Ministry of Public Safety
& Solicitor General

Civil Forfeiture Grant Program Annual Report 2023/24

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Released August 2025

Land Acknowledgement

We gratefully acknowledge that the work of the Community Safety and Victim Services Branch takes place on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of many First Nations throughout British Columbia. We recognize that these lands have been stewarded by Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial. We express our deep gratitude for their enduring care and connection to the land, which continues to enrich our communities and our work.

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Minister's Message

Honourable Nina Krieger
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

It is my privilege to introduce the inaugural Civil Forfeiture Grant Program Annual Report – a reflection of our government's unwavering commitment to public safety, crime prevention, and supporting community resilience across British Columbia.

Civil forfeiture plays a vital role in our multi-faceted approach to combatting organized crime and money laundering. Since 2006, the Civil Forfeiture Office (CFO) has forfeited more than $200 million in unlawfully acquired assets and provided almost half of these funds back to B.C. communities in the form of grants.

This new report was created in response to what we often hear from the public: many people are unaware – and pleasantly surprised to learn – that the proceeds of civil forfeiture help fund community-based safety and crime prevention programs. By shining a light on the remarkable work being done through the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program, we hope to raise awareness, highlight local leadership, and further strengthen transparency and accountability in the use of these funds.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program has diverse funding streams that support a wide range of community-based initiatives. The province has led the way in building a grant program that prioritizes prevention, healing, and local empowerment, through support for child and youth advocacy centres, Indigenous-led healing initiatives, restorative justice programming, gender-based violence prevention, crime prevention initiatives and victim services.

As we confront increasingly complex criminal threats – from fentanyl super labs tied to transnational cartels, to the hidden networks behind illegal cannabis production – it is clear that tools beyond traditional enforcement are needed.

Minister's Message

The CFO plays a vital role by implementing innovative approaches to identify and forfeit the proceeds of unlawful activity, while continuing to prioritize community investment in crime prevention and victim remediation activities.

I want to thank the many partners who make this possible: our law enforcement agencies, community organizations, Indigenous leaders, legal teams, and, most importantly, the communities that continue to show strength and vision in the face of adversity. Together, we are not only disrupting the profits of unlawful activity – we are investing in the safety, dignity, and well-being of British Columbians.

Sincerely,

Honourable Nina Krieger
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Introduction

The Civil Forfeiture Office (CFO) was established in 2006 and operates under the authority of the *Civil Forfeiture Act* (the *Act*). The CFO targets the proceeds and instruments of unlawful activity to ensure that people cannot profit from unlawful activity or use property to seriously harm others.

The CFO is part of the Community Safety and Victim Services Branch in the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. Pursuant to the *Act*, the Minister of Public Safety appoints a person as the Director of Civil Forfeiture to lead the operations of the CFO.

Civil forfeiture helps remove the financial incentives of criminal activity that fuel crime in our Province, such as drug trafficking and money laundering, and reinvests the forfeited funds into crime prevention and community safety initiatives.

The *Act* authorizes the Director to disburse forfeited funds for certain purposes, including:

- To pay for the operational costs of running the CFO;
- To fund grants that support crime prevention and community safety initiatives; and,
- To compensate eligible victims of unlawful activity.

Civil forfeiture targets property, *not people*, and as such there is no requirement for criminal conviction to proceed with forfeiture. The CFO must satisfy the court that the assets are the proceeds and/or an instrument of unlawful activity, and that the unlawful activity is contrary to a provincial or federal statute. The unlawful activity can have taken place anywhere inside or outside of British Columbia, but the asset must be in the province.

When assessing whether to commence forfeiture proceedings, several checks and balances are in place to ensure fairness. The CFO considers the strength of evidence of illegal activity, the public interest, a cost-benefit analysis, and the interest of justice.

Since its inception, the CFO has forfeited over $200 million. The CFO operates as a self-funded government unit, with recoveries from forfeitures used to cover its operational costs. Remaining funds are then distributed to communities across British Columbia through the annual Civil Forfeiture Grant Program.

Approximately half of the funds from all forfeitures go back into B.C. communities.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program provides one-time funding to support community safety-related initiatives across the province. Funding is allocated through streams chosen on an annual basis that align with ministry priorities. The majority of funding from forfeitures are distributed as community grants, with approximately 10% of the funding allocated to Police Equipment & Training grants. Since the program's inception, over $95 million in funding has been awarded to support community-based projects across British Columbia.

Each year, the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program opens for applications in the fall, with proposals typically accepted through the winter months until December. Submitted proposals are reviewed and adjudicated between December and early spring of the following year. For naming purposes, each grant cycle is referred to by the intake period, even though projects are implemented in the following fiscal year.

The ministry uses a formalized process to review and assess all applications. Dedicated review teams are established for each funding stream, and proposals are individually evaluated and scored against set criteria, including the strength of proposals, alignment with ministry priorities, and the needs of specific vulnerable groups, with consideration for geographic distribution and value for money. Based on these assessments, review teams make recommendations to the branch Executive team for final funding decisions. Successful applicants are required to submit a mid-term check-in report on the progress of the funded project, as well as a final report upon completion.

This inaugural edition of the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program Annual Report highlights a selection of projects from the most recent grant cycle. These projects were funded through the 2023/24 intake cycle and were delivered during the 2024/25 fiscal year, concluding in March 2025.

