

AGENDA INFORMATION	
☒ Regular Meeting	Date: <u>July 6, 2026</u>
☐ Other:	Date: _____


Dept.
Manager


GM/
Director


CAO

The District of North Vancouver REPORT TO COUNCIL

June 22, 2026

AUTHOR: Eirikka Brandson, Community Planner

SUBJECT: 2026 Community Service Grants

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the 2026 community service grants recommendations of \$419,844, as described in the June 22, 2026, report of the Community Planner entitled, “2026 Community Service Grants”, are APPROVED.

AND THAT Council direct administration to refer a potential inflationary adjustment to the community service grants budget to the 2027 financial planning process.

REASON FOR REPORT:

This report provides Council with the Community Services Advisory Committee’s (CSAC) recommendations for the 2026 community service grants program.

SUMMARY:

Twenty-seven new applications are being recommended for 2026 community service grants. These agencies have requested funding for operations and 45 programs. In addition, CSAC reviewed annual accountability forms from 20 agencies in the second year of their two-year funding cycle and recommend approval of second-year funding. Based on CSAC’s review, the following budget allocation is recommended:

2026: 27 grant applications	\$209,922
2025: 20 grant applications (in second year funding cycle)	\$209,922
TOTAL	\$419,844

Demand for funding continues to exceed available resources, reflecting increasing service pressures across the non-profit sector. The recommended allocations aim to balance stability for existing services with support for emerging needs.

BACKGROUND:

Approved in 1982, the District of North Vancouver [Municipal Community Service Grants Policy](#) established operating and program support for non-profit organizations that contribute to the wellbeing and quality of life of District residents. To support this work, the [Community](#)

[Services Advisory Committee](#) (CSAC) was created to advise Council and staff on social and cultural issues, support program development and recommend grant allocations.

In 2003, CSAC introduced enhanced evaluation criteria to improve the effectiveness, fairness, and accountability of the grant process, leading to Council's approval of the [Municipal Community Service Grants Goals and Guiding Principles](#) in 2004.

Since then, the grant program has evolved further to better support community agencies. In 2012, a two-year funding cycle was introduced, allowing eligible organizations to receive continued support without reapplying annually. Approximately half of the available funds are now reserved for second-year recipients.

In 2022, Council directed staff to explore increased funding for non-profits through District grant programs. Staff conducted a comprehensive analysis using population data, community feedback and projected needs. As a result, a 6% funding increase was approved as part of the 2023 financial plan. That same year, the program transitioned to Submittable, a digital grant platform that streamlined the application process and improved efficiency for both applicants and reviewers.

EXISTING POLICY:

- District of North Vancouver [Municipal Community Service Grants Policy](#)
- [Municipal Community Service Grants Goals and Guiding Principles](#)
- [Corporate Policy \(2023-2026\)](#)
 - Goal: Address the Housing Crisis and the Community's Housing Needs
 - Goal: Foster Community Wellbeing, Culture, and Safety
- Official Community Plan (2011):
 - Policy 6.3.1: Facilitate the delivery of accessible community services and social programs to meet the current and future needs of all District residents;
 - Policy: 6.3.3: Facilitate the provision of accessible services, programs, and facilities that encourage seniors and people with disabilities to function independently; and
 - Policy 6.3.11: Support civic and community partners with resources, information sharing and collaboration in the achievement of District objectives.

ANALYSIS:

Thirty grant applications were received by the January 31, 2026, deadline. Three were deemed ineligible and twenty-seven proceeded to the committee review.

The applications reflect a diverse range of programs and services, with a strong emphasis on supporting vulnerable residents. Several applicant organizations also receive funding through other District programs, including core funding grants, child care grants and permissive tax exemptions.

Attachment 1 outlines the 2026 grant recommendations, including funding for agencies in the second year of their two-year grant cycle.

Application Assessment Process

Between March and May 2026, the Community Services Advisory Committee held four meetings to complete the evaluation process. Using a weighted scoring model, CSAC members assessed each application to support consistent and detailed comparisons.

