



# COMMUNITY GAMING GRANTS

## 2026 PAC & DPAC PROGRAM OVERVIEW



# Agenda



PAC Program Overview



Eligibility Criteria



How to Apply



Use of Grant Funds



Reporting



Capital Projects



Questions

# Community Gaming Program Overview

- Community Gaming Grants Branch will distribute \$138.6 million in 2026 from commercial gambling revenues to around 5,000 not-for-profit organizations across British Columbia.
- The purpose of the program is to ensure residents in all regions of the province have access to community-based programs that support local needs and build inclusive, vibrant communities.
- Volunteerism and civic engagement are key priorities of the program.
- Funding is provided across six diverse sectors in three grant streams.

# Community Gaming Grants support not-for-profits through three funding streams:

- Program Grants

- Arts & Culture
- Environment
- Human & Social Services
- Sport
- Public Safety



- Parent Advisory and District Parent Advisory Council Grants

- PACs receive \$20/student or \$2,000 minimum grant.
- DPACs receive \$2,500

- Capital Projects Grants

- Supports all six sectors





# PAC & DPAC Grants

- PAC and DPAC Grant funding provides funding to enhance extracurricular opportunities for K-12 students and to increase family and community involvement in the schools.

## Funding Allocations

PAC funding: Receive \$20 per student, per year

Schools with fewer than 100 students will be provided a base rate of \$2,000.

DPAC funding: Receive \$2,500 each

- PACs or equivalent groups at public schools, group 1 or 2 independent schools, and First Nation band schools
- Separate from the management and operation of the school & composed of parents or guardians of students attending the school
- Open membership for parents/guardians of students attending the school
- Not-for-profit – do not need to be registered
- Provide extracurricular programming that is accessible and inclusive for all students
- Democratically chosen volunteer executive
- Delivered the program for at least 12 months

# Eligibility



# Before you apply

Mark the intake on your calendar – April 1 to June 30

Have your BCeID access set up

Review past grant letters

Check your reporting history  
Ensure that your PAC is up-to-date filing the Gaming Account Summary Reports.

Have your L&G file number on hand

Know if you have multiple campuses or annexes

# PAC-DPAC Required Documentation

## First Time Applicants Only:

- PAC/DPAC information, including constitution and bylaws, Board of Directors list, recent AGM minutes
- A separate “Gaming Account” and FIN312 direct deposit application for your “Gaming Account”

## Annually:

- A complete list of annexes/ school(s) that the PAC/DPAC represents
- Names, positions and contact information of 2-4 members of the PAC/DPAC associated with the application
- Ensure recent Gaming Account Summary Report(s) have been submitted