These featured initiatives are among the thousands that have benefited from the program over the years, demonstrating the positive and far-reaching impacts it continues to have on individuals and communities across British Columbia. Future editions will continue to showcase projects from each annual cycle.

Our Partners

The success of the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program is made possible through the collaboration and dedication of a wide network of partners, each playing a critical role in both the forfeiture process and the delivery of community safety initiatives across British Columbia.

Realizing Forfeiture

Civil forfeiture in British Columbia relies on the coordinated efforts of many. We acknowledge the essential contributions of law enforcement agencies, whose referrals initiate forfeiture actions; the CFO legal team at the Ministry of Attorney General's Legal Services Branch, who advance those actions through litigation; and partners such as the Asset Investment Recovery (AIR) division at the Ministry of Citizens' Services and other support agencies, who manage and dispose of forfeited assets with care and integrity. These partners form the foundation of the civil forfeiture system. We also gratefully acknowledge the entire staff of the Civil Forfeiture Office, who operationally and administratively manage the complex day-to-day functions of the Office, all with the shared goal of removing the profits from unlawful activity and reinvesting them into communities.

Delivering the Grant Program

The delivery of the annual Civil Forfeiture Grant Program is made possible through the commitment of staff within the Community Safety and Victim Services Branch, who lead the application process and oversee fund distribution year after year. They are supported by the broader Branch and CFO team, including administrative professionals and leadership, whose behind-the-scenes efforts ensure the smooth and effective operation of the program.

Community Partners

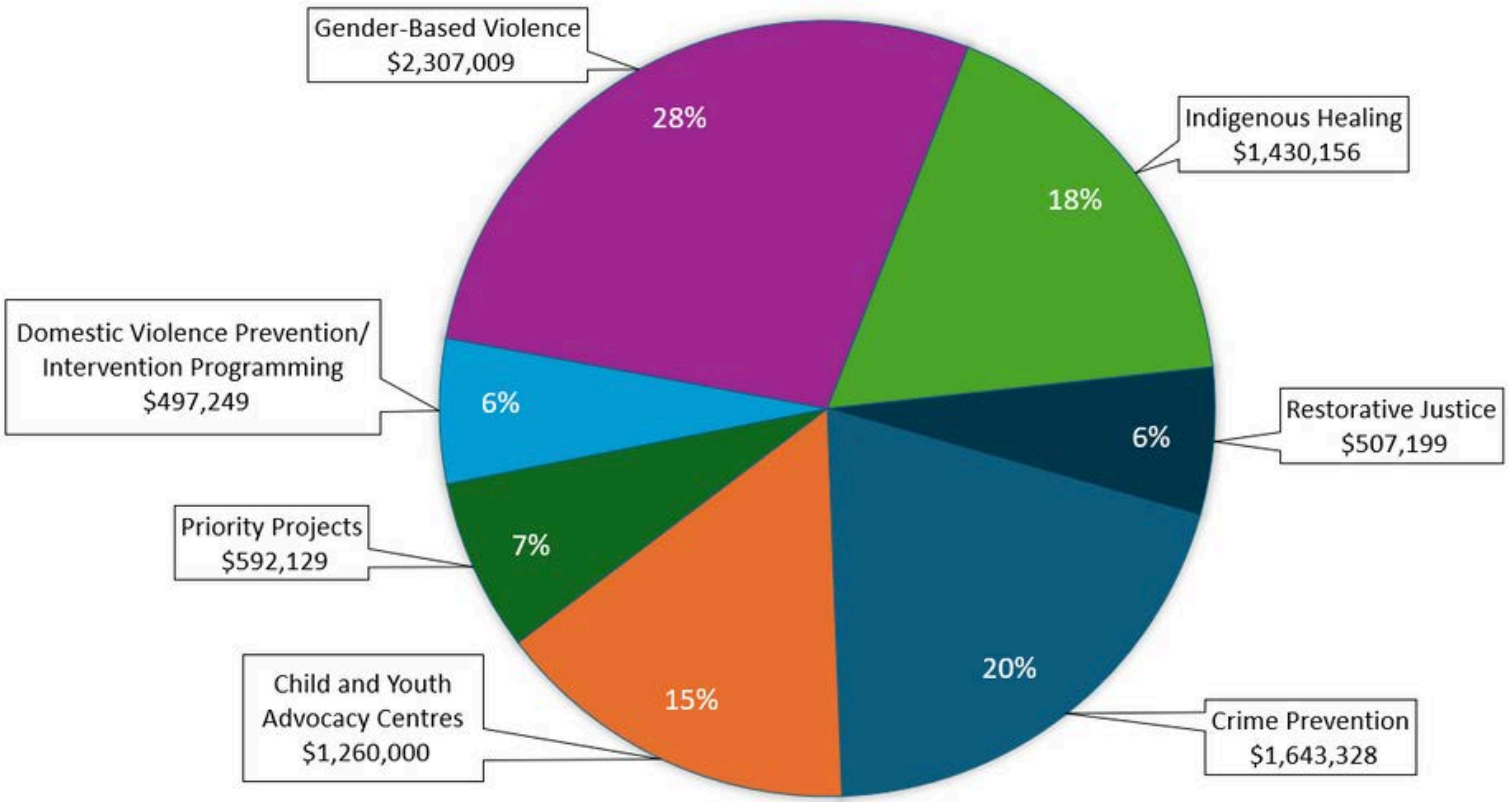
Finally, we extend our deepest thanks to the community organizations across the province who bring this program to life through their applications and projects. This includes local governments, community-based not-for-profit organizations, school districts, health authorities, academic institutions, police departments, and Indigenous organizations. Your commitment, innovation, and on-the-ground work are what ultimately transform forfeited funds into safer, stronger communities!

