

Rally Together

To boost sport participation and volunteerism

Sport Volunteer Grant

*Deadline: Applications will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. PT on **November 4, 2022***

BACKGROUND

The vast majority of British Columbians believe that sport contributes to healthy communities and individuals. Over the last years, it was clear that sport connects us and helps us thrive. So that more British Columbians can benefit from the positive power of sport, the Province of B.C. is investing \$4 million to re-ignite participation and volunteerism in the amateur sport sector.

Rally Together (comprised of the Sport Participation and Sport Volunteer Grants) was developed to provide one-time recovery funding for amateur sport organizations who have seen a decrease in membership and volunteerism due to COVID-19. This fund will help to ensure that B.C.'s amateur sport system continues to provide opportunities for sport development and recovery as well as the significant community and economic benefits. The *Rally Together Fund* has a funding envelope of \$4M and is supported by the Province of B.C. and administered through viaSport British Columbia.

SPORT VOLUNTEER GRANT OVERVIEW

Funding will be available to B.C. based, non-profit provincial sport organizations, disability sport organizations, multi-sport organizations and local sport organizations who have experienced a loss to their volunteer efforts due to COVID-19. For the purpose of this grant, volunteerism is defined as a person who provides a service to a sport organization with either no remuneration or an honorarium/stipend given in return. The capacities include, but are not limited to, board member, official, manager, athlete assistant, coach, event volunteer and/or club administrator.

The grant has a total funding envelope of approximately \$2M. Provincial sport organizations and multi-sport organizations are eligible for funding ranging between \$15,000 - \$35,000 if applying as an individual organization, or \$35,000 - \$160,000 if applying in partnership with other organizations.

Local sport organizations are eligible for funding ranging between \$5,000-\$15,000 if applying as an individual organization, or between \$15,000 - \$80,000 if applying in partnership with other organizations.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Applications for eligible activities may be submitted by viaSport [accredited, recognized or affiliated](#) disability, provincial, and multi-sport non-profit organizations that receive core funding through viaSport. Non-profit local sport organizations can submit applications but must be members of a viaSport accredited, recognized or affiliated organization to be eligible.

REVIEW PROCESS

Grant funding is allocated through a competitive application-based process. Funded programs should be able to demonstrate how they plan to implement an initiative that supports the recruitment and retention of volunteers.

Eligible applications are evaluated by a review panel consisting of sport sector experts. The panel members are chosen to ensure diverse representation. The panel bases its recommendations on the eligibility and assessment criteria described in this document. Funding levels are recommended by the review panel as well, and based on:

- Merit of application (those applicants ranked highest will receive higher levels of funding)
- Scope of programming (subject to availability of funding, recipients may be asked to reduce or broaden program outreach).
- Equitable geographic distribution and/or amongst population groups (if applicable)

It is anticipated that more applications will be received than can be funded, and therefore only eligible applications will be reviewed. Applicants may be contacted to provide further information regarding their proposal before final funding selections are confirmed. Once the panel finalizes the funding recommendations and provides them to viaSport, viaSport presents the recommendations to the provincial government for final approval.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Applicants must demonstrate how their program will support the growth of their membership. Programs running between December 1, 2022 and January 15, 2024 are eligible for funding.

Possible use of funds for projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Coach training or honoraria/ fees to deliver programs
- Officiating training
- Governance training and mentorship
- Marketing and communication materials design and distribution
- Program design expertise
- General operating expenses (staff salaries, office rent) – up to 10%

- Celebration and community engagement activities
- Travel costs for program initiatives

Funding requests for the following types of activities are NOT eligible:

- Programs that provide services solely to an organization's existing membership
- Tournament, competition, and athlete travel fees
- Capital expenditures (renovation, construction, computer equipment)
- Deficits incurred from past activities
- Re-granting programs
- Political or religious activities

PARTNERSHIP STREAM

Two to four organizations are able to submit an application. All organizations named in the application must meet the basic eligibility (i.e. accredited, recognized, or affiliated with viaSport or a member of an organizations that is designated as one of the three listed here). Other important information about the partnership stream includes:

- The type of partnerships that can be formed are:
 - Provincial/disability sport organization with provincial/disability sport organizations
 - Local sport organizations with local sport organizations
 - Multi-sport organizations with other multi-sport organizations, provincial/disability sport organizations, or local sport organizations.
- Provincial organizations cannot partner with their members.
- The funding range for the partnership stream is as follows:
 - Two to four provincial organizations partnering have a funding range of \$35,000 to \$160,000
 - Two to four local organizations partnering have a funding range of \$15,000 to \$80,000
- Organizations cannot apply for the partnership stream, or be named as a partner, while also submitting an application for the Sport Volunteer Grant on their own.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria, with the relative importance of each area indicated by percentage.

1. **Strategy to increase volunteerism (40% of assessment)**
 - Applicants must be able to explain the ways in which the proposed programming will lead to the recruitment and retention of volunteers

- Applicants should address how the programing will solve an identified issue within their volunteer recruitment and retention strategy.
- 2. Impact (25% of assessment)**
- Applicants will be assessed on the projected impact that such a program will have on their volunteer strategy.
 - Applicants should be able articulate the current issues they organization is facing in relation to volunteerism (i.e. lack of capacity, training and education, board governance, etc.) and how the proposed program is addressing the identified issue(s).
 - Priority will be given to programs that can clearly outline and articulate how they will measure impact.
- 3. Organizational Readiness (15% of assessment)**
- Applicants must demonstrate that the organization is ready to develop and implement a project with their current organizational capacity.
- 4. Sustainability and capacity building (20% of assessment)**
- This targeted funding is intended to be a catalyst for continued growth. A plan for sustainability beyond grant funding should be clearly outlined in the proposal, including:
 - Approximate financial value of organizational and/or other resources committed to project in addition to grant funding;
 - Long-term objectives and plans for the project, which may describe how project goals relate to the strategic/business plan of the organization;
 - Capacity-building in the communities/regions where programs are delivered to ensure that programs/participation is sustained over the long-term.

CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

- Support from the Province of British Columbia and viaSport must be appropriately acknowledged on all materials related to the funded project. Formats and guidelines for logo use and acknowledgement of funding will be provided to successful applicants.
- Only one application per organization will be accepted.
- All program activities must be completed and funding expended before January 15, 2024. Final reports are due one month after program completion and no later than February 15, 2024
- Recipients must adhere to reporting requirements as set out in their grant agreement and submit final activity and financial reports using the reporting templates provided by viaSport.

- Successful applicants may be asked to participate in interviews on their experience receiving this funding, to provide letters demonstrating project impact from program participants, or agree to participate in follow-up communications at the discretion of the viaSport grants team.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for funding will only be accepted ONLINE. Please complete the online application form at the following link: https://viasportgrants.smapply.io/prog/team_up/

Applications must be received by **11:59 p.m. PT on November 4, 2022**

If you wish to discuss your proposal and its eligibility prior to submitting an application, please contact us at grants@viaSport.ca