Budget Pressures and Allocation Approach

The 2026 Community Service Grants budget is \$419,844. Of this, \$209,922 is committed to agencies in the second year of their two-year funding cycle, leaving \$209,922 available for new grant allocations.

New funding requests for 2026 amounted to \$289,000, which exceeded the 2026 budget of \$209,922. Following the evaluation and recommendations by CSAC, \$224,250 in funding was recommended. This exceeded the available budget by \$14,328.

In order to only allocate the approved 2026 budget of \$209,922, CSAC applied an equal six percent reduction across all recommendations.

Observations and Trends

As part of the annual grant process, applicants identify trends impacting their organizations. CSAC reviewed these at a dedicated meeting, held this year on May 20, 2026. The 2026 grant submissions revealed several challenges, summarized into three categories below.

1. *Rising Demand and Increasing Complexity of Needs*

Organizations continue to experience significant growth in demand for services, particularly in the areas of mental health, housing, food security, counselling, and crisis response. Applicants noted that individuals are increasingly presenting with multiple, overlapping challenges, including mental health concerns, housing instability, poverty, and social isolation. Agencies also reported that more people are seeking support earlier in times of crisis, reflecting both heightened need and increased awareness of available services.

2. *Organizational Adaptation, Innovation and Collaboration*

In response to growing demand, organizations are adapting service delivery models and expanding programs to better meet community needs. Many applicants described increased use of integrated, wraparound approaches that combine multiple supports, alongside a greater focus on prevention and long-term outcomes. Collaboration across the non-profit, health, education, and government sectors continues to strengthen, while digital and hybrid service delivery models are being used to improve accessibility and reach.

3. *Systemic Pressures on Capacity, People and Funding*

Despite efforts to innovate and adapt, organizations continue to face significant financial and operational pressures. Rising costs, short-term funding arrangements, and increasing service demands are creating challenges for long-term sustainability. Applicants identified ongoing difficulties with staff and volunteer recruitment and retention, volunteer burnout and leadership succession. These pressures affect organizational capacity, at the same time

when many agencies are also investing in governance, equity-focused practices, and long-term sustainability planning.

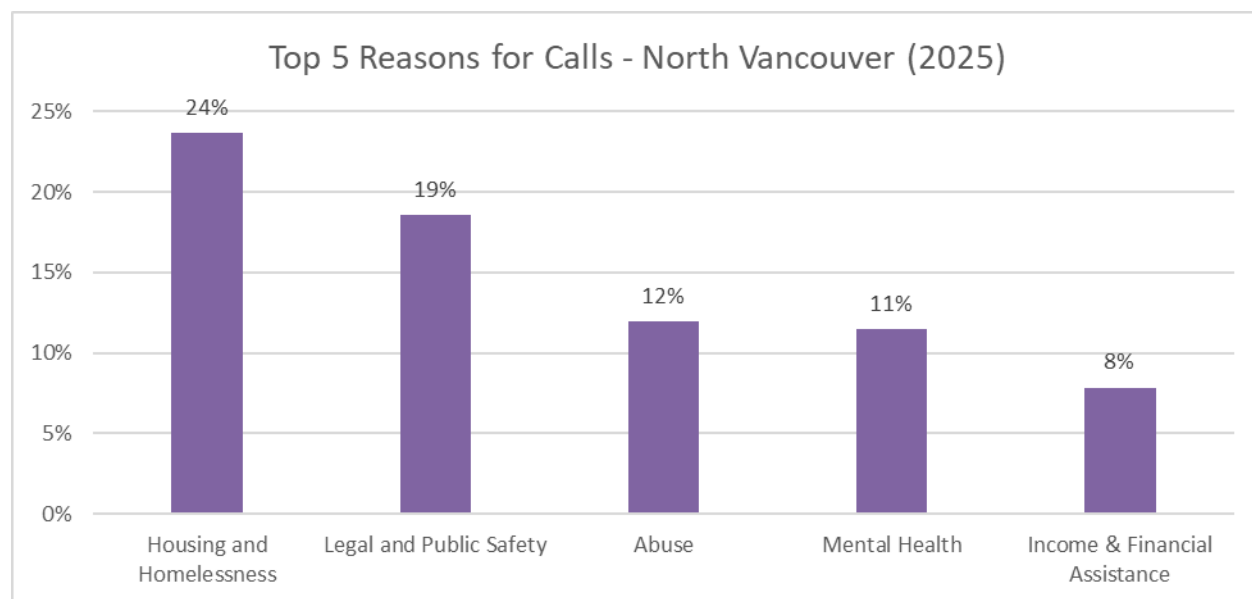
These trends highlight the importance of continued focus on system capacity and long-term resilience across the sector. The District's two-year cycle of community service grants provides greater stability and predictability for agencies, supporting more effective planning and sustained service delivery.

