

Purpose

The seniors grant program supports projects and 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 volunteer groups who will create opportunities for their fellow senior residents 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 projects that are led by seniors or are volunteer-based. 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 approximately \$2,000 per project. Consideration will be given to those groups that are not solely senior led, with the condition that the planning process engages seniors’ feedback from the community. Programs and services must be provided to seniors within Leduc County.

Objectives

- Support the social participation and inclusion of seniors.
- Promote volunteerism among the senior population and other generations.
- Engage seniors in the community through programming and events.

Priorities

1. Supporting healthy aging
 - Supporting social, emotional and physical health.
 - Supporting digital literacy.
2. Supporting inclusion and diversity
 - Intergenerational programming and mentorship.
 - Collaborating with diverse communities.
 - Supporting seniors in rural and remote locations.
3. Supporting connection and engagement
 - a. Supporting social opportunities and gathering in person or virtually.
 - b. Supporting affordable solutions to transportation to enable access and inclusion.

Eligibility

To be considered for funding, the organization or group must identify as **one** of the following:

- A not-for-profit organization, such as recreation, athletic and cultural clubs or community hall groups.
- An organization or group that currently serves Leduc County residents.
- A coalition, network or committee.
- A for-profit organization, provided that the nature and intent of the activity is non-commercial and does not generate profit.

Eligible projects and programs include, but are not limited to:

- Community social dinners, luncheons and coffee events targeted to seniors.

- Recreation and health programming for seniors, such as fitness classes and paint nights.
- Intergenerational activities to support seniors, youth and adult engagement.
- Transportation to facilities or programs, such as pools and farmer's markets.
- Community programming that is developed by seniors and allows them to work together towards a successful event.

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 significant project that benefits the entire community.
- Any organization or group whose projects or programs target people **under the age of 55**.
- Any organization or group that is not in good standing with Leduc County may be ineligible for funding.

Ineligible expenses:

- Projects currently funded through the school board.
- Clubs/groups/organizations that are not open to the general public.
- Projects or programs that are not open to Leduc County seniors.
- Renovations or operational expenses.
- Wages to support individuals.
- Fundraising or administration costs.
- Travel costs.
- Retroactive program or event costs.

Grant amounts

- A maximum of \$15,000 base funding will be provided by Leduc County to be distributed to suitable applicants based on the project or events alignment with the funding objectives and priorities outlined above. Final funding decisions will be approved by Leduc County Council. If there are not enough suitable applicants, not all funding may be distributed.

Assessment criteria

All eligible applicants will be reviewed by the Leduc County Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. The evaluation of applications will be reviewed using, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- The program or event is of community value and encourages the development of recreation, arts, culture and/or heritage to a broad base of local senior citizens.
- New or expanded opportunities for senior residents to participate in programs and/or services.
- Contribution to quality of life, social participation and inclusion of Leduc County senior residents.
- Viability and sustainability of the initiative.
- Organizational competence.
- Applications may not receive full funding amounts requested.

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.
- Organizations may submit only one application per project. The amount per funding request is not capped; however, we suggest requesting approximately \$2,000 per project.

- Funds must be spent within 12 months of being received unless otherwise approved by Leduc County.

The following must be included with your application:

- Program or project summary
- Program or project budget
- Estimate of program or project expenditures
- Plan for recognizing Leduc County as a funding organization
- Outstanding final report forms

Note:

- Applications submitted without this information will be considered incomplete.
- The final report form will require a copy of your project description, project budget and any photos or supporting documents related to this grant.

Application process

Submissions for the Leduc County seniors grant program will be accepted from Jan. 2 to Jan. 31, 2023.

- Applications will be reviewed by Leduc County and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.
- Council will review recommendations and award final grant approval in February 2023.
- Application forms are available online at www.leduc-county.com/grants or from the Parks and Recreation department. Please call 780-955-6410 to request a paper copy of the application form.
- Completed applications will be accepted by email or via telephone. Email applications to recgrants@leduc-county.com.
- Please contact Andrea Oneski, Community Program Coordinator, if you have questions about the application process or to make adjustments to submitted applications.
 - Andrea Oneski
 - phone: 780-770-9264
 - email: andrea@leduc-county.com.
- Successful applicants will be required to complete a final report no later than Dec. 31, 2023 unless otherwise approved by Leduc County. No additional funds will be awarded until a final report is submitted.

Multiple applications

- Organizations may apply for multiple grant programs with Leduc County.
- The amount per funding request is not capped; however, we suggest requesting approximately \$2,000 per project.
- Organizations will only receive one grant per program, per year.
- Organizations will not receive funding from multiple grant programs for the same project, event or program.

Advertising available funding

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