

COMMUNITY CLIMATE ADAPTATION MICRO GRANT

PARTICIPANT PROGRAM GUIDE

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PARTICIPANT PROGRAM GUIDE

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1.0 Program Objectives and Eligibility Requirements

Edmontonians are being affected by climate change in many ways. Nine in ten Edmontonians (93%) have confirmed experiencing at least one extreme weather event in the last two years. Increased wildfire smoke, extreme heat/heatwave, extreme cold and increased high winds are the weather events most commonly experienced by Edmonton residents as per the [2025 Climate Perception Survey](#).

Neighbourhoods, community organizations, not for profit organizations and vulnerable populations often lack the resources and capacity to implement necessary climate adaptation measures. This may lead to increased vulnerability to climate-related hazards and may hinder infrastructure and health. The Community Climate Adaptation Micro Grant program can mobilize Edmonton communities to develop and implement localized, innovative climate adaptation projects. This can foster resilience, strengthen communities, stimulate green economic growth, and contribute to equitable protection against increasing climate risks.

1.1 Program Objectives and Goals

The City of Edmonton's \$150,000 Community Climate Adaptation Micro Grant is available to fund eligible projects, events or programs that help local communities and neighbourhoods anticipate and adapt to changing climate hazards to a maximum of \$5,000 per application. By fostering neighbourhood collaboration, the program supports communities in preparing for and mitigating the adverse effects of climate change.

The Community Climate Adaptation Micro Grant Program has the following goals to bring neighbours and communities together:

- Empower community climate adaptation actions at a residential and neighbourhood level;
- Strengthen education and awareness on the value and importance of private property landscaping as it relates to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts; and
- Increase overall awareness of local climate hazards and climate resilient actions through public education and outreach.

The program encourages creative, innovative and locally-driven actions to help neighbours and communities prepare for the consequences of climate change or mitigate its severity. Potential projects could include, but are not limited to, developing drought tolerant landscaping, organizing activity-based climate education and demonstration sessions, or hosting a climate adaptation neighbourhood event.

1.2 Eligibility

To be eligible for the Community Climate Adaptation Micro Grant (“the grant”), the program, event or project must align with The [City Plan](#) in one or more of the following ways:

Climate Resilience:

- Edmontonians demonstrate shared leadership as stewards of the environment (City Plan Direction 1.4)
- Edmonton protects, expands and improves access to its natural systems and open spaces in support of biodiversity and the health and enjoyment of all Edmontonians. (City Plan City Building Outcome 5.1)
- Edmonton’s natural and physical systems provide security and resilience against extreme weather events and other environmental hazards. (City Plan City Building Outcome 5.4)

1.3 Who Can Apply

- Groups of three or more community-minded individuals can apply for the grant, and:
 - Live in separate dwellings
 - Live within the municipal boundaries of the City of Edmonton
 - Be of legal age (18+)
 - One individual (or more) must be an existing or be willing to apply to become a [Climate Connector](#)
- Registered organizations, including non-profits, charities, community leagues, condo associations, seniors associations, and community-minded organizations.

Note: Expenses will only be reimbursed **after** the expense has been incurred by the grant recipient. Supporting documentation, including receipts, will be required before reimbursement is provided.

1.4 Eligible Criteria

1.4.1 Address Climate Hazard

Project must address one or more of the following climate hazards:

- Extreme heat
- Extreme cold
- Wildfire smoke
- Wildfire
- Overland flooding
- Extreme hail

- Extreme wind
- Drought
- Winter storms

1.4.2 Project Inspiration

Project may align with the Neighbouring for Climate Toolkit action cards:

Emergency Prep

- Identify Local Risks
- Get Ready for Poor Air Quality
- Get Ready for Extreme Heat
- Get Ready for Extreme Cold
- Get Ready for Rainfall & Flooding
- Get Ready for High Winds
- Create Emergency Kits
- Get Fire Wise

Nature and Plants

- Plant Trees (Outdoor cooling or drought resistant species)
- Plant a Garden (e.g publicly viewable pollinator gardens or drought tolerant garden)
- Start a Seed Exchange or Library

Waste and Water

- Organize a Swap Event

Other Project Inspiration Ideas:

1. Green Spaces in Sustainable Landscaping
 - a. Climate resilient landscaping (drought tolerant or FireSmart)
 - b. Planting trees
2. Cooling, Shade and Heat Preparedness
 - a. Install pergolas, shade structures, shade sails (restrictions apply)
 - b. Tree planting (restrictions apply)
 - c. Create outdoor shaded seating areas (restrictions apply)
 - d. Distribute DIY cooling kits or host heat preparedness workshops
 - e. Use of heat reflective paint to cool surfaces (restrictions apply)
 - f. Developing common areas as cooling stations
 - g. Misting stations
 - h. Water fountains
3. Wildfire Smoke Preparedness
 - a. Promote indoor activities for community