BC211 Service Insights

BC211 is a free and confidential provincial service that connects individuals to community resources. Staff request annual summaries from BC211 as this information supplements agency feedback and provides insight into emerging community needs. BC211 offers information and referrals through phone, text, email, and web chat.

In 2025, BC211 received 808 information requests from North Vancouver (includes both the District and the City), a 6.7 percent increase from 2024. Among callers, 64 percent identified as female and 36 percent as male. Interpretation services were provided to 50 individuals, 62 percent of whom spoke Farsi. BC211 made a total of 2,589 referrals in North Vancouver, with an average call duration of 11 minutes. Similar to the previous year, housing-related concerns were the most common reason for contacting BC211. **Table 1** shows the five most frequent reasons for calls.

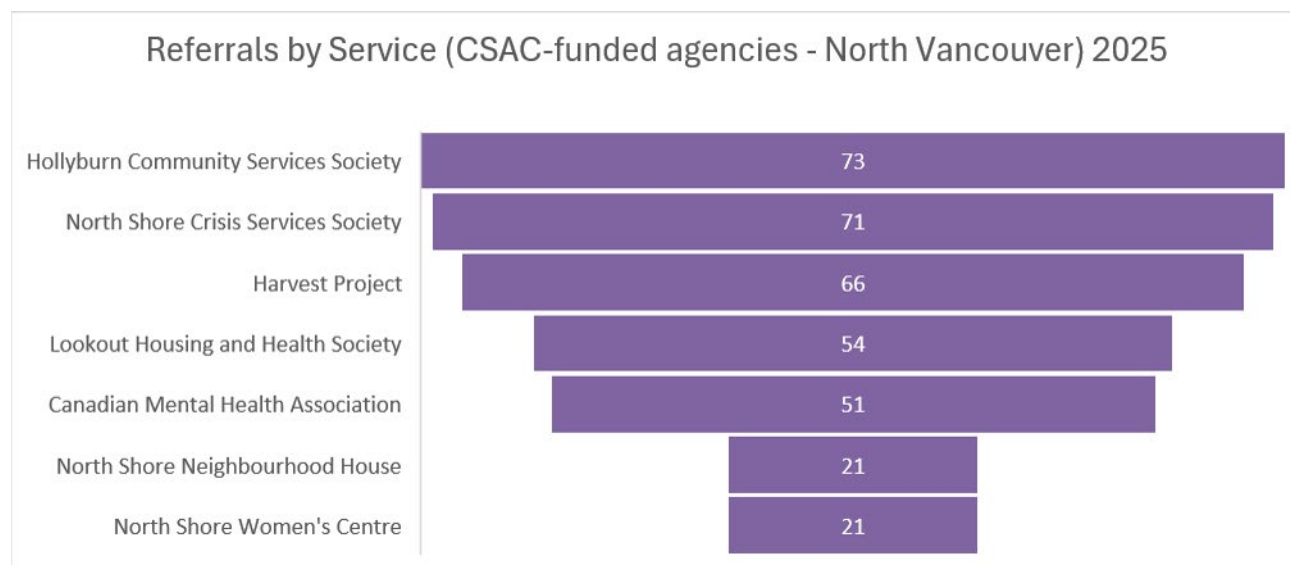
Table 1: Top 5 Reasons for Calls – North Vancouver (2025)



