



## Neighbourhood Grants Focus on COVID-19 Community Recovery and Resiliency

Date: Monday, June 1, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has modified its My Great Neighbourhood Grant program to accommodate an ongoing enrollment from June 1 until the end of the year and include a new category that is focused on COVID-19 Community Recovery and Resiliency.

In addition to the great ideas for a physically-distanced project or activity that can connect neighbours safely or help create inviting, vibrant spaces, the My Great Neighbourhood Grants can also be used to help the community in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It was disappointing when the My Great Neighbourhood Grants had to be put on hold because of COVID-19 earlier this spring, but now they’re back with a new category specifically addressing ways we can recover from the pandemic,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “I’m certain residents will come up with some great programs to keep our neighbourhoods resilient and connected as we all work towards recovery.”

My Great Neighbourhood Grants support strong, connected communities with funding for projects that empower residents to shape their local neighbourhood.

The City provides up to \$5,000 for placemaking projects and the new category of Recovery and Resiliency, and up to \$1,000 for activities, matching equivalent contributions (including volunteer time and in-kind donations) from applicants. A total of \$136,955 in community grant funding is available and the ongoing enrollment runs from June 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

Grants are open to individuals and community groups in the City of Victoria. Any not-for-profit organization, school or ad hoc groups of residents can apply, although a sponsor must be found for those without not-for-profit status. City staff are available to help residents through this process.

Since the My Great Neighbourhood Grants program started, the City of Victoria has invested more than \$445,781 to support 158 community-led placemaking projects and activities. In previous years, there have been spring and fall intakes for the grant program that have provided funding for community projects in Victoria since 2015.

For more information and to apply, visit: [victoria.ca/neighbourhoodgrants](https://victoria.ca/neighbourhoodgrants)

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