

The VCH Health Promotion Community Investments team is now accepting applications for **One-Time-Only Climate Adaptation Health Promotion¹ Project Grants** (OTO). These grants are for projects that are **one-time-only in nature and intent**. Projects should promote the health of equity-deserving communities in the face of [climate change-driven extreme weather events](#), and help community organizations develop tools and resources to adapt their systems and programs for extreme weather response.

Funding for this grant program is limited. 2025 grants will typically range from \$100 to \$15,000, with an average grant of \$10,000. Approximately 10% of proposed projects will receive funding.

2025 PRIORITY FUNDING AREAS:

- Projects that build community and/or peer capacity to make positive impacts in preparing for, responding to, mitigating, and adapting to climate change (including managing climate anxiety). For example:
 - Climate action and/or mutual aid networks (based on neighbourhood, age, etc.)
 - Educational opportunities
 - Community science projects (e.g. local air quality monitoring by community members/organizations)
- Efforts, especially in collaboration with other community partners, to affect policy and/or other systemic change related to climate change mitigation, adaptation, and/or response
- Organizational capacity building (OCB)² to strengthen organizations so they may continue to offer eligible health promotion programs through extreme weather events. For example:
 - Internal policies and procedures to implement before, during, and after extreme weather events
 - Ways to ensure participants can attend programs or make use of refuge space at the organization (such as transportation options), or for staff to complete wellness checks
- Small capital purchases or consultant services to ensure public/communal spaces are available, accessible, and safe during extreme weather events. For example:
 - Purchase of appliances – such as air conditioners, air filtration devices, air quality and/or humidity and temperature monitors, or upgrades to cooling/heating systems – for use during eligible group-based health promotion programs
 - Technical assessments/reviews of location, community asset mapping, etc.

2025 PRIORITY TARGET POPULATIONS:

Priority will go to initiatives that will serve one or more of the following populations at higher risk of adverse effects from climate change:

- Children (especially those who are very young) and youth;
- Pregnant people;
- Seniors;
- Disabled, chronically ill, and/or immunocompromised people, and their caregivers;
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC);
- Substance users;
- Unhoused people and people with low income;
- Refugees and other vulnerable newcomers;
- Workers with precarious employment status (e.g., migrant and/or seasonal workers, those with limited access to workers' rights, etc.) and/or who work primarily outside;
- Rural and remote communities; and
- Other populations who are socially isolated.

2025/2026 APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Please send completed applications by email in the attached template format before 5:00pm on April 9th, 2025 to ComminvestApplications@vch.ca.

Please contact us at Community.Investments@vch.ca if you have any questions. ***If you would like to explore alternative methods to submitting this application, such as completing it with one of our staff over the phone or Zoom/MS Teams, we are happy to discuss this with you.***

¹ "Health promotion is the process of enabling people to increase control over, and to improve, their health. It moves beyond a focus on individual behaviour towards a wide range of social and environmental interventions." – World Health Organization. We are looking to support projects that, directly or indirectly, aim to build community capacities to address upstream causes of health inequities (i.e., upstream determinants of health). For more information, see: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/prevention-public-health/health-equity#Overview>.

² Organizational Capacity Building (OCB) refers to the strengthening of internal organizational structures, systems and processes, management, leadership, governance and overall staff/volunteer capacity to enhance organizational and team performance. In reviewing OCB proposals, priority will go to those that support programs currently holding a *multi-year* health promotion grant from VCH (i.e., SMART Health Promotion Program Grant, CFAI Grant, Health Promotion Innovation Grant, or Central Coast Health Promotion Grant). To be eligible, OCB projects should be part of a broader OCB strategy and/or based on a strategic assessment of OCB priorities. Proposals should explain how the project fits into this broader OCB strategy or assessment.

OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU APPLY:

- Proposals should indicate how the project will be successful and how it is one-time-only in nature and intent. Please include details on how activities will continue beyond the funded period and how it will be sustainable, if needed.
- You may submit more than one application for different projects in the same/different rounds during the same year.
- Community Investments will not be able to inform applicants prior to the application deadline if their project is ineligible. An adjudication panel will make funding decisions and notify applicants of these decisions typically 4-6 weeks after the application deadline.

VCH 2025/26 One-Time-Only Climate Adaptation Health Promotion Project Grants FUNDING CRITERIA

Please carefully review and check each box to help ensure your application meets eligibility criteria.