Many of the CSAC funded agencies are also listed in the BC211 services directory. Housing remained the leading reason for calls to BC211, resulting in a high volume of referrals to regional housing providers. In 2025, referrals related to mental health supports, including counselling services, were among the most common. Referrals for food and meal programs were also frequent. Calls related to legal and public safety concerns, including abuse, fleeing violence, and access to transitional housing, generated a significant number of referrals.

Table 2 highlights CSAC-funded agencies that ranked among the top 10 most frequently referred organizations for calls originating from North Vancouver in BC211's 2025 provincial service data.

Table 2: Referrals by Service (CSAC-funded agencies)



Investment Impact Overview

In 2026, staff continued the investment impact reporting introduced in the previous year. The aim was to strengthen transparency and demonstrate the value of the District's community investment. The reporting highlights how grant funding supports non-profit organizations in delivering vital programs and services that respond directly to community needs.

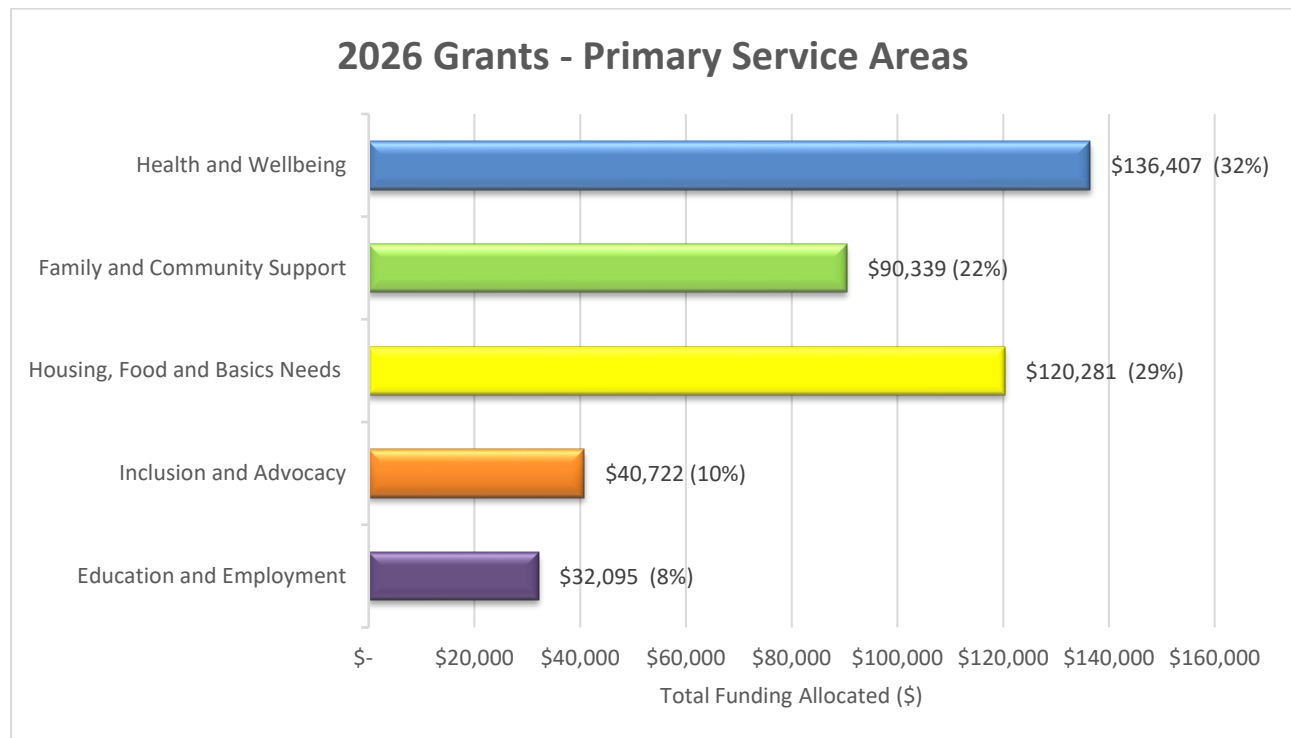
To support clearer analysis and ensure investments align with priority needs, these service areas have been grouped into five overarching categories:

