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## Festival Investment Grants to Support 46 Events, including a Canada Day Celebration

VICTORIA, BC — The City is supporting 46 festivals and celebrations with \$390,470 in Festival Investment Grant (FIG) funding to enhance Victoria's vibrancy, while celebrating our cultural diversity.

New in 2023, the City is supporting a Canada Day funding stream to support community-led programming on July 1. As part of this pilot project, Penmar Community Arts Society has been awarded funding to produce a large-scale Inner Harbour celebration including live entertainment and family-friendly activities.

"This year, the Festival Investment Grant program had a record number of applications from local non-profit organizations," said Mayor Marianne Alto. "I'm thrilled to see the exciting lineup of diverse, inclusive, family-friendly events, from dance and theatre to music and community performance. This signals Victoria's return to a strong festival season, which we are all very much anticipating."

Funding for five community celebrations, seven new or emerging festivals, 30 established festivals, three signature festivals and one community-led Canada Day celebration has been awarded to local non-profit organizations.

Many of the festivals receiving funding are celebrations of the diverse cultures and communities that make up Victoria. Highlights include Victoria Pride Week, Outstages Festival, African and Caribbean Cultural Week, Khalsa Day Parade, Folkloria Multicultural Festival, Festival Mexicano, One Wave Gathering, Rendez-vous Victoria and the Victoria Highland Games.

Victoria residents and visitors will also have a wide range of artistic disciplines to choose from, whether it's a day at the Art Gallery Paint-In, enjoying the Symphony in the Summer Festival, or taking in a performance during SKAMPede.

The Festival Investment Grant program, now in its 24th year, has seen more than \$4 million in grants nurture the development and sustainability of high-quality annual festivals and celebrations. The pursuit of arts, culture and tourism opportunities is a key goal of the City's Create Victoria Arts and Culture Master Plan.

Watch for the online City Vibe guide coming in May for a complete list of upcoming family-friendly events and festivals around the city. Learn more about Festival Investment Grants at [victoria.ca/FIG](https://victoria.ca/FIG).

**Attachment:** A list of 2023 Festival Investment Grants recipients.

Colleen Mycroft  
Manager of Executive Operations and City Communications  
[250.896.5325](tel:250.896.5325) | [cmycroft@victoria.ca](mailto:cmycroft@victoria.ca)

## 2023 Festival Investment Grant Recipients

Event Title	Organization Name	Event Date(s)	Festival Investment Grant
African & Caribbean Cultural Week & AfriCa Fest 2023	African Art & Cultural Community Contributor – Issamba Centre	May 19–28	\$12,000
The Function Festival	BC Black History Awareness Society	Aug 18–19	\$6,000
Victoria Fringe Festival	Intrepid Theatre	Aug 23–Sep 3	\$13,000
Lights of Wonder 2023	Downtown Victoria Business Association	Dec 14–31	\$6,000
Pacific Baroque Festival 2023	Victoria Conservatory of Music	Feb 15–19	\$2,000
Victoria Highland Games & Celtic Festival	Victoria Highland Games Association	May 13–21	\$16,500
TD Victoria International JazzFest	Victoria Jazz Society	Jun 22–Jul 2	\$11,500
Harbour Blues 'n Roots Festival	Victoria Jazz Society	Aug 24–27	\$12,000
Free-B Film Festival	Victoria Film Festival	6 Days in Aug	\$5,000
The Victoria Film and Video Festival	The Victoria Film & Video Festival	Feb 3–12	\$11,500
Outstages Festival	Intrepid Theatre	Jan 25–Feb 5	\$5,000
Victoria Festival of Authors 2023	Victoria Festival of Authors Society	Sep 20–24	\$6,000
Rendez-vous Victoria	La Société francophone de Victoria	Jun 22–Aug 18	\$10,500
Peek Fest 2023	Impulse Theatre Society	Nov 1–19	\$3,000
Art Gallery Paint-In	Art Gallery of Greater Victoria	Jul 15	\$16,000
Plant Celebration	The Compost Education Centre	May 13–Aug 12	\$1,750
Open Air	Pacific Opera Victoria	Jun 3–30	\$10,000
Victoria Classic Boat Festival	Maritime Museum of British Columbia Society	Sep 1–3	\$1,770
Incoming Festival (previously Unofest)	Intrepid Theatre	Apr 26–May 14	\$6,000
Victoria International Kizomba Festival 4th Edition	Afro Latin Cultural Exchange Society	Apr 6–10	\$2,500
Viva Victoria Latin Fest	Rep Here in Canada	Aug 5–6	\$4,500
Khalsa Day Parade	Gurdwara Singh Sabha Society of Victoria	Apr 30	\$5,000
Folktoria 2023	Greater Victoria Folk Festival Society	Jun 3–4	\$2,500
FernFest 2023	Belfry Theatre (in partnership with Fernwood NRG)	Jun 16–17	\$13,000
Victoria's 24th Annual Ska & Reggae Festival	Victoria BC Ska & Reggae Society	Jun 21–25	\$18,000
SKAMpede	Theatre SKAM	Jul 6–9	\$16,000
Victoria Pride Festival	Victoria Pride Society	Jun 29–Jul 9	\$14,000
Garden City Grooves XI	Victoria BC Ska & Reggae Society	Feb 23–25	\$4,500
Canada Dry Victoria Dragon Boat Festival	Victoria Dragon Boat Festival Society	Aug 11–13	\$11,700
Vic West Fest	Victoria West Community Association	Jun 25	\$1,750
17th Annual Festival Mexicano	Mexican Canadian Community Association of Victoria	Jul 8–9	\$3,000
Wonderment Festival 2023 (8th edition)	Garden City Electronic Music Society	Aug 4–7	\$9,500
Victoria International Jewish Film Festival (VIJFF)	Jewish Community Centre of Victoria (JCCV)	Nov 2–7	\$6,000
Symphony in the Summer Festival	Victoria Symphony Society	Jul 24–Aug 6	\$17,500
Hexennacht	Cabaret Voltaire Société & Diversions	Jul 14–15, Aug 25	\$1,750

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Event Title	Organization Name	Event Date(s)	Festival Investment Grant
Victoria Tea Festival Revival	International Tea Appreciation Society	Oct 21	\$1,750
Mabuhay! Celebrating Philippine Culture	Victoria Filipino Canadian Association	Jun 10–11	\$4,500
One Wave Gathering	Pacific Peoples' Partnership	Sep 23	\$4,500
Spot Prawn & Fiddle Fest	James Bay Athletic Association	May 27–28	\$4,500
Village Block Party	Cook Street Village Business Association	Jun 11	\$3,000
Victoria Flamenco Festival	Flamenco de la Isla Society	Jul 22–30	\$8,500
123rd Victoria Day Parade and 41st Santa Claus Parade	Greater Victoria Festival Society	May 20–22, Nov 25	\$17,500
Selkirk Waterfront Festival	Burnside Gorge Community Association	May 27	\$2,500
World Accordion and Tango Festival	BC Accordion and Tango Society	Nov 15–19	\$3,000
Out There Art Festival	Alter Arts Society	Sep 1–3	\$4,000
Victoria Canada Day 2023	Penmar Community Arts Society	Jul 1	\$50,000



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Colleen Mycroft  
Manager of Executive Operations and City Communications  
250.896.5325 | [cmycroft@victoria.ca](mailto:cmycroft@victoria.ca)