



# Seniors grant program funding guidelines

Family and Community Support  
Services

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## Purpose

The seniors grant program supports projects/programs/events that enrich the quality of life and enhance the health and well-being of seniors within Leduc County. The program is designed to provide funding support to organizations and volunteer groups who will create opportunities for Leduc County seniors to connect, engage and contribute to their communities. For the purpose of this grant, the term “senior” will refer to any person of, or over the age of 55.

Eligible organizations or groups can apply for funding for projects/programs/events that are either led by seniors or driven by seniors’ ideas and interests. A maximum of \$15,000 base funding will be provided by Leduc County to be distributed to suitable applicants. The amount per funding request is not capped; however, we suggest requesting an amount that is consistent with the size of the project/program/event and the number of people positively impacted. Projects/programs/events must be provided to seniors within Leduc County.

## Objectives

- Promote and encourage active engagement and volunteerism;
- Foster a sense of belonging;
- Promote social inclusion;
- Develop and maintain healthy relationships;
- Enhance access to social supports; and
- Develop and strengthen skills that build resilience.

## Priorities

1. Aging well
  - Supporting social, emotional and physical health.
  - Supporting aging in place.
  - Improving quality of life.
  - Building skills or increasing knowledge.
2. Inclusion and diversity
  - Intergenerational programming and mentorship.
  - Collaborating with diverse communities, ethnicities or groups.
  - Supporting seniors in rural and remote locations.
  - Reducing stigma and ageism or promoting positive messages on aging.
3. Connection and engagement
  - Increasing social networks.
  - Providing affordable solutions to enable access and inclusion.
  - Providing volunteer opportunities and engaging new volunteers.
  - Supporting digital literacy.

## Eligibility

To be considered for funding, the organization or group must currently serve Leduc County residents **AND** identify as **one** of the following:

- A not-for-profit organization, such as a seniors centre, recreation group, cultural club or community hall group.
- A coalition, network, committee or group of individuals committed to working together.
- A for-profit organization, provided that the nature and intent of the activity is non-commercial and does not generate profit.

Partnerships between multiple groups or organizations are encouraged.

### *Ineligible organizations:*

- Municipalities
- For-profit organizations where the nature and intent of the activity is commercial and generates profit.
- Religious organizations, unless they are engaged in a project/program/event that benefits the entire community.
- Any organization or group whose projects/programs/events target people **under the age of 55**.
- Any organization or group that is not in good standing with Leduc County.

### *Eligible projects/programs/events CAN:*

- Be social and/or recreational in nature

### *Eligible projects/programs/events MUST:*

- focus on a minimum of 1 Priority:
  - Aging well,
  - Inclusion and diversity, or
  - Connection and engagement

### *Examples:*

- Community social luncheons with a guest speaker on scams and frauds targeting seniors.
- Fitness classes focused on aging and mobility.
- Intergenerational paint nights for seniors and youth.
- Program to teach seniors digital literacy and online safety.
- Reducing fees for seniors to encourage more participation in community events.
- Developing a new program to engage new senior volunteers.

### *Ineligible expenses:*

- projects/programs/events fully funded by other sources.
- Clubs/groups/organizations that are not open to the general public.
- Projects/programs/events that are not open to Leduc County seniors.
- Projects/programs/events that are solely recreational or social.
- Renovations or operational expenses.
- Wages or subsidies directly paid to staff, volunteers, or participants.
- Fundraising or administration costs.
- Travel costs for organizers.
- Retroactive project/program/event costs.

### Grant amounts

- A maximum of \$15,000 will be distributed by Leduc County to suitable applicants based on the project/program/event's alignment with the funding objectives and priorities outlined above.
- If there are not enough suitable applicants, not all funding may be distributed.
- Approved applicants may not receive the entire amount requested.
- Final funding decisions will be approved by Leduc County Council.

### Assessment criteria

All eligible applicants will be reviewed by Leduc County Family and Community Support Services. The evaluation of applications will be reviewed using, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- The project/program/event enhances social opportunities to a broad base of local seniors.
- Contribution to quality of life, social participation and inclusion of local seniors.
- Viability of the initiative.
- Organizational competence.
- Fiscal responsibility and viability.

### Conditions of funding

Community groups receiving funds from the seniors grant program must:

- Demonstrate they meet the above-listed criteria by completing an application form.
- Funds must be spent within 12 months of being received unless otherwise approved by Leduc County.

### Application process

Submissions for the Leduc County seniors grant program will be accepted from Jan. 2 to Jan. 31, 2024.

- Application forms are available online at [www.leduc-county.com/grants](http://www.leduc-county.com/grants) or from the FCSS department. Please call 780-979-2385 to request a paper copy of the application form.
- Completed applications will be accepted by webform, email, fax, or drop off.
  - Email applications to [fcssinfo@leduc-county.com](mailto:fcssinfo@leduc-county.com) or fax to 780-955-4765.
  - Drop off at Leduc County Centre – 4<sup>th</sup> floor FCSS, 1101 5<sup>th</sup> St. Nisku, AB. ATTN: Sara
- Please contact Sara Russell, Manager of Community Supports, if you have questions about the application process, wish to discuss ideas, or need to make adjustments to submitted applications.
  - phone: 780-955-6424 or email: [sara@leduc-county.com](mailto:sara@leduc-county.com)
- Applications will be reviewed by Leduc County.
- Council will review recommendations and award final grant approval in February 2024.
- Cheques will be issued to successful applicants by March 15, 2024.
- Successful applicants will be required to complete a final report no later than February 28, 2025 unless otherwise approved by Leduc County.

### Multiple applications

- Organizations may apply for multiple grant programs with Leduc County.
- Organizations will only receive one grant per project/program/event, per year.
- Organizations will not receive funding from multiple grant programs for the same project/program/event.

### Advertising available funding

- Leduc County will advertise available funding through the seniors grant program for no less than two weeks through the Leduc County website, local papers and social media.

**Project or program promotion**

- Successful applicants will inform Leduc County of project/program/event details and Leduc County will assist with promotion.

**Final Report**

- Grant recipients will completed a Final Report Form at the completion of their funded activities and submit to Leduc County along with photos and supporting documents.