1. *Health & Wellbeing* – Mental health, addiction, counselling, wellness
2. *Family & Community Support* – Children, seniors, families, community programs
3. *Housing, Food & Basic Needs* – Shelters/housing, food, clothing, transportation
4. *Inclusion & Advocacy* – Immigrants, 2SLGBTQ+, Indigenous, disability, legal aid
5. *Education & Employment* – Language, anti-racism, job training, leadership, workshops

This categorization helps show how funding is distributed across key area of need and ensures transparency in how public funds are invested.

Attachment 2 provides an overview of the analysis, including funding allocations by primary service area. A condensed summary is presented in **Table 3**.

Table 3: 2026 Community Service Grants by Primary Service Areas



Timing/Approval Process:

Subject to Council approval, funding will be disbursed to agencies in July 2026. All agencies will be required to complete an annual accountability form by January 31, 2027. The form requires agencies to describe how they used their funding, whether they achieved their goals, and the benefits they observed in the community.

Concurrence:

Finance staff have reviewed the report and are supportive of the recommended options.

Financial Impacts:

The 2026 Community Service Grants budget includes a 2 percent increase over 2025. This year's budget allocates \$209,922 to 27 agencies recommended in this report and \$209,922 to 20 agencies in the second year of their two-year grant cycle (**Attachment 1**).

Social Policy Implications:

The Municipal Community Service Grant program plays a key role in supporting non-profit organizations that deliver mental health, social support, and wellness services. This funding helps address critical community needs and promotes equitable access to essential services for all residents.

Additionally, the program aligns with the municipality's broader policy objectives, including health and wellbeing, social inclusion, and climate resilience. It fosters collaboration between local government and community-based organizations, contributing to a more responsive and integrated social service system.

Environmental Impact:

Applicants are required to demonstrate sustainability practices that align with the District's climate emergency management directions. In order of frequency reported, the most common initiatives this year included:

1. sustainable commuting options;
2. waste reduction and recycling; and
3. energy and environmental initiatives.

Conclusion:

The 2026 community service grant recommendations reflect a balanced and equitable allocation of available funding in the context of increasing demand. Approval will enable local non-profit organizations to maintain essential services that support vulnerable residents and strengthen community wellbeing. Without this funding, many organizations would face challenges sustaining program delivery, potentially reducing access to critical supports across the District.

Options:

1. THAT the 2026 community service grants recommendations of \$419,844, as described in the June 22, 2026, report of the Community Planner entitled, "2026 Community Service Grants", are APPROVED.

AND THAT Council directed administration to refer a potential inflationary adjustment to the community service grants budget to the 2027 financial planning process

OR

2. THAT Council directs staff to reconsider the 2026 Community Service Grants allocations.

Respectfully submitted,



Eirikka Brandson
Community Planner

Attachment 1: Summary of 2026 Community Service Grant Recommendations

Attachment 2: 2026 Community Grants by Primary Service Area

REVIEWED WITH:			
☐ Business and Economic	_____	☒ Finance	<u>SJ</u>
☐ Bylaw Services	_____	☐ Fire Services	_____
☐ Clerk's Office	_____	☐ GIS	_____
☐ Climate and Biodiversity	_____	☐ Human Resources	_____
☐ Communications	_____	☐ Integrated Planning	_____
☐ Community Planning	_____	☒ Housing	<u>TA</u>
☐ Development Engineering	_____	☐ ITS	_____
☐ Development Planning	_____	☐ Parks	_____
☐ Engineering Operations	_____	☐ Real Estate	_____
☐ Environment	_____	☐ Review and Compliance	_____
☐ Facilities	_____	☐ Solicitor	_____
		☐ Utilities	_____

