



TWN Community Society Application Guidelines 2025



Welcome to the TWN Community Society

The goal of the TWN Community Society is to support the well-being of səlilwətał community members through projects they lead and grants they receive in the areas of culture, education, health, environment, and recreation.

Individual Tsleil-Waututh Nation members can apply for up to \$5,000 for a fixed five-year time frame (until March 31, 2030), at a maximum of one grant per year. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.

Teams, made up of a majority of Tsleil-Waututh Nation members, can apply for up to \$5,000 for a fixed five-year time frame (until March 31, 2030), at a maximum of one grant per year and applications are also accepted on an ongoing basis. We recommend that Teams fundraise and explain how they will do this in their application, as the TWNCS grant is meant to supplement their costs.

Although there are no application deadlines, members are encouraged to apply well in advance of their project start date. For example, apply in spring for summer activities and plan to apply at least two months before funds are needed.

If you have an idea you would like to discuss before applying, or if you need any support with your application, please reach out to the Society at twncommunitysociety@twnation.ca or 236 660 3152.

We would be happy to help with your application!

Eligibility criteria

Applicants must be registered TWN members aged 18+ who live either on or off reserve. Parents can apply on behalf of children under 18.

Activities in the following five streams are eligible for funding:

Education and training

Examples:

- tuition and fees for educational and training courses
- books and supplies required for educational courses

Art and culture

Examples:

- hosting or attending cultural events and/or visiting cultural places
- learning hən̓q̓əmin̓əm and/or hosting workshops for others to learn
- equipment or supplies for art, cultural, or ceremonial activities (*these must not be for sale, profit or businesses)

Health and wellness

Examples:

- therapeutic courses, workshops, events, retreats, or programs
- wellness practitioner training and certification

The environment

Examples:

- environmental awareness events, initiatives or research (shoreline clean up, recycling, removing invasive species, etc.)
- growing food in a garden

Sport and recreation

Examples:

- recreational sport activities and training clinics
- hosting or attending sports or recreational events
- team equipment, entry fees, and related team sports costs

Financial information

General financial information

- The maximum grant per project, per member is \$5,000. Most projects are less than \$5,000, and maximum grants are awarded on an exceptional basis and will be limited if demand exceeds resources.

- Due to limited funds and ensuring all members can access the TWN Community Society, members are eligible to access up to \$5,000 over a fixed 5-year time period. This rule may be waived for emergency situations at the full discretion of the TWNCS Board of Directors.
- Due to limited funds and ensuring all teams can access the TWN Community Society, teams are eligible to access up to \$5,000 over a fixed 5-year time period.
- The TWNCS is based on the idea of self-determination. Each member decides how the Society can help them meet their goals, and this means that members will apply for different amounts of funding. It also means that the Society is able to manage its funds for the benefit of all members.
- Each TWN member can apply for one project per financial year (1 April – 31 March), as long as they are under their \$5,000 budget. If the applicant has already received their \$5,000 budget, they must wait to apply on or after April 1, 2030 to be eligible for the full \$5,000 again.
- The grant will likely be provided in 2 or 3 payments, to account for reporting and receipts. You will need to submit receipts and your reports to qualify for a future grant.
- Members can have only one project active at a time.
- Due to limited resources, members may only be approved for one activity/category at a time if your project involves different activities/categories.
- Due to limited resources, families can apply for only one activity per child.
- Parents can apply for grants for each of their children under 18. The same application form can be used for more than one family member, but the activities and expenses for each child must be listed separately.
- There is no minimum budget and applicants are not required to match funds or fundraise, although it is encouraged, especially for teams.
- If you spend less than the amount you budgeted for and have ideas for additional activities that will help you reach your goal, you can apply to increase activities or add new ones, as long as they are related to the original project. Otherwise, unspent funds have to be returned.
- Funds can only be spent on approved activities. If there are any changes in expenses once your project starts, please contact the Community Society before making any payments.
- The grant amount approved by the Society Board is a final decision and no additional funds will be added for that particular project. Please provide an estimate based on the regular price of items and include any taxes that need to be paid on items to be purchased.
- Payments made without approval may have to be refunded to the Society.

- Funds are not transferable, meaning that the person who applied for the grant has to receive and manage the money according to the contract. If you have any problems managing the grant, such as illness, please contact the Society as soon as possible.
- You may be contacted for clarification of some expenses, and the Society reserves the right to recommend changes to budgets.