2023/24 Civil Forfeiture Grant Program Overview

$8,237,070	383	189
Total awarded funding	Total applications submitted	Total projects funded

Funding Overview

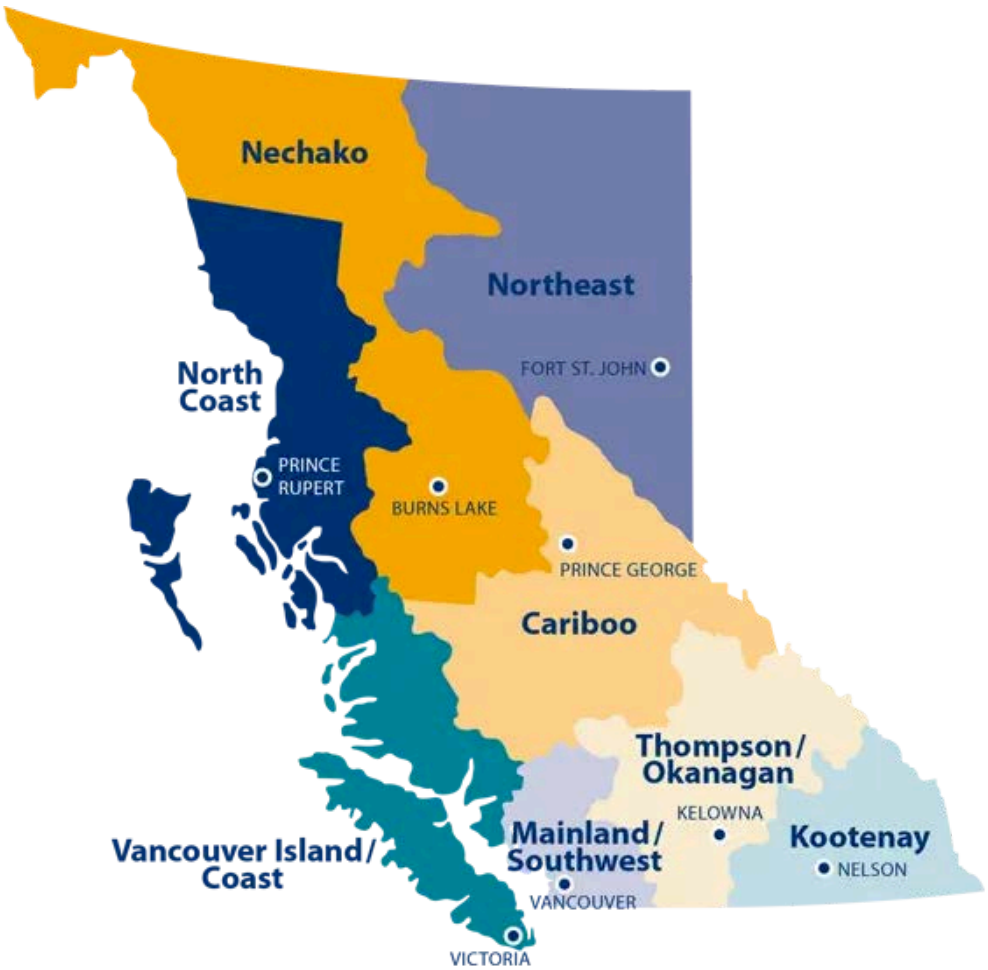
The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program has established several funding streams that community-based organizations can apply to based on the subject of their project. The three largest funding streams in the 2023/24 intake cycle were Gender-Based Violence, Crime Prevention, and Indigenous Healing.



Funding by Region

Funding is available for projects across the whole province. To help ensure equitable access to funding, the adjudication process considers geographic distribution to avoid over-concentrating funds in urban areas and to support rural and remote regions.

Region	Projects Funded (number)
Lower Mainland	40
North & Central	24
Province Wide	25
Southern Interior	30
Vancouver	30
Vancouver Island & Region	40



Crime Prevention

AWARDED FUNDING: $1,643,328
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 44

The Crime Prevention funding stream provides grants to support evidence-based crime prevention and community safety initiatives. These initiatives focus on addressing criminal activity through direct interventions for vulnerable individuals at-risk of, or currently involved in, criminal activities and/or behaviour, including prolific offenders.

Roots Bike Club Mentorship Program

Bike Victoria Society — VICTORIA

Capital Bike's Roots Bike Club supported 25 vulnerable youth in Victoria - many newcomers or justice-involved - by building independence, confidence, and community through cycling. Over three months, youth aged 10–15 took part in six themed workshops, each offered multiple times to boost accessibility. Sessions covered practical riding skills, bike mechanics, road rules, and secure locking techniques, with youth individually fitted for bikes sourced from local shops with trade-in policies. Workshops emphasized safety, skill development, and confidence, and included mentorship, snacks, and space for open dialogue. Youth earned their bikes through active participation, and the program culminated in a celebratory group ride and graduation, marking their growth in mobility, self-reliance, and community connection.

Youth learning safe bike handling skills.

One-on-one mentorship to build community.

"We need more programs like this in the world – programs that inspire and remove barriers for at-promise youth to experience the wonder, joy and freedom within the world of cycling. For our celebration, one youth biked all the way from Shelbourne to Esquimalt. That's a long bike ride… He was so proud."