## Access, update or create a BCeID Account

Business BCeID is  
strongly recommended

Convert a Basic BCeID  
to a Business BCeID

Reset a password

Add and remove users  
for an account



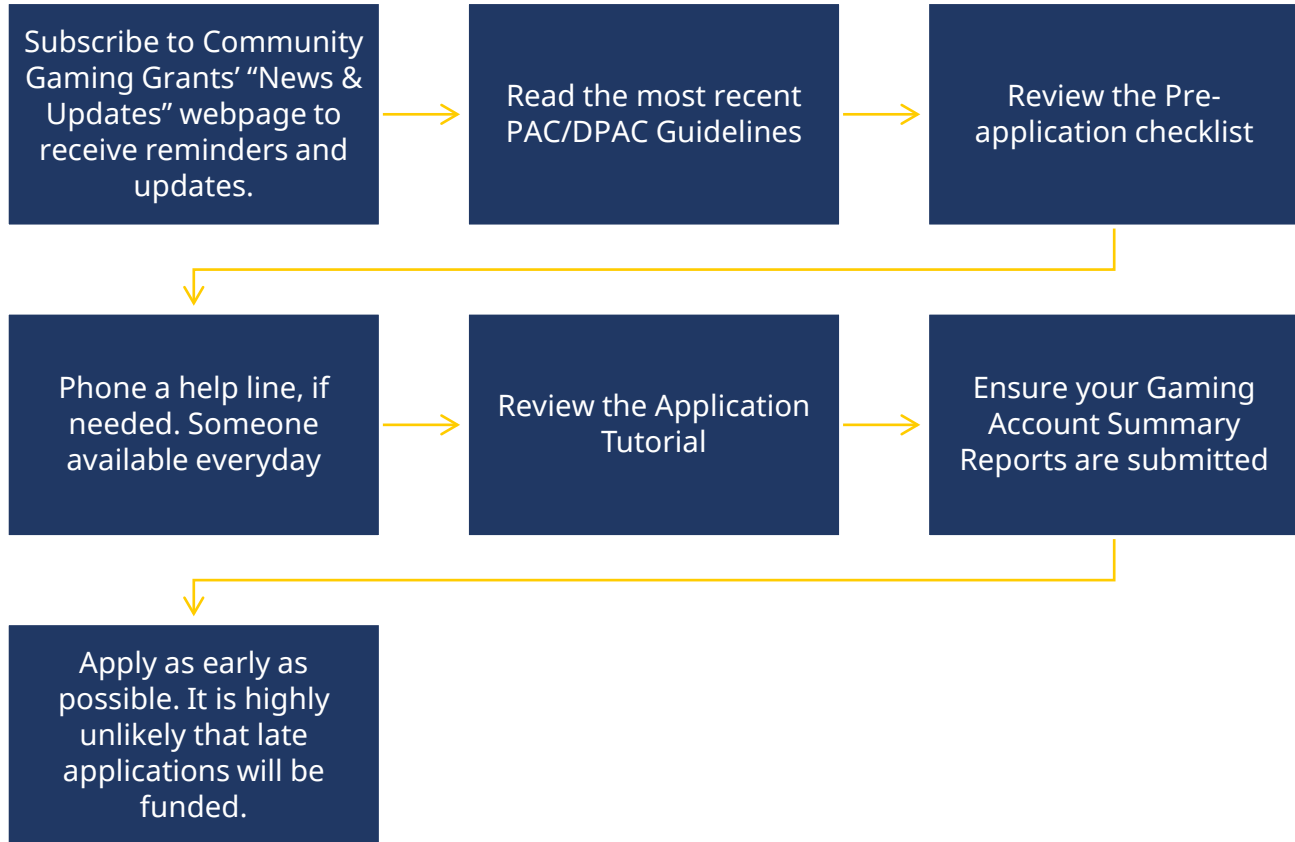
- Business Profile Manager (BPM) should be someone who plans to serve on the executive for multiple years.
- Create an alternate BPM and Business Accounts Manager (BAM)
- Business Users can be general volunteers given access to apply

# BCeID FAQs

- **Q:** Can a Basic BCeID be converted into a Business BCeID?
- **A:** Yes. When you register for a Business BCeID, you'll have the opportunity to convert your existing Basic BCeID, allowing you to keep your user ID.
- **Q:** I have a Basic BCeID. Can I also have a Business BCeID?
- **A:** Yes. You can have multiple Basic BCeIDs and only one Business BCeID.
- **Q:** Why did I get a Basic BCeID when I registered for a Business BCeID?
- **A:** A Basic BCeID was created because BCeID was not able to verify the identity of your business during your online registration. Your Basic BCeID will be automatically converted into a Business BCeID when the identity is verified by the method indicated on your Business BCeID Registration Request Confirmation.
- **Q:** What do I do if the Business Profile Manager or Business Accounts Manager leave or are unavailable?
- **A:** It is recommended that the initial Business Profile Manager – the person who requested the Business BCeID should assign at least one other person as an alternate Business Profile Manager. So long as there is at least one Business Profile Manager available, the Business Accounts Manager role can be assigned or re-assigned as needed. If there is no Business Profile Manager available, contact the Service BC Help Desk.

This type of account has a Business Profile Manager(s) or Business Account Manager(s) who can create additional BCeID user accounts for volunteers who may access online service on behalf of the organization.

