

BACKGROUNDER Q&A

January 9, 2025

Environmental Initiatives Grant Q&A

The Environmental Initiatives Grant will provide up to \$10,000 per year to support community-led projects that empower citizens to take action to achieve the vision and goals of the Environmental Master Plan.

Application deadline: March 31, annually

1. Who is eligible for funding from this grant?

Registered not-for-profit societies serving Red Deer are eligible to apply for the Environmental Initiatives grant. The society must be in good standing - the Society Annual Return with audited financial statement has been filed with the Government of Alberta, and the society must not be in arrears with The City of Red Deer for any municipal charges.

Individuals interested in funding support must partner with an eligible not-for-profit to apply.

2. How much funding is available?

In 2025, \$75,000 is available, with a maximum of \$10,000 available for supported projects each year.

3. What are the outcomes for the grant?

This grant is designed to provide financial support to community-led projects that empower citizens to take action to achieve this vision. The desired outcomes are to:

- Help citizens adopt actions to enhance the health and wellbeing of our environment.
- Foster positive relationships between people and our natural environment.
- Increase collaboration between citizens through environmental initiatives.

Projects must also support at least one of the goals outlined in The City's Environmental Master Plan, related to the focus areas of Water, Waste, Energy, Ecology, Community Design, and/or Air.

4. How can my organization apply?

Applications will be accepted online via Smart Simple starting March 3, 2025. The application deadline is March 31, annually.

5. Can applicants apply more than once?

Yes, organizations can submit more than one application if each submission is for a project that is distinct from the other application(s).

Applicants are not eligible to receive funding from both streams for the same project.

- 6. Are there resources available to assist organizations with their application?
 - Yes, the following documents may assist with the application process:
 - Environmental Initiatives Grant Application Guide (pdf)
 - Smart Simple User Manual for Environmental Initiatives Grant (pdf)

7. What reporting is required for successful applicants?



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Successful applicants are required to report on the outcomes of their projects as per the Application Guide. Final reporting is due January 31, following the end of the project.

8. Can applicants appeal the funding decisions?

Appeals will be considered only in instances where the appellant believes there has been an error in fact or in process in the handling of their submission. Disagreement with a final funding decision does not warrant an appeal. To make an appeal, send a completed Appeal Form within 10 days of funding notification to Environmental.Initiatives@RedDeer.ca.

More information

- View the grant information on The City's website at <u>RedDeer.ca/Grants</u>.
- For additional assistance, contact the Environmental Initiatives team at <u>Environmental.Initiatives@RedDeer.ca</u> or 403-406-8820.