

Program Overview

The **Fabulous Festivals and Events** program provides non-profit organizations with up to \$2,500 in grant funding from a regional development account to support unique events and festivals throughout the region contributing to service sector revenues in the local economy.

Features and benefits of the program:

- § Provides a source of annual event hosting capacity funding
- § A time sensitive approval process for complete and well documented applications
- § Supports the sustainability and expansion of local festivals and events which increase tourism revenues and community quality of life
- § Northern Development funding is accessible to all rural areas that would not usually have an opportunity to apply for funding for economic development projects

The Trust provides annual funding to support festival and event hosting capacity across central and northern B.C. each year.

Objectives

- § To improve the sustainability and event hosting capacity of unique festivals and events that generate revenue
- § To provide a program that benefits the local economies of small communities and rural areas of central and northern British Columbia
- § To foster Northern B.C.'s reputation as a destination for cultural tourism

Program Eligibility

^a **NOTICE:** You must fill out and submit a [pre-qualification form](#) before you submit an application unless your festival or event has previously been approved for funding.

Eligible organizations

- § Registered non-profit organizations
 - ^a *Financial statements from the last festival or event are required as an attachment to the application.*

^a *Applications from unregistered non-profit organizations that have a minimum of three years of financial statements may be considered.*

Program participation

Applicants are able to apply for one festival or event per year.

Required project and funding application features

- § The event is homegrown and promotes or strengthens the unique character of the community
- § Must demonstrate economic benefits to the community or surrounding area and specifically target participants or attendees from outside the local area
- § Must demonstrate community support, engagement and inclusiveness
- § The funding requested will be used to increase the capacity of the event
- § The event will attract tourism to the community
- § The funding request is supported by a resolution of support from a municipality or regional district
 - Applicants are responsible for securing a resolution outlining support for the Northern Development funding request from a municipality or regional district. The applicant must provide a copy of the resolution of support to Northern Development before a funding decision can be made.

Ineligible event types

- § The event is in its first year of operation
- § The event is held in a concentrated time period (series of summer music concerts, multi-weekend regional mountain bike race, etc.)
- § The event is a fundraiser (Terry Fox Run, Relay For Life, Festival of Trees, etc.)
- § The event is political in nature (partisan rally or gathering, issue-based fundraiser, etc.)
- § The event is religious in nature (Christmas, Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Easter event, etc.)
- § The event is held annually in communities across the province or country (Canada Day celebrations, Remembrance Day memorials, May Day parades, etc.)
- § The event is a league or club event (sports training camps, provincial sport tournaments, bonspiels, etc.)
- § The event is solely an artisan and craft fair

Ineligible costs

- § GST and PST
- § Costs incurred prior to formal notification of funding approval from Northern Development

Application Intake Deadlines

Funding applications are accepted for this program on continuous intake cycle. Applications must be submitted at least 6 weeks before the festival or event is scheduled to take place. Applicants may apply for the following year's funding starting November 1st of each year.

^a For example, applications for festivals or events occurring in the 2016 calendar year can be submitted starting November 1, 2015.

The [Fabulous Festivals and Events Application Materials](#) are available on Northern Development's website.

Review Process

Northern Development staff will review the application to ensure completeness, eligibility and availability. Northern Development staff will contact the applicant within 30 days of receiving the application.

^a For example, an application received on November 14, 2015 will be reviewed by staff and the applicant will be contacted by December 14, 2015.

Successful applicants will receive an approval letter. Unsuccessful applicants will also receive written notification.

Reporting Deadlines

The applicant must submit a report using Northern Development's reporting form to verify performance measures for the event within 30 days of the festival or event's completion. The following performance measures are required:

- a. Number of people who paid to participate in or attend the festival or event
- b. Financial performance

The [Fabulous Festivals and Events Reporting Form](#) is available on Northern Development's website.

For program enquiries contact: **Northern Development Initiative Trust**
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