



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee
From: Marie Fenwick
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage
Re: 2026 Arts and Culture Grants

Date: January 12, 2026
File: 11-7144-01/2025-Vol
01



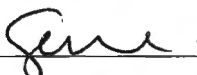
Staff Recommendations

1. That the Arts and Culture Grants be awarded for the total recommended amount of \$132,380, as identified in the report titled "2026 Arts and Culture Grants", dated January 12, 2026, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage; and
2. That the grant funds be disbursed accordingly, following Council approval.

Marie Fenwick

Marie Fenwick
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage
(604-276-4288)

Att. 4

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO: Finance Department	CONCURRENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO 

Staff Report

Origin

The Arts and Culture Grants provide funding to eligible non-profit community organizations to support the delivery of programs and services that benefit Richmond residents, ensuring the equitable distribution of City funding towards areas of current and emerging community need. Applicants must meet established grant eligibility and assessment criteria, at City Council's discretion.

The Arts and Culture Grant Program is administered under City Grant Program Policy 3712, which is currently under review. Proposed updates to the policy will be presented to Council for consideration at a future date. If approved, the Arts and Culture Grant Program Guidelines will be revised accordingly and implemented in the 2027 grant cycle.

The purpose of this report is to recommend the disbursement of the 2026 Arts and Culture Grants to Council for consideration.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

6.1 Advance a variety of program, services, and community amenities to support diverse needs and interests and activate the community.

6.3 Foster intercultural harmony, community belonging, and social connections.

6.5 Enhance and preserve arts and heritage assets in the community.

Findings of Fact

2026 Arts and Culture Grants Budget

The 2026 Arts and Culture Grants budget is \$132,380. This includes a cost of living increase of 1.8 per cent over last year's budget of \$130,039, as per City Grant Program Policy 3712. The program offers two types of grants:

- Operating Assistance Grants are provided to support the annual programming and operating activities of eligible organizations, and are awarded up to a maximum of 30 per cent of the annual operating budget, to a maximum of \$10,000.
- Project Assistance Grants are provided to support organizations working on a project basis or undertaking a special initiative outside the scope of their normal operations, and are awarded up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the total project budget, to a maximum of \$5,000.

Notice Given and Applications Received

The 2026 Arts and Culture Grants application window opened on September 10, 2025. Information was posted on the City website, communicated using social media channels and distributed through a news release to media outlets, community organizations, local partners and the general public. In addition, an email was sent to Arts and Culture e-Blast subscribers, more than 500 individual artists and arts/cultural organizations that have opted to receive information throughout the year. This announcement was also amplified through the Richmond Arts Coalition e-newsletter. An information session was held on September 25, 2025, providing an overview of arts funding opportunities and best practices for effective grant writing.

The deadline to apply was October 15, 2025, and 26 applications (11 Operating Assistance and 15 Project Assistance) were received with a total funding request of \$179,300.

Application Support and Review Process

One of the key objectives of the Arts and Culture Grant Program is to encourage financial cost sharing and reduce sole reliance on City funding. The impact of funding received through the Arts and Culture Grants is augmented by regular communication between staff and organization representatives who meet, at minimum, once a year. Groups receive a consultative and solutions-oriented approach to organizational development based on expertise in the *Nonprofit Lifecycle* methodology, helping groups build capacity in a way that suits their specific needs. Groups also have the option of exploring the Nonprofit Lifecycle model more deeply to create achievable action plans. New applicants are advised to contact City staff in advance of preparing their application to ensure their eligibility. Staff are also available to provide additional support and answer questions on an as-needed basis.

An Arts and Culture Grant Review Committee (the Review Committee), consisting of City staff, reviewed the 2026 Arts and Culture Grant applications. The Review Committee assessed each application based on criteria outlined in the Arts and Culture Grant Program Guidelines (Attachments 1 and 2) to ensure that City resources are directed towards areas of current and emerging community need. A table outlining 2026 funding requests and recommended allocations is provided in Attachment 3. A summary of each application, generated directly from information submitted to the web-based system by applicants, is provided in Attachment 4.

Analysis

2026 Arts and Culture Recommended Grant Allocations

The total number of applications received was 26, 11 for Operating Assistance and 15 for Project Assistance; however, one Operating Assistance application and six Project Assistance applications were deemed ineligible for the following reasons:

- Familogue Education Society applied for both Operating and Project grants. Neither application meets the eligibility criteria, as outlined in Attachment 3;

- Three Project Assistance applications were received from organizations that do not meet the eligibility criteria, as outlined in Attachment 3: Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association, Great Lakes Networking Society of BC, and Latincover Cultural and Business Society; and
- Two Project Assistance applications are not eligible, as outlined in Attachment 3. They will be eligible to apply next year: Canadian Association of Oriental Dramatic Arts and The Unsold Media Foundation.

Where possible, groups were contacted and informed of their ineligible status in advance of the deadline.

A summary of application numbers, allocations and staff recommendations over the last three years is presented in the tables below.

Table 1: Operating Assistance Grant Summary 2024–2026

OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANTS Applications, Allocations and Recommendations (2024–2026)			
	2024	2025	2026
Total number of applications	11	11	11
First-time applicants	1	1	0
Grants not recommended	1	0	1
Partial amount of request recommended	5	6	3
Full amount of request recommended	5	5	7
Total amount requested	\$102,650	\$103,050	\$108,000
Total amount allocated/recommended	\$85,614	\$95,239	\$97,000

Table 2: Project Assistance Grant Summary 2024–2026

PROJECT ASSISTANCE GRANTS Applications, Allocations and Recommendations (2024–2026)			
	2024	2025	2026
Total number of applications	11	14	15
First-time applicants	2	5	4
Grants not recommended	0	6	6
Partial amount of request recommended	6	3	6
Full amount of request recommended	5	5	3
Total amount requested	\$47,750	\$62,300	\$71,300
Total amount allocated/recommended	\$41,750	\$34,800	\$35,380

Reasons for Full or Partial Funding – Operating Assistance and Project Grants

The recommended grant allocations for both streams vary depending on the degree of competition among applicants in any given year. This year is characteristically competitive with the City receiving \$179,300 in requests, \$46,920 in excess of the allocated budget of \$132,380. Despite that, reflecting the high quality of their applications, 10 applicants are being recommended for the full amount of their request.

Overall, 19 out of 26 applicants are recommended for funding. Five organizations who were recommended for funding in 2026 will receive an increase in their funding over last year. Despite scoring high on their assessments, eight organizations will receive funding at the same level as 2025, as they have reached the maximum amount allowed by the grant program. Two organizations will be receiving a slight decrease in their funding over last year as a result of their scoring. Four organizations that received funding did not apply last year. As per the adjudication process noted above, applicants recommended for a higher percentage of requested funding scored higher on the evaluation criteria than those recommended for lower percentages.

Financial Impact

The 2026 Arts and Culture Grants budget of \$132,380 was approved as part of the City’s 2026 Operating Budget. A total of \$132,380 in allocations is recommended for the 2026 Arts and Culture Grants, subject to Council’s approval.

Conclusion

Staff recommend that the 2026 Arts and Culture Grants be allocated as indicated in Attachment 1 for the benefit of Richmond organizations and residents.



Camyar Chaichian
Program Manager, Community Cultural Development
(604-247-8326)

- Att. 1: 2026 Arts and Culture Grants – Operating Assistance Guidelines
2: 2026 Arts and Culture Grants – Project Assistance Guidelines
3: 2026 Arts and Culture Grants – Requests and Recommendations
4: 2026 Arts and Culture Grants – Application Summary Sheets



Operating Assistance Guidelines

The City of Richmond allocates grant funding for arts and cultural organizations that provide programming and activities for the benefit of Richmond residents.

This support acknowledges that the work of these organizations contributes to Richmond's quality of life, identity and economy and is extended to recipients who demonstrate vision, accountability and spirit of community service in their operations.

These guidelines incorporate recognized best practices and are designed to ensure accountability for use of public funds; **read through carefully before you make an application.**

Operating grants are by invitation only. Please note, if you are already in the Operating stream, you may apply. However, for the 2026 program, we are not accepting any applications for first time requests.

For existing Operating clients, the deadline for applications is October 15, 2025 at 5p.m.

Camyar Chaichian, Program Manager, Community Cultural Development
604-247-8326, Camyar.Chaichian@richmond.ca

This information, along with other details about our programs and services, is available on the City website at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant

2026: Arts and Culture Grants Program Objectives and Description

The Arts and Culture Grants program is intended to support a range of artistic and cultural activity including literary, visual, media, dance, theatre, music, multi-disciplinary, inter-disciplinary, and community-based arts, reflecting different cultural traditions as well as contemporary art forms and practices.

The program provides grants to support organizational capacity through Operating Assistance as well as one-time or time-limited initiatives through Project Assistance. Organizations may not apply for more than one City of Richmond grant per year.

Operating Grants are provided to support the annual programming and operating activities of eligible organizations. All grants are reviewed on a yearly basis and are not to be viewed by applicants as an ongoing source of funding.

Organizations already receiving City funding that represents the equivalent of operating funds (e.g. ongoing yearly facility subsidies) are not eligible for Operating Assistance. They are eligible for Project Assistance funding if their project represents a new initiative and/or an outreach program that is not otherwise supported by existing City funding.

Application Forms

New applicants are encouraged to read through the Guidelines first to obtain a general understanding of the program and then contact staff at Arts, Culture and Heritage Services to discuss your proposal and confirm your eligibility.

- The application form is available online at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant
- Applications must be received on or before the submission deadline. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Answer all the questions on the form concisely, and include all requested supporting materials.

Operating Assistance Eligibility Criteria

- Operating Assistance is for established organizations that have an ongoing presence in Richmond and a track record of quality public programs and services. Applicant must be based in Richmond, registered as a non-profit society in good standing with the Province of BC, having been established legally and in operation for at least two (2) years prior to the application deadline and have recently received City Grant funding and successfully completed the projects.
- Applicants must be based and active in Richmond and provide programming and services that are open to the public and publicized citywide, or in the case of umbrella organizations, must further the interests of artists, creators, arts organizations and elements of the arts community. The organization's activities can include policy development, advocacy, provision of professional services, and production of collective projects.
- Applicants must be independent organizations with clear mandates that include the provision of public programs and/or services with an arts and culture focus. Presented work must be primarily with and/ or by local artists/performers/artisans (amateur and/or professional); activities may include some artists who are not Richmond residents.
- All principal professional artists should be compensated for their participation commensurate with industry standards. For more information about these standards, please refer to the following organizations:
 - American Federation of Musicians: www.afm.org
 - Canadian Actors Equity Association: www.caea.com
 - Canadian League of Composers: www.clc-lcc.ca
 - Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists: www.cadadance.org
 - Professional Writers Association of Canada: www.pwac.ca
 - Canadian Artists Representation/Le front des artistes canadiens/CARFAC: www.carfac.ca
- Applicants should have stable administration and artistic leadership, directed by recognized arts/culture professionals and/or experienced volunteers.
- Applicants must operate year-round in a fiscally responsible manner.
- Applicants must have other cash revenue sources for their activity that may include self-generated revenue (ticket sales, concession, and memberships), funding from other levels of government (provincial, federal) and private sector support (fundraising, foundations, sponsorship, cash and in-kind donations).
- Applicants must provide internal prepared financial statements endorsed by two signing officers (with balance sheet and income statement, at minimum), or independently prepared financial statements (review engagement or audit endorsed by two signing officers). Financial statements provided should represent the most recently completed fiscal year. For Operating grants:
 - *If your total operating budget is \$100,000 or more per year, you are required to submit an audited financial statement.*
 - *If your total operating budget is between \$50,001 and \$99,999 per year, you are required to submit a review engagement or an audited financial statement.*
 - *If your total operating budget is \$50,000 or less per year, you may submit an internal financial statement.*

Operating grants are awarded up to a maximum of 30% of the annual operating budget, to a maximum request of \$10,000.

