

FCSS Building Bridges Grants Program Guidelines



The mission of Banff Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is to act as a catalyst to strengthen the social well-being of our community. Achieving this requires the ideas and actions of everyone in the community. To make this action a bit easier, we've created the FCSS Building Bridges Grant Program.

Social well-being can be defined as: how people experience their connections with others and the strength of those relationships. It is the extent to which a person feels a sense of belonging and **social** inclusion; a connected person is a supported person in society. Lifestyles, ways of living together, value systems, traditions and beliefs are all important to our **social well-being** and quality of life.

Total amount available is \$6000.00 Typical Grant Size is \$100 to \$2,000.

If you, someone you know or a group you are part of are interested in strengthening the Banff and Lake Louise community in a way that fits the above mission, consider applying.

How does the Building Bridges Grant work?

Building Bridges Grants support projects that:

- Enhance community connections
- Relieve social isolation
- Welcome and involve a diversity of people
- Offer affordable opportunities and activities
- Demonstrate a grassroots, locally driven approach
- Encourage individuals or groups to become more involved in their neighborhoods and community
- Take people's ideas into action
- Create new opportunities- **priority will be given to new projects.**

Funds can support:

- Rental or purchase of equipment
- Rental of space
- Advertising /promotion
- Supplies
- Prizes/decorations
- Food
- Honorariums
- Learning and leadership development opportunities

Funds will not support:

- Salaries
- For profit business ideas
- Purchase of alcohol

Who can apply:

- Individuals
- Informal group of individuals or neighbours
- Non registered groups /community organizations
- Must be a resident of Banff or Lake Louise for a minimum of 6 months.

Who cannot apply:

- Registered nonprofit organizations societies & charities (see Municipal Community Grants)
- Businesses
- For Profits organizations
- Government bodies

Follow up and Accountability:

If you are a chosen recipient of the FCSS Building Bridges Grant you will be required to show proof of purchases through receipting. One page summary of project or photo testimonial.

Project examples:

- Neighborhood events e.g. clean up, gatherings, chalk mosaics
- Cultural celebrations
- Green space enhancement
- Community special events or programs e.g. Banff Pride celebration, music festival, theatre groups,
- Food security projects

How to apply:

- Download a FCSS *Building Bridges* Grant application from Banff.ca or complete online
- Decisions will be made by the end of May and approved by Council by end of June. All applicants will be contacted regardless of outcome.

Questions:

Please feel free to call the Community Development office should you have any questions about your projects eligibility or the grant process.

Phone Number: 403.762.1254 Email: fcss@banff.ca