- Courtney Den Elzen, Roots Instructor

Program instructors and mentors.

Youth learning in a safe and inclusive classroom environment.

Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA)

Catholic Justice Services Society ABBOTSFORD

CoSA supports up to 40 individuals reintegrating into the community after serving prison sentences for sexual offences, aiming to reduce recidivism and enhance public safety through structured, volunteer-led support. Each participant is matched with a small group of trained volunteers who provide compassionate accountability and help navigate re-entry challenges. In 2024/25, CoSA strengthened its core model by introducing an improved client intake process, enhancing volunteer screening, and expanding training to include videos, readings, and in-person sessions. These upgrades have led to a more consistent and effective support system. Outreach to post-secondary criminology programs has also helped grow future volunteer capacity, reinforcing CoSA's long-term impact on community safety and reintegration.

"I have had CoSA volunteers for over 15 years. During that time, I have made some stupid mistakes, but CoSA has never given up on me…I want to thank the volunteers for supporting me, and for changing me into a better person."

- C, Program Participant

"Release conditions sometimes prohibit offenders from having contact with specific friends or groups they associated with previously. This can cause feelings of isolation and inner conflict. This is where CoSA shines. The work required is demanding and requires patience, determination, persistence, empathy, teamwork, collaboration, understanding, but above all – hope and compassion. That is why the work of CoSA volunteers is so admirable…"

- Dennis Herfst, Area Director, Correctional Service Canada

"Without question, my CoSA Circle is my most valued resource. There is no other place where I can speak so freely about those things which weigh heavily on my heart and mind, and no other people who will give me such a variety of honest and sincere feedback. My CoSA Circle is there for me in a way that no other person or group can be. It is made up of good and caring people who dedicate their time and experience to me, freely, so that I can best succeed at living a good life in the community."

- T, Program Participant

Indigenous Healing

AWARDED FUNDING: $1,430,156
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 37

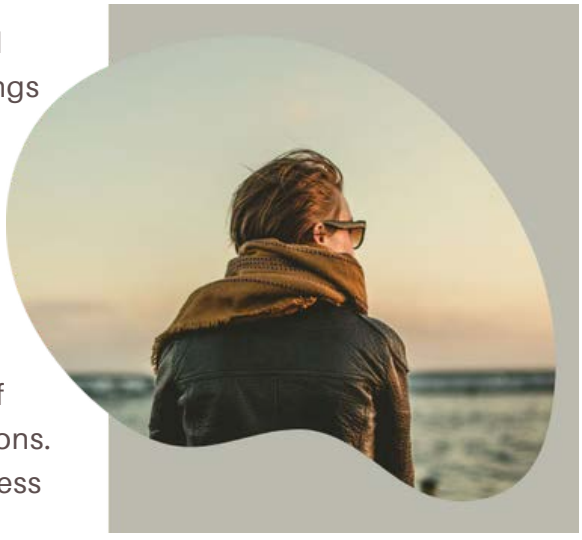
The Indigenous Healing funding stream provides grants to support healing of Indigenous peoples from the impacts of intergenerational trauma, crime or victimization in communities across British Columbia. Projects focus on healing approaches reflective of and/or aligned with Indigenous culture and worldviews, including healing for the individual, the family and/or the broader community; emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual aspects of healing; and other culturally identified practices that contribute to healing.

Resiliency Program

Pacifica Treatment Centre Society — PROVINCE WIDE

The Resiliency Program provides individuals from Indigenous communities who are undergoing treatment for Substance Use Disorders with essential skills and coping strategies. In 2024/25 they integrated resiliency practices into their Indigenous treatment services through the 2024 Resilience Project. The project engaged 68 clients in bi-weekly healing circles led by Elders and Indigenous Alumni, emphasizing strength, connection, harmony, and cultural renewal.

Informed by client and community feedback, these trauma-informed sessions incorporated traditional practices, ceremonies, and teachings to support healing from grief, trauma, and substance use, recognizing the unique experiences and challenges faced by Indigenous peoples, including the impacts of intergenerational trauma and colonialism. Participants reported a stronger sense of community and cultural connection, and staff also observed meaningful client transformations. The lessons learned from the program's success are helping to shape broader care strategies across the treatment centre.



Connecting with nature.

Peaceful Warriors

Rise Up Indigenous Wellness Society SALMON ARM

Youth working together to set up tents in a forested area.

Peaceful Warriors is a decolonized, trauma-informed mentorship program designed to prevent sexual and domestic violence by mentoring Indigenous boys aged 8–11 through traditional teachings that foster kindness, empathy, and respect. Grounded in Indigenous knowledge and social-emotional learning, the nine-week program delivers culturally relevant lessons focused on emotional development, accountability, and identity. Developed in collaboration with Indigenous community members, sessions are guided by local traditions and values. Early outcomes show strong participant engagement and growth in empathy, self-awareness, and cultural connection. The program envisions broader impact through future expansion into other Indigenous communities, promoting healing and violence prevention across generations.

"I really like the outdoor activities we did with Peaceful Warriors. I made lots of new friends at Peaceful Warriors and also learned more about my culture."

- Youth Participant, age 11

"I am so happy for my son to have participated in Peaceful Warriors. As a single mom it is difficult to share what it means to be a respectful man for my son."

- Parent

Adults and children connecting and crafting together.

