

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

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### **What is a Community Connection grant?**

- Micro grants of **up to \$425** are available to supplement a diverse range of small neighbourhood and community-focused gatherings, events or activities.

### **Can we do this during a pandemic?**

**Yes.**

- Events can proceed as long as applicants *abide by any public health requirements directed [by Alberta Health Services and Strathcona County](#) at the time of using the grant dollars.*

### **Can Strathcona County employees apply for Community Connection Grant funding?**

**Yes.**

- Strathcona County employees who meet all other application requirements are encouraged to apply. Family and Community Services staff are not eligible.

### **Can youth apply for a Community Connection Grant?**

**Yes.**

- A youth can be the leader of the initiative, however, an individual over eighteen years is responsible for signing the application, receiving the funds, keeping all receipts and reporting on the event.

### **Can businesses apply for a grant?**

**No.**

- These grants are designed to increase community connections. Individual citizens, formal or informal groups (examples include: faith-based groups, schools, community leagues and senior centres) who wish to increase connection in their community are eligible.

### **Can each unit in a condo or apartment building apply for a Community Connection grant?**

**Yes.**

- One application per household is permitted.
- However, if there is a large concentration of applicants from one area, Strathcona County reserve the right to limit the approved applications in order to ensure that all areas of the County have a fair opportunity for grant funding.

### **Can an applicant apply in 2022 if they have an outstanding final grant report from a previous Community Connection grant?**

**No.**

- Applicants with outstanding granting reports due to Strathcona County Family and Community Services for a previous Community Connection grant are not eligible for additional funding. Applicants with outstanding reports are encouraged to contact the FCS Grants Team.

**Can Community Connection Grants be used to host or organize a fundraising event?****No.**

- This grant cannot be used for fundraising events or to host charity walks or runs.

**Can residents apply for a Community Connection Grant AND a Community Change Grant?****Yes.**

- Both grants contribute to the Social Framework outcome of connectedness and inclusion and further community safety and well-being.
- Residents are encouraged to connect at events, as well as deepen their relationships and consider collaborating on creative projects for positive social change in their community.
- **Community Connection** grants are smaller, typically event based, and **Community Change** grants are project based. Find more information on both grants at [strathcona.ca/communitygrants](http://strathcona.ca/communitygrants).
- If your application is better suited to a Community Change grant, the FCS Grants team will contact you about shifting your application to the other granting stream.
- Both granting streams run concurrently.

**Am I guaranteed to receive a \$425 grant?****No.**

- All eligible applications will be reviewed.
- If the overall grant requests exceed the grant funds available, the funds will be divided in a fair and equitable manner between qualified applications.

**Are matching dollars required?****No.**

- Grants are intended to supplement costs and ease financial barriers when building strong community connections.

**Can applicants receive funds from other County sources (i.e. Council Priority Funds, SCIP funding, etc.) to fund the same activity?****Yes.**

- However, the various funding sources must be allocated towards the purchase of different items.

**Can an applicant make money (and keep it) during the project or activity?****No.**

- You cannot make money through the grant. Grant dollars will not support private gain or be used as a fundraiser for other projects.

**Once an application has been approved, when do the grant dollars need to be spent?**

- Grant dollars must be spent by December 31, 2022.
- The recipient agrees by declaration that they have spent the grant dollars in the same manner as approved in the application.
- Recipients must keep original receipts for seven years.

**Can an applicant apply for funding if the activity has already taken place?  
No.**

- The activity must take place between June 1 and December 31, 2022.

**What if I do not spend all the grant dollars?**

- If you have grant dollars remaining by December 31, 2022, contact the Grants Team at 780-464-4044 to discuss options.

**Can the County logo be used on promotional material?****No.**

- As Strathcona County is not the organizer of the activity, it is not appropriate to feature Strathcona County's logo on promotional material, however, recipients are asked to mention the grant from the County when promoting or discussing the event or project.

**What is the deadline to apply for the Community Connection grant?**

- Applications are open between April 1 – 30, 2022.

**How do I submit my application?**

- Complete the application online, print the application and sign on page 5. A signature must be included with the application.
- Scan and email back to [familyandcommunity@strathcona.ca](mailto:familyandcommunity@strathcona.ca) or by mail to  
Strathcona County Family and Community Services  
2001 Sherwood Drive  
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 3W7