Ineligible Organizations

- Organizations which do not meet eligibility criteria and requirements
- Other City of Richmond departments or branches
- Organizations already receiving City funding that represents the equivalent of operating funds including ongoing yearly facility subsidies
- Social Service, Religious, Political or Sports organizations
- Political parties and organizations

Ineligible Activities

- Fundraisers
- Deficit reduction
- Activity outside of Richmond
- Activity which was started prior to the application deadline
- Capital projects
- Activity that is not artistic or cultural
- Start-up costs
- Seed money for projects or events
- Showcases or recitals for schools/organizations with an educational mandate
- Political activities including, but not limited to:
 - Promoting or serving a political party or organization
 - Lobbying of a political party, or for a political cause
- Programs and services delivered in partnership with political parties and organizations
For clarity, this does not exclude programs and services that receive funding from other levels of government, including funding from the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada

Assessment Criteria

There are three key areas of evaluation that are weighted equally: merit, organizational competence and community impact. The organization's recent activities (as outlined in the previous year's Grant Use Report, for example) as well as proposed ones are taken into consideration when assessing an application.

Programming/Merit

- Project is clear, considered and led by leader/artists with relevant experience.
- Clear mandate/vision and degree to which the project(s) support mandate/vision.
- Project is innovative and/or advances an existing arts practice.

Organizational Capacity

- Project budget is realistic, has diversified income, and meets funding criteria
- Group/organization has competent administration and governance structure
- Project(s) has/have realistic schedules, timelines, and planning practices

Impact

- Project includes collaboration, partnerships and/or community/volunteer involvement
- Project has a clear and reasonable marketing plan
- Project is accessible to public and has a core audience
- Project aims to diversify audience, attract new/diverse communities

Assessment and Awarding of Grants

Complete applications are assessed by an Assessment Committee made up of City staff. A report on the Assessment Committee recommendations is written and submitted to City Council for their consideration and approval.

Council will make the final grant decisions, at its sole discretion, based on the program goals, criteria, policies, requirements and a review of City staff recommendations.

Council may:

- Approve a funding application:
 - in total, with or without conditions (i.e., subject to a mid-year review)
 - in part, with or without conditions
- Ask for more information
- Issue dollars in phases with conditions
- Deny an application

Council has final approving authority.

Funds will be dispersed as soon as possible after Council approval. The objective is to have all funds disbursed within 60 days of approval.

Grants are awarded on an annual basis. Applicants must re-apply each year. Continued funding is not guaranteed.

Conditions of Assistance

Please note that if your organization receives a civic grant, the following conditions will apply:

- Grant funds must be applied to current expenses, not used to reduce or eliminate accumulated deficits. Activities cannot be funded retroactively.
- The Society will make every effort to secure funding from other sources as indicated in its application. It will keep proper books of accounts for all receipts and expenditures relating to its activities and, upon the City's request, make available for inspection by the City or its auditors all records and books of accounts.
- If there are any changes in the organization's activities as presented in this application, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services Division must be notified in writing of such changes immediately. In the event that the grant funds are not used for the organization's activities as described in the application, they are to be repaid to the City in full. If the activities are completed without requiring the full use of the City funds, the remaining City funds are also to be returned to the City.
- The City of Richmond requires organizations receiving a civic grant to appropriately acknowledge the City's support in all their information materials, including publications and programs related to funded activities (i.e., brochures, posters, advertisements, websites, advertisements, signs, etc.). Such recognition must be commensurate with that given to other funding agencies. If the logos of other funders are used in an acknowledgement, the City should be similarly represented. Acknowledgement is provided by using the City of Richmond logo in accordance with prescribed standards. City of Richmond logo files and usage standards will be provided to successful applicants. Failure to acknowledge the City's support may result in the inability of an organization to obtain grant support in future years.
- Receipt of a grant does not guarantee funding in the following fiscal year.
- Successful applicants will complete a Grant Use Report online as a pre-condition for consideration of an organization's future grant applications. If the Project has not been completed at that time, an updated Grant Use Report must be submitted upon completion.

Use of Funds

The following guidelines and limitations are designed to meet best practices and to ensure accountability for use of public funds:

- It is expected that applicants will combine the Operating Assistance support they receive with other sources of revenue and financial investment (grants, donations, earned revenues) as well as in-kind support and contributions.
- Operating grants are provided to support the annual programming expenses and annual operating costs of the Society.
- Eligible use of Operating Assistance funds include, but are not exclusively limited to:
 - Fees and related expenses for artists, musicians, programming staff, cultural workers
 - Volunteer expenses (recruiting, training, support, etc.)
 - Production expenses (installation of artwork, equipment rental, costumes, sound, lights, etc.)
 - Marketing, community outreach and promotional expenses
 - Operating overheads (insurance coverage, rent, etc.)
 - Operating and administration expenses (insurance coverage, rent, equipment, software, etc.)
- Ineligible uses of Operating Assistance support include but are not exclusively restricted to:
 - Deficit reduction
 - Capital expenditures (i.e. construction, property renovations, equipment purchase, software, etc.)
 - Organizations that forecast a deficit budget must describe a clear plan to eliminate the deficit within two years of the grant application year.

Confidentiality

All documents submitted by Applicants to the City of Richmond become the property of the City. The City will make every effort to maintain the confidentiality of each application and the information contained within except to the extent necessary to communicate information to staff and peer members of the Assessment Committee for the purpose of evaluation and analysis, as well as to Council for recommendation report. The City will not release any of this information to the public except as required under the Province of British Columbia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act or other legal disclosure process.



Project Assistance Guidelines

The City of Richmond allocates grant funding for arts and cultural organizations that provide programming and activities for the benefit of Richmond residents.

This support acknowledges that the work of these organizations contributes to Richmond's quality of life, identity and economy and is extended to recipients who demonstrate vision, accountability and spirit of community service in their operations.

These guidelines incorporate recognized best practices and are designed to ensure accountability for use of public funds; **read through carefully before you make an application.**

If this is your first time making an application to the City of Richmond, or if you require further assistance, we encourage you to speak with or meet with a staff member of Arts, Culture and Heritage Services to ensure that your proposal is eligible and to ask any questions that may assist you in putting together an application.

Camyar Chaichian, Program Manager, Community Cultural Development 604-247-8326,
Camyar.Chaichian@richmond.ca. **The deadline for applications is October 15, 2025 at 5 p.m.**

This information and other information on our programs and services are available on the City website at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant

2026: Arts and Culture Grants Program Objectives and Description

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Operating Grants are provided to support the annual programming and operating activities of eligible organizations. All grants are reviewed on a yearly basis and are not to be viewed by applicants as an ongoing source of funding.

Organizations already receiving City funding that represents the equivalent of operating funds (e.g. ongoing yearly facility subsidies) are not eligible for Operating Assistance. They are eligible for Project Assistance funding if their project represents a new initiative and/or an outreach program that is not otherwise supported by existing City funding.

Application Forms

New applicants are encouraged to read through the Guidelines first to obtain a general understanding of the program and then contact staff at Arts, Culture and Heritage Services to discuss your proposal and confirm your eligibility.

- The application form is available online at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant
- Applications must be received on or before the submission deadline. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Answer all the questions on the form concisely, and include all requested supporting materials.

Project Assistance Eligibility Criteria

- Project Assistance is available for new and/or developing arts and culture organizations, or established arts and culture organizations working on a project basis or undertaking a special one-time initiative.
- Applicants must be registered as a non-profit society in good standing within the Province of BC, having been legally established and in operation for at least 6 months at the time of application deadline.
- Applicants must be active in Richmond and may be based outside of Richmond so long as their project takes place in Richmond, serves the Richmond community and employs Richmond artists (program may include some artists that are not local). For example, an art installation in Richmond organized by a Vancouver-based arts organization that employs Richmond artists and involves community engagement with Richmond residents would be eligible, but a concert in Richmond presented by a Burnaby-based organization would not be eligible.
- Programming and services must be accessible to the public and publicized citywide, or in the case of umbrella organizations, must further the interests of artists, creators, arts organizations and elements of the arts community. The organization's activities can include policy development, provision of professional services, and production of collective projects.
- Applicants must be independent organizations with clear mandates that include the provision of public programs and/or services with an arts and culture focus.
- All principal professional artists should be compensated for their participation commensurate with industry standards. For more information about these standards, please refer to the following organizations:
 - American Federation of Musicians: www.afm.org
 - Canadian Actors Equity Association: www.caea.com
 - Canadian League of Composers: www.clc-lcc.ca
 - Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists: www.cadadance.org
 - Professional Writers Association of Canada: www.pwac.ca
 - Canadian Artists Representation/Le front des artistes canadiens/CARFAC: www.carfac.ca
- Applicants should have stable administration and artistic leadership, directed by recognized arts/culture professionals and/or experienced volunteers.
- Applicants must have other cash revenue sources for their activity that may include self-generated or earned revenue (ticket sales, concession, and memberships), funding from other levels of government (provincial, federal) and private sector support (fundraising, foundations, sponsorship, cash and in-kind donations).
- Applicants must provide internally prepared financial statements endorsed by two signing officers (with balance sheet and income statement, at minimum), or independently prepared financial statements (review engagement or audit endorsed by two signing officers). Financial statements provided should represent the most recently completed fiscal year.
- Project grant funds may be requested for up to 50% of the total cost of the project, to a maximum of \$5,000.

Examples of Eligible Activity

- The development of arts and cultural activity that reflects cultural traditions or contemporary artistic practices that will result in some form of dissemination or presentation to a broad public audience. Public dissemination may include exhibitions, performance, publications, presentations, video, film, new media, radio, or web-based initiatives (not the development of organizational/program websites.)
- Artisanal projects that include manual work of a high standard to create items that may be functional and/or decorative, including furniture, clothing, jewelry, watercraft, etc.
- Collaborative and creative initiatives between professional artists and community members that will result in some form of public presentation and which clearly express community interests and issues and demonstrate a strong collaborative process.

- Special requests for audio recordings, publications, film, video or web-based unique initiatives.
- Artistic Residencies that facilitate learning, development and cultural exchange between professional artists or artisans and qualified host organizations. See Artistic Residencies, below

Ineligible Organizations

- Organizations which do not meet eligibility criteria and requirements
- Other City of Richmond departments or branches
- Social Service, Political, Religious or Sports organizations
- Political parties and organizations

Ineligible Activities

- Core-training, in-class or curriculum-based training, conferences, mentorships
- Bursaries or scholarships
- Contests or competitions
- Activity that is not artistic or cultural
- Fundraisers
- Deficit reduction
- Activity outside of Richmond
- Activity which has started prior to the application deadline
- Capital projects
- Delivery of services and resources by service organizations
- Political activities including, but not limited to:
 - Promoting or serving a political party or organization
 - Lobbying of a political party, or for a political cause
- Programs and services delivered in partnership with political parties and organizations.
For clarity, this does not exclude programs and services that receive funding from other levels of government, including funding from the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada

Individual artists cannot apply on their own but may make an application in partnership with a qualifying organization for artistic or skill development through an **Artistic Residency**:

Artistic Residencies

Artistic Residencies facilitate learning, development and cultural exchange opportunities between professional artists or artisans, qualified host organizations, and/or the community.

- Residency candidates must be Richmond-based professional artists. The City's definition of a professional artist is one that has:
 - completed basic training (university or college graduation or the equivalent in specialized training, such as two or three years of self-directed study or apprenticeships);
 - is recognized as such by peers; and
 - is committed to devoting time to artistic activity, if financially feasible.
- Applications may be made by a non-profit organization to either:
 - host a residency, or
 - sponsor a Richmond-based artist to be hosted by another organization (which may or may not be a non-profit but where the residency supports the program objectives and the Artist's residency objectives.)
- Applicants may apply to host consecutive residencies in the second year; however, priority will be given to new applicants each year. An applicant may sponsor more than one artist at a time within the same project.
- The organization must demonstrate the capacity to host or sponsor a residency and must meet the General Eligibility criteria.
- There must be clear artistic development objectives for both the artist and host organization.
- The residency should provide opportunities for development and creation of the artist's work and if possible, some form of presentation of the artist's work either in progress or at completion.
- There should be some public engagement component of the work during the residency that would offer learning opportunities for the artist, related staff, the arts and cultural community and/or the general public.

- The residency and work created therein must be in addition to the regular activities of the Host organization.
- The grant is applicable to project costs: artist fees, materials, presentation costs and project administration costs born by the host organization.