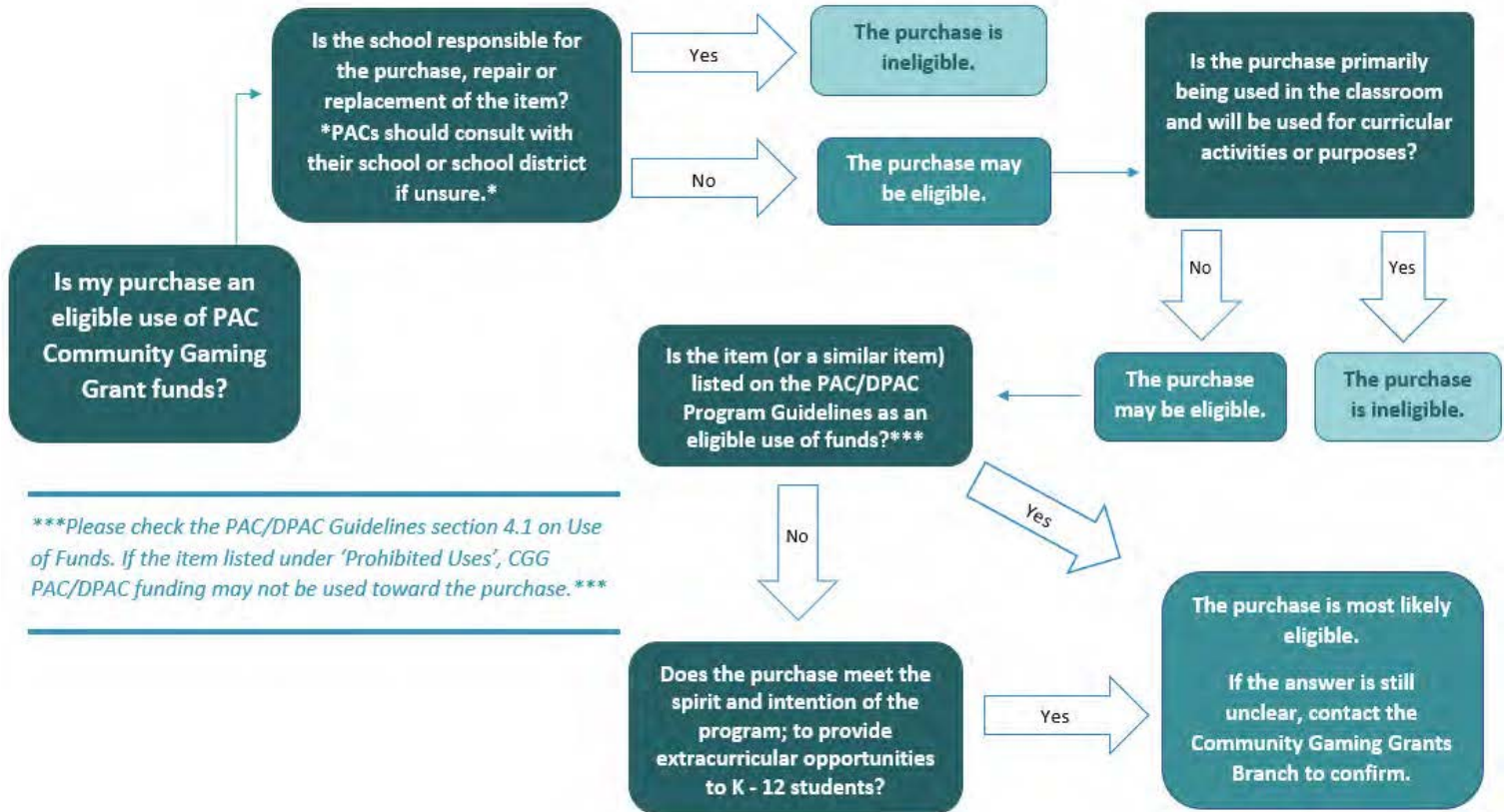
# Tips and Advice for Applying



# Spending the grant funds



# Decision Tree for Uses of PAC Funds



# Eligible Expenses: PACs

PAC grant funding is intended to benefit students by enhancing extracurricular opportunities of students who attend the school represented by the PAC.

- Field trips within B.C.
- Presentations or performances (e.g. music, theatre, science).
- PAC school spirit and family engagement events (e.g. school carnivals, movie nights, school dances, other social activities).
- Entertainment or leisure activities for non-instructional times (e.g. graphic novels/comics, magazines, extra-curricular fiction and non-fiction books, board games, colouring books).
- Student publications (e.g. newsletters, yearbooks).
- Student competitions (e.g. writing, debating, chess, music).
- Student computers for extracurricular activities/clubs (e.g. software, hardware, accessories for photography club, robotics club, yearbook club).
- Student clubs or societies (e.g. drama club, chess club).

# Eligible Expenses: PACs



- Student ceremonies (e.g. graduation, dry grad).
- Team or club uniforms (e.g. jerseys, t-shirts) and/or equipment for extracurricular activities.
- Equipment for extracurricular sports.
- Items that directly benefit students (e.g. playground equipment or enhancements).
- Student recognition (e.g. certificates, trophies, grad memorabilia).
- Student conferences within B.C.
- BCCPAC membership fees.
- Fees or travel/accommodation costs incurred to travel to the BCCPAC annual conference.
- Emergency, safety or earthquake related supplies or equipment that is not ordinarily the responsibility of the school/school district.
- With prior approval, student transportation and travel outside B.C.