- b. Workshops on awareness of wildfire smoke and making/distributing HEPA filters or distributing N9 masks.
4. Severe Storms and Hail
 - a. Installation of tunnels or hail tarps for gardens or green houses to protect produce and extend growing season.
 - b. Information sharing sessions on hail damage protection options
5. Resilience and Preparedness
 - a. Neighbourhood emergency preparedness kits
 - b. Create a resilience hub in community halls with fans, shade, emergency info
 - c. Host a climate community resilience fair
6. Climate Adaptation Education and Engagement
 - a. Community storytelling projects
 - b. Climate ready pop-up events with demos
 - c. Youth led climate action programs

For other project inspiration check out:

- [Climate Resilient Home Guide](#)
- [Climate Resilient Home](#)
- [Neighbouring for Climate Toolkit](#)
- [Fire Smart Guides and Manuals](#)
- [Fire Smart](#)
- [Emergency Preparedness - Personal Preparedness](#)
- [The Homeowner's Guide to Lot Grading and Drainage Issues](#)

Note: Project must

Have another idea? Reach out to change4climate@edmonton.ca to discuss your idea to see if it is eligible.

1.4.3 Mandatory Requirements:

- Take place within the municipal boundaries of Edmonton
- Must take place or be completed before **November 1, 2026**
- If hosting a community climate adaptation-related event:
 - Events that are open to the public and are free or low cost (cost recovery only)
 - Support local climate adaptation measures as the main topic
 - Conduct an event survey that supports climate adaptation awareness

1.4.4 Eligible Expenses:

- Event and/or Program Logistics (ex. venue, equipment rentals, event supplies)
- Project Marketing and/or Communications (ex. flyers, event promotion)
- Service Contractors (i.e. people providing service related to a project)
- Installation/construction materials (for use on private property)
- Permits (ex. greenspace use permits, infrastructure permits, development and building permits)
- Honorariums for guest speakers/facilitators (restrictions may apply)
- Eligible plant lists:
 - [FireSmart Drought Resistant List](#)
 - [NRCAN List](#)
 - [Edmonton Horticultural Society](#)
 - [Native Plants in Edmonton Ecozone](#)

1.4.5 Ineligible Expenses:

- Expenses related to personal or for profit initiatives
- Expenses unrelated to the intent described in the application form
- Costs incurred prior to grant application approval
- Regular rent, technology, utilities or overhead (unrelated to the event or project)
- Items for personal use or benefit
- Alcohol or cannabis
- Prizes, trophies or giveaways unrelated to adaptation measures
- Employee wages (not directly related to project) ***Climate Connectors are ineligible to receive direct payments for project services; instead, their hours are to be contributed in-kind*
- Volunteer or employee recognition
- Landscaping/planting installation projects on public city-owned parks and open space zones (community leagues, community gardens, etc.)
- Climate mitigation (ie. heat pumps, solar panels, solar batteries, emission reduction projects, etc.)
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy retrofits - see [Clean Energy Improvement Program](#)
- Community gardens - see [Community Garden](#) supports
- Waste and waste reduction projects - see [Waste Reduction and Reuse Grant](#)
- Lot Grading - see EPCOR's Free [Flood Prevention Home Inspection](#)
- Rain Barrels and Rain Gardens - see EPCOR's [RainWise Stormwater Rebate Program](#)
- Mural and Art Installations - see [Community Mural Grant](#)
- Funding other city-led programs such as [Partner in Parks](#)

Any proposed expenses not explicitly covered in the eligible or ineligible lists will be subject to the final determination by the City of Edmonton.

2.0 Application Process and Timelines

- Grant applications open **May 4, 2026** and will be open until all funding is allocated (funding to be disbursed in 2026).
- Deadline to apply is **October 2, 2026**.
- All successful applications must complete their project, event or program by **November 1, 2026**
- Receipts submissions must be received no later than **November 15, 2026**
- Expenses will only be reimbursed **after** the expense has been incurred by the grant recipient. Supporting documentation, including receipts, will be required before reimbursement is provided.
- A copy of the application form is available for download on the webpage. It is recommended that the application be read in full before starting the online application form.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
 - Examples include: required documents are not complete or not submitted and/or application questions are left blank.
- Applicants for both approved applications and those not successful will be notified of the funding request's decision within **two (2) weeks** of application.
- Successful applicants will receive funds within **eight (8) weeks** of the receipt submission
- Applications will be assessed solely on the contents, attachments and information submitted in the application.