- Projects must be one-time-only in nature and intent, or have secured sustainability plans for continuation beyond OTO funding. VCH defines one-time-only projects as projects designed to achieve desired outcomes within a set timeframe. Projects involving activities that continue beyond the OTO funded period must demonstrate a secure future funding plan. OTO grants are not meant to provide gap funding for what are desired/intended to be ongoing programs.

Fundable activities include the following one-time-only project types:

- **OTO Project** – a one-time-only project that is not intended to nor need to be repeated in order to have the desired community impacts.
- **OTO Program enhancement or expansion** – a one-time-only sustainable improvement to an existing health promotion program.
- **OTO Pilot project** – a one-time-only implementation of a health promotion program to test if it yields the desired results.³
- **OTO Program research/planning** – a one-time-only project to determine how to successfully implement a new health promotion program or improve an existing one.
- **OTO Small capital project** – a one-time-only purchase to acquire assets that will enhance group-based health promotion program(s).
- **OTO Organizational capacity building (OCB)** – a one-time-only project designed to improve an organization’s operational structures [organizations must be engaged in health promotion programs]

- Projects must consist of, or support, activities that lead to greater equity in wellness by building on a community’s social, environmental, cultural and economic foundations.
- Projects must not constitute, or support provision of direct supports or services (professional or charitable).⁴
- Projects must build, or support building, on the capacities of peer groups, families and/or communities. Projects must not focus solely, or support projects that focus solely, on building the knowledge/skills of *individuals* to improve their own health.¹
- Projects must be based within, and primarily serve, residents of the VCH region.
(Vancouver, Richmond, North Shore, Sunshine Coast, qathet Region/Powell River, Sea-to-Sky, Bella Coola Valley and/or Central Coast)
- Applicants must be a registered non-profit organization or First Nation or Métis Nation/organization in BC with an independent, active governing body (e.g., Board of Directors, Council, etc.), and be in good fiscal, operational and administrative standing.
- Project expenses must be reasonable in relation to proposed activities, and estimates well supported.
- All proposed activities must be completed, and all funding spent, before June 30th, 2026.
- Other non-fundable activities include administrative activities exceeding 15% grant value; deficit recovery; gap funding for continuing programs; direct health care, health care support and/or health interventions; and 1:1 supports or services.⁴

³ Pilot Project proposals should include clearly developed demonstration goals (i.e., definition of what needs testing and/or demonstrating), evaluation strategies, and sustainability plans (including reasonable assurance of future funding should the pilot be successful).

⁴ Some examples of direct supports or services (professional or charitable) include providing individuals with 1:1 supports or services (including those typically provided by social workers, outreach workers and settlement workers); home supports and services; food markets, hampers, community fridges and meals services; counselling, medical and other therapeutic care; and other direct services that are the responsibility of other health care units, Ministries and/or levels of government.

VCH 2025/26 One-Time-Only Climate Adaptation Health Promotion Project Grants APPLICATION FORM

*Note that the application also includes the checklist on the preceding page.

1 | PROJECT INFORMATION:

Name of Organization: (full legal name)		
Society Registration #: (and/or Registered Charity #)		Grant Amount being requested (\$): <small>NOTE: This section will autofill as budget section is complete.</small>
Project Name:		
Project Location(s):		
Project Timeline	Proposed Start Date:	Proposed End Date:
What is the primary nature of your project?	<input type="checkbox"/> One-time-only project <input type="checkbox"/> One-time-only program enhancement or expansion <input type="checkbox"/> One-time-only pilot project <input type="checkbox"/> One-time-only small capital project <input type="checkbox"/> One-time-only program research/planning <input type="checkbox"/> One-time-only organizational capacity building	
Which of the Funding Priority Areas does your project address?	<input type="checkbox"/> Projects that build community and/or peer capacity to make positive impacts in preparing for, responding to, mitigating, and adapting to climate change (including managing climate anxiety); <input type="checkbox"/> Efforts, especially in collaboration with other community partners, to affect policy and/or other systemic change related to climate change mitigation, adaptation, and/or response; <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational capacity building (OCB) to strengthen organizations so they may continue to offer health promotion programs through extreme weather events; <input type="checkbox"/> Small capital purchases or consultant services to ensure public/communal spaces are available, accessible, and safe during extreme weather events.	
Who is your target population(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Children (especially those who are very young) and youth <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnant people <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled, chronically ill, and/or immunocompromised people, and their caregivers <input type="checkbox"/> Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC); <input type="checkbox"/> Substance users; <input type="checkbox"/> Unhoused people and people with low income; <input type="checkbox"/> Refugees and other vulnerable newcomers; <input type="checkbox"/> Rural and remote communities <input type="checkbox"/> Workers with precarious employment status (e.g., migrant and/or seasonal workers, those with limited access to workers' rights, etc.), and/or those who work primarily outside;	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Other populations that are socially isolated (please specify):
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2 | CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mailing address: <small>(including City and Postal Code)</small>	
Website URL:	
Contact person(s) regarding this application:	
Contact phone #:	
Contact e-mail (s):	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Add this email(s) to our distribution list? </div> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Finance contact name: <small>(if different from application and project contact)</small>	
Finance contact phone #:	
Finance e-mail:	