Artistic Residencies (cont'd)

A Residency Agreement should address the points below (4 pages max, min 11 pt font):

- Artist Letter of Intent demonstrating the residency objectives and how it will further the development of the artist or artistic practice
- Organization Letter of Intent indicating the residency objectives
- A work plan (including timelines, activities, milestone dates, etc.)
- Financial obligations of both parties
- How the project will be evaluated
- A contingency plan (addressing potential changes, conflict or non-compliance)
- Signatures of all parties involved agreeing to the terms
- Budget of revenues and expenses

Assessment Criteria

There are three key areas of evaluation that are weighted equally: merit, organizational competence and community impact. The organization's recent activities (as outlined in the previous year's Grant Use Report, for example) as well as proposed ones are taken into consideration when assessing an application.

Programming/Merit

- Project is clear, considered and led by leader/artists with relevant experience.
- Clear mandate/vision and degree to which the project(s) support mandate/vision.
- Project is innovative and/or advances an existing arts practice.

Organizational Capacity

- Project budget is realistic, has diversified income, and meets funding criteria
- Group/organization has competent administration and governance structure
- Project(s) has/have realistic schedules, timelines, and planning practices

Impact

- Project includes collaboration, partnerships and/or community/volunteer involvement
- Project has a clear and reasonable marketing plan
- Project is accessible to public and has a core audience
- Project aims to diversify audience, attract new/diverse communities

Assessment and Awarding of Grants

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Council will make the final grant decisions, at its sole discretion, based on the program goals, criteria, policies, requirements and a review of City staff recommendations.

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Funds will be dispersed as soon as possible after Council approval. The objective is to have all funds disbursed within 60 days of approval.

Grants are awarded on an annual basis. Applicants must re-apply each year. Continued funding is not guaranteed.

Conditions of Assistance

Please note that if your organization receives a civic grant, the following conditions will apply:

- Grant funds must be applied to current expenses, not used to reduce or eliminate accumulated deficits. Activities cannot be funded retroactively.
- The Society will make every effort to secure funding from other sources as indicated in its application. It will keep proper books of accounts for all receipts and expenditures relating to its activities and, upon the City's request, make available for inspection by the City or its auditors all records and books of accounts.
- If there are any changes in the organization's activities as presented in this application, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services Division must be notified in writing of such changes immediately. In the event that the grant funds are not used for the organization's activities as described in the application, they are to be repaid to the City in full. If the activities are completed without requiring the full use of the City funds, the remaining City funds are also to be returned to the City.
- The City of Richmond requires organizations receiving a civic grant to appropriately acknowledge the City's support in all their information materials, including publications and programs related to funded activities (i.e., brochures, posters, advertisements, websites, advertisements, signs, etc.). Such recognition must be commensurate with that given to other funding agencies. If the logos of other funders are used in an acknowledgement, the City should be similarly represented. Acknowledgement is provided by using the City of Richmond logo in accordance with prescribed standards. City of Richmond logo files and usage standards will be provided to successful applicants. Failure to acknowledge the City's support may result in the inability of an organization to obtain grant support in future years.
- Receipt of a grant does not guarantee funding in the following fiscal year.
- Successful applicants will complete a Grant Use Report online as a pre-condition for consideration of an organization's future grant applications. If the Project has not been completed at that time, an updated Grant Use Report must be submitted upon completion.

Confidentiality

All documents submitted by Applicants to the City of Richmond become the property of the City. The City will make every effort to maintain the confidentiality of each application and the information contained within except to the extent necessary to communicate information to staff and peer members of the Assessment Committee for the purpose of evaluation and analysis, as well as to Council for recommendation report. The City will not release any of this information to the public except as required under the Province of British Columbia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act or other legal disclosure process.

2026 Arts and Culture Grants Requests and Recommendations

OPERATING ASSISTANCE

Applicant Name	2025 Grant	2026 Request	2026 Recommendation	Application Summary	Pg.
Canadian YC Chinese Orchestra Association	\$7,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support this intergenerational music group's organizational expenditures, such as artist fees and supplies, in order to present traditional Chinese and contemporary orchestral performances at concerts in Richmond theatres, seniors' homes and community events. The organization engages an average of 100 artists and 400 participants, primarily from Richmond, each year.	1–2
Cinevolution Media Arts Society	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support this innovative media arts organization's expenses, including artist fees and supplies, to deliver programs that celebrate and reflect Richmond's unique cultural landscape. These programs foster meaningful connections between artists from diverse backgrounds including newcomers who live and work in Richmond. The organization engages an average of 50 artists and 500 participants, primarily from Richmond, each year.	3–4
Community Arts Council of Richmond	\$8,650	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support this community arts service organization by funding expenditures, including artist supplies and venue rentals, to provide a wide range of creative opportunities that develop the arts in Richmond. The group offers multi-generational programming that demonstrates the important role arts play in building a healthy community. The organization engages an average of 150 artists and 5,000 participants, primarily from Richmond, each year.	5–6
Richmond Arts Coalition	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures, including artist fees, and supplies, to promote, support and advocate for the arts in Richmond. Programs include a monthly online newsletter as well as producing visual and performing arts events throughout the year. The organization engages an average of 300 artists and 10,000 participants, primarily from Richmond, each year.	7–8
Richmond Community Band Society	\$5,400	\$8,000	\$7,500	Support organizational expenditures, including artist fees and supplies, for this long-standing band's performances at annual local events such as Remembrance Day and Canada Day. The organization also provides year-round engagement for seniors in the community. The organization engages an average of 40 artists and hundreds of audience members, primarily from Richmond, each year.	9–10
Richmond Community Orchestra and Chorus Association	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$9,750	Support organizational expenditures, including artist fees and supplies, for this local symphonic and choral performance group to provide concerts, including intergenerational performance opportunities throughout the year. The organization engages an average of 50 artists and 1,000 audience members, primarily from Richmond, each year.	11–12
Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures, including artist fees and supplies, to provide a professional orchestral preparation program for children and youth. This educational opportunity is enhanced with active engagement in the community by providing performances at local events in Richmond. The organization engages an average of 400 artists and 3,500 participants, primarily from Richmond, each year.	13–14
Richmond Improv Theatre Society	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures, including artist fees and supplies, to provide a series of entertaining improvisation workshops and performances for adults, youth and children throughout the city. The group's workshops also build leadership and volunteerism skills that serve the growth and vibrancy of Richmond. The organization engages an average of 80 artists and 800 participants, primarily from Richmond, each year.	15–16

Applicant Name	2025 Grant	2026 Request	2026 Recommendation	Application Summary	Pg.
Richmond Music School Society	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures, including artist fees and supplies, to provide high-quality music education and to foster community appreciation of music. This organization engages its students in community initiatives and performances throughout Richmond that are accessible and multigenerational. The organization engages an average of 350 artists and 2,000 participants and members, primarily from Richmond, each year.	17–18
Richmond Singers	\$8,650	\$10,000	\$9,750	Support organizational expenditures, including artist fees and supplies, for this local women's choir that provides public and private performances for the community. The group also commissions new artistic work and provides outreach performances for local seniors. The organization engages an average of 50 artists and 1,000 participants and members, primarily from Richmond, each year.	19–20
Familogue Education Society	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	This group is not eligible for an operating grant. Operating grants are by invitation, based on receiving at least three Project Assistance grants in previous years and demonstrating operating level capacity.	21–22
Richmond Youth Choral Society	\$6,539	\$0	\$0	This group did not apply this year.	N/A
Operating Sub-Total	\$88,700	\$108,000	\$97,000		

PROJECT ASSISTANCE

Applicant Name	2025 Grant	2026 Request	2026 Recommendation	Application Summary	Pg.
Arison Yue Opera Society	\$0	\$5,000	\$4,500	Funding for public performance of "Butterfly Lovers", a contemporary version of a classic Chinese opera bringing a timeless story to both traditional audiences and new generations, at the Gateway Theatre. Approximately 50 Richmond artists will be involved with an expected attendance of up to 500.	23–24
BC Philharmonic Society	\$0	\$5,000	\$4,500	Funding for public performance of "Spring from East and West", a new Violin and Pipa Double Concerto, performed by a solo violin and a solo pipa, a traditional Chinese musical instrument, accompanied by the BC Philharmonic Orchestra, at the Gateway Theatre. Approximately 100 Richmond artists will be involved with an expected attendance of up to 500.	25–26
Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	This organization is not eligible as it is not primarily an Arts and Culture organization. The group has applied for another 2026 City grant (Health, Social and Safety Grant).	27–28
Canadian Association of Oriental Dramatic Arts	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	This project is not eligible as the grant funds can not be used for fundraiser. Group can apply in future years.	29–30
Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$4,250	Support the presentation of Han music and a cultural celebration of the Full Moon, through storytelling, poetry and music in Richmond. The event will bring together professional artists and community performers to explore both traditional forms and new creativity. Approximately 30 artists will be involved with an expected attendance of 200.	31–32

Applicant Name	2025 Grant	2026 Request	2026 Recommendation	Application Summary	Pg.
Familogue Education Society	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	As a Vancouver based service organization with a broad mandate, this organization is not eligible. The group may be eligible for the 2026 Community Celebration Grants.	33–34
Great Lakes Networking Society of BC	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	As a Vancouver based service organization with a broad mandate, this organization is not eligible. The group may be eligible for the 2026 Community Celebration Grants.	35–36
Latincoover Cultural and Business Society	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	As a Vancouver based service organization with a broad mandate, this organization is not eligible. The group may be eligible for the 2026 Community Celebration Grants.	37–38
Philippine Cultural Arts Society of BC	\$0	\$5,000	\$4,000	Support the restoration and preservation of a selection of Filipino traditional folk dance costumes that are used in numerous events in Richmond. Dancers and volunteer seamsters, with knowledge of cultural accuracy and craftsmanship, will ensure each piece, an artistic expression in itself, is repaired with care and respect for its origins.	39–40
Richmond Art Gallery Association	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	Funding to support the "Art After Dark" Youth Series. This free after-hours event for youth features hands-on artmaking, music and social activities, introducing youth to gallery artists and staff in a welcoming, inclusive space during Youth Week, Pride Week and Culture Days. There is an expected participation of 200+ participants, primarily from Richmond.	41–42
Steveston Historical Society	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	Support the return of "Steveston Alive", dramatized walking tours of Steveston. This activity provides educational theatre arts opportunities for youth in Richmond, ranging from acting to costume design.	43–44
Textile Arts Guild of Richmond	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300	Support a four-part speakers series that presents accomplished textile artists to share insights and techniques with a local audience.	45–46
The Unsold Media Foundation	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	This organization is currently not eligible. Guidelines require a non-profit to be officially established for 6 months. This organization did not meet that criteria. They can re-apply in future years.	47–48
The Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival	\$0	\$5,000	\$2,580	Support the expansion of the festival to Richmond, a two-day celebration of adventure, art and film to include workshops and activities that feature Richmond artists. The intended participation and audience is 750, primarily from Richmond.	49–50
Vancouver Cantonese Opera	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$4,250	Support the "Richmond Cultural Harmony" project, a series of opera workshops and concerts at the Richmond Cultural Centre, to an intended audience of 560, primarily from Richmond.	51–52
The Chop Theatre Society, Direct Theatre Collective, Musica Intima Society	\$14,500	\$0	\$0	These groups did not apply this year.	N/A
Project Sub-Total	\$34,800	\$71,300	\$35,380		
GRAND TOTALS	\$123,500	\$179,300	\$132,380		



Society: Canadian YC Chinese Orchestra Association

Society Mandate Summary

To promote Chinese music by performing to the public in the City of Richmond and the greater Vancouver area.