# Use of funds examples for PACs

- Equipment for student clubs (e.g. baking equipment for a Baking Club, 3D printer for a Science Club)
  - Supplies for holiday events:
    - Pumpkins for carving
    - Gingerbread house kits
    - Chocolate eggs
  - Virtual licensing for video modules (e.g. dance modules, Indigenous story telling modules)
  - Outdoor equipment for play during lunch and recess and afterschool
  - Murals painted inside or outside the school
  - Aquarium purchased for common space
- Field trips in BC
  - Dance performances, author readings, special guest speaker presentations
  - Poetry and writing workshops
  - Reading contests (book prizes)
  - Indigenous artists or other community members bringing cultural knowledge to children
  - Grad hoodies designed by students
  - Dry Grad events
  - Branded water bottles
  - Comic books, graphic novels, magazines, games
  - Movie rights for family nights, snacks offered for free
  - Sports days

# Eligible Expenses: DPACs

DPAC grant funding is intended to foster greater parental involvement in schools and effective communication between schools, parents, students and the community.

- Informational and promotional materials for parents (e.g. newsletters, websites, social media, etc.)
- Administrative costs (e.g. meeting room rental, printing costs, presenter/guest speaker fees, etc.).
- Parent training and workshops British Columbia Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils membership fees for the DPAC only.
- Travel for regular DPAC meetings.
- Fees or travel/accommodation costs incurred to travel to the BCCPAC annual conference.

# Use of funds examples for DPACs

- Parent education workshops on mental health, digital safety, curriculum changes
- Newsletters, brochures, digital guides
- Hosting web and email platforms
- Zoom license
- Advertising/promotion including social media ads
- Food safe instruction for parents (required for lunch program)
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Board Training: effective meetings, treasurer workshops, preventing fraud, managing conflicts
- Meeting room rentals
- Printing costs
- Presenter & Guest Speaker fees
- Cultural competency training

# Ineligible Expenses PACs & DPACs



School facility: structural repairs, water refill stations, infrastructure and building.



Fundraising costs at PAC events (e.g. the sale of goods/services to generate revenue)



Tablets, smart boards, display screens, AV equipment



Instructional materials, textbooks.



Out of Province Travel, unless pre-approved in writing by the branch



- Funds cannot be used for items that the school is responsible for, or for curriculum-based activities or items. This includes materials that are not required for delivering or completing curriculum but assist in doing so (e.g. smart boards, other enhanced educational tools).

# Spending Timelines



- **Forward**



- **PACs:** Grant funds must be spent within 24 months of receipt.
- **DPACs:** Grant funds must be spent within 12 months of receipt.