3.0 Assessment Criteria

Grant funding awards will be considered based on the following criteria:

- Project must align with the micro grant purpose and goals (see Section 1.1 Program Objectives and Goals).
- Aligns with one or more of the The City Plan policies (see Section 1.2 Eligibility).
- Meet the requirements on who can apply (see Section 1.3 Who Can Apply).
- Project/program/event addresses one or more climate hazard adaptations - extreme heat, extreme cold, wildfire smoke, overland flooding, extreme hail, extreme wind, drought, winter storms (see Section 1.4.1 Address Climate Hazard).
- Meet the mandatory requirements (see Section 1.4.2 Mandatory Requirements).
- Complete a project budget ([Budget Template](#))
- Complete the project, event or program by **November 1, 2026**.
- Complete Final Report within 30 days of the completion of the project.

4.0 Funding Limits and Criteria

- Grant awards range from \$500 to \$5,000.
- Grant requests may cover up to 100% of eligible expenses.
- Funding is limited and the City reserves the right to accept applications on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Expenses will only be reimbursed **after** the expense has been incurred by the grant recipient. Supporting documentation, including receipts, will be required before reimbursement is provided. ***All receipts must be original and provide information including vendor name, amount paid, amount of GST included, and date of the expenditure. The minimum amount for a cheque to be issued is \$250.*
- Receipts submissions must be received no later than **November 15, 2026**.
- Funding decisions made by the City of Edmonton are final and cannot be appealed.
- Funding to successful applicants will be in the form of a cheque which will be mailed to the address provided in the application **8 weeks** after receipt submission.
- Wherever possible, recipients are requested to acknowledge funding received from the City of Edmonton Community Climate Adaptation Micro Grant program in related advertising or promotional materials. The City of Edmonton [visual identity standards](#) are available upon request.

5.0 Final Report

Successful applicants are required to provide a Final Report within 30 days of the completion of the project, program or event. The Final Report Form will provide the following information:

5.1 Outcome Reporting & Measures

Description of how the climate adaptation project, program, or event supported one or more of the goals in The City Plan:

- Edmontonians demonstrate shared leadership as stewards of the environment (City Plan Direction 1.4)
- Edmonton protects, expands and improves access to its natural systems and open spaces in support of biodiversity and the health and enjoyment of all Edmontonians. (City Plan City Building Outcome 5.1)
- Edmonton's natural and physical systems provide security and resilience against extreme weather events and other environmental hazards. (City Plan City Building Outcome 5.4)

Description of specific the climate adaptation project, program, or event results supported one or more of the grant goals and addressed a climate hazard:

- Empower community climate adaptation actions at a residential and neighbourhood level;

- Strengthen education and awareness of private property landscaping as it relates to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts;
- Increase overall awareness of local climate hazards and climate resilient actions through public education and outreach.

Type of climate resilience initiative (extreme heat, extreme cold, wildfire smoke, basement flooding, extreme hail, extreme wind, drought, winter storms)

5.2 Output Reporting

- 3-5 photographs of the project, program or event.
- Final list of supplies, activities, programming (as applicable)
- Final Total Budget \$ (actual, not estimated, if applicable)
- Final Total Expenses \$ (actual, not estimated) including copies of invoices
- The eligible expense(s) the grant funding was allocated to

5.3 Outcome Reporting

- Which [municipal electoral ward\(s\)](#) was the project/program/event located in?
- Type of climate resilience initiative (extreme heat, extreme cold, wildfire smoke, basement flooding, extreme hail, extreme wind, drought, winter storms)
- Total number of participants in extreme weather education or resilience related activities (fire, flood, air quality) such as webinars, seminars, in person, etc.
- Total Number of hours the program or event required (preparation and delivery)
- Total Number of staff and/or volunteers (during event or program, if applicable)
- Total number of residential dwellings per project (if applicable)
- Total number of program participants
- Total number of program/events delivered
- Total number of installations (if applicable)
- Total number of surveys completed
- Any other relevant measures

5.4 Financial Report

The Final Report must include the original budget document submitted with the grant application, updated with the actual expenses and revenue to confirm the anticipated versus final costs.

[Community Climate Adaptation Micro Grant Budget Template](#)

Notes:

- The link to the [Final Report Form](#) is available on the webpage.
- The City of Edmonton has the right to audit any financial or event records associated with the grant funding upon request.
- Final Reports for the Community Climate Adaptation Micro Grant may be considered part of the assessment for any future applications by the organization to the same grant program.
- Receipt of the Final Report is a precondition for future eligibility in *any* City of Edmonton grant program.
- Receipt of Final Report is a pre-condition for grant eligibility. Return of funds could be pursued if this deliverable is not satisfied.

6.0 Contact Information

If you have questions for our team, please email us at changeforclimate@edmonton.ca