

# Community Pathways to Justice:

## Grant to Support Survivors of Gender Based Violence

---

### PROGRAM GUIDELINES

# CONTENTS

---

## Contents

Background.....	3
Purpose and Funding Priorities .....	3
Deliverable Reporting.....	5
Grant program overview.....	5
Eligibility requirements .....	6
Eligible program activities .....	6
Ineligible programs and activities.....	7
Eligible applicants.....	7
Ineligible applicants .....	7
Eligible expenses .....	7
Ineligible expenses .....	8
Filling out the application.....	8
If your application is approved.....	9
Privacy Legislation .....	11

## Background

---

Alberta's government is making significant investment to address gender-based violence. With the release of *Building on our Strengths, Alberta's 10-year Strategy to End Gender-Based Violence*, the Government of Alberta is taking a coordinated and collaborative approach across the province to end all forms of gender-based violence. This strategy supports survivors, addresses root causes, and creates long lasting change.

The intersection of gender-based violence and the justice system is deeply complex, involving law enforcement, legal professionals, and victim service providers.

The Community Pathways to Justice: Grant to Support Survivors of Gender-Based Violence supports community-based registered non-profit organizations and First Nations and Métis communities in delivering innovative, survivor-centered justice-enhancing services. Subject to funding availability, grants will be provided to support programs that enhance access to justice and promote sustainable, community-led responses to GBV across Alberta. Funding must be used during the Community Pathways to Justice grant term, which begins on September 1, 2025, and ends on August 31, 2026, inclusive.

## Purpose and Funding Priorities

---

Gender-based violence refers to acts of violence, intimidation or coercion aimed at people where the victim's gender is a relevant factor, and can take many forms, including intimate partner and family violence, sexual violence, stalking, harassment, human trafficking, financial abuse and online exploitation.

The justice system should be a place where survivors of gender-based violence are heard, protected, and supported. The Community Pathways to Justice grant reflects this vision by aiming to improve access to justice services in the context of gender-based violence and strengthens the justice system's ability to respond both effectively and compassionately. This grant provides a meaningful opportunity for applicants delivering operational programs to support community-based responses that increase access to justice for those impacted by gender-based violence across Alberta.

The Community Pathways to Justice grant will support and strengthen service delivery programs that address gender-based violence through the following strategic focus areas:

- **Enhancing Community-Based Navigation Supports**  
Support for initiatives that provide legal guidance, advocacy, court accompaniment, and system navigation services for survivors engaging with the justice system. Programs must be led by community organizations, Indigenous communities, or newcomer-serving agencies and should prioritize accessibility and survivor empowerment throughout the justice process.
- **Strengthening Community-Based Legal Clinics**  
Investment in legal clinics that offer survivor-centered legal services for women. This includes expanding access to legal advice, representation, and advocacy across criminal, family, immigration and civil legal systems, with a focus on accessible and community-rooted approaches.
- **Establishing or Expanding Restorative Justice Services**  
Support for restorative justice initiatives tailored to domestic and family violence, emphasizing healing, offender accountability and community involvement. Programs may include community-led practices that provide care that accounts for past adversity, supports survivors, and prioritizes safety and consent.
- **Expanding Multilingual Legal Literacy and Advocacy Services**  
Funding for programming that provides legal education, rights awareness and advocacy in multiple languages for immigrant and refugee women experiencing gender-based violence. This may include interpretation services, translated legal materials and community-based legal navigation supports.
- **Supporting Prevention, Diversion, and Reintegration Efforts**  
Investment in initiatives that prevent gender-based violence through education and early intervention, offer alternatives to the traditional justice system and support the reintegration of individuals who caused harm. Programs should focus on accountability and community safety.
- **Improving Accessibility and Effectiveness of Gender-Based Violence Related Services**  
Support for initiatives that reduce barriers and improve coordination across criminal, civil and family law systems. This includes alternative justice programs, system navigation supports, and integrated service models that ensure survivors receive effective support.

