

2019 Active Living & Culture Grants Professional Operating Guidelines

Deadline: Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. PST

If you have questions after reviewing these guidelines, you can obtain more information from Cultural Services staff. Please contact staff well in advance of the deadline:

Christine McWillis
Cultural Services Manager
250-470-0460
cmcwillis@kelowna.ca

Submit required materials by the deadline to:

2019 Professional Operating Grants
City of Kelowna Cultural Services Branch
City Hall
1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4
HOURS: Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CITY OF KELOWNA ACTIVE LIVING & CULTURE DIVISION

CORE PRINCIPLES:

The City of Kelowna's Active Living & Culture Division administers a number of grant programs and services for the community which:

- encourage active healthy lifestyles
- build strong neighbourhoods
- nurture lifelong participation in sport
- enhance cultural vibrancy
- facilitate development of events
- enhance social sustainability
- support effective management and operation of sport, recreation and cultural facilities

Organizations seeking funding support from the City of Kelowna through any of the grant programs administered by the Active Living & Culture Division should be aware of and aligned with one or more these core principles.

VALUES:

Any organization supported by the City of Kelowna will commit to the following values:

- accessibility, diversity and inclusion: the organization will not unreasonably exclude anyone by reason of religion, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, income
- accountability and fiscal responsibility: using resources effectively and efficiently
- innovation: being leaders in finding new solutions
- optimizing value: generating more value and impact from existing resources
- partnerships and collaboration: working with others to leverage energy, talent and resources

Cultural Grants – Professional Operating Program is one of many grant programs provided by the City of Kelowna. Information about other grant opportunities is available on the City's website: kelowna.ca/grants

1.0 PROFESSIONAL OPERATING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

1.1 *Objectives:*

This program aims to provide consistent and reliable annual support to professional, established non-profit arts and cultural organizations which provide impactful, quality programs and services, demonstrate sustainable operations and contribute to realization of the City's cultural vision, principles and goals.

Support provided by the City of Kelowna will assist these organizations with operational sustainability and enable development and delivery of their programs and services in the community. Support is provided on an annual basis.

The current objectives for this program include:

Cultural vitality:

- Foster cultural leadership and artistic excellence
- Integrate local heritage as part of cultural vitality
- Enhance cultural vitality at street level: make arts, culture and heritage more visible, particularly in urban centres, neighbourhoods and public spaces
- Increase the number of people who attend and participate in arts, culture and heritage offerings
- Build cultural citizenship and creative fitness: encourage individual expression and participation in arts, culture and heritage activity; youth engagement and arts education; outreach and creativity to reduce barriers to individual expression and participation.

Strengthen the cultural ecosystem:

- Capitalize on culture for tourism and the economy: activities and programs which promote and raise the cultural profile of Kelowna for both residents and visitors; contributing to a robust and dynamic creative economy through professional development and remunerated activity of artists and cultural workers;
- Connect the cultural community; use a collaborative approach to reach across disciplines and sectors to enhance operational effectiveness and delivery of impactful programs in the community.

Support provided by the City of Kelowna will assist these organizations with operational sustainability and enable development and delivery of their programs and services in the community. Support is provided on an annual basis.

1.2 *Organization profile:*

Organizations participating in this program are Kelowna-based, established, professional non-profit arts and cultural organizations that have a mission to develop, create, produce, present and disseminate artistic work in any artistic discipline (Aboriginal arts, community arts, dance, interdisciplinary, literary, media, multidisciplinary, music, theatre, visual arts).

1.3 Eligibility:

To participate in this program, the organization must:

- be a registered non-profit society or a registered charity with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and be registered for at least five (5) years at the time of the application deadline,
- be physically located, have an active presence and have programs and services delivered within the City of Kelowna for at least three (3) years at the time of the application deadline,
- have an established body of high quality work with a track record of consistent delivery and demand,
- have a clear and relevant mission and long-term goals and strategies represented in an organization strategic plan,
- have received at least two (2) consecutive General Operating Program Grants from City of Kelowna Cultural Services,
- compensate professional artists at standard rates,
- have an independent Board of Directors composed of volunteers and representative of its mission and audience. Directors must:
 - Meet the minimum statutory requirements imposed by the relevant incorporation statute (i.e. *BC Societies Act*);
 - Not be remunerated for their services as Director (except for reimbursement of reasonable expenses) nor hold concurrent staff positions; and
 - Function in a governance role and be active in policy, planning, legal and fiduciary responsibilities.
- have full-time professional and paid leadership (artistic and administrative) – minimum 1 FTE,
- have well-developed administrative systems, including financial, human resources and communications,
- have financial resources and practices including:
 - Sustained average annual cash budget of at least \$200,000;
 - Diverse income including earned revenue, private sector sponsorships, donations and public sector support;
 - Independently-prepared professional financial statements (audit or review engagement).