External Agencies:	
☐ Library Board	_____
☐ Museum and Archives	_____
☐ NSEM	_____
☐ NS Health	_____
☐ NVRC	_____
☐ RCMP	_____
☐ Other:	_____

#	2026 GRANT APPLICANT	2025 GRANTED	2026 REQUESTED	2026 RECOMMENDED
1	BC Pets and Friends	\$5,100	\$5,000	\$4,681
2	Belweder North Shore Polish Association	\$0	\$5,000	\$702
3	Best Buddies Canada	n/a	\$12,000	\$4,681
4	Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre of BC	\$10,200	\$10,000	\$9,361
5	Harvest Project	\$15,300	\$15,000	\$14,042
6	Hollyburn Community Services Society	\$18,360	\$18,000	\$16,850
7	Impact North Shore	\$18,870	\$18,500	\$9,361
8	Junior Achievement of British Columbia	\$3,717	\$25,000	\$3,744
9	KidSport North Shore	\$5,100	\$7,500	\$5,149
10	Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society North and West Vancouver	\$4,335	\$4,500	\$3,744
11	Lookout Housing Health and Health Society	\$10,200	\$20,000	\$18,722
12	North Shore Disability Resource Centre	\$8,766	\$10,000	\$8,425
13	North Shore Fruit Tree Project Society	\$1,487	\$1,500	\$936
14	North Shore Lifeboat Society	\$7,434	\$12,000	\$8,893
15	North Shore Neighbourhood House	\$8,160	\$8,000	\$7,489
16	North Shore Stroke Recovery Centre	\$12,240	\$12,000	\$9,829
17	North Shore Women's Centre	\$26,520	\$30,000	\$28,083
18	North Vancouver Community Arts Council	n/a	\$5,000	\$4,681
19	Pathways Serous Mental Illness Society	\$7,140	\$10,000	\$9,361
20	Salal Sexual Violence Support Centre	\$12,787	\$26,000	\$9,361
21	Special Olympics BC - North Shore	\$3,060	\$5,000	\$4,681
22	Spectrum Skateboard Society	\$7,140	\$7,000	\$6,553
23	Spinal Cord Injury BC	\$3,570	\$4,000	\$3,744
24	St. Andrew's United Church	\$4,080	\$5,000	\$4,681
25	The North Shore Safety Council	\$6,120	\$6,000	\$5,617
26	Vancouver Adaptive Snow Sports	\$4,080	\$5,000	\$4,681
27	Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society	\$2,040	\$2,000	\$1,872
SUBTOTAL:			\$289,000	\$209,922

	2025 GRANT RECIPIENT (Second Year of 2-Year Term)	2025 GRANTED	2026 REQUESTED	2026 RECOMMENDED
28	A Loving Spoonful Meals Society	\$7,200		\$7,344
29	Athletics for Kids Financial Assistance (BC) Society	\$3,967		\$4,046
30	Avalon Recovery Society	\$17,000		\$17,340
31	Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver	\$3,400		\$3,468
	2025 GRANT RECIPIENT (Second Year of 2-Year Term)	2025 GRANTED	2026 REQUESTED	2026 RECOMMENDED