"I wished I had something like this when I was kid. Especially because I didn't have a father figure. Peaceful Warriors taught the boys life skills and as a facilitator I was able to model these skills."

- Scott, Facilitator

Youth participants focused in an art class.

Group pumpkin carving.

Restorative Justice

AWARDED FUNDING: $507,199
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 14

The Restorative Justice funding stream provides grants to enhance the capacity of existing restorative justice programming in B.C., including capacity and partnership development, awareness building, participation and service delivery.

qathet Community Justice (qCJ)

qathet Community Justice Society POWELL RIVER

Rooted in the homelands of the ɬaʔamɩn People, qCJ is a restorative justice initiative that works to rebuild relationships and address systemic causes of injustice through both criminal and non-criminal services across the qathet region. The program is accessible via referrals from justice and community partners, as well as self-referrals, with a focus on empowering victims to initiate the process. qCJ operates two core streams - the general Restorative Justice Program and the youth-led Youth Restorative Action (YRA) Program - delivered by trained staff and 40 volunteers. Volunteers complete 30 hours of training in justice theory, anti-oppressive practice, and conflict resolution, with continued mentorship. In 2024/25, qCJ supported a range of cases, from workplace conflict to personal harm, while offering Peacemaking Circles, school-based classroom sessions, and community dialogues. Its trauma-informed, low-barrier approach has strengthened accountability, empathy, and reconciliation, especially among youth.

qCJ volunteers pictured together.

"I've been introduced to the world of restorative justice...it's a handy lens to view the world and organizations with...I've been learning a lot about engaging in community in a meaningful way."

- Aurora, Youth Volunteer

"I think better justice was done than would be done in the [criminal legal] system. When it happens, you feel like 'I want justice' but I don't think a lot of people understand that there isn't much justice left in the [criminal legal] system...It was a positive process for us as business owners. It was meaningful."

- Affected Party

Growing Peace Circles in the Southern Gulf Islands

Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House Society

PENDER ISLAND

This initiative strengthens community resilience across Galiano, Mayne, Pender, and Saturna Island by equipping residents with restorative conflict resolution skills. Aimed at reducing reliance on law enforcement for minor disputes, the program empowers participants to address conflict through dialogue, empathy, and shared understanding. In 2024/25, the Southern Gulf Islands Community Justice Program expanded its Peace Circle training series with a revised, equity-informed curriculum grounded in anti-oppression and trauma-informed practices. Experiential sessions helped participants lead inclusive, accountable conversations, supported by partnerships with RCMP, Victim Services, and local organizations. The project has built a growing network of trained facilitators who are increasingly called upon to guide restorative processes on complex issues - fostering stronger relationships, diffusing tensions, and embedding a culture of community-based problem-solving across the region.

Peace Circle members smiling outside.

"The ability to bring together diverse community groups around a variety of topics, and successfully engage Circle participants in deep and meaningful conversation that bolsters community communication hosted by trained Peace Circle facilitators has been almost magical to experience. The Southern Gulf Islands Community Justice Team has introduced new levels of dialogue within the Southern Gulf Islands. The commitment of the well-trained and highly skilled volunteers is outstanding."

- D. N., Pender Island

Domestic Violence Prevention/Intervention Programming (DVPIP)

AWARDED FUNDING: $497,249
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 13

The DVPIP funding stream provides grants to support the direct delivery of group-based programming for individuals who use violence in intimate partner relationships. The focus is on offering programming prior to the charge, conviction, or sentencing stage of the criminal justice process. These initiatives aim to enhance the safety and wellbeing of victims who have experienced, or are at-risk of experiencing, domestic violence.

Become the Change (BTC)

Canadian Mental Health Association - Cariboo Chilcotin

WILLIAMS LAKE

BTC is a psycho-educational group program for adults aged 18+ who are at risk of or have previously perpetrated domestic violence. The program helps participants recognize harmful behaviors, develop healthier relationship skills, and foster accountability in a supportive group setting. Delivered in partnership with organizations like the Ministry of Children and Family Development and First Nations communities, BTC continues to grow in demand, with waitlists forming before sessions are posted. Sessions include facilitated discussions and workshops, beginning with shared meals to build rapport and reduce emotional barriers. Project participants report significant personal growth, increased awareness, and lasting support networks. Many participants encourage others, including partners, to attend BTC or its companion program, Growth for a New Beginning. The program's growing regional reputation has led to recent outreach to First Nations women, setting the stage for further expansion.

Gender-Based Violence

AWARDED FUNDING: $2,307,009
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 62