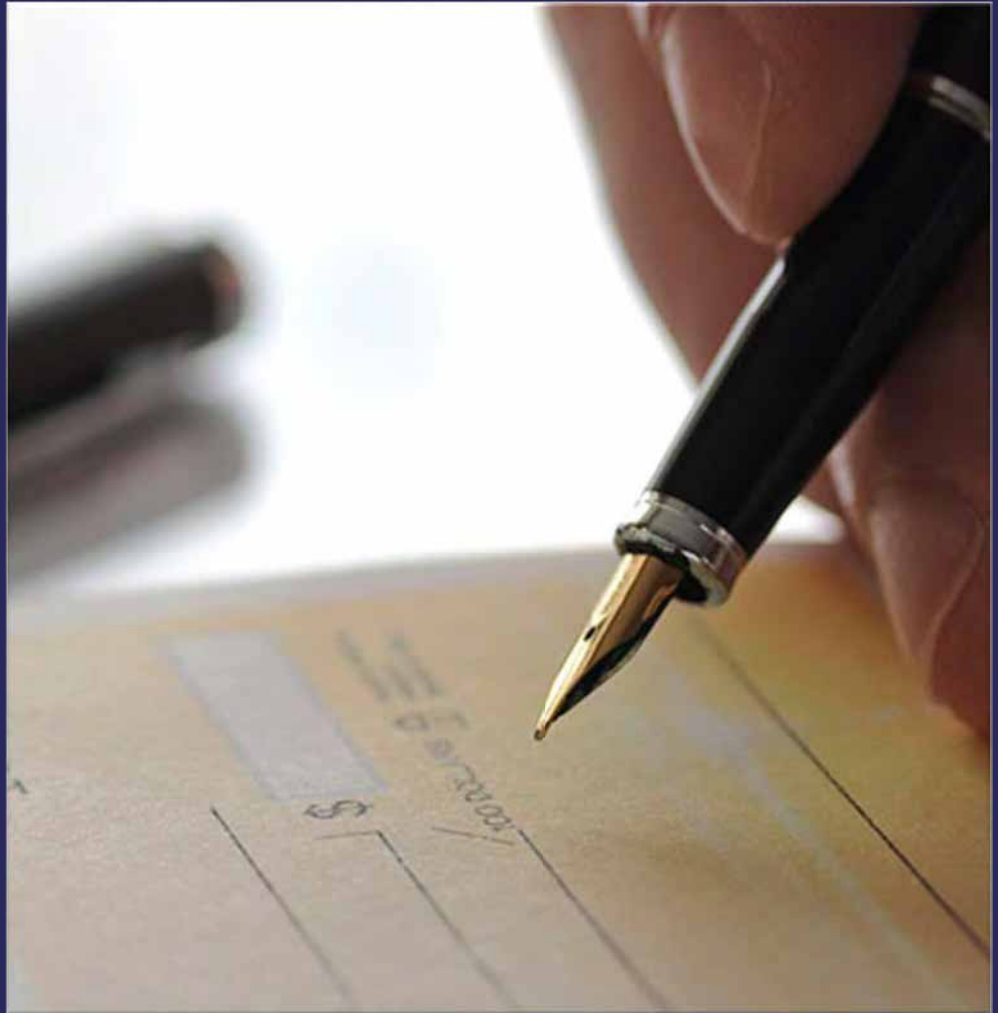
- **Backward**



- Grant funds can back-pay expenses incurred in the same fiscal year the grant is received.
- This is done by transferring funds from the Gaming Account to the General Account for previously incurred eligible expenses.
- You cannot pay past debt or future costs not yet incurred.

# Financial reporting

- Annual reporting on grant funds
- Designated bank account



Grant funds are deposited into a designated Gaming Account.

### **Expenses**

- All eligible expenses should be paid directly from the Gaming Account.
- Grant funds may be transferred – by cheque or electronically – from the Gaming Account to the General Account for the reimbursement of eligible program expenses.

### **Method**

- Cheque or board-approved electronic transfer.

### **Documentation**

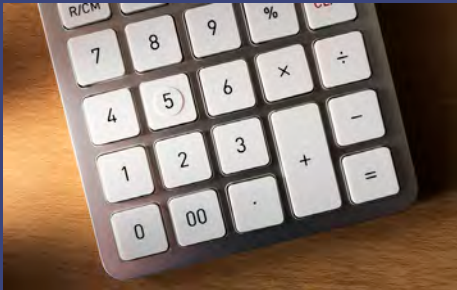
- Invoices and receipts must be retained for five years.

# Gaming Account

PAC access only – not to be used by the school

# Gaming Account

- All Gaming Grant spending must be reported in the “Gaming Account Summary Report (GASR).”
- Are due each year the account holds a balance of funds, even if you didn’t get funding.
- Must be submitted within 90 days of the organization’s fiscal year end (do not submit prior to FYE)
- The GASR details: account balance at beginning of fiscal year; grants received; funds disbursed; and balance at end of fiscal year.
- GASR also requires a description of how the funding benefited the community – ie. students.



# Record keeping

- Invoices and receipts must be retained for five years.
- Annual reporting on grant account
- Bank statements useful



# Capital Project Grant Overview

Capital projects with a total cost between \$20,000 - \$1,250,000  
Between 20% and 50% of the total cost of a project may be funded  
Grants up to \$250,000 (max)  
**Matching funds are required**

- **\$5M Annual Funding**
  - **Competitive Process**
-

# Capital Project Grant



Application intake period:  
TBD; Summer



Notifications: TBD

- One application per year
- Only one grant per project
- Can still apply for regular/annual Community Gaming Grants



# Project Eligibility



**Facilities:** construction of new facilities; renovation or maintenance of existing facilities

- **Examples:** Purchase new/used buildings, community or childcare facility, recovery house, interior or exterior renovation (kitchen/bathroom/flooring/roof), HVAC system, elevators, tennis bubbles, lighting, curling club refrigeration



**Community Infrastructure:** development of public amenities that improve B.C. residents' quality of life

- **Examples:** Playgrounds, outdoor structures, community space, skate park, hiking/walking trails, public wharf, ecosystem restoration



**Acquisitions:** purchase of fixed capital assets for long-term ownership and use by the applicant organization

- **Examples:** Vehicles, buses/vans, IT software, office or technical equipment, audio/visual equipment, sports equipment, boats



**Repatriation Projects:** The return of cultural belongings or artifacts to the rightful owners/community. Can include transport, ceremony.