Attachment 1: Summary of 2026 Community Service Grant Recommendations

32	Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland	\$3,825		\$3,902
33	Canadian Mental Health Association - North and West Vancouver	\$27,000		\$27,540
34	Family Services of the North Shore	\$28,559		\$29,130
35	Food Link Society	\$9,000		\$9,180
36	Foundations for Social Change	\$7,225		\$7,370
37	Highlands United Church	\$5,850		\$5,967
38	Intellectual Disabilities Society North & West Vancouver	\$6,800		\$6,936
39	Living Systems Counselling	\$4,760		\$4,855
40	Lumara Grief & Bereavement Care Society	\$5,850		\$5,967
41	North Shore Community Resources Society	\$23,799		\$24,275
42	North Shore Crisis Services Society	\$17,370		\$17,718
43	North Shore Keep Well Society	\$4,500		\$4,590
44	PLEA Community Services Society of British Columbia	\$1,800		\$1,836
45	Quest Outreach Society	\$13,500		\$13,770
46	Spectrum Mothers Support Society	\$9,000		\$9,180
47	Variety - The Children's Charity of B.C.	\$5,400		\$5,508
SUBTOTAL:				\$209,922
TOTAL:		\$411,611.00	\$289,000.00	\$419,844

Health and Wellbeing		
Organization	Program(s)	Amount
Avalon Recovery Society	Wellness Program Expansion of Programming Peer Support Program	\$ 17,340
BC Pets and Friends	Pet Therapy	\$ 4,681
Belweder North Shore Polish Association	Canadian Polish Active Club	\$ 351
Canadian Mental Health Association	Counselling Services	\$ 27,540
Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre of BC	Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Program	\$ 9,361
Family Services of the North Shore	Child and Family Counselling (no cost/low cost) Clinical Counselling Program	\$ 19,420
Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society	North Shore Cancer Patient Transportation Program	\$ 1,872
Living Systems Counselling	Access Counselling Program Parenting and Marriage Counselling Program	\$ 4,855
Lumara Grief & Bereavement Care Society	Family Grief and Bereavement Care Program	\$ 5,967
North Shore Lifeboat Society	Marine Search and Rescue & Public Safety Support	\$ 8,893
North Shore Crisis Services Society	PEACE Program for Children and Youth Experiencing Violence	\$ 3,544
Pathways Serious Mental Illness Society	Education and Support for Family members and friends who have a loved one with a serious mental illness	\$ 9,361
Spectrum Mothers Support Society	Spectrum Mothers Support	\$ 9,180
North Shore Women's Centre	Health & Wellness Separation Support Group	\$ 14,042
19 programs		\$ 136,407

Family and Community Support		
Organization	Program(s)	Amount
Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver	Community Mentoring Program	\$ 3,468
Variety - The Children's Charity of B.C.	Supporting North Shore Families with Private Assessments	\$ 5,508
Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland	Big Sisters Mentoring Go Girls! Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds My Voice, My Power!	\$ 2,927
Family Services of the North Shore	Thrive Family Centres	\$ 9,710
KidSport North Shore	KidSport North Shore Grants Program	\$ 5,149
Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society North and West Vancouver	Services to Seniors Coalition Seniors Working Group Older and Wiser Column	\$ 3,744
North Shore Keep Well Society	Seniors' Enhanced Wellness Program	\$ 4,590
North Shore Community Resources Society	Seniors One Stop Navigation Centre	\$ 6,069

Organization	Program(s)	Amount
North Shore Crisis Services Society	Outreach Services and Multicultural Outreach Services SAGE Transition House and SAGE 2nd Stage Housing Program	\$ 7,085
North Vancouver Community Arts Council (North Van Arts)	Rhythm and Word: Music Therapy for At Risk Youth	\$ 4,681
PLEA Community Services Society of British Columbia	Taking Care of Ourselves, Taking Care of Other (TCO2)	\$ 1,836
Salal Sexual Violence Support Centre	Strengthening Infrastructure for Survivor Services & Community Awareness	\$ 9,361
The North Shore Safety Council	Be Bright Be Seen Cycle Safety and Skills Course (Bike rodeo)	\$ 5,617
Spectrum Skateboard Society	Winter Skateboarding at Rolla Roller Skate Club Weekly Summer Camps	\$ 6,553
North Shore Women's Centre	NS VAWIR Single Mom's Support Group	\$ 14,041