1.4 Ineligible organizations:

- Publicly funded or private educational institutions (public schools, universities, colleges, training organizations), religious and political groups
- Organizations whose mandates, operations and activities are not consistent with the program objectives, description and/or eligibility requirements
- Organizations whose operations and activities are not consistent with the program objectives, description and/or eligibility requirements

- Organizations which receive City of Kelowna operating support through:
 - a Lease & Operating Agreement,
 - a Service Agreement,
 - directly by a budget line item, or
 - the General Operating program.
- Organizations which have outstanding indebtedness to the City of Kelowna or which have not fulfilled reporting requirements for any previous grants from the City of Kelowna
- Unincorporated committees, groups, collectives or individuals.

1.5 Eligible activities and expenses:

Core operating activities and expenses that are used to support the organization's operational sustainability and enable the development and delivery of programs and services in the community and are not excluded expenses or activities as described in para 1.6.

1.6 Ineligible activities and expenses:

- fundraising activities
- projects which already receive financial or in kind support (including site provision) from other City of Kelowna sources
- retroactive funding for initiatives which have already occurred
- deficit reduction
- bursaries or scholarships
- activities focused on politics, education, religion, or advocacy
- acquisition of real property
- development of capital proposals or feasibility studies
- activities focused on attracting a limited or special interest audience

2.0 APPLICATION PROCESS

Due to the nature of the eligibility criteria for this program, please contact Christine McWillis, (250) 470-0640, cmcwillis@kelowna.ca to obtain more information.

Eligible organizations will submit a package of requested materials to Cultural Services by the program deadline, **3 p.m. PST, Thursday, December 13, 2018** to:

2019 Professional Operating Grants
City of Kelowna Cultural Services Branch
City Hall
1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4
HOURS: Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

* Applications will be accepted through Canada Post mail provided that they are received prior to the deadline.

Or email a scanned hard-copy or digitally signed PDF, and required support materials, to
Christine McWillis
Cultural Services Manager
cmcwillis@kelowna.ca

*If sending via email, please ensure you receive confirmation of submission.

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted and funding distribution may be impacted.

3.0 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The criteria listed below and in Schedule 1 represent 'good' practices for established professional non-profit arts and culture organizations. Assessment will be based on the degree to which organizations meet the criteria, based on the information they provide.

All organizations are unique, and will be at different stages in their lifecycle; there is no expectation that an organization must be demonstrating exceptional performance in all areas in order to receive funding support. However, the assessment criteria provide an objective framework within which the organization's overall performance can be considered, and form the basis for constructive feedback to the organization.

Criteria are grouped into five (5) categories:

- Planning, Leadership and Administration (15%)
- Artistic Programs and Services (30%)
- Participation and Impact (30%)
- Financial Management (15%)
- Board and Governance (10%)

Detailed criteria are listed in Schedule 1 of these Guidelines.

4.0 ASSESSMENT AND APPROVAL PROCESS

4.1 *Staff Review:*

Applications in this program are evaluated through Cultural Services staff review, which provides an opportunity for deeper analysis than would be possible through an independent committee. Staff may call upon experienced sector or discipline experts from other communities or funding agencies in an advisory capacity when circumstances warrant and may also consider input from the City of Kelowna's Finance Department.

4.2 *Interview:*

Following completion of staff review, applicants (typically represented by one management staff person and one Board member), are invited to an interview with the Cultural Services Manager to discuss review findings, build understanding about how the organization will address any concerns arising, and engage in broader dialogue about the health of the sector, trends, and how the City of Kelowna can improve its service to the sector.

4.3 Notification:

Following the interview, a staff report to City Council with funding recommendations will be prepared and applicants will receive notification of the funding recommendations along with feedback arising from the review process.

4.4 Funding Reductions and Fair Notice:

The City of Kelowna may, in order to accommodate increasing demand in this program, reduce an organization’s funding in any year by up to 15% of the organization’s previous grant without advance notice. If the City wishes to reduce an organization’s funding by more than 15%, the City will give the organization at least 12 months’ advance notice of the proposed reduction.

Feedback from City staff may include recommendations for improvement to the organization’s program quality, organizational effectiveness, or community engagement and impact. Lack or insufficiency of response will be considered in future applications and may result in a reduction or withdrawal of support, or the imposition of conditions for future program eligibility.

4.5 Request for Clarification/Request for Reconsideration:

Applicants who do not agree with a funding recommendation may request further clarification from staff, or if still in disagreement after clarification, may make a formal request for reconsideration by the Director of Active Living & Culture Division. In the event of a formal request for reconsideration, the City may delay distribution of some or all of the funds in this program until all of the recommendations have been resolved and approved by Council.

4.6 Council Approval/Distribution:

Following presentation of the staff report and approval of funding recommendations by City Council, applicants will receive a cheque and an accompanying confirmation letter detailing any terms and conditions, feedback or follow up items. Funding amounts approved by City Council are final.

4.7 Annual Report:

Organizations receiving funding through this program may be asked to provide an annual report directly to City Council as Public-in-Attendance. Dates and formats for these presentations are arranged through the Cultural Services Manager.

5.0 PROGRAM TIMELINES

A typical timeline appears in the table below. The timeline is subject to change.

