

### What are the SHORE Grants?

The Shoreline Outdoor Revitalization and Enhancement (SHORE) Grants support public access and enjoyment of recreational waterfront areas in the Columbia Basin. SHORE projects will enhance the accessibility, safety and climate resilience of waterfront gathering spaces, river access points, and recreational river features in First Nations communities or on Local Government-owned land throughout the Columbia River system.

### Who can apply?

Eligible applicants include Local Governments and First Nations communities in the Columbia Basin Trust region ([ourtrust.org/map](http://ourtrust.org/map)). Projects must occur on land already owned by Local Government applicants or part of First Nations communities.

### What types of costs are eligible?

Eligible costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

	<b>Examples</b>
<b>Stream 1 - Project Planning and Design</b> (up to \$50,000)	Contracted services, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• architectural and landscape concept designs, cost estimates, and/or construction drawings;</li> <li>• engineering assessments and/or design; and</li> <li>• accessibility, environmental, archaeological, riparian, geotechnical and Traditional Use assessments/studies.</li> </ul>
<b>Stream 2 - Improvements/ Physical Works</b> (up to \$500,000)	Improvements that support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enhanced recreation (e.g., bird-watching towers, docks intended for swimming and/or fishing, hand launch sites or roller ramps for non-motorized watercraft such as canoes, kayaks, paddleboards and/or innertubes, etc.);</li> <li>• gathering (e.g., gazebos, performance stages, firepits, playgrounds, seating and furnishings, etc.);</li> <li>• access to the waterfront or waterfront improvements (e.g., multi-use pathways, boardwalks, sloped pathways or staircases, etc.);</li> <li>• accessibility (e.g., ramps, pathways, foot bridges, beach mobility mats, aquatic wheelchairs and lifts, rubberized or engineered wood fiber surfaces in playgrounds, accessible washrooms or changing areas, etc.);</li> <li>• water safety (e.g., swimming area delineation/barriers, life rings, water safety signage, equipment washing stations, etc.);</li> <li>• enhanced navigation (e.g., wayfinding, interpretive signage, energy-efficient lighting, etc.);</li> <li>• shoreline naturalization (e.g., native planting, insect gardens, natural materials to reduce erosion, rain gardens, etc.); and</li> <li>• climate change adaptations (e.g., tree planting and other climate resilient landscaping, increased public greenspace, shade structures, misting stations, water fountains).</li> </ul>

### What types of projects are not eligible?

Ineligible projects include those that:

- have the potential to duplicate or displace government or industry responsibility, including activities intended to directly repair negative impacts that have occurred because of industrial or commercial development or access (e.g., road development or deactivation, hydroelectric reservoir drawdown zones, etc.);
- include the development or enhancement of any marina or motorized boat launch;
- include development of park management or stewardship plans;
- are considered routine maintenance of an existing asset or infrastructure;
- displace or impact existing tenure holders, licensees, and/or permitted users;
- reduce recreational user access to the water body;
- take place outside the Columbia Basin region;
- primarily focus on ecosystem/habitat enhancement and are eligible for the Trust's [Ecosystem Enhancement Program](#);
- undertake activities of political parties, advocacy or lobby groups, or organizations that are exclusive or discriminatory in nature; and
- primarily benefit the applicant itself or the members of a membership-based organization.

### How much will the Trust fund?

Stream	Maximum Funding Amount		Maximum Funding Percentage
Stream 1 - Project Planning and Design	Up to \$50,000	Cumulative Maximum \$500,000	<p><b>Up to 90% of project costs</b> for projects located in communities with populations less than 2,500 and First Nations communities.</p> <p><b>Up to 75% of project costs</b> for projects in communities with populations above 2,500.</p>
Stream 2 - Improvements/ Physical Works	Up to \$500,000		

### What is the application process?

#### Stream 1 – Project Planning and Design

Eligible applicants must include the following documentation in a Stream 1 application:

- map of the proposed project location (PDF or KMZ file);
- confirmation of land ownership;
- proposed enhancements to the land parcel; and
- quotes for planning costs.

Stream 1 applications will be reviewed and accepted on an ongoing basis until **November 18, 2026, at 2:00 p.m./PT 3:00 p.m. MT**, or until all available funds have been committed.

If planning is completed by November 18, 2026, applicants may submit a Stream 2 application.

### Stream 2 – Improvements (Physical Works)

Eligible applicants must include the following documentation in a Stream 2 application:

- copies of completed designs and necessary assessments (either funded through Stream 1 or independently);
- itemized estimate (minimum of Class D estimate) or construction quotes;
- detailed map of the project location (PDF or KMZ file);
- confirmation of land ownership; and
- confirmation that all required permits are/will be obtained (Refer to Appendix A for list of legislation that may apply).

Stream 2 applications are due on **November 18, 2026, at 2:00 p.m./PT 3:00 p.m. MT.**

### How does the Trust select projects for funding?

The Trust uses the following selection criteria to prioritize funding:

- the project demonstrates it meets the program eligibility listed above;
- the project application includes all required documentation for the respective Stream;
- the project demonstrates community support;
- the project shows it is ready to move forward in the stated timelines; and
- the project and project holder demonstrate an understanding of the need to maintain the project long-term, which can be shown by a long-term budget or an asset management plan for ongoing and scheduled maintenance or repairs and funding sources.

Additional consideration may be given to projects that:

- incorporate partnerships with Indigenous Peoples or Indigenous perspectives;
- address climate resilience; and/or
- increase local employment.

### When will organizations hear the results?

The review process usually takes up to eight weeks, during which Trust staff may request additional information. Organizations will be contacted by email at the address provided on the application form to confirm if the project application has been approved for funding.

To finalize funding, both parties will sign a Contribution Agreement. Funds will be received after both parties sign the Contribution Agreement.

### When can a project begin?

Funds can only be used for approved project expenses incurred after the Contribution Agreement has been signed.

### What else to keep in mind?

Meeting the Program eligibility criteria does not guarantee selection for funding, as the Trust often receives more funding requests than is available. The Trust retains the right to determine project eligibility and the amount of funding allocated to each project; this may be all or part of the requested amount.

Depending on the nature of the project, applicants may have to obtain specific permits and approvals prior to receiving Trust funds.

### Ready to apply?

1. Review the Program Guide.

If you would like to work offline, download the Application worksheet. The worksheet contains direction and advice on how to complete the Application.

- Stream 1 application worksheet – Project Planning and Design at [Link](#)
- Stream 2 application worksheet – Improvements (Physical Works) at [Link](#).

2. Complete the online application form:

- Stream 1 online application – Project Planning and Design at [Link](#).
- Stream 2 online application – Improvements (Physical Works) at [Link](#).

### Appendix A – Resources & Potentially Applicable Legislation

#### Federal Acts:

- *The Department of Environment Act*
- *Fisheries Act*
- *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act*
- *Canada Wildlife Act*
- *Navigable Waters Protection Act*
- *Pesticides Act*
- *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*
- *Indian Act*

#### Federal Regulations:

- *Canada Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA 1999) Regulations*
- *Migratory Birds Regulations*
- *Fisheries Act Regulations*
- *Wildlife Area Regulations*

#### Provincial Acts:

- *Water Sustainability Act*
- *Fish Protection Act*
- *Wildlife Act*
- *Environmental Management Act*
- *Land Act*
- *Weed Control Act*
- *Local Government Act*
- *Heritage Conservation Act*

#### Resources:

- [Projects Near Water website](#)
- [Working Around Water](#)