

First Nations Harm Reduction Grant

Grant Eligibility

First Nations communities, First Nations Health Service Organizations, and Friendship Centres that are engaged in direct health service delivery to First Nations people in British Columbia (BC) may be eligible for funding to provide a community-driven First Nations harm reduction event or initiative. To be eligible, the event or initiative must be held before **March 31, 2025**. The deadline for applications is **Wednesday Feb. 14**.

In an effort to reduce the workload of the application process, First Nation communities, First Nations Health Service Organizations and Friendship Centres who received a grant in 2023 and are planning a similar initiative this year can apply by checking the box at the beginning of the application form. This new step will mean that the information from your grant application from last year will be reviewed along with your 2023 grant closing report and no further information will be needed at the time of application. Please note that we will still require your closing report from the 2023 grant before processing any successful 2024 grant payments.

In the spirit of leaving no one behind, anyone that requires support to complete the grant and/or develop a plan for this work may email hrgrants@fnha.ca and we can support you through this process.

Overview

As we are now in the 8th year of the declaration of the toxic drug crisis being a public health emergency in BC, it continues to be important to support innovative community-based and grassroots harm reduction initiatives that address its causes and effects, including intergenerational trauma and the overall mental wellness of all those impacted.

Community-based grant programs are a well-established way to provide flexible funding to First Nations communities and organizations to fill gaps, develop new programs or services, bring supports closer to those who need them and bolster existing programs and services to meet unique needs.

The First Nations Health Authority's (FNHA) [Policy on Harm Reduction](#) acknowledges that harm reduction informed services involve a range of nonjudgmental approaches and strategies aimed at providing and enhancing the knowledge, skills, resources, and supports for individuals, their families, and communities to make informed decisions to be safer and healthier.¹ This First Nations Harm Reduction Grant funding provides direct support to harm reduction informed initiatives benefitting First Nations individuals, families and communities.

The FNHA is committed to supporting community-driven, Nation-based initiatives that seek to improve the health and wellness of First Nations in BC. By providing funding to enhance promising programming

¹ <https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-harm-reduction-policy-statement.pdf>

or to implement a new initiative, communities will be supported to strengthen knowledge and capacity, advance innovative practices and meet new and emerging needs.

Applications will be weighed against the following criteria:

The proposed event or initiative:

- Provides mental wellness and substance use support services, framed within a harm reduction context, to support people who request them
- Improves upon the range of harm reduction services available, as an enhancement and not duplication
- Provides support, programming and/or events for family and friends impacted by the outcomes of the toxic drug supply
- Incorporates people who use drugs as much as possible into the planning and delivery of services
- Demonstrates collaboration or partnership with other First Nations communities, health or social organizations providing health services to First Nations in BC at the regional or sub-regional level
- Is fair and equitable within and across the five regions

Note that First Nations communities and First Nations organizations that are focusing on culturally safe harm reduction practices will be prioritized for this funding.

Grant Funding Maximum

Maximum funding available through the First Nations Harm Reduction Grant is \$50,000 per application.

Application Form

To apply for a grant, please complete this application. Funds may be used for any required costs necessary to carry out the event or initiative with the exception of those listed as ineligible on the application. Only fully completed application forms will be considered.

Applications can be submitted via email to hrgrants@fnha.ca no later than **Wednesday Feb. 14.**

FNHA First Nations Harm Reduction Grant Application Form

Legal name of host community or organization (as it should appear on grant cheque):

Host community or organization's complete mailing address: (include postal code)

Name of Harm Reduction Grant Key Contact:

(Person within your community or organization who will be the key contact with FNHA)

Key Contact's position/job title with the host community or organization:

Key Contact's contact information

Work:
Cell:
Email:

Select which health region you are located in? (For help, click the link: [FNHA Regions](#) to view the regional divisions)

Northern Region

Vancouver Coastal Region

Interior Region

Fraser Salish Region

Vancouver Island Region

Did you receive a Harm Reduction Grant in 2023? yes no

If yes, and you are representing a First Nations community, First Nations Health Service Organization or Friendship Centre and would like the same initiative to be considered to be funded again this year, please tick this box. Submission of a 2023 Grant Closing Report is also required. All applications received will be considered within the funds available and against the eligibility criteria set out above.

What type of initiative are you planning to hold?

<input type="checkbox"/> Community Workshop / Information sharing / Education	<input type="checkbox"/> One time / time specific Community Activity or Awareness Raising Event	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional ceremony
<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing / year-long Community and/or outreach Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Grief and loss related	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		

Examples of eligible projects are listed below, however, other project ideas are welcome.

- Harm reduction community workshop e.g. substance use is a health issue
- Reducing stigma campaign e.g. inclusive language and access to services
- Harm reduction workshop for community Leaders
- Individual and group support such as healing circles for families and friends
- Peer support group or peer-led harm reduction initiative
- Harm reduction program or staffing

Grant funds cannot be used for: 1) an individual (FNHA does not provide funding to individuals); 2) purchase of larger assets such as a vehicle or infrastructure; 3) purchase of alcohol; 4) prize money; or 5) illegal purchases.

Please provide a title of or tagline for your event/initiative

Please provide a short description of what you will be doing.

Please provide a brief timeline for your project (e.g. if a 1-time event when do you anticipate hosting it?).

Who is the primary audience for this event? (e.g.: family and friends of people who use drugs, people who use drugs, community members, general public, youth)

Number of participants expected:

***Note:** Please keep track of actual numbers of participants during your event. This is required for your closing report*

Please provide an estimated budget:

	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

**budget may be provided in an additional document.*

Grant Funding Requested:

\$

Partnership/Collaboration information:

Please list First Nations communities who have reviewed and formally endorsed your application and other community partner agencies (Health Authority, non-profit organizations, businesses, etc.) for your Harm Reduction initiative. Partners would include groups willing to share in expenses or contribute resource materials, host facilities, health promotions expertise, knowledge in cultural teaching/traditional wellness, etc. Please note that review and/or endorsement of this application by a First Nations community should be done before submitting for consideration.

Please list all partners and their contributions in the below chart:

Partner Name	Type of contribution from partnership	Estimated value of contribution

Please provide any additional information you think may assist us in reviewing your application.

Reporting and Sharing Your Stories

The FNHA would like to learn from your Harm Reduction initiatives and share resources and information in order to continue to grow in our collective wellness journey. As such, all approved initiatives will be **required** to submit a brief closing report. Photos of your Harm Reduction initiative are also greatly appreciated!

For any questions regarding the grant application and guidelines please contact us at:
hrgrants@fnha.ca