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## 2022 Strategic Plan Grant Recipients Announced

VICTORIA, BC — The City of Victoria is awarding grants totalling \$512,000 to 67 local community organizations through its annual Strategic Plan Grant program. These grants help advance the City's strategic objectives to improve the quality of life for residents of Victoria and to continue to build community resilience to respond to future challenges. This year's funding increased by \$39,500 over last year.

"We received a record number of applications this year, which speaks to the passion and creativity of our residents," said Mayor Lisa Helps. "The range of applications reflects the outstanding ideas and projects being undertaken by local groups to make Victoria a vibrant, healthy and inclusive city."

This year, Strategic Plan Grants range from \$2,500 to \$32,000 with the average grant awarded being close to \$5,700. Some of the projects funded include a community art outreach program, a suicide education and awareness program for middle schools and a Queer Crafternoon program.

The City's External Grant Review Committee reviews eligible Strategic Plan Grant applications the City receives annually and makes recommendations to City Council on which of the proposed community programs and/or projects should receive funding.

The Strategic Plan Grant program aims to build community resilience, advance Council's values on equity and support the City's Strategic Plan, which has the following eight objectives to guide the City's work:

1. Good Governance and Civic Engagement
2. Reconciliation and Indigenous Relations
3. Affordable Housing
4. Prosperity and Economic Inclusion
5. Health, Well-Being and a Welcoming City
6. Climate Leadership and Environmental Stewardship
7. Sustainable Transportation
8. Strong, Liveable Neighbourhoods

Since it began in 2015, the City's annual Strategic Plan Grant program has funded 406 projects, investing \$4 million in the community. A list of grant recipients and their corresponding projects is available at [victoria.ca/grants](https://victoria.ca/grants).

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### For More Information:

Colleen Mycroft  
Manager of Engagement / Executive Operations  
Mayor and City Manager's Office  
250.896.5325 | [cmycroft@victoria.ca](mailto:cmycroft@victoria.ca)