



COMMUNITY GRANTS

1. VISION

To assist the Whitehorse community to maximise its potential as a positive and caring community by supporting active community participation in the provision of services, programs, projects and activities that contribute to the wellbeing of the community as a whole.

2. PURPOSE

- To provide community based not-for-profit organisations in the City of Whitehorse with funding support for the provision of services, activities, projects, programs or seeding funding.
- To facilitate the development of innovative programs for new and emerging social issues.

3. INTENT

- To encourage, support and facilitate community involvement in the development and provision of services, programs, projects and activities for the Whitehorse community.
- To foster a sense of community identity, to improve community linkages and maximise access for individuals who have limited opportunities to participate.
- To strengthen community networks by encouraging and facilitating communication and cooperation between community based organisations to maximise community resources.

4. COUNCIL PLAN

The Community Grants Program supports the key values of the Council Plan, particularly equity and social justice, openness and accountability, sustainability and wellbeing. Community groups supported or funded by Council complement Council's own priorities and foster community development within the participating groups, agencies and the wider community.

5. SCOPE

Council recognises the contribution to the Whitehorse community by not-for-profit community based organisations. This policy applies to all requests for community grants from not-for-profit community based organisations.

Community Grants are **not** available to individuals or For Profit organisations.

6. POLICY OBJECTIVES

To define grant objectives.

To define eligibility criteria.

To define the grant categories.

To outline the objective of each grant category.

To define what will not be funded under each grant category.

7. GRANT OBJECTIVES

The Community Grants Program has four stated objectives:

i. **Project:**

To support community organisations to provide projects or activities which meet the social, cultural, economic, recreational and development needs of residents.

ii. Identity:

To foster a sense of community identity across the City of Whitehorse and improve community linkages.

iii. Access:

To maximise access to programs and activities by people who have had limited participation in these activities to date.

iv. Cooperation:

To encourage cooperation between organisations leading to enhanced program or activity delivery and more efficient use of resources.

8. ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Community groups applying for Community Grants must be based within the City of Whitehorse and/or provide the services, project, or programs within the City of Whitehorse.

Community groups applying for Cash Grants must be Incorporated not-for-profit organisations (or be auspiced by an incorporated body). Note – For Discount Support Grants, Incorporation is a Preferred Criteria but not an Essential Criteria.

Community groups applying for Community Grants must be able to provide proof of \$10 million dollars public liability insurance (or proof of cover by an auspicng organisation).

Community groups applying for Community Grants must have a genuine need for support from Council and will be required to provide current financial records.

Community groups must submit grant applications by the closing time and date specified on the grant application forms. Applications received after the stated closing time and date will be deemed ineligible.

9. GRANT CATEGORIES

a) Minor Grants Up to \$10,000

For programs, projects, activities, services and supplies. Also includes minor equipment and supply grants up to \$1,000.

b) Major Grants \$10,000 and Over

For programs, projects, activities and services.

c) Partnership Grants (Triennial) \$15,000 and Over

There are a limited number of community groups that provide on-going, established, recognised services within the Whitehorse Community. Should these community groups not provide these services the burden of responsibility for service provision may well fall to Council. These groups are the Neighbourhood and Community Houses, the Whitehorse Pre School Association and Family and Youth Services Grant recipients.

d) Discount Support (Hall Hire)

For a discount off the hall hire charges of a Council owned and operated venue. This also includes the option for provision of free hall hire for fundraising events, however, events must be genuine fundraising functions and not normal functions or annual events (for example Presentation Nights) made into fundraisers by holding raffles etc. in order to obtain free use of a Council venue.

e) Discount Support (Free Tipping)

For provision of free tipping passes to dispose of waste through Council's Waste Transfer & Recycling Centre.

10. MINOR AND MAJOR GRANT FUNDING WILL NOT BE PROVIDED FOR:

- Salaries or wages either full time, part time or casual, or any component of salaries or wages.

- Capital Expenditure (land, buildings, construction works, refurbishment, renovations, playgrounds, landscaping, earthworks, computers, software etc). Any equipment, furniture or supply purchases valued over \$1,000 is also deemed a capital expenditure.
- Religious, political or spiritual activities.
- Activities that are clearly the responsibility of other levels of government (ie programs in the school system or health system).
- Individuals nor profit making organisations.

11. PARTNERSHIP FUNDING WILL NOT BE PROVIDED FOR:

- Capital Expenditure (land, buildings, construction works, refurbishment, renovations, playgrounds, landscaping, earthworks, computers, software etc). Any equipment, furniture or supply purchases valued over \$1,000 is also deemed a capital expenditure.
- Religious, political or spiritual activities.
- Activities that are clearly the responsibility of other levels of government (ie programs in the school system or health system).
- Individuals or profit making organisations.

12. DISCOUNT SUPPORT FUNDING WILL NOT BE PROVIDED FOR:

- Discount Support Funding (Hall Hire) will **NOT** be provided free for any fundraising event that runs longer than 1 day's duration.