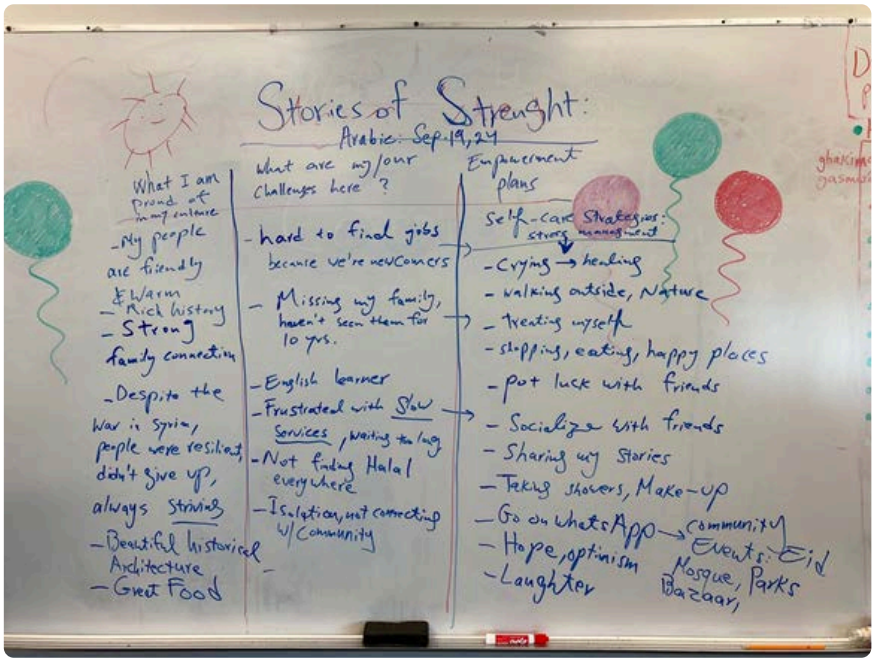
The Gender-Based Violence funding stream provides grants that develop and/or enhance culturally relevant, culturally safe and trauma informed responses to gender-based violence in communities across British Columbia. This includes projects that address domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, sexual exploitation (including online child sexual exploitation), sex worker safety and exiting from sex work.

Empowerment Journey: Reclaiming Our Strength

DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society — SURREY

In 2024/25, DIVERSEcity expanded its Roots of Safety (ROS) training through the Empowerment Journey: Reclaiming Our Strength project. The initiative aimed to build the capacity of frontline workers to support immigrant and refugee survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV) and gender-based violence (GBV). DIVERSEcity delivered 20 trauma-informed, culturally responsive training sessions to over 300 service providers across sectors like settlement, youth, and housing. Sessions incorporated safety planning tools, emotional regulation strategies, and culturally safe practices, and participants reported increased confidence in creating respectful, survivor-centered safety plans. The project improved client engagement, strengthened intersectoral collaboration, and enhanced culturally aligned IPV/GBV responses.

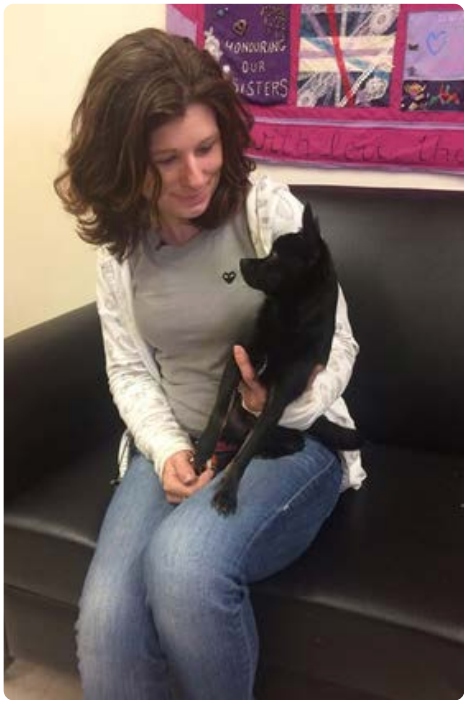
Project members pictured together.



Whiteboard with the results from a reflective group activity.

Paws for Hope

Paws for Hope Animal Foundation MAPLE RIDGE

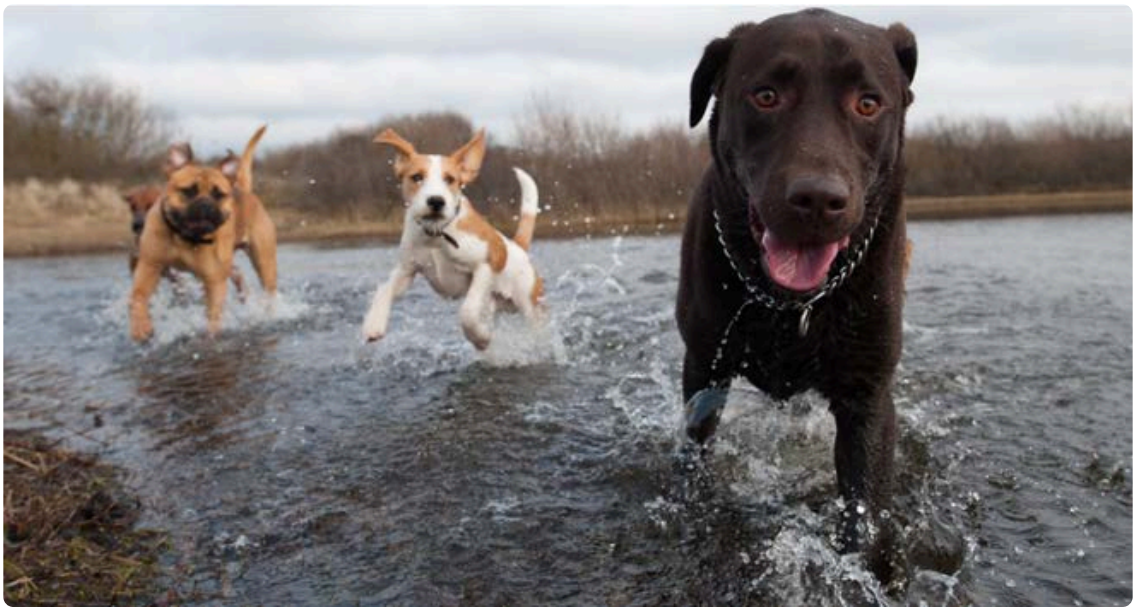


A woman smiling at her dog.