Examples of Funding on a Fixed 5-year Time Frame

Joe applies for a \$5,000 grant in August 2025 and his grant is approved. He is eligible to apply for funding again on April 1, 2030, provided that his project has been completed (with required reporting and receipts).

Jill applies for a \$1,000 grant in February 2026 and her grant is approved. She is able to apply for up to \$4,000 until March 31, 2030 (assuming she has provided her reports and receipts). On April 1, 2030, Jill is eligible for the \$5,000 grant again.

Jane applies for a \$5,000 grant in October 2027 on behalf of her team and the grant is approved. The team is eligible to apply for funding again on April 1, 2030, provided that their project has been completed (with required reporting and receipts).

In summary, the current fixed five-year time frame will run from July 7, 2025 (when Guidelines came into effect) to March 31, 2030. The next cycle (where all TWN members are eligible for the full \$5,000) will run from April 1, 2030 to March 31, 2035.

Eligible expenses

Most costs directly related to your project are eligible for funding. Due to limited resources of the TWN Community Society, the following maximums have been identified below:

- **Electronic devices:** no more than 2 to be approved per household.
- **Attire (clothing, shoes, etc.):** Up to \$500 for individual applicants and \$1,000 for teams on attire for all applications.

You will need to submit images/screenshots of the expected expenses, and if travel is involved with your project complete a TWNCS Travel Form (please contact us for a copy of the form) and submit it alongside your application.

Due to its limited resources, the TWN Community Society reserves the right to reduce grant amounts, if necessary, even if the application is compliant with the eligibility criteria.

Ineligible expenses

- Ongoing administrative expenses of any group or team, such as printing costs, personal wages, and space rental etc.
- Funding for expenses paid before proposal approval; the Society is unable to support reimbursements.
- Any activities that are strictly for private or personal benefit, such as a boat or vehicle, items for your home that do not clearly fall under the five streams of the TWN Community Society (as determined by the Society Board), coverage of rent/mortgage, utilities and/or food at home (cost of living), debt payments, or the applicant's wages or honoraria for work associated with your project.
- Any activities that involve maintenance, repairs and renovations within and outside your home (e.g., roof repairs, household appliances, updating paint, cleaning supplies, cutting grass, yard work, ground leveling, etc.).
- Any activities that are related to businesses or other commercial activities.
- Any activities conducted while you are compensated for work (whether working for Tsleil-Waututh Nation or elsewhere).
- Any activities already provided by a department of the Nation. We ask that you check with other TWN departments first that your project is not eligible for funding under their existing programs (e.g., Recreation, Education, Health or through FNHA), and include that information with your application (e.g., email communications from staff). If you are on social assistance, your project may be covered by TWN. The Community Society will make enquiries about existing programs on behalf of applicants and will set up referrals with the right member of staff, so please be aware of this if you are submitting a sensitive application.

Reporting

The Society generally requires two short reports, a progress report and a final report. Progress reports are due within 30 days of certain projects and mid-way through other projects. Final reports are due within 30 days of the completion of all activities. Reporting templates will be provided. If you prefer, you can make an appointment with a staff member of the TWN Community Society to complete a report in-person or over the phone. Please contact us at twncommunitysociety@twnation.ca or 236-660-3152.

Reports with copies of all receipts will be required to complete your project. Only members with completed projects can apply for additional funding to the TWNCS once you are eligible.

Special requirements

Some projects will have special requirements to ensure the safety and protection of participants. For example, if your project involves working with children, youth or Elders, you may be required to have a criminal record check. If your project involves research, particularly related to people, you may need to complete a research ethics and/or confidentiality agreement. If it involves taking a group hiking, camping or participating in other physical activities, you may be required to have a first aid certification. If you think this may be the case for your project, please contact the Society before applying.

The Society, in providing funding, is not assessing the appropriateness of the equipment or activity for the use by the applicant or applicant's intended recipient (in the case of a minor). All use of equipment or activity funded by the Society will be used or participated in, at the sole risk of the user.

Waiver of Liability

The Society, its directors, members, officers, employees' agents and representatives will not be liable for any property or personal damage or injury to any person, including a third party, as a result of their use of equipment that was purchased with Society funding or participation in any activity funded by the Society.

When appropriate, the recipient of the funding may be required to sign a Waiver of Liability and Assumption of Risk document.

If you have any questions about the TWNCS application process or guidelines, please contact us at twncommunitysociety@twnation.ca or 236-660-3152.



Thank you for your interest in the
TWN Community Society.
**We look forward to
hearing from you!**