Society History

Since inception, the association has had numerous performances by members in terms of main orchestra, smaller ensembles, as well as solo performances. Since 2012, the orchestra has registered as the first music group in residence of the Cultural Centre of City of Richmond. Our efforts to promote Chinese culture also include cooperation with other groups. One of our major performances, "Guests From Afar Please Stay", was in partnership with Vancouver Choir at the Norman Rothstein Theatre (about 350 audience capacity). The performance had a full house and as a result, another show was added (in about 6 months). Since 2013, we have been a partner of the Multicultural Heritage Festival held each summer at the Richmond Cultural Centre and our performance of "O Canada" with our own instruments was welcomed by the audiences as well as Government officials. For the last 15 years, CYCCOA continued to be a strong element in the City of Richmond. In addition to performing in many concerts, CYCCOA hosted educational workshops, participated in community services, provided free performance for senior homes, local regional centres, cultural events, festivals, and celebrations across our community. As an artist group in residence of the Richmond Cultural Center, we participate actively in the Cultural events in our community. With Cultural Grants from the City of Richmond in the last 12 years, we have been able to produce large scale concerts at The Richmond Gateway Theatre, such as 2014 Ocean Hometown concert, 2015 Qiao's Grand Courtyard concert, 2016 Festival Gala and Multicultural Art Festival concert, 2017 Rising stars concert, 2018 Canada International Art Festival, 2019 Colours of Summer concert, 2023 Essence of Jin, 2024 Colourful Yunan and 2025 Charm of Chaozhou. In fact, the above concerts were all a huge success and we had a full house of over 500 audiences each time.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$58,600.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$7,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$7,464.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

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Year	Amount	Grant Program
2023	\$8,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$57,997.83	\$59,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$44,396.35	\$58,600.00
Surplus:	\$13,601.48	\$400.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$13,601.48	\$14,001.48
Other Funders		
Gaming grant:		\$7,000.00
Canada summer job grant:		\$11,000.00

Society: Cinevolution Media Arts Society

Society Mandate Summary

Cinevolution makes experimental film and media art accessible for all, with a focus on connecting and empowering immigrants and other historically marginalized communities through participatory community festivals and events.

Society History

Founded in 2007 by a group of Pan Asian filmmakers, artists and activists, Cinevolution is Richmond's first and only media arts organization. Since then, it has been a leading voice for newcomer communities while promoting independent film, interdisciplinary arts and critical dialogue on migration and diversity. Recognized for excellence in programming, vision, and community impact, Cinevolution was twice a finalist for the Richmond Arts Awards Cultural Leadership Award, recipient of Volunteer Richmond's Nova Star Award in 2013 and awarded the Richmond Arts Award for Artistic Innovation in 2012. From 2007-2010, Cinevolution presented 3 editions of the Vancouver New Asia Film Festival (VNAFF), 2 DocuAsia Forums, 30+ community screenings, and Richmond's first youth film outreach program – the Dream Project. From 2011-2014, VNAFF rebranded as the Your Kontinent: International Film and Media Arts Festival, adopting a more global scope for film selection and introducing media art elements. In 2015, we transitioned from a traditional film festival model to two signature programs: Digital Carnival (DC), an annual festival of cutting-edge media art for community audiences, and DocuAsia Forum which uses documentary as a platform to gather artists, researchers, community organizers and diverse publics for critical dialogue on current issues in contemporary Asia, their local relevance, and global implications. DC was part of the Richmond World Festival from 2015-2019. Highlighting a wide range of emerging and established media artists and art forms, the series has established experimental media arts as part of Richmond's public landscape. In 2021, DC took place as a hybrid festival for the first time with a partnership exhibit at the Richmond Art Gallery. Cinevolution has also co-produced several artist/community-led projects: Art Talking Women (2012-2016), Underwater Chinatown (2014-2016), Surviving Samsara (2017-present), Suzhou Alley Women's Mural Project (2018-present).

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$182,408.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$8,500.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$67,296.00	\$182,401.00
Total Expenses:	\$67,264.00	\$182,408.00
Surplus:	\$33.00	(\$7.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$59,401.00	\$59,440.00
Other Funders		
BCAC ABCD: \$4,050; BCAC Accelerate:		\$59,510.00
\$25,460; BCAC Impact program: \$30,000:		
Digital Museums Canada: \$110,616:		\$110,616.00

Society: Community Arts Council of Richmond

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

Prior to 1970, a group of like-minded arts advocates came together with a shared vision: to support and sustain the arts community in Richmond and encourage its growth. From this vision, the Community Arts Council of Richmond (CACR) was born. Over time, CACR has expanded its reach, connecting artists and citizens to share the invaluable benefits of the arts. CACR has made significant contributions to Richmond's cultural landscape, raising major funds for capital building projects such as The Gateway Theatre and the Richmond Cultural Centre. The organization has also contributed to all art disciplines by offering grants, scholarships, and event sponsorships, as well as organizing and hosting numerous classes and workshops across the city. Additionally, CACR provides gallery space at a nominal cost for artist members to exhibit and sell their work and has produced countless exhibitions and shows that increase the visibility of the arts in Richmond. The organization also supports other arts and culture groups through financial and intellectual assistance, sharing expertise and experience to strengthen the arts community as a whole. CACR's working board is highly engaged, meeting monthly to plan events, stay updated on developments in the arts and culture sector, and explore new ways to increase membership and partnerships. The board actively fosters collaborations with other arts and culture organizations to maximize their collective impact. Furthermore, CACR is dedicated to supporting underserved youth by offering programs that provide them with opportunities to explore the arts. This commitment underscores the belief that the arts enrich lives, bridge cultural gaps, and help build a stronger, more connected community.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$56,330.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$8,650.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,130.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$33,929.00	\$37,250.00
Total Expenses:	\$37,807.00	\$45,370.00
Surplus:	(\$3,879.00)	(\$19,808.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$0.00	\$0.00
		Other Funders
BC Gaming:		\$1,500.00

Society: Richmond Arts Coalition

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

2004: The City of Richmond passed the Richmond Arts Strategy with recommendations to improve communication between arts groups and to strengthen the arts community. 2005: As a result, the Richmond Arts Coalition (RAC) was formed as a Society. 2008: The City's '2010 Arts Plan' identified RAC as the advocacy organization responsible for bringing local artists + arts groups together. Since then: Partnerships with the City on the annual Richmond Arts Awards + Richmond Maritime Festival, acquiring grants for local artists. Also: RAC's website, email newsletters + social media accounts, sharing arts events + opportunities, and featuring local artists. 2013: Established endowment fund with Richmond Community Foundation. Conducted survey of the state of Arts in Richmond. Since 2015: bi-annual collaborations with Richmond Art Gallery on ArtRich, a month-long, juried exhibition of local artists. Since 2018: Annual collaborations with Steveston Historical Society on Songs in the Snow, running the artist call + seeking grants to bring funding into Richmond. 2020: Organized digital Maritime Festival (over 46,000 views). Starting in 2021: Let's Celebrate Together video series, highlighted artists with five iterations. Since 2022: Culture Days partnerships with SD38, supporting local artists + youth with workshops, exhibitions. 2023: Connected Richmond + Wakayama, Japan, Richmond's sister city, with online youth art workshops and exhibitions. 2024: Youth ArtRich exhibition. RAC opened a hub in the Cultural Centre Annex's Cornerspace. 2025: Start of ongoing Cornerspace art exhibitions. As an advocacy org., RAC engages with City staff + Council on arts issues, speaks with MLAs and MPs, and creates + shares arts questionnaires to election candidates. RAC promotes and advocates supporting Art and Artists for a healthy and vibrant Richmond. RAC advocates for an Arts Needs Assessment, Arts Strategy plans, community partnerships, and other ways to support local artists.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$98,493.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$65,559.70	\$98,493.00
Total Expenses:	\$65,559.70	\$98,493.00
Surplus:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$23,775.30	\$13,747.29
		Other Funders
BC Community Gaming Grant - Spring 2026:		\$10,000.00
Canadian Heritage Building Communities through Arts and Heritage - Local Festivals Grant (Richmond Maritime Festival):		\$25,000.00

Society: Richmond Community Band Society

Society Mandate Summary

To provide the Richmond public with focused musical concerts, as well as providing seniors in long term/permanent residential care with some outside entertainment. To promote music in local schools through joint concerts and to provide an outlet for the musical aspirations of our members, many of whom are returning to an instrument after years or even decades of not playing.

Society History

Branch 5 of the Royal Canadian Legion created the Band in 1973 and fully supported it until 1976 when it became independent of the Legion and was incorporated as The J.S. Thompson Band Society. In 1996 it was renamed The Lulu Island Music Society and in 2003 to the Richmond Community Band Society. Throughout these name changes the Band has retained the same musical focus. Rehearsals are every Monday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 pm in the Richmond Ukrainian Hall on Francis Road. Our Music Director is Cheryl McHugh, a local professional musician, conductor, and educator. Cheryl joined us this September 2024, following the retirement of our previous conductor, Bob Mullett, who had been in that role for 46 years. Our role in Richmond is to provide a varied series of musical events by improving the skills of our members at rehearsals. Past performances have included November 11th ceremonies at the City Hall, the July 1st Canada Day parade in Steveston, the Ladner Bandfest, and an annual (for 34 years) ticketed fund-raising concert at the Gateway Theatre. We relocated to the various Richmond churches for concerts when the Gateway Theatre changed its focus to professional performances. We also have performed at various seniors' residences, the Minoru Seniors' Centre (now the Minoru Centre for Active Living), Aberdeen Shopping Mall, the Steveston Fish Cannery, the Britannia Heritage Shipyard and Westwind Elementary School. In past summers we have present outdoor concerts in Richmond parks. In the summer of 2021 (during a lull in the Covid-19 pandemic), we held outdoor rehearsals and presented an outdoor concert at Thomas Kidd School Park. In 1995 we were invited to participate in the ceremonies celebrating the liberation of the Netherlands by Canadian Armed Forces at the end of WW2. In 1989 the band toured England and Scotland.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$8,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$26,740.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$5,400.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

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Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$5,400.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$3,350.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$20,873.00	\$24,900.00
Total Expenses:	\$20,615.00	\$26,740.00
Surplus:	\$258.00	(\$1,840.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$6,539.68)	\$8,379.68
		Other Funders
BC Gaming Commission:		\$3,500.00

Society: Richmond Community Orchestra and Chorus Association

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

This is ROCA's 40th anniversary year. Founded in 1986 ROCA has been in continuous operation (two Covid years excepted) with 5-6 concerts per year primarily performed in three Richmond churches. Concerts are usually well attended by 200-300 persons per concert. Richmond partners with numerous Richmond philanthropic organizations including the Richmond Foodbank, Regional Animal Protection Services, Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko, Dreams Take Flight, and etc. ROCA participates in Richmond Cultural Days and intends to extend its musical performances to other organizations such as enrichment programs at care homes or hospitals. An important annual event is our Rising Stars concert with solo performances from local senior students. Some who have been showcased with ROCA have gone on to professional careers in Canada and abroad.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$115,900.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$8,300.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$111,485.59	\$114,600.00
Total Expenses:	\$129,690.94	\$115,900.00
Surplus:	(\$18,205.35)	(\$1,300.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$5,245.00	\$3,945.00

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
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Other Funders

Gaming Grant:	\$15,000.00
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Society: Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra

Society Mandate Summary

The Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra (RDYO) is a professional orchestral preparation program for young musicians, ages 6 to 25, providing instruction and performance opportunities in an ensemble setting.