No Pet Left Behind, developed by Paws for Hope, provides crisis foster care for pets of women fleeing domestic violence. Recognizing that pets are vital emotional support but often pose a barrier to leaving abusive situations, the program offers free, confidential foster placements for pets while women access shelter, rebuild stability, and secure permanent housing - so women can escape violence without having to worry about their animals. Operating province-wide in partnership with the Ending Violence Association of BC and the BC Society of Transition Houses, the program covers all pet-related needs, including food, supplies, and veterinary care. Since its inception, No Pet Left Behind has supported nearly 300 women, 425 children, and 400 pets across B.C., offering critical peace of mind and empowering women to seek safety and healing.

"Women who once thought they could not leave the violence, as they would never leave their pets behind, now can leave safely knowing that their companion animals will accompany them and find safe shelter."

- Amy FitzGerald, Executive Director of BC Society of Transition Houses



Dogs running and splashing in a pond.

Child and Youth Advocacy Centres (CYACs)

AWARDED FUNDING: $1,260,000
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 9

The CYAC funding stream provides grants to support integrated service models that support child and youth victims of violent crime using coordinated responses. A CYAC is a safe, child-friendly space where children and youth who have experienced abuse can access a range of coordinated supports – including police, child protection, medical care, and counselling – all in one location. Grants are used to enhance the capacity, development, or improvement of services within eligible CYACs in communities across British Columbia.

Safe Kids & Youth (SKY) Coordinated Response

Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-operative NELSON

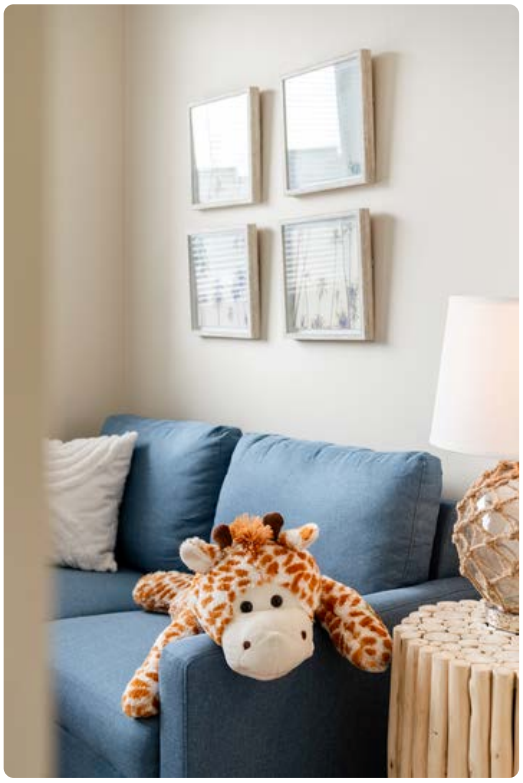
The SKY Coordinated Response serves six rural communities across the West Kootenay region, providing child and youth-centred services and advocacy without a physical centre. Instead, it coordinates localized, multi-disciplinary teams to support children and youth (ages 0–19) who disclose abuse, violence, or neglect. SKY collaborates with police, child protection services, Crown counsel, healthcare providers, and schools to ensure trauma-informed, culturally safe care. Specialized, child-friendly interview spaces and remote court testimony rooms reduce re-traumatization. One key support is Trusty, an Accredited Facility Support Dog, who provides comfort during interviews, court proceedings, and counseling. Serving up to 50 children and youth annually, SKY has become a model for rural child and youth abuse response in B.C. and Canada, recognized for reducing system-induced trauma and minimizing repetitive retellings of traumatic events.

SKY's accredited facility support dog, Trusty.

Victoria & West Shore Child and Youth Advocacy Centre

Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Society of Greater Victoria

VICTORIA & WEST SHORE



Giraffe stuffy in a calm, softly lit support room.

The Victoria & West Shore CYAC serves 13 municipalities and 10 surrounding Indigenous communities, providing a child-centered, trauma-informed response to child abuse cases. The centre brings together police, victim services, and child protection professionals to offer coordinated, compassionate care in a safe environment. A multi-disciplinary team reduces re-traumatization by ensuring continuity of care, from forensic interviews to legal proceedings. Victim Service advocates support children and families throughout the process, ensuring clear communication and emotional support. This coordinated approach has reportedly contributed to improving investigative outcomes, increasing charge approval rates, and strengthening trust between families and justice system partners, making the CYAC a vital resource for trauma-informed response and long-term support.

Teddy bear and cushions in a quiet room.

"It is not unusual for former clients to reach out to share how receiving services with our Centre resulted in positive and hopeful changes in their lives, including seeking out education in community service programs and landing in professions that give back to the community (law, social work, therapy and nursing)."

- Victoria & West Shore CYAC

Priority Projects

AWARDED FUNDING: $592,129
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 10

In addition to its dedicated funding streams, the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program allocates a portion of funding each year to select initiatives identified as high-impact, addressing a strategic priority, or filling a critical gap.

IHIT Family Liaison Victim Services Worker

Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) PROVINCE WIDE

The IHIT Family Liaison Victim Services Worker provides dedicated support to families of homicide victims, acting as a vital liaison between grieving families, IHIT investigators, and local victim services. The worker coordinates support throughout the investigative and court processes, helping families navigate emotional and practical challenges. In 2024/25, the program supported 13 families and witnesses, providing emotional assistance, court support, and guidance on preparing Victim Impact Statements. With a caseload of 90-100 ongoing homicide-related files, the worker ensures much needed support throughout the justice process. The program has built lasting relationships with victims' families and supports IHIT staff coping with the emotional toll of investigations.

