

**Last updated: July 16, 2025**

Community Safety & Wellness Grant

The Community Safety & Wellness Grant supports a multitude of community-based initiatives throughout Red Deer. The grant aligns with Red Deer's *Community Safety Strategy* with a focus on prevention and intervention initiatives that promote safety and wellbeing for citizens of Red Deer.

**Application deadline:** July 18, 2025, at 4 p.m.

**Q. Who is eligible for funding from this grant?**

- A. Registered non-profit societies in good standing, which means up to date with filing the Society Annual Return with the Government of Alberta and not having any outstanding payments or reports due with The City of Red Deer.

**Q. What are the outcomes for this program?**

- A. The desired outcomes are:
- Elevate access to basic needs for families and youth.
  - Increase support for vulnerable citizens through relationship building and community connection.
  - Increase community safety through targeted initiatives to reduce visual crime.
  - Increase citizen engagement in community initiatives, social activities, and neighborhood involvement.
  - Youth mentorship focusing on life skills, regulation, and relationship building.
  - Increase knowledge on how to remain safe from personal, property, and technology-based crime.

You can select one or more outcome(s).

**Q. How much funding is available through this grant?**

- A. Total one-time funding available in 2025 is \$150,000 with a maximum of \$25,000 per application. This funding is provided through City Council's Community Development Grant Program. Successful projects from previous years may be eligible for ongoing funding but need to apply prior to the deadline and have all previous reports submitted to be considered.
- This ongoing funding would go towards the continuation of the outcomes focused on in 2024, not towards a new program.
  - The program can be modified with additional outcomes and additional activities. However, your application must still retain enough elements of the original program to demonstrate that it continues to build on the successes of the previous year.

**Q. How can I learn more about this funding opportunity?**

- A. Visit [Community Safety & Wellness Grant - The City of Red Deer](#) to view the Application Guide, which provides more details about the grant program and application process.

**Q. How can my organization apply?**

- A. Eligible applicants are invited to apply online via the Smart Simple platform beginning June 18, 2025: [https://reddeer.smartsimple.ca/s\\_Login.jsp](https://reddeer.smartsimple.ca/s_Login.jsp)

**Q. I am having trouble with the application or my password. Who can help me?**

- A. Please contact our Social Wellness & Integration Supports team for assistance\*:

- Email: [communitysafety@reddeer.ca](mailto:communitysafety@reddeer.ca)

\* Please note: If your request is received within three days of the submission deadline, application support may not be available.

**Q. Can the grant be used as ‘seed money’ for a fundraiser?**

- A. No, it cannot. Expenses and Revenue related to fundraising may be part of your overall project budget but grant funds cannot be allocated to fundraising.

**Q. What is the difference between cash equity and in-kind in creating my budget? Do I have to have all the listed revenue items?**

- A. Cash equity is the applicant’s own money put toward the project. It might be the shortfall after other sources are calculated. In-kind can be from others or it can be applicant in-kind equity (someone outside of the organization donating use of a stage is an example of an in-kind contribution, but if the applicant can contribute something that offsets expenses that is not cash, it is an applicant in-kind contribution to the project).

You do not have to have all types of revenue in your budget, but considering all potential sources is part of planning.

**Q. I started work on my application but when I returned to it, all the fields are empty! What happened to my work?**

- A. It is important to save your work at the bottom of every screen before you choose “NEXT” go proceed to the next part of the application, or before you click on one of the tabs Project Overview, Outcomes, Budget, etc. Find the red *Save* button at the bottom of each screen.

**Q. Can I upload a Word document into a response field?**

- A. No, you will not be able to upload, but you can pre-write your answers into a Word document and use Copy & Paste to enter your text into the response fields.

*Note: SmartSimple does not have an Autosave function – you must click Save on the bottom of each page. Please be aware that each text box has a character limit, so be succinct.*

**Q. Why does the system open a new draft every time I try to go back into the application I started?**

- A. If you are having trouble finding the draft you started or if you unintentionally started new applications, this may help:
- When you begin an application it will save as a draft – because you save your work on each screen or page of the application, you can close out and return to edit your draft until you submit the finished application.
  - When you open the application portal and arrive at the landing page, you will see several icons. Just below them, you should see **My Applications**. **Drafts** is the first item under My Applications, and it will also indicate how many drafts you have started in (#) brackets.
    - The drafts will be listed in a chart at the bottom of the screen.
    - Your drafts will have an application ID like this: FCSS-25-07XX. If you click on the draft you want, you can continue working.

- If you have unintentionally created extra drafts and you want us to delete them to avoid confusion, please e-mail [communitysafety@reddeer.ca](mailto:communitysafety@reddeer.ca). Be sure to double check for work you may want to copy or keep before asking us to delete it.