Society History

The Orchestra's journey started back in September 1971, commencing rehearsals in Ladner. Under the leadership of Harry Gomez, who served as both the Conductor and Music Director, the ensemble took shape with approximately forty dedicated musicians. The Orchestra's inaugural performance took place at an open rehearsal held at the Ladner Community Centre for Mayor Dugald Morrison later that same year. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the Orchestra experienced remarkable growth, drawing talented young musicians not only from Richmond but also from across the Lower Mainland. Its core mission remained centered on offering exceptional orchestral training under the guidance of highly qualified musical instructors. In 2013, acknowledging that a significant portion of its young talent hailed from Richmond, the Orchestra officially rebranded itself as the Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra. After the relocation to Richmond, the organization's enrollment nearly doubled to roster of 111 young performers organized into seven divisions: Symphony, Senior Strings, Intermediate Strings, Junior Strings, Senior Winds, Junior Winds, and Chamber Music. Through the pandemic (2020-2022), RDYO creatively offered online classes and persisted through all its challenges. The board uses this time to engaged in a thorough strategic planning process. In 2022, thanks to the consistent and creativity of the RDYO board, faculty and staff, RDYO become the youngest community group to ever win GOLD at the MusicFest National competition. In the fall of 2022, the number of young musicians enrolled at RDYO skyrocketed to over 150 students. In 2023, following its strategic planning, RDYO established its first full time staff position, and established co-leadership of professional administration: Operations Director and Music Director. Despite the challenge of a venue closure, RDYO continues to draw increased number of musician. Currently, 167 students played weekly at RDYO. Year after year, the RDYO presents a multitude of outreach concerts in Richmond and the greater Metro Vancouver area, with notable appearances at events such as the Richmond World Festival, Culture Days, Richmond Cultural Centre, Richmond Public Library, WE Day, Maple Residences, and Aberdeen Centre. The RDYO stands as a vibrant and continually expanding contributor to Richmond's rich cultural landscape.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$313,169.70

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,130.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$301,577.98	\$313,169.70
Total Expenses:	\$295,056.23	\$318,652.00
Surplus:	\$6,521.75	(\$5,482.30)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$6,521.75	(\$5,482.30)
		Other Funders
Gaming grant, BC Art Council Project Assistance:		\$47,000.00

Society: Richmond Improv Theatre Society

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

The Richmond Improv Theatre Society (RITS), formerly known as Tickle Me Pickle (TMP), has been an integral part of the Richmond arts scene since its inception in 2000. Having officially transitioned to a not-for-profit society in 2013 and subsequently rebranded as RITS in 2022, we are proud to offer improv classes, presentations, and performances throughout the City of Richmond. After receiving a series of Project Assistance Grants to run our season of improv activity, 2024-2025 marked the first year that RITS procured an Operating Assistance Grant. RITS is the only improv organization in Richmond. RITS is proud to be embedded in the Richmond Arts scene, with public shows, classes and opportunities for individuals of all ages to participate. RITS is equally proud to play a role in building cultural harmony, bringing people from diverse backgrounds together to connect through the art of improv.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$35,430.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,150.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$30,837.69	\$35,430.00
Total Expenses:	\$30,241.06	\$35,430.00
Surplus:	\$596.63	\$0.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$752.16	\$752.16

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	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
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Other Funders

Society: Richmond Music School Society

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

The Richmond Music School Society (RMS) has been a committed contributor to the cultural life of Richmond since it was established in 1979. As we enter our 46th anniversary season, we remain as committed as ever to a high standard of professional criteria with a focus on the accessibility of quality music education to all sectors of Metro Vancouver. As a founding member of the BC Association of Community Music Schools, RMS must adhere to a high standard of professional criteria to which commercial schools are not bound. Our focus is on the accessibility of music education to all sectors of the Richmond community, with an emphasis on program excellence and community work. Between the cost of instrument purchases, equipment rentals, sheet music, lesson fees, and program fees, music lessons can be a luxury that not everyone can afford. RMS is bridging this gap by ensuring equity of access to quality music education through its various outreach programs, bursaries and affordable lesson fees. Offering lessons in a wide range of styles—from classical to jazz, rock, and pop—RMS serves students of all ages and abilities. While much of the instruction prepares students for the U.K. Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) and Canadian Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) examinations, the school also offers interest-based programs like songwriting, ukulele, and music appreciation. RMS also offers outreach programs to bridge the gap for those who may find music education financially out of reach. RMS has built a strong community presence through performances at signature Richmond events such as Winter Wonderland at City Hall, Culture Days, Aberdeen Centre, and outreach concerts at senior living facilities. Highlights include the 2010 Olympic “music marathon,” the Arts Education Awards Ceremony (2022), the Richmond Kids exhibition opening (2023), and the Richmond Community Foundation’s Donor Appreciation Event (2024). In 2025, RMS expanded this tradition with the Chopin Marathon, a multi-day celebration supported by Tom Lee Music and recognized by the Polish Consulate and Vancouver Chopin Society, as well as the Intergenerational Program “Evolution of Music” held at the Minoru Centre for Active Living Senior Centre, which connected children and seniors through music workshops and shared learning. Together, these initiatives strengthened outreach, deepened community partnerships, and highlighted the educational and social impact of RMS programming.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$530,420.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,370.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$587,414.00	\$530,420.00
Total Expenses:	\$571,569.00	\$530,420.00
Surplus:	\$15,845.00	\$1.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$22,136.00	\$1.00
Other Funders		
BC Gaming Grant:		\$53,200.00
New Horizons for Seniors Program:		\$25,000.00

Society: Richmond Singers

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

The Richmond Singers are 55 women who love to sing a variety of music for the enjoyment of our audience and our members. A community choir started in 1971 we have represented BC in Ottawa and St. John's, Newfoundland and travelled to various parts of BC to perform. In 2016 and again Jul 1-5, 2025 we sang in Powell River at "Kathaumixw" an international choral event. Over 600 singers from around the world gathered in Powell River to perform 18 concerts in just five days. During the fall and spring seasons our main choir is actively engaged in workshops and fundraising as well as requests for additional community events. Our 18-member Ensemble, formed in 1989, perform 30-35 sing-outs at care facilities and senior homes each year. We are managed by an 8-member volunteer Board of Directors elected on two-year rotating terms and many committees. We promote equality of opportunity for all our members and aim to ensure that no individual is discriminated against by following the non-discrimination policy found in the BC Human Rights Code and the Canadian Human Rights Act. We embrace and respect the diversity of our community and we endeavour at all times to celebrate music and song without discrimination

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$65,830.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$8,650.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2024	\$8,100.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$8,100.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$78,024.79	\$65,600.00
Total Expenses:	\$119,101.44	\$65,830.00

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	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Surplus:	(\$41,076.00)	(\$230.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$12,489.00	\$12,259.00
		Other Funders
BC Gaming Grant received:		\$12,000.00

Society: Familogue Education Society

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

Brief History of the Society and Its Role in Richmond Familogue was founded to address the unique needs of immigrant and newcomer families settling in Richmond, especially those striving to sustain their cultural heritage while building new lives in Canada. From its inception, Familogue has championed the power of family communication and cultural connection—beginning with grassroots initiatives to help children and parents retain their mother tongue, celebrate traditions, and adapt to life in a multicultural society. Over time, Familogue has expanded beyond language retention, now offering a rich spectrum of arts-based programs, intergenerational learning, creative workshops, counseling, and holistic community support services. The organization is shaped and led by culturally diverse educators and artists, ensuring services reflect the lived experiences of Richmond's families. Role in Richmond's Art and Culture Familogue actively enriches Richmond's vibrant arts ecosystem by presenting culturally relevant family literacy classes, Chinese reading theatre, and creative arts workshops that blend heritage education with contemporary artistic practice. The society places special emphasis on intergenerational dialogue and creative expression—enabling children and parents alike to deepen cultural identity, discover new art forms, and connect meaningfully through shared experiences. Through accessible events, partnerships with local artists, and outreach in multiple languages, Familogue bridges linguistic and cultural divides, increases access to the arts, and engages immigrant and multicultural families citywide. Today, Familogue is widely recognized as a grassroots leader in fostering multicultural coexistence, community integration, and ongoing heritage preservation in Richmond—supporting the city's vision of an inclusive, dynamic, and culturally rich community for all.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$172,526.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$215,035.00	\$191,699.00
Total Expenses:	\$136,443.00	\$172,526.00
Surplus:	\$78,592.00	\$19,172.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$122,988.00	\$140,467.00
		Other Funders
The New Horizon project for seniors and Accessibility Grant (Sensory Room Project):		\$56,500.00

Society: Arisun Yue Opera Society

Project Name: Butterfly Lovers

Dates: April 19, 2026

Project Summary

Jan 2026 - "Butterfly Lovers" initial planning, art director decides on choice of artists for each role. Jan 2026 - Apr 2026 - general affairs executive works on costume/prop/microphone purchase and shipping. Jan 2026 – Apr 2026, Yue Opera performance rehearsing (at a rental space of about 1000 sq ft in Richmond) on every Sunday afternoon.

Society Mission/Mandate

Yue opera, is the second most popular opera form out of over 360 opera genres in China. Founded in January 2018, The Arisun Yue Opera Society (AYOS) is the largest Yue Opera Society in our British Columbia. The AYOS has a mandate to promote Yue Opera Performance Development. Our program is to deliver both formal and informal Yue Opera production, learning and appreciation workshops, conferences and seminars for opera lovers and all Canadians.

Society History

Our association is a community-based organization with over 40 active members dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Yue Opera. Each year, we produce a formal public performance at established venues such as the Gateway Theatre, Ricerport Casino, Stange One Acadamy, or other major community centers. Since our founding, we have organized weekly workshops under the guidance of senior professional performers. Until February 2020, these rehearsals were held every Sunday in a rental space in Richmond. While the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted in-person gatherings, we successfully pivoted to online programming and produced four pre-recorded performances between 2020 and 2022, ensuring continuity of artistic practice and community engagement. Most of our members are residents of Richmond, and our association plays a unique role in training performers and bringing high-quality Yue Opera productions to the local community. On a regular basis, we attract audiences of 30–40 non-member attendees for smaller-scale live performances, in addition to larger public productions. In Feburay and September 2023, we had two major live Yue Opera performances at Gateway Theatre. Beyond our formal productions, our association is deeply engaged with the broader community. We regularly perform at cultural and seasonal festivals such as Chinese New Year, multicultural celebrations, and Christmas events, and at local venues including River Rock Casino, Stage One Academy, Yahan Centre, and senior residences such as Minoru Residence. These outreach activities extend the reach of Yue Opera, bringing this unique cultural art form to diverse audiences across Richmond.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$23,700.00

Society Operating Budget: \$43,400.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$3,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,050.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$29,790.00	\$43,400.00
Total Expenses:	\$30,592.07	\$43,400.00
Surplus:	(\$802.07)	\$0.01
Accumulated Surplus:	\$1,059.64	\$3.00
Other Funders		
BC gaming grant:		\$4,000.00

Society: BCPhilharmonic SOciety

Project Name: "Spring from East and West"

Dates: July 2026

Project Summary

"Spring from East and West" a new Violin and Pipa Double Concerto. The concerto will be performed by a solo violin and a solo pipa (a Chinese plucked instrument with 4 strings) accompanied by the BC Philharmonic Orchestra with some Chinese Traditional percussion instruments.

Society Mission/Mandate

Formed at the end of 2016, the BC Philharmonic Orchestra Society BCPO (formally known as Vancouver Youth Philharmonic Orchestra Society) is a non-profit society with a mandate to promote, to perform and to produce orchestra music in Vancouver as well as all over the world. The mission of the BC Philharmonic Society is to provide organizational support to promote and serve the needs of its members in their many musical activities. The founding principles of the Society are inclusion and innovation in developing a musical legacy. The mandate of the Society is to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of regional cultural activities, both contemporary and traditional, and share and develop common cultural understanding and experience with members and audience alike through public performance events and educational programs.

Society History

Since the end of 2016, the BCPS has become very popular in the greater Vancouver (including Richmond) community by giving out many public performances by musicians under the supervision of music director/conductor Ray Zhuo, who won the first prize at Romania Black Sea International Conducting Competition. We held a "Flash Mob" at the Richmond Lansdowne Mall in April 2017. We held the first annual concert at the Fraser-view Church in Richmond In June 2017. We were invited to perform to celebrate the New Year and Christmas at the Richmond Aberdeen Center 2017, 2018, 2019. We performed at Disney World, US, in Mar 2018. We held the concert at the Norman Rothstein Theatre Vancouver in June 19, 2018. We had a performance for the annual concert in the Scottish Culture Center in Vancouver on Jun 15, 2019. We performed a very successful concert of the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the creation of the "Yellow River Cantata". On October 20, 2019 with BC Philharmonic Orchestra and Vancouver Youth Philharmonic Orchestra combined Herald Chanters Choir and Si-Chuan Xing Hai Choir, we produced a very successful concert at the Chan Center of UBC and Grand Concert with BCPO and VYPO combined Herald Chanters Choir & S.C.U.T. Vancouver Alumni Chorus at Vancouver Playhouse on Dec. 22, 2019. On Dec 5, 2021, we performed at Broadmoor Church Richmond. We held the 2021 "New Years Concert in Cloud" in Richmond. We held a chamber-music concert in Stanley in July 2021. We participated in Cultural Days 2021 & 2022. We supported the Richmond Centre for Disability Online Fundraiser Concert 2021 & 2022. On Aug 6, 2022, we held

Sunshine Concert in South Arm Park, in Richmond. During Jul & Aug, 2022, we performed at Courtyard & Pinegrove Senior House in Richmond. Oct 1, 2022, we co-hosted "Raise Me Up" concert with Helkey Music at Broadmoor Church in Richmond.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$25,700.00

Society Operating Budget: \$65,200.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$3,850.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$84,000.00	\$66,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$80,700.00	\$65,200.00
Surplus:	\$3,300.00	\$800.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$17,422.00	\$18,222.00
Other Funders		
BC gaming grant:		\$1,000.00
Canada Art Council:		\$1,000.00

Society: Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association

Project Name: Multicultural Musical Recital Dedicated for Mom & Dad

Dates: May 9.2026

Project Summary

The Multicultural Musical Recital Dedicated for Mom & Dad is a community-based event that celebrates motherhood, family, and cultural diversity through music and performance. Featuring professional and emerging artists, the recital presents traditional and contemporary works that honor mothers and family bonds. Organized by CCCA, this annual Richmond event fosters intercultural understanding, supports local artists, and enriches the city's inclusive cultural landscape.