23 programs \$ 90,339

Housing, Food and Basic Needs		
Organization	Program(s)	Amount
A Loving Spoonful Meals Society	Sharing Abundance Program	\$ 7,344
Athletics for Kids Financial Assistance (BC) Society	Sport4Life Grant Program	\$ 4,046
Food Link Society	From Pollution to Solution	\$ 9,180
Foundations for Social Change	New Leaf Expansion Project	\$ 7,370
Harvest Project	Client Care Program	\$ 14,042
Highlands United Church	Shelter to Home Saturday Lunch	\$ 5,967
Intellectual Disabilities Society North & West Vancouver	IDS Summit Healthy Choice Hot Lunch Wednesday	\$ 3,468
Lookout Housing and Health Society	Lookout North Shore Housing Centre	\$ 18,722
North Shore Fruit Tree Project Society	Fruit Picking	\$ 936
North Shore Neighbourhood House	Food Security Program	\$ 7,489
North Shore Community Resources Society	Community Housing Action Committee	\$ 6,069
North Shore Crisis Services Society	Second Stage Housing Programs: Hope's Place and Janet's Place Homeless Prevention Program	\$ 7,087
Quest Outreach Society	Food Recovery & Redistribution Program: North Vancouver Grocery Market	\$ 13,770
St. Andrew's United Church	Free Community Lunch Emergency Weather Response Shelter	\$ 4,681
Hollyburn Community Services Society	Life Success Program Family Homeless Case manager Tenant Support	\$ 10,110

20 programs \$ 120,281

Inclusion and Advocacy		
Organization	Program(s)	Amount
Best Buddies Canada	Best Buddies Friendship Programs	\$ 4,681
Impact North Shore	Community Bridging Programming	\$ 4,681
North Shore Disability Resource Centre	Information and Advocacy Program	\$ 8,425
North Shore Stroke Recovery Centre	Survivors of Stroke	\$ 9,829
Special Olympics BC - North Shore	SOBC North Shore Sports Program	\$ 4,681
Spinal Cord Injury BC	Peer Support Program	\$ 3,744
Vancouver Adaptive Snow Sports (VASS)	Adaptive Learn to Ski/Board Program	\$ 4,681

7 programs \$ 40,722

Education and Employment		
Organization	Program(s)	Amount
Belweder North Shore Polish Association	Colors of Poland	\$ 351
Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland	Study Buddy	\$ 975
Impact North Shore	Anti-Racism Programming	\$ 4,680
Intellectual Disabilities Society North & West Vancouver	IDS Summit's Self Advocacy Meeting/Workshop	\$ 3,468
Junior Achievement of British Columbia	Investment Strategies Personal Finance Dollars With Sense Company Program Economics for Success	\$ 3,744
North Shore Community Resources Society	Information and Volunteer North Shore Democracy Cafe: North Shore Young Civic Forum	\$ 12,137
Hollyburn Community Services Society	Youth Education Navigator Rewired Program	\$ 6,740

13 programs \$ 32,095

Condensed Summary of 2026 Community Service Grants		
Primary Service Area	# of Programs	Funding
Health and Wellbeing - 32%	19	\$ 136,407
Family and Community Support - 22%	23	\$ 90,339
Housing, Food and Basics Needs - 29%	20	\$ 120,281
Inclusion and Advocacy - 10%	7	\$ 40,722
Education and Employment - 8%	13	\$ 32,095
TOTAL	82 programs	\$ 419,844

Consolidated Five Primary Service Areas:

Health and Wellbeing:	Includes mental health, addiction, counselling, grief support, sexual health, harm reduction, and wellness services.
Family and Community Support:	Covers services for children and families, older adults, youth, parenting resources, victim services, and community-building initiatives.
Housing, Food and Basic Needs:	Includes homelessness services, emergency shelters, rent and financial assistance, housing support, access to food, clothing, and transportation.
Inclusion and Advocacy:	Includes support for immigrants, refugees, Indigenous Peoples, LGBT2Q+, people with disabilities, legal aid, and advocacy work.
Education and Employment:	Focuses on language learning, anti-racism education, employment training, youth leadership, and workshops.

Figure 1: 2026 Community Service Grants by Primary Service Areas