**Q. Can applicants apply more than once?**

A. Yes, provided each submission is for a project distinct from the other application(s).

**Q. Would you review our draft application before we submit it?**

A. In fairness to all applicants, we will not be reviewing applications before the application deadline. We will answer specific questions and share them in the 'Updated Q&A' section, so all applicants have access to the information.

**Q. There may be some sensitivities with certain departments in The City on the logistics of our proposal. Should we be speaking with someone about that?**

A. We suggest you do reach out to all relevant stakeholders and communicate in your proposal their support or how you plan to address any issues.

**Q. What reporting requirements will there be?**

A. Successful applicants will be required to report on the outcomes of their project as follows:

- 1) Mid-Term Monitoring: attend a check-in meeting approximately halfway through the grant term to ensure the project is proceeding as planned and outcomes will be met.
- 2) Program-End Reporting: Final reports are due by January 30, 2026. Successful applicants will be required to report on Project activities and outcomes status, including explanations for any variations to the project as outlined in the original application. Financial information, including the approved vs actual project budget will also be required. Contracts may be eligible for extension, if required to support funded project outcomes.

**Q. If we are two organizations applying together, who should complete the SmartSimple application?**

A. Between organizations, you would need to decide who will be the Lead Organization. The Lead Organization will be accountable for the application process, funding, and reporting requirements if the application is selected.

- Please indicate who you are partnering with under 'Project Details' in SmartSimple.

**Q. Can two users access the SmartSimple application at the same time?**

A. Your organization's SmartSimple login credentials can be shared within your organization, or you can create additional Contacts under *Update my Organization Profile* and then *Contacts* (on the left frame).

Please note edits cannot be made simultaneously. Once the first user has modified and saved the application, another user can make edits from another device after the first user has logged out of SmartSimple. If multiple edits are happening simultaneously, your work may not save correctly.

**Q. Will separate organizations be asked to collaborate if their proposed projects are similar?**

A. Based on past year's collaborative success between organizations, this is a possibility. This will be decided dependent on the applications that are received.

**NEW Questions arising from the CSW Grant Information Session and individual requests via email for 2025:**

**Q. Could you give examples of some of the past projects?**

**A. Project examples from 2024:**

- Senior Fraud/Scams Education Series – The Central Alberta Crime Prevention Centre provided seniors education sessions (in partnership with Bridges Community Living) to increase knowledge of the top fraud/scams currently being used and how to safeguard themselves in-person or while using their phones and tablets.
- Community Access to Safe and Secure Space – Red Deer Native Friendship Society used CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) principles to install lighting and engage youth to assist with clearing the land of safety hazards to make the Asooahum Crossing space safer for community program participants.
- Strengthening Community Safety and Wellness Through Resiliency – UBUNTU and Sendero Centre delivered Elder circles, community engagement sessions, and a youth & women of colour safety education program to better respond to hate based crimes and incidences, sexual assault and bullying.

**Q. What is permissible for administrative expenses?**

- A.** Administration or overhead costs are allowed and must not exceed 20% of total budget submission for items such as rent, insurance and non-direct support salaries or supplies.

**Q. Is a new component or element for an existing program eligible?**

- A.** The Community Development Grants were designed so that new programs and services become available to community members from a broad range of service providers. The Community Safety & Wellness grant projects should remain stand alone projects.

**Q. Would expanding an existing program to serve more be eligible for consideration?**

- A.** No, as listed above, Community Development Grants were designed so that new programs and services become available to community members from a broad range of service providers.

**Q. For the outcome “Elevate access to basic needs for families and youth”, what is meant by “elevate”?**

- A.** Elevate means to increase access and may include navigating systems to increase families and youth access to basic needs.

**Q. Would this grant consider introducing a program in a rural community?**

- A.** No, as this is a City of Red Deer Community Development grant, the projects must focus their benefit to Red Deer citizens.

**Q. In the budget worksheet, how do we include extra revenue in the application if our project exceeds \$25K?**

- A.** To add additional revenue to the budget, add additional revenue amounts as a negative amount so that it does not add to your expenses. It’s important that the total adds up to \$25K at the bottom of the worksheet (or less if not requiring maximum amount available).

- Q. Our administrative staff who handles our annual proof of filing with the Government of Alberta is away until after the deadline, how can we provide a placeholder until it is available?**
- A. Please feel free to upload a page that explains your situation as a placeholder in case you don't get access to it before the grant deadline.**

**For more information, contact:**

Social Wellness & Integration Supports  
403-406-8719  
[communitysafety@reddeer.ca](mailto:communitysafety@reddeer.ca)