- **Examples:** Community museum returning artifacts to the community of origin

# Assessment and Scoring Process

- 1. Applicants must meet all Mandatory Eligibility Criteria to have their project scored:**
  - Organization Eligibility
  - Project Eligibility
  - Financial Requirements
- 2. Projects are then scored against the Assessment Criteria**
- 3. Once the ranking process has been completed, additional considerations may be applied (e.g. sector distribution, regional distribution, Indigenous projects)**



# Competitive Scoring Process

## Community benefit (20%)

- Describe your project and why it is needed.
- How will your community benefit from this project?

## Inclusiveness and accessibility (5%)

- How many people in the community will benefit?
- It is open/inclusive to as many people as possible?

## Project Feasibility (35%)

- Project Timeline
- Risk Management Table
- Approvals and Permits
- Operational Viability

## Financial Considerations (35%)

- Financial Statements and Budget
- Cost Estimates
- Planned Use of Grant Funds
- Matching Funds

## Environmental efficiency (5%)

# Questions



# Before you apply



## **Licensing & Grants (L&G) file number:**

- Returning applicants can enter their organization's L&G file number in the application
- It will be used to auto populate some of the organization's information



## **Current mailing address**

- All applicants will be expected to provide a current mailing address for use throughout the application and reporting process



## **Gaming account**

- Unless you have received a payment in the last year, applicants will be required to submit a new direct deposit form.
- For this form, you will need a void cheque or a copy of your direct deposit information, including entity name, Institution number, Transit number and Account number



# Use of Funds – Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Can a PAC give grant funds to the school or school district?**

A: No. Per section 10 of the Conditions for a PAC/DPAC Grant, PACs are not permitted to make advances or donations of gaming funds to a school or school district.

However, the PAC may reimburse the school, school district, school group, or an individual for eligible disbursements as long as supporting documentation is retained in the PAC's gaming records.

It is preferred that the PAC pays suppliers of goods and services directly whenever possible.

# Use of Funds – Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: How do PACs make capital purchases? Does the PAC or the school own the asset?**

A: PACs should not be making purchases for the school/school district and should retain management and control over any assets purchased using PAC grant funds.

Instances where the ownership of eligible assets are transferred over to the school or school district for storage, maintenance, operation, or liability insurance purposes is acceptable, but should be agreed to in writing.

PACs should seek any necessary permissions or permits required from their school, school district and/or city prior to making purchases for any projects that require installation, or which take place on school grounds. Installation fees should be paid for by the school/school district and/or city.



# Use of Funds – Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Why can't our PAC use funds for scholarships and bursaries?**

A: Using funds for scholarships and bursaries does not align with the intentions of the CGG PAC grant funding. The funding should benefit as many children as possible and provide opportunities for extra-curricular activities for students currently attending the school.

# Use of Funds – Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q: Can we purchase playground equipment?**

A: PACs can use their funding to purchase playground equipment. If there are modifications to the school grounds (e.g. levelling of ground, digging) required to install the equipment, this would fall under the school's responsibility.

PACs may retain their PAC grant funding for up to 24 months, so there are PAC groups that save this funding to make a larger purchase, such as a playground.

PACs may also apply to the Capital Project Grant program for funds for a playground; however, playgrounds located on public school grounds that are eligible for the Ministry of Education's Playground Equipment Program (PEP) are not eligible for a Capital Project grant. School Districts are responsible for applying for the PEP; confirm with the SD if your project is eligible for the PEP.

# **Application Intake – Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: What happens if my PAC applies for a grant after the intake closes on June 30?**

A: It is highly unlikely for a late application to receive funding. CGG receives over 5,000 applications to the program each year and will prioritize funding those applications submitted on-time. The ability to provide funding to late applications is subject to the overall availability of funding. As the CGG program is often oversubscribed with funding requests that extend beyond the \$138.6 Million budget, it is highly unlikely that there would be enough money left to fund late applications.