## Deliverable Reporting

---

Eligible programs must be able to report on the following applicable deliverables during the grant period (in accordance with the reporting requirements on page 10):

- The number of individuals served by the program
- Population demographics served by the program
- Service delivery times experienced by program participants
- The number of referrals made to outside services
- Number and types of stakeholders involved in the program
- The satisfaction levels of program participants

## Grant program overview

---

Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One-time funding between \$50,000 and \$150,000 may be provided as a single instalment.</li><li>• While there is potential for additional funding to support the continuation of programs in future fiscal years, this is not confirmed and should not be assumed at the time of application.</li></ul>
Grant Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grant terms can be a maximum of 12 months.</li></ul>
Application Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The deadline for submitting applications is August 1, 2025.</li><li>• Applicants should review the Community Pathways to Justice grant guidelines and criteria to confirm eligibility.</li><li>• Applicants must complete one application form and budget template per proposed program.</li><li>• Applications can be downloaded online at <a href="http://alberta.ca/grant-to-support-survivors-of-gender-based-violence">alberta.ca/grant-to-support-survivors-of-gender-based-violence</a></li><li>• Applicants can submit an application and budget by email to: <a href="mailto:just.gbvgrant@gov.ab.ca">just.gbvgrant@gov.ab.ca</a></li></ul>
Expenditure of grant funds and reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grant recipients must expend funds as approved within the term of the grant agreement (i.e., one year).</li><li>• Grant recipients must return any unspent funds to the ministry at the end of the grant term.</li><li>• Grant recipients must submit their final report within 60 days of the termination or expiry of the grant agreement.</li></ul>

## Amount of funding available

One time funding from \$50,000 to a maximum \$150,000 from 2025-26 fiscal year funding.

NOTE: Funding is not guaranteed and subject to funding availability. Grant applications may not be funded or funded partially.

## Eligibility requirements

---

### *Eligible program activities*

- **Education and Awareness:**
  - Deliver community-based education and outreach initiatives to increase understanding of gender-based violence, legal rights and available support.
  - Activities may include campaigns and information sessions to help individuals recognize gender-based violence and know where to seek help.
- **Legal Support Services:**
  - Provide legal advice and guidance to help survivors navigate the justice system, including criminal, civil and family law matters.
- **Victim Support Services:**
  - Offer crisis intervention, case management, and referrals to ensure gender-based violence survivors are supported throughout their justice journey.
  - Develop and implement accessible, safe pathways for reporting gender-based violence incidents.
- **System Coordination:**
  - Strengthen collaboration among police, courts, victim services and community organizations to provide improved justice system navigation and support for survivors.
- **Alternative Justice Processes:**
  - Develop restorative programs that promote accountability and reduce recidivism through education, programming and behaviour change strategies. These initiatives should offer meaningful alternatives to traditional justice responses, focusing on healing, community involvement and survivor safety.
- **System Navigation:**
  - Provide guidance and support to help survivors and offenders understand and access justice-related services, including court processes and protective measures.

### *Ineligible programs and activities*

- **Non-Operational Programs:**
  - Programs that do not involve the direct delivery of services or are not operational in nature.
- **Gender-Based Violence Treatment Programs:**
  - Programs that provide counseling and treatment to perpetrators of gender-based violence.
- **Train-the Trainer Models:**
  - Programs primarily focused on training others to deliver programming (i.e., “train-the-trainer” models) are ineligible.
- **Research or Capacity Development:**
  - Activities focused primarily on research, policy/program development or internal organizational capacity-building are not eligible for funding.
- **Third-Party Funding Transfers:**
  - Programs that allocate grant funds to other organizations for third-party use (e.g., flow through funding, setting up grants or loans).
- **Retroactive Expenses:**
  - Costs incurred prior to the official start date of the grant agreement.

### *Eligible applicants*

Applicants must be based out of and located in Alberta and be one of the following:

- Registered not-for-profit organization and/or registered charity (in good standing).
- First Nation, Métis Nation of Alberta, or a Metis Settlement.