Certificate of Appreciation and Thank You cards.

Provincial Training Conferences

Anti-Violence Associations PROVINCE WIDE

Each year, professional associations in B.C. supporting anti-violence and victim services host provincial conferences to strengthen the work of frontline professionals. These gatherings provide opportunities for learning, networking, and wellness, helping workers stay connected and supported in their roles. The British Columbia Society of Transition Houses (BCSTH), the Ending Violence Association of British Columbia (EVA BC), and Police Victim Services of British Columbia (PVSBC) each organize annual conferences tailored to their sectors. These events feature keynote speakers, skill-building workshops, and peer-to-peer engagement, all aimed at deepening knowledge and fostering resilience among service providers. By funding these province-wide training opportunities, the capacity of the Victim Services and Violence Against Women sector to deliver responsive, trauma-informed support to survivors of gender-based violence is enhanced.

"The 2024 PVSBC Symposium offered timely, relevant insights that directly support our team's work. As a manager, I appreciated the focus on cultural responsiveness and left with strategies to better support both staff and the communities we serve."

- Attendee of the 2024 PVSBC Symposium (Our Roles in a Culturally Responsive Environment)

"Gratitude and much respect for all your work in last week's conference. I was so humbled and honoured to be part of this community again and just wanted to thank you again for making space for me and such a beautiful generative space to struggle and celebrate together in peace and solidarity."

– Keynote Speaker at the 2024 BCSTH Annual Training Forum (Strength in Solidarity: Weaving Communities and Generations)

"Facilitators were EXCELLENT, knowledgeable, engaging, and made what could have been a dry subject matter very interesting and informative."

- Attendee of the 2024 EVA BC Annual Training Forum (Partners in Practice: Coordinating for the Safety of Survivors and Communities)

Opening of the 2024 BCSTH Annual Training Forum. Hosted on the unceded territory of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səl̓ílwətaʔɬ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Brainstorming at the 2024 EVA BC Annual Training Forum.

Browsing books and resources at the 2024 EVA BC Annual Training Forum.

Workshop at the 2024 EVA BC Annual Training Forum.

Police Equipment & Training Grants

AWARDED FUNDING: $1,100,000
NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 101

Police Equipment & Training (PET) grants provide specialized police equipment and training to law enforcement agencies in British Columbia. These one-time grants increase support for initiatives that are proven to prevent and reduce crime and violence and to make communities safer.

Approximately 90% of funding from forfeitures is distributed to communities through the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program, and 10% is made available to law enforcement agencies as PET grants.

Burnaby RCMP's Youth Soccer Camps

Burnaby RCMP — BURNABY

Burnaby RCMP's Youth Soccer Camps brought together 180 children aged 8-13 for three days of connection, skill-building, and fun through sport. Delivered in partnership with the City of Burnaby, the camps fostered positive relationships between local youth and RCMP officers, many of whom coached alongside City staff and volunteers. Youth were referred through schools, ensuring access for those who could benefit most. Last year introduced the first-ever all-girls camp, deepening inclusivity and engagement. Alongside soccer drills and teamwork exercises, the camps offered leadership and communication workshops, plus special visits from emergency services like Burnaby Fire and the Police Dog Service. Designed to build trust, resilience, and community, the camps continue to leave a lasting impact – on both the youth who participate and the officers who coach them.

"Every year we heard from families about how impactful these camps are for the kids. We know students enjoy the soccer component, but we often see them really develop their teamwork and leadership skills over the three-day camps. We are proud of how these camps continue to evolve to best serve our youth."

- Sgt. Kelly Basi, Burnaby RCMP Youth Section

Running soccer drills.

High-five from Coach.

Team photo.

"These soccer camps are not just a positive experience for the youth who attend, it's also an impactful experience for the police officers and City of Burnaby employees who help coach and work to support the camps. Their hard work and dedication help make these camps fun, educational, and meaningful for the youth who take part. We are really proud to be able to offer these camps to our community."

- Insp. Peri Mainwaring, Burnaby RCMP Community Program Officer

Conclusion

Building safer, more inclusive communities is an ongoing effort – one that calls for innovation, accountability, and deep collaboration across sectors and regions. Over the years, programs like the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program have evolved to meet changing needs, including supporting culturally grounded healing for Indigenous survivors and responding to local safety priorities. As threats to public safety grow more complex, our commitment remains clear: to listen, to learn, and to act – always centering the voices of those most impacted.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program is grateful to continue supporting community organizations around the province with all the valuable work that they do. We hope this report offered insight into that work, and thank you for taking the time to read it.

The full list of successful applicants to the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program is available on the Civil Forfeiture Office website through this link: Civil Forfeiture Grant Program

Guestbook from the 2024 EVA BC Annual Training Forum.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the community groups and organizations that have applied to the Civil Forfeiture Grant Program over the years. The call for applications is announced in the fall. If you would like to be added to the Ministry's distribution list to receive updates on future grant program intake dates, please email cfogrants@gov.bc.ca

CONTACT

Civil Forfeiture Office
CivilFO@gov.bc.ca

Civil Forfeiture Grant Program
CFOGrants@gov.bc.ca