

Subject: Grant announcement to support your Community Foundation in response to COVID19

Importance: High

Dear BC Community Foundation Friend and Colleague,

We are pleased to announce an opportunity for your Community Foundation to access a grant of up to \$30,000 to assist with your COVID19 response.

This one time grant will provide you with extra support for qualified donees in your community and/or region that face significant collective challenges and to help stabilize the broad community benefit sector negatively impacted by COVID19. The intent of the grant is to provide rapid community response with a focus on meeting the needs of vulnerable populations.

We define vulnerable populations as: *Individuals and communities that face significant collective challenges as a result of attitudinal, historic, social and environmental barriers based on age, ethnicity, disability, economic status, gender, nationality, race, sexual orientation and gender identity, etc.*

Vancouver Foundation intends to support BC communities by addressing:

1. **Immediate needs** of low-income populations caused by COVID19 related closures, including access to food, hygiene, housing and other basic needs
2. The **economic impact** of reduced and lost work within the charitable sector.
3. The **information needs** among our vulnerable community members to promote resiliency and mitigate fear and confusion.
4. **Mobilizing our citizens to assist** their vulnerable neighbours with the challenges they are facing from isolation.
5. **Inspiring local giving** by leveraging grants as matching funds (Optional) as long as the raised funds along with the matching funds are used for the above criteria

The **principles** guiding our COVID19 Responsive Grants to BC Community Foundations are:

1. **Nimbleness:** We will work hard to move money quickly and strategically recognizing the immediacy of the crisis.
2. **Informed decision-making:** We seek regular intelligence in a rapidly changing environment, and consider all data sources, both formal and informal.
3. **Equity, diversity, and inclusion:** We recognize some groups are disproportionately impacted by this crisis and will require priority consideration.
4. **Strategic alignment:** We will work to coordinate with other funders and policy makers to coordinate the allocation of resources to maximize impact.
5. **Reconciliation:** We recognize the unique relationship we have with Indigenous people, that requires special consideration.
6. **Transparency:** We are open, transparent, and communicative about our decision-making.
7. **Stronger together:** We will invest in strengthening the network of BC Community Foundations by supporting capacity building and raising awareness of our collective work and impact.