Society Mission/Mandate

The Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association (CCCA) is a non-profit society based in Richmond, BC, dedicated to fostering arts, culture, and community engagement. CCCA provides accessible programs and events for residents of all ages, including youth and seniors, to participate in and appreciate diverse artistic and cultural expressions. The organization supports local professional artists, facilitates artistic development, and promotes cross-cultural understanding and social inclusion within the Richmond community.

Society History

Established in 2016, CCCA has been actively contributing to the Richmond community for over 9 years. The organization has hosted the annual "Dedicated for Mom & Dad Multicultural Musical Recital," organized community workshops, and conducted youth arts competitions, providing local young people with opportunities to develop and showcase their talents in music, dance, and visual arts. CCCA also offers one-day cultural excursions and an annual Elderly Appreciation Banquet for seniors, enabling older residents to engage socially, enjoy cultural experiences, and stay connected to the community. These programs are free and publicly accessible, engaging local professional artists, fostering youth artistic development, enhancing cultural literacy, and promoting social cohesion and overall well-being in Richmond.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$11,470.00

Society Operating Budget: \$31,500.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$31,520.00	\$32,500.00
Total Expenses:	\$31,465.00	\$31,714.00
Surplus:	\$55.00	\$786.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$55.00	\$841.00
Other Funders		

Society: CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF ORIENTAL DRAMATIC ARTS

Project Name: The four Classic Novels of Literature

Dates: 2025/05/03

Project Summary

The Four Classics” – A Comic Theatrical Adaptation China’s greatest literary legends are reborn on stage with a modern twist! Journey to the West becomes a hilarious spiritual road trip, Dream of the Red Chamber turns into a poetic confession of youth, Water Margin transforms brotherhood into a start-up adventure, and Romance of the Three Kingdoms erupts into an absurd improvisational comedy. Through laughter and chaos, the play celebrates passion, humanity, and perseverance — a tribute to everyone who keeps the stage alive through love and devotion.

Society Mission/Mandate

Canadian Drama Arts Troupe is a federally incorporated not-for-profit (founded in 2018). We use theatre as a bridge to create heartfelt work that celebrates truth, goodness, and beauty and affirms people’s love for a better life. Our mandate includes the creation and presentation of original and repertory productions; training in voice, movement, and stagecraft for youth and adults; and bilingual (EN/zh) public education and community outreach. We enrich Canada’s multicultural landscape and foster cultural exchange between China and Canada. In recent seasons, we have produced stage plays, theatre for young audiences, and cross-media projects, sharing warmth and strength through carefully crafted work while building community connection.

Society History

Canadian Drama Arts Troupe has a long-standing connection with Richmond. Our rehearsals and many public presentations are based here, with past local productions including Sweet–Savory Pair (甜咸配) and Goodbye Mr. Loser (夏洛特烦恼). Recent activities include: in 2023, film work in Richmond (An Unnecessary Spring Festival Gala), plus Na Wei Stand-up and a Children’s Troupe Showcase at Superstar Stage; in 2024, another Children’s Troupe Showcase at Superstar Stage and the large-scale charity original Zen Realm (禅境界) at He Shi Theatre; and in 2025, the charity original Heart Lamp (心灯) planned at the Shaolin Zen Wu Culture Center. We will continue partnering with Richmond venues and community groups and provide bilingual (EN/zh) outreach to serve Richmond audiences and strengthen community connections.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$12,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$12,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$96,793.00	\$12,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$113,324.00	\$12,000.00
Surplus:	(\$16,531.00)	\$1.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$68,511.00	\$68,511.00

Other Funders

Society: Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society

Project Name: Moon Celebration

Dates: September 6, 2026

Project Summary

In this proposal, the Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society proposes a Full Moon Celebration event in Richmond City. Full Moon Celebrations are cultural traditions in many Asian countries and nations. The content of the event is Han Music performance by a professional Chinese instruments ensemble, singer, narrator and a community choir.

Society Mission/Mandate

The organization was established 16 years ago as 'Huayi'(VBCM) Production and later on registered as a non-profit organization as The Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society. The organization puts its energy to promote performing arts based on Chinese culture and to promote cultural exchange between Canada and China. The mission for the Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society is to promote performing arts and make a pool to pull people together from different cultures to work with music. Even though the Society is based on traditional Chinese culture, there is no limitation on opening and exploring new ideas and styles for the potential of creating new concepts for performing arts. Through these efforts, the society desires to benefit professional artists and audiences from our community.

Society History

The society has a professional profile with the Canada Council for the Arts. Han Music ensemble under management of the society is based in Richmond professional ensemble. Some leading musicians are residents of Richmond city. The society also manages a community choir. The choir rehearses regularly in Richmond and most of the singers and the vocal director are also residents in Richmond city.

September 26 2024, BC Richmond Cultural Day - Full Moon Celebration July 15 2023, out door event at Canadian Flower of Winery and the event received a cultural grant from Richmond city. July 2022, outdoor event at the Canadian Flower of Winery and the event received a cultural grant from Richmond city. Early 2022, a large video recording project at the Civic Theatre of Surrey Arts Center for music works from Canadian composers. Spring of 2022, brought some Canadian musicians traveling to USA for a collaborative project with Center of Chinese Music and Culture in Middle Tennessee State University. In the past: September 2019, produced "Red Moon" – expression of poem and music, concert At Fraserview Church in Richmond. February 2, 2018, partnered with the White Rock Chinese Association, CCPAS co produced a successful large scale stage show "Gala Showcase of Han Culture" at Bell Performing Arts Centre in Surrey. April 2017, cooperated with Vancouver Intercultural Orchestra for the "Hands On" international drum music festival. The Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society organized the Chinese music session. August 2016 produced the second music festival at Norman

Rothstein Theatre Vancouver. In 2015 the singers of the society performed with the Orchid Ensemble at Pyatt Hall of VSO school. Invited to perform at The Sound of Dragon International Music Festival in May 2014. The Han Chinese Music Ensemble, solo singer and Huayi Choir performed a concert titled "The Burst of Folk Songs" Productions to celebrate BC 150 and Vancouver 125 anniversary.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$11,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$36,500.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2024	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$3,850.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$24,306.11	\$40,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$15,239.65	\$38,000.00
Surplus:	\$9,066.46	\$2,000.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$9,066.46	\$2,000.00

Other Funders

Society: Familogue Education Society

Project Name: Multisensory Heritage & Literacy Culture Fairs

Dates: Once per month through January to December 2026

Project Summary

This project is an inclusive, family-centered celebration of Richmond's cultural diversity through multidisciplinary arts and heritage experiences. It brings together live Bunne Guitar music workshops, immersive sound installations, traditional Chinese sugar sculpting, interactive storytelling, hands-on crafts, digital art creation, and literary activities—all designed to foster creativity, cultural pride, and accessible learning for every participant. The festival provides a supportive space for families, discover Richmond's cultural heritage, and express their identities through art.

Society Mission/Mandate

Familogue empowers families—especially newcomer and multicultural households—by providing culturally inclusive arts and literacy programs that nurture strong relationships, foster trust, and enrich communication. Through creative expression, intergenerational learning, and community collaboration, Familogue cultivates a vibrant environment where families can celebrate heritage, bridge cultural divides, and thrive together—ensuring a fulfilling present while paving the way for a resilient and inclusive future.

Society History

Brief History of the Society and Its Role in Richmond Familogue was founded to address the unique needs of immigrant and newcomer families settling in Richmond, especially those striving to sustain their cultural heritage while building new lives in Canada. From its inception, Familogue has championed the power of family communication and cultural connection—beginning with grassroots initiatives to help children and parents retain their mother tongue, celebrate traditions, and adapt to life in a multicultural society. Over time, Familogue has expanded beyond language retention, now offering a rich spectrum of arts-based programs, intergenerational learning, creative workshops, counseling, and holistic community support services. The organization is shaped and led by culturally diverse educators and artists, ensuring services reflect the lived experiences of Richmond's families. Role in Richmond's Art and Culture Familogue actively enriches Richmond's vibrant arts ecosystem by presenting culturally relevant family literacy classes, Chinese reading theatre, and creative arts workshops that blend heritage education with contemporary artistic practice. The society places special emphasis on intergenerational dialogue and creative expression—enabling children and parents alike to deepen cultural identity, discover new art forms, and connect meaningfully through shared experiences. Through accessible events, partnerships with local artists, and outreach in multiple languages, Familogue bridges linguistic and cultural divides, increases access to the arts, and engages immigrant and multicultural families citywide. Today, Familogue is widely recognized as a grassroots

leader in fostering multicultural coexistence, community integration, and ongoing heritage preservation in Richmond—supporting the city’s vision of an inclusive, dynamic, and culturally rich community for all.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$26,200.00

Society Operating Budget: \$172,526.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$215,035.00	\$191,699.00
Total Expenses:	\$136,443.00	\$172,526.00
Surplus:	\$78,592.00	\$19,172.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$122,988.00	\$140,467.00
	Other Funders	

Society: Great Lakes Networking Society of BC

Project Name: Black History Beyond February 2026 (Mashujaa Celebration)

Dates: February 21th and March 14th 2026

Project Summary

Brief Project Summary

Society Mission/Mandate

Mission: We are a Black-led and Black-focused organization, dedicated to uplift members of our communities while supporting underserved and interfaith minority groups. We are mission-focused and community-oriented, we build bridges across cultures and faiths through arts, culture, education, sports, and advocacy. Grounded in Metro Vancouver yet reaching beyond, we empower marginalized communities with inclusive programs that promote creativity, innovation, equity, and social impact, guided by the principles of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA). Mandate: The Great Lakes Networking Society is mandated to advance arts and culture as the foundation for building inclusive, empowered communities. Through culturally grounded artistic programs, festivals, and educational initiatives, we celebrate diverse heritages, promote creativity, and engage underrepresented voices. We as we strengthen and promote social justice, community cohesion, and leadership development through public art, youth mentorship, and cultural exchange. We are centered at Anti-racism, accessibility, and decolonization, using the Arts

Society History

The Great Lakes Networking Society of BC (GLNS) has been committed to serving communities across Greater Vancouver, including cities as Surrey, North Vancouver, and Richmond, through initiatives that promote inclusion, cultural celebration, and social support. Over the years, we have delivered food programs to seniors in local care facilities, organized events that celebrated Black History at the Richmond Library for children and families, as well as having participated in planning the African Zone in Richmond's multicultural festivals until 2019. Despite challenges, including the setbacks caused by COVID-19, our dedication to amplifying voices and cultures of the Black/African diaspora in Richmond has never wavered. In previous grant applications, such as the Black History Beyond February 2024–2025, we faced obstacles in securing promising funding, reflecting the broader reality that communities of African descent often must work twice as hard to access the same opportunities due to systemic barriers and discrimination. The work we do in communities, is guided by a strong commitment to equity, cultural expression, and community engagement. In the round table conversations with the Mayor of Richmond around 2024, he encouraged us to continue applying for city arts and culture grants, recognizing the need for more Black/African cultural events in Richmond. This encouragement reinforced our determination to keep providing meaningful, accessible, and culturally rich programming that celebrates diversity, combats exclusion, racism, and builds bridges across communities. By

supporting our initiatives, the City of Richmond has the opportunity to strengthen the cultural fabric of the city, showcase the talents of local Black/African artists, providing inclusive experiences for residents of all ages. Great Lakes Networking Society remains steadfast in our mission to create spaces/platforms where culture, creativity, and community thrive together.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$90,570.00

Society Operating Budget: \$200,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$104,800.00	\$200,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$104,800.00	\$200,000.00
Surplus:	\$5.00	\$5.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$5.00	\$5.00
		Other Funders
1. BC Arts Council, \$5,000, 2. BC Gaming \$10,000 and 3. City of Vancouver \$10,000:		\$25,000.00
Multiculturalism Anti Racism Initiatives thro' Canadian Heritage:		\$39,000.00
Vancity Foundation:		\$5,000.00

Society: Latincouver Cultural & Business Society

Project Name: Chiquitzin Kids' Fiesta

Dates: July 18th, 2026

Project Summary

Scheduled for July 18, 2025, Chiquitzin Kids' Fiesta is meant to run from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM and will include art making activities, storytelling events, a magic show, as well as face painting and dress up workshops. The event will also feature a soccer tournament that will be available to participants in celebration of Latin America's love for the sport as well as the 2026 World Cup. Performances throughout the event will include singing and dancing, yoga lessons, story telling shows, musical activities, and a magic show.