Deadline	Staff Review	Interview	Distribution	Annual report
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Dec 13 2018	Early Jan 2019	Late Jan 2019	By end Feb 2019	Q2 and 3 2019
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6.0 CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

In addition to any specific terms and conditions which may arise from the annual review process, the conditions below will apply to any organization receiving funding from this program:

- Grant funds must be applied to current expenses and must not be used to reduce or eliminate accumulated deficits or to retroactively fund activities;
- The organization will make every effort to secure funding from other sources as indicated in its application;
- The organization will maintain proper records and accounts of all revenues and expenditures relating to its activities and, upon the City's request, will make all records and accounts available for inspection by the City or its auditors;
- If there are any changes in the organization's activities as presented in its application, the City must be notified in writing immediately and must provide approval for such changes;
- 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 organization must acknowledge the financial assistance of the City of Kelowna on all communications and promotional materials relating to its activities, such as programmes, brochures, posters, advertisements, websites, news releases and signs. Acknowledgement is provided by using the City of Kelowna logo in accordance with prescribed standards;
- 1-3 high quality photographs must be submitted. Photo waivers and release forms must accompany all photographs.
- Receipt of a grant does not guarantee funding in the future.

7.0 CONFIDENTIALITY

All documents submitted by applicants to the City become the property of the City. The City will make every effort to maintain the confidentiality of each application and the information contained therein except to the extent necessary to communicate information to staff and assessors for the purposes of evaluation, administration and analysis. General information about the project, including the funded amount and the organization being funded under the program may also be released. The City will not release any additional 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.

8.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

Staff: Christine McWillis
Address: 1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4
Phone: (250) 470-0640
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Email: cmcwillis@kelowna.ca

SCHEDULE 1 – DETAILED ASSESSMENT CRITERIA		
Planning, Leadership and Administration 15%	Q1	The organization’s vision is clear and aligns with the organization’s mission, goals and strategies and contributes to the development of broader sector goals and priorities.
	Q2	There are clear and realistic goals with measurable actions and the required resources to implement them. They are linked to the mission, provide overall direction for the organization and drive day-to-day operations.
	Q3	There are appropriate positions and structures in place to support operations, programs or services and align with mission, goals and strategies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Director (or equivalent) has appropriate experience in non-profit management, a good understanding of the sector, recognized locally and beyond as leader and influencer. Artistic Director (or equivalent) has appropriate experience and qualifications, good understanding of artistic practice and sector, established reputation for high quality work and vision, recognized locally and beyond as leader and influencer.
	Q4	The organization has plans to handle any significant risks or opportunities that arose over the past year.
Artistic Programs and Services 30%	Q3&6	The artists and creative personnel involved have the appropriate expertise and experience to contribute to the organization’s programs or services.
	Q5	The artistic vision or rationale is clear, aligns with the mission, and contributes to development of the artistic practice or sector.
	Q6	Programs and services align with mission, goals and strategies.
	7	The executive and artistic leadership demonstrates a clear understanding of the artistic impact of its programs or services and has an ability to adapt to the evolution of the artistic practice or sector.
Participation and Impact 30%	Q8	There is evidence of demand and participation in the programs or services through quantifiable data including level of activity, attendance, participation, membership and volunteers.
	Q9	There are practices in place to assess the impact of the organization’s programs or services on the people it serves and there is evidence of benefits to them.
	Q10	There are policies or practices and programs in place to eliminate barriers for people to participate in the organization and its programs or services.
	Q11	There are effective strategies in place to create awareness of, build appreciation for, and drive participation in the organization and its programs or services.
Financial Management 15%	Q12 & Supporting documents	Revenue includes all levels of government support, private sector, individual donations, investments or endowments, self-generated revenue and in-kind support.
		There is an appropriate balance of administrative and artistic expenses supportive of the mission and of professional artistic practices and fee standards.
		Realistic financial and budgeting practices are in place with expenses aligned to realistic revenue projections. Projections are often met or exceeded.
		The budget is well-integrated with ongoing operations, strategic directions and major planning initiatives.
		There is evidence of a healthy financial position (i.e. positive working capital, diversified revenues and funds, annual surplus trends) with adequate resources to support the organization’s mission and goals.
		There is evidence of financial planning for revenue-diversification, program support or growth, and to support long-term goals and strategies.
Q13	If in a deficit position, there are realistic and achievable plans to reduce the deficit and build working capital OR if in a surplus position, there are appropriate plans to invest in the future of the organization and its long term sustainability in the community.	
Board & Governance 10%	Q14/15	Board membership provides appropriate expertise and relevant community representation to support the mission, goals, and strategies of the organization. This expertise may be functional, content-driven, or community related. Any vacancies or skills gaps are actively being addressed.
	Q16	The Board model, committees, membership, terms and meeting frequency are clearly defined and appropriate to the organization’s mission, goals and strategies.
	Q17	The Board regularly reflects on its role and actively addresses challenges and opportunities which may influence the organization’s policy, planning or direction.