3 | PROJECT SUMMARY:

Please provide detailed, concise answers to the following questions.

a. Describe the goals of your project. How will the project help your organization and/or participants prepare for, respond to, and adapt to climate change?	b. Describe your project activities. What steps will you take to initiate and complete this project, and how will they help you to achieve your goals for this project?

c. **Describe the process you used to determine that this particular project is a priority in the community at this time.** How were program participants and community members engaged in identifying this project as a priority and developing this proposal? *Please reference any evidence, indicators, needs assessments, reports, research, etc. that were also used in developing this project idea.*

d. **Describe your partnerships for this project** (existing and in development). Which groups/organizations/funders will you actively and meaningfully partner with, and in what way? If applicable, do you have the required approvals, permission, or permits to complete your project? *Please provide contact details for each confirmed partner.*

e. **Describe how this project is one-time-only in nature and intent.** If these activities are to continue beyond a VCH grant, how will your organization fund them?

4 | PROJECT BUDGET:

Project expenses must be reasonable in relation to proposed activities, and estimates well supported. Funding is very limited; please only ask for what is necessary.

<u>Staffing Costs</u>	Amount (\$) being requested as VCH OTO Project Grant	Amount (\$) secured from other sources Please specify source(s) of funding or in-kind contributions in "Notes" column.	Please describe (e.g., requested details, additional breakdown, etc.)
Project Staff			
Volunteer Honoraria ⁵			
Other Staff Please specify in "Notes" column.			
Contracted Services (i.e., consultants) Please specify in "Notes" column.			
Total Labour costs:			
<u>Project Supplies/Services Costs</u>	Amount (\$) being requested as VCH OTO Project Grant	Amount (\$) secured from other sources Please specify source(s) of funding or in-kind contributions in "Notes" column.	Please describe (e.g., requested details, additional breakdown, etc.)
Room, Venue or Facility Rental			
Project Supplies			
Supplies – Food Please specify # gatherings, # participants, etc. in "Notes" column.			
Small Capital Expenditures (e.g., equipment, renovations) Please specify in "Notes" column.			
Staff/Volunteer Training (e.g., workshops, courses)			
Other Supplies or Services Please specify in "Notes" column.			
Total Project Supplies/Services costs:			

⁵ Only honoraria for volunteers who contribute directly to develop or implement the funded health promotion project are eligible. Volunteer positions must not meet the definition of "employee" under the BC Employment Standards Act and Interpretation Guidelines Manual.

4 | BUDGET (continued)

Project expenses must be reasonable in relation to proposed activities, and estimates well supported. Funding is very limited; please only ask for what is needed.

Administration Costs (cannot exceed 15% of total requested funding)	Amount (\$) being requested as VCH OTO Project Grant	Amount (\$) secured from other sources Please specify source(s) of funding or in-kind contributions in "Notes" column.	Notes (e.g., requested details, additional breakdown, etc.)
Administration/Office Expenses & Staff Supports			
Other Admin Cost Please specify in "Notes" column.			
*Total Administration costs: (Total administration costs <u>cannot</u> exceed 15% of the total requested funding)			
<u>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</u> (Total Labour + Total Project Supplies/Services + Total Administration Costs)	<u>TOTAL</u> Amount (\$) being requested as VCH OTO Project Grant	<u>TOTAL</u> Amount (\$) secured from other sources	
<i>Any additional explanatory notes you would like to include regarding your project budget?</i>			