Society Mission/Mandate

Latincouver Cultural & Business Society is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to build relationships and cultural exchange between the Latin American community and the Canadian mosaic. We include and engage the people we serve through four pillars that function as the heart of our organization: Supporting Communities, Empowering People, Promoting Culture, Connecting Business. Latincouver is dedicated to empowering and inspiring newcomers, local Latin Americans, and Latin Enthusiasts; helping them enhance their lives, and fostering healthy, inclusive communities in Canada. Through sharing Latin American arts and culture, we strive to build a vibrant, connected society. Latincouver's training programs and initiatives help newcomers shine by offering them the tools and confidence to succeed. By showcasing their unique talents and skills, we contribute to a stronger, more inclusive Canada where diversity is celebrated as a strength. The programs we provide are for the benefit of the community, including: Carnaval del Sol and Latin American Experience festival, Latin American Heritage Month festival, Brazilian Experience, Carnavalito, the Latin-Canadian Business Council (LCBC), Verde Vancouver, Latino Seniors, Latin Plaza Hub coworking space, Mentoring and Supporting Newcomers, Pitch Fest, Chiquitzin Kid's Plaza, training programs, Inspiration Awards, and a series of online/hybrid webinars, workshops, and dialogues to help me adapt to life in Canada.

Society History

Latincouver Cultural Business & Society was established in 2009 to give a voice to the Latin American community in Vancouver via physical and virtual spaces capable of fostering and promoting Latin American artistic and social interaction in Canada. Furthermore, the society was founded with the goal to build a strong community and create opportunities for local Latin American communities to have an impact on the Canadian mosaic. To this end, Latincouver has dedicated itself to organizing festivals that celebrate the rich traditions and cultures of Latin American while promoting local Latin American businesses, beginning with the inaugural Carnaval del Sol at the Hellenic Community Plaza. Over the years after the initial launch, Latincouver has successfully organized seventeen different iterations of

the Carnaval del Sol as well as several other rich festivals that celebrated the many different aspects of Latin American culture. Some of these festivals include ExpoPlaza Latina, the Latin American Heritage Month Festival, and the Brazilian Experience Festival. These festivals demonstrate Latincouver’s expertise in organizing cultural events that provide enriching experiences for the people of Metro Vancouver, as well as the space for multicultural exchange, transporting and integrating Latin American arts into the Canadian mosaic. This year, Latincouver held the first Carnavalito on the Road in Richmond. An extension of Latincouver’s flagship festival, Carnaval del Sol, this festival had the purpose of bringing the vibrant celebration of Latin American culture to places beyond downtown Vancouver. The event took place on July 17, 2025, and was designed as an immersive cultural experience that emphasized inclusivity, unity, and community engagement. In partnership with local organizations, including the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, the event reflected Latincouver’s commitment to expanding cultural programming beyond Vancouver’s downtown core. Carnavalito on the Road not only enriched Richmond’s cultural landscape but also contributed to building a stronger, more connected community.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$49,600.00

Society Operating Budget: \$2,201,659.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$3,000.00	Parks, Recreation & Community Events

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$2,089,779.00	\$2,201,659.00
Total Expenses:	\$242,742.00	\$2,199,183.00
Surplus:	(\$383,732.00)	\$2,476.00
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$242,488.00)	\$2,476.00
		Other Funders
BC Gaming and Creative BC:		\$7,500.00
Canadian Heritage:		\$15,000.00

Society: Philippine Cultural Arts Society of BC

Project Name: Preserving Heritage in Motion: Restoration of Traditional Filipino Dance Costumes & Props for Community Performances

Dates: May - August 2026

Project Summary

The Philippine Cultural Arts Society of BC (PhilCAS) will restore and preserve a selection of traditional Filipino folk dance costumes and props to prepare for upcoming community performances in Richmond. Many of these pieces have been used for over a decade and require professional cleaning, repairs, and documentation. This project will ensure that PhilCAS can continue to present authentic, high-quality cultural performances at local festivals and events while preserving the artistry and heritage represented in each costume.

Society Mission/Mandate

- To educate, inform and enrich people residing in North America of the traditions and culture of the Philippines, in particular those of Filipino birth, ancestry, or affiliation.
- To create activities where people can participate in order to explore, learn, understand and share the values, tradition and practices and customs of the Filipino people as well as the varied cultures existent in this Canadian society.
- To assist the youth in developing a sense of community and responsibility they learn to respect their own cultures, heritage and traditions.

Society History

Founded in 2000 by Tonette and Nes Gatus, the Philippine Cultural Arts Society of British Columbia (PhilCAS of BC) began as a small group of Filipino-Canadian youth practicing folk dances in the couple's backyard. Their vision was to give young people the opportunity to discover and celebrate their Filipino heritage through dance and music. Since then, PhilCAS has grown into one of BC's premier Filipino folk dance groups, performing at theatres, multicultural festivals, and community events across the province. The society's success is driven by dedicated volunteers, parents, and community partners—including the City of Richmond and local organizations that have supported its mission for over two decades. In Fall 2025, PhilCAS joined the Richmond Cultural Centre's public programming, offering Filipino folk dance classes, with plans to continue through 2026. This milestone reflects the society's ongoing commitment to cultural education, community engagement, and youth empowerment.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$4,000.00

Project Budget: \$8,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$22,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2023	\$4,125.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$8,624.96	\$22,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$10,535.14	\$22,000.00
Surplus:	\$1,910.18	\$1.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$1,910.18	\$1.00

Other Funders

Society: Richmond Art Gallery Association

Project Name: Art After Dark Youth Series 2026

Dates: May, July, and September or October 2026

Project Summary

Presented by Richmond Art Gallery in partnership with Richmond Youth Services, this free after-hours event for youth (13–24 yrs old) runs three times a year. Each edition features hands-on artmaking, meet-the-artist sessions, music, and social activities introducing youth to gallery artists and staff in a welcoming, inclusive space. With free supplies, refreshments, and low-barrier access, the series fosters creativity, connection, and cultural learning. Sessions will take place during other City-wide events: Youth Week in May, Pride Week in July, and Culture Days in September/October.

Society Mission/Mandate

Richmond Art Gallery's mandate is to exhibit, preserve, and promote contemporary visual arts, as well as to provide exhibition related programming. The Gallery is dedicated to promoting dialogue among diverse communities on challenging ideas and issues of today as expressed through local, national and international contemporary art. Through its exhibitions, publications, educational programming, collections, and significant partnerships, RAG provides opportunities for the enrichment of life in Richmond while serving the contemporary arts community in Canada.

Society History

Richmond Art Gallery opened its doors in 1980, obtained non-profit charitable status in 1987, and moved to its present location in the Richmond Cultural Centre in 1992. The Gallery has 3,500 square feet of exhibition space, an activity room for workshops and programs, and storage facilities for a Permanent Collection of almost 400 works. To date, the Gallery has presented more than 1500 exhibitions of contemporary art. The Gallery is open and free to the public seven days a week. Education and outreach programs operate year round both online and in person, and include the School Art Program, artist talks and tours, and artist workshops. The Gallery currently offers tours in English and Mandarin, while gallery attendants welcome and orient visitors to the current exhibitions daily. The School Art Program is led by a professional artist and BC certified teacher who adapts all tours and workshops to the grade level and BC school curriculum and serves Richmond, Delta, Tsawwassen, and Vancouver area schools. With an average annual attendance of 20,000 the Richmond Art Gallery welcomes visitors from Richmond, the Greater Vancouver Regional District, the Gulf Islands and the Lower Mainland, as well as provincial, national, and international tourists. The Richmond Art Gallery is well respected regionally and nationally for its quality programming and publications, and for its excellence in art education.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$19,184.00

Society Operating Budget: \$209,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2024	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$180,174.00	\$209,001.00
Total Expenses:	\$198,093.00	\$209,000.00
Surplus:	(\$17,919.00)	\$1.00
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$17,919.00)	(\$17,919.00)
		Other Funders
Gaming Grant, BC Arts Council grant:		\$13,500.00

Society: Steveston Historical Society

Project Name: Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes

Dates: January - August 2026 (performances in the summer 2026)

Project Summary

Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes - a performance series developed through collaboration between the Steveston Historical Society and the drama department of Steveston-London Secondary School. Students audition for roles and learn scripts that bring stories from Steveston's past to life. Dressed in 1917 period costumes, the students perform at curated stops of key historic sites in Steveston Village. The project enriches community understanding of local history but also provides students with valuable opportunities to develop acting skills, public speaking, and historical interpretation.

Society Mission/Mandate

The Steveston Historical Society (SHS) has been active since 1976. Its mandate is to connect Steveston's diverse heritage with the community through advocacy, and by developing programs and events that educate, engage, and celebrate the rich history of the people of Steveston, British Columbia.

Society History

The Steveston Historical Society (SHS) is governed by a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors committed to preserving and sharing the diverse heritage of Steveston, BC. Through the organization of events, educational programs, and community initiatives, SHS connects both residents and visitors to the stories that define this historic coastal village. One of its most impactful achievements was the restoration of the Steveston Museum, originally constructed in 1905 as the village's first bank. The Society undertook the collection of artifacts, photographs, and archival documents, and curated historical exhibits that reflected the area's vibrant history. In 1979, the restored building reopened as the Steveston Museum and Post Office, serving as a central hub for both historical interpretation and community engagement. Over the decades, SHS has contributed significantly to the preservation of key historical buildings throughout the Steveston area, including involvement in the preservation of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. Today, the Society continues its legacy through a partnership with the City of Richmond to operate the Steveston Museum. In addition, SHS holds the franchise for the on-site Canada Post Office, maintaining the building's dual function as both a heritage site and a working community space. In 2010, the Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society (JFBS) building was relocated to the museum site and officially opened in 2015. These exhibits trace the community's contributions from early immigration and involvement in the fishing industry through to the injustices and resilience of the internment era. Recent projects include: - Fishermans Mural - Nikkei Stories of Steveston - Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes - Songs in the Snow - A Vintage Christmas -

Steveston Vintage Fair - The Rise, Fall and Rise Again of Steveston – An app based self-guided walking tour of Steveston Village using the On This Spot App, comparing then and now photos of Steveston.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$92,500.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2024	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,125.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$96,317.00	\$92,500.00
Total Expenses:	\$96,498.00	\$92,000.00
Surplus:	(\$181.00)	\$500.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$20,050.00	\$20,550.00
	Other Funders	
Gaming:		\$4,300.00

Society: Textile Arts Guild of Richmond

Project Name: TAGOR Speakers Series

Dates: 1 May 2026 - 30 April 2027

Project Summary

Since 1975, TAGOR has been offering its members presentations by local, regional, national and international fabric arts teachers and speakers. For its 2026-27 Speakers Series, the Guild will offer five speaker events

Society Mission/Mandate

The Textile Arts Guild of Richmond (TAGOR) currently fulfils its mandate by: 1) Advancing textile arts creation by offering members educational and inspiring services such as guest speakers, demonstrations, workshops and Library resources. It publicizes and encourages members to enter public shows and exhibitions with works by the individual and by the Guild. It offers demonstrations of art and hands-on learning experiences several times a year for the public (i.e. Culture Days) 2) Producing and creating quilts, book bags, knitted items etc., as requested by our community partner organizations. We also actively seek out new organizations with connections to Richmond that can benefit from our donations 3) Repurposing/repairing textiles for the community to reduce textile waste in landfills.

