| Spinal Cord Injury BC | Peer Support Program: Provides opportunities for people with a spinal cord injury (as well as their family and friends) to attend events and activities throughout the year, both in person and online. This creates connections for participants to share experiences, access valuable resources, diminish feelings of social isolation and build a strong sense of community. | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |

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| St Andrew's Presbyterian Church | Community Lunch Program: Open to everyone and offers homemade soup, sandwiches, cookies, milk, juice, fresh fruit and partnership in North Nanaimo, once a week from September to June. | \$5,000 | \$0 |
| Take a Hike Foundation | Take a Hike Nanaimo Program: A free program for youth, delivered full-time in the classroom throughout the school year, with open access to counselling throughout the summer. The program integrates clinical therapy support while immersing youth in outdoor activities to learn self-empowerment, build social and emotional skills, and improve mental health and well-being. | \$10,000 | \$10,000 |
| The Literacy Circle Society | Learning for Life - Chapbooks for Legacy: A project that provides a safe space for literacy training in a respectful way to Indigenous Elders and Adults, Residential, Day School Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors in a self-paced environment. Learners choose a selection of their personal poems, stories and other writings to be printed and bound into books they can take home and share with their families. | \$10,000 | \$0 |
| The Men's Centre | Senior Men's Social Circle: An 8-week program designed to combat social isolation among senior men (ages 60+ or recently retired) through facilitated and peer-supported sessions to create lasting connections and improve mental health outcomes for senior men. | \$12,800 | \$0 |
| Together Against Poverty Society | Eviction Prevention Project in Nanaimo: Focuses on preventing immediate loss of housing for low-income residents by prioritizing direct support with eviction cases for non-payment of rent. It helps residents facing eviction to access timely legal advocacy and representation and explores options for preserving their tenancy. | \$30,000 | \$0 |
| Wisteria Community Association | Stone Soup Kitchen: Prepares and delivers hot meals and soup to Nanaimo's unhoused population and is seeking to complete upgrades at a new leased location space for a new soup kitchen. Upgrades include electrical, plumbing (including a wheelchair accessible bathroom), floor sealers, painting, storage, cooling and the purchase of kitchen equipment. | \$25,000 | \$0 |