Society History

TAGOR was formed in 1975. From 1976 to 1988 the Guild focused on educational workshops and speakers. TAGOR offered eight major public exhibitions in these years. From 2000 to 2010 TAGOR members wanted to do more community work and began searching for local organizations to help. In 2011-12, over 70 quilts for the Japanese Tsunami victims were created and sent. In 2012, TAGOR began its partnership with the City of Richmond Parks Department and Tourism Richmond in the creation sale of utility bags made from Richmond Street Banners. In 2012-13, TAGOR launched and successfully completed its 100 Quilt Challenge for Lion's Manor. In 2016 TAGOR created 12 quilts for the families moving into the Habitat for Humanities Richmond Project houses. TAGOR applied for and received a Canada 150 Grant in 2017 and worked with Richmond Public Library to create Our Canadian Bookcase, a quilted wall hanging featuring 150 Canadian authors suggested by the public. In 2018 the TAGOR website was re-designed including online registration for workshops. In 2019, TAGOR was chosen by Richmond Public Art to participate in the No. 3 Road Art Column project, successfully completed in February 2020. In Spring 2021, TAGOR partnered with the Richmond Cultural Centre to present three public online events. During the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 TAGOR produced regular hybrid meetings with speakers and regular attendees from all over BC and Canada. Two more community donation partners were added: Elmbidge Supportive Housing and Aster Place. In early 2023 TAGOR added textile repairing and repurposing to its aims and now regularly sends sewists to

help at the Richmond Repair Fairs. In 2024 it connected with the Richmond Museum to provide 3 historic quilts for their "Family Treasures" Exhibit. In 2025 TAGOR celebrated its 50th Anniversary and created 35 quilts for the opening of Harbour House, Richmond's new transition housing program for women and children.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$1,300.00

Project Budget: \$2,645.80

Society Operating Budget: \$12,480.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$1,300.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2024	\$1,250.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$1,558.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$14,951.00	\$12,480.00
Total Expenses:	\$9,044.26	\$13,360.00
Surplus:	\$4,671.36	(\$880.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$0.01	\$0.01

Other Funders

Society: The Unsold Media Foundation

Project Name: Humans of Richmond

Dates: Sep 1, 2026

Project Summary

Humans of Richmond is a storytelling initiative by The Unsold Media Foundation (TUMF) that celebrates the diverse voices of Richmond residents through a coffee-table style booklet and a series of companion podcasts. The project will open public nominations, select 20 individuals, and conduct professional photoshoots and rapid-fire interviews at our community partner's venue. These stories will be designed into a high-quality booklet, amplified through social media, and shared at a public launch event hosted in Richmond. The project will run from February to September 2026.

Society Mission/Mandate

The purposes of the Society are:

- To provide a platform for unheard voices: Offer free and accessible media space for individuals, grassroots organizations, and communities who cannot afford mainstream media exposure.
- To promote inclusive and community-driven journalism: Encourage public participation in storytelling, news reporting, and content creation that reflects diverse social, political, and cultural perspectives.
- To support local businesses and nonprofits: Enable cost-free promotion and visibility for small businesses, startups, and nonprofit initiatives that lack traditional advertising budgets.
- To reduce commercial and political bias in media: Create editorial and promotional content that is independent, transparent, and free from corporate or political influence.
- To foster media literacy and public dialogue: Educate communities on how media works, encourage critical thinking, and facilitate open dialogue on current affairs and social issues.
- To empower marginalized communities: Amplify the voices of those often excluded from mainstream narratives—such as low-income individuals, immigrants, youth, Indigenous peoples, and minority groups.
- To act as a media support hub for civic engagement: Support advocacy, awareness campaigns, and civic initiatives by providing a communication platform for public interest causes.

Society History

The Unsold Media Foundation (TUMF) was born out of a powerful grassroots initiative called Stranger Story — a book series and podcast channel that amplifies the inspirational life journeys of everyday people. The journey began in April 2019, when the founder, while traveling, struck up a conversation with a stranger. That chance encounter created a profound sense of belonging, and their conversation was later written into a story. From there, countless encounters in cafés, on bus rides, and in public spaces were transformed into short texts and shared on the Stranger Story Instagram page. The initiative quickly gained traction. In 2020, a publisher approached the founder to compile 25 of these stories into a book, leading to the publication of Stranger Story Edition 1. After moving to Canada in 2024, the founder expanded the initiative to include video podcasts on YouTube, inviting community

members to share their voices. The Stranger Story channel has now garnered over 1 million views. In 2025, the third edition, Women of Surrey, was released, highlighting 17 remarkable women from the community. That same year, the City of Surrey sponsored the first-ever Stranger Story live event, “Future Leaders of Surrey,” providing a platform for youth voices. The project’s impact has been recognized widely, with features in major media outlets such as Darpan Magazine, Drishti Magazine, Entertainment Magazine, Surrey Now-Leader, Canada Tabloid, Times of Canada, and Radio CKNW. Today, TUMF carries forward this legacy by using storytelling as a tool for connection, empowerment, and cultural preservation. From books and podcasts to live community events, TUMF continues to create spaces where unheard voices can inspire, educate, and unite.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$8,700.00

Society Operating Budget: \$10,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00
Surplus:	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00

Other Funders



Society: The Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Society

Project Name: The Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival

Dates: Feb 21-March 8 2026

Project Summary

VIMFF will expand its February 2026 Festival to Richmond, presenting two evenings of award-winning adventure and environmental films paired with live guest speakers at the Richmond Olympic Oval. The program will also include special youth screenings with local schools, community partner activations, and free beginner climbing lessons, offering Richmond residents a vibrant, participatory arts experience that connects film, culture, and the outdoors.

Society Mission/Mandate

The Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Society (VIMFF) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to celebrating and advancing the connection between people, place, and the natural world through the arts, film, and storytelling. Since 1998, VIMFF has provided a platform for filmmakers, photographers, athletes, and changemakers to share stories that inspire exploration, environmental stewardship, and cross-cultural understanding. Our mission is to bring communities together through film and dialogue, fostering appreciation for the mountains, outdoor adventure, and global cultures that connect us. We believe in the transformative power of storytelling to spark curiosity, empathy, and environmental responsibility. Each year, VIMFF presents its flagship February Festival in venues across Metro Vancouver, featuring over 70 films, live presentations, panel discussions, and community events. In addition to the main festival, VIMFF produces satellite tours and outreach events that extend access to diverse audiences across British Columbia and Canada. VIMFF's programming reflects our core values of inclusivity, collaboration, and sustainability. We strive to amplify underrepresented voices in adventure and environmental storytelling, including Indigenous filmmakers, women adventurers, and creators from diverse cultural and geographic backgrounds. Through partnerships with local organizations, schools, and cultural institutions, VIMFF creates accessible, inspiring, and educational programming that connects art, recreation, and community engagement. Our long-term vision is to ensure that everyone—regardless of geography, age, or background—can experience the awe and insight that comes from stories about our planet and the people who explore and protect it.

Society History

Over nearly three decades, VIMFF has grown from a single-venue festival in Vancouver to a multi-community event that spans Metro Vancouver and reaches audiences across Canada through live screenings, tours, and online programming. VIMFF's annual February Festival is now recognized as one of North America's leading mountain and adventure film festivals, presenting over 70 films, live presentations, and workshops that bring together filmmakers, athletes, and environmental leaders from around the world. In Richmond, VIMFF has a meaningful history of community engagement and

presentation. From 2017 to 2019, the Society hosted three consecutive years of screenings and activations at the Richmond Olympic Oval, transforming the venue into a hub for outdoor culture and environmental storytelling. These events included large-scale film nights in the climbing gym, live presentations, local partner booths, and introductory climbing clinics, as well as smaller, evening screenings in the Oval's theatre. VIMFF's return to Richmond post pandemic (and organizational pandemic recovery) represents a natural continuation of this successful relationship. The city's diverse and active community, along with the Olympic Oval's unique connection to sport and recreation, provides an ideal setting for VIMFF's mission to inspire exploration, cultural connection, and environmental awareness. The Society's renewed focus on Richmond will strengthen local arts and cultural programming while providing new opportunities for Richmond residents—particularly youth and families—to experience world-class media arts and community engagement close to home.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$18,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$717,730.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$699,317.00	\$717,730.00
Total Expenses:	\$753,079.00	\$712,458.00
Surplus:	\$53,762.00	\$5,272.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$24,709.00	\$5,272.00
		Other Funders
BC Gaming, Portion of confirmed grant for 2026:		\$1,000.00
Canada Council for the Arts - Portion of unconfirmed grant for 2026:		\$2,000.00
Metro Vancouver - Portion of confirmed grant for 2026:		\$750.00



Society: Vancouver Cantonese Opera

Project Name: Richmond Cultural Harmony 2025

Dates: 2026 February, July, August, all year round Free Performance Technique class

Project Summary

In 2026, Vancouver Cantonese Opera (VCO) will present free programs in Richmond to engage diverse audiences. Year-round weekly Chinese Opera Performance Technique classes will offer hands-on training in traditional stage movement and gestures. In April, a free Cantonese Opera Concert will be held at the Richmond Arts Centre's "Under the Stair" hall. In collaboration with the Richmond Public Library, VCO will host two workshops: The Heartbeat of Chinese Opera: Exploring Percussion Rhythms and The Awakening workshops, offering unique insights into tradition and innovation.

Society Mission/Mandate

Mission / Mandate Vancouver Cantonese Opera (VCO) is dedicated to preserving, promoting, and innovating the art of Cantonese opera while making it accessible and engaging for diverse audiences. Our mandate is to celebrate this centuries-old art form through high-quality performances, educational workshops, and community outreach that highlight its artistry, traditions, and contemporary relevance. Since 2013, VCO has been actively presenting cultural activities in Richmond and across the region. We engage Richmond-based artists, provide free and affordable programs, and create opportunities for both Chinese and non-Chinese community members to experience and participate in Cantonese opera. Through collaborations with partners such as the Richmond Public Library and Richmond Arts Center, we ensure that our activities are inclusive, accessible, and welcoming to all ages and backgrounds. By blending heritage with creativity, VCO nurtures artistic excellence, supports local artists, and inspires the next generation to appreciate the unique beauty of Cantonese opera as a living cultural treasure.

Society History

Since 2000, Vancouver Cantonese Opera (VCO) has been dedicated to preserving, promoting, and innovating the art of Cantonese opera. VCO has played an active role in Richmond's cultural life for over two decades, with consistent programming in the community since 2013. In 2023, following the pandemic, VCO launched Cantonese Opera in the Cloud — live Zoom productions designed to reduce social isolation and connect audiences online. In 2024 and 2025, our collaboration with the City of Richmond expanded to include a series of Cantonese opera workshops at the Richmond Public Library, the Water Sleeve Flashmob Dance Camp, and the Cantonese Opera Extravaganza. We also presented behind-the-scenes sessions, concerts, and singing workshops. In 2025, VCO introduced a free weekly Chinese Performance Technique class, offering accessible training to both Chinese and non-Chinese community members. Looking ahead to 2026, VCO will continue to strengthen its Richmond presence through weekly free technique classes, a free Cantonese opera concert at the Richmond Arts Center, and new workshops such as The Awakening and The Heartbeat of Chinese Opera: Exploring

Percussion Rhythms. Through these initiatives, VCO supports local artists, ensures accessibility and affordability, and provides audiences of all backgrounds opportunities to experience Cantonese opera as a living cultural treasure.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00

Project Budget: \$36,300.00

Society Operating Budget: \$200,908.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2025	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2024	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,050.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$201,067.00	\$200,908.00
Total Expenses:	\$214,897.00	\$199,908.00
Surplus:	(\$13,830.00)	\$1,000.00
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$13,830.00)	(\$5,330.00)
Other Funders		
BC Gaming Fund:		\$15,500.00
Equity fund:		\$2,500.00