### *Ineligible applicants*

- Individuals
- Community organizations that are not registered not-for-profits or charities
- Academic institutions
- For-profit organizations
- Crown corporations
- Municipalities
- Police services
- Publicly funded institutions

### *Eligible expenses*

Funding is for direct program costs incurred during the term of the Conditional Grant Agreement only, which costs may include:

- Salaries, wages, and benefits for individuals primarily performing project-related duties as outlined in the grant agreement
- Program delivery costs (supplies and materials)
- Advertising, public awareness and marketing
- Communications

- Travel and meetings
- Small capital purchases (less than \$5,000)
- Office operations (maximum 15 per cent of total grant funding)
- Other ongoing direct operating costs as identified by the applicant

#### *Ineligible expenses*

- Training
- Community engagements solely for the purpose of program development
- Workshops and conferences
- Vehicle purchases or lease
- Lobbying or advocacy activities
- Large capital purchases (\$5,000 or over)
- Debt reduction, financing charges and/or interest payments on loans
- Facility upgrades, renovations, construction
- Retroactive funding for costs that have already been incurred prior to the commencement of the term of the grant agreement
- Flow-through funds to another organization
- Bursaries, scholarships, charitable donations, or donor recognition

### Filling out the application

---

#### **Submissions**

- Applications must be submitted on or before the deadline date (August 1, 2025).
- The application package must be fully complete, and all questions must be answered.
- Incomplete applications will not move forward for consideration.
- Applications are reviewed against the eligibility criteria and supporting documentation provided. Organizations may be contacted if further information or clarification is required.

#### **When submitting your application package, please include:**

- ☐ Application signed by an authorized signatory of your agency
- ☐ Budget Request Template
- ☐ Proof of registration or incorporation status (if applicable)

## **Applicant Information Sessions**

Applicants will have one opportunity to receive information about the Community Pathways to Justice grant and to ask any related questions. Sessions will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams. A phone in option is available for participants if they are unable to join online. Links will be posted on the Government of Alberta website. Session dates and times are:

- July 22, 2025, from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

If your application is approved

---

### *Notification*

- Applicants who are approved will be notified via email with a letter from the Minister of Justice's office.
- Program staff will email you a copy of the grant agreement for signature. Please sign and return the grant agreement by email to: [just.gbvgrant@gov.ab.ca](mailto:just.gbvgrant@gov.ab.ca)
- Funding will be disbursed upon grant execution and commencement of the agreement.

### *Funding conditions and contractual obligations*

Applicants are approved for grant funding must be aware of and observe the following funding conditions:

- The grant funds must be spent according to the approved budget and grant application, which become part of the Conditional Grant Agreement.
- Grant recipients are bound by the terms and conditions found in the Conditional Grant Agreement.
- Grant funds will be directly deposited through electronic funds transfer.
- An electronic funds transfer direct deposit form will be provided for the grant recipient's completion.

### *Expectations of grant recipients*

Upon approval, successful grant recipients agree to:

- Comply with the terms and conditions of the Conditional Grant Agreement.
- Demonstrate sound financial and personnel management.
- Spend the grant funding according to the approved budget.
- Submit reports in accordance with the guidelines specified in the reporting section of the Conditional Grant Agreement.
- Ensure these submissions are comprehensive, timely and accurate, meeting the specified reporting deadline.

- Provide the Government of Alberta with any information requested.
- Return any unused grant monies to the Government of Alberta upon the termination or expiry of the grant agreement.

### *Reporting*

Recipients are required to submit interim and final reports that align with outcomes, reporting timelines, and requirements set out in the grant agreement.

#### Interim reports:

- Updates on status of program outcomes and indicators, challenges/opportunities, financial report, and expenditures to date.
- Other program information as may be requested by the Government of Alberta.
- Reporting dates:
  - March 31, 2026: for the period September 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

#### Final reports:

- Reporting at the end of the term of the grant agreement, on:
  - Program outcomes and indicators, challenges/opportunities, success stories and actuals financial reports of actual program expenditures prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for the period September 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026 (template will be provided).
  - Logic Model (attached)
 

(Applicants must complete the first three columns (outcomes/goals, activities, indicators) at the time of application. The final column (results) will be completed at the end of the term of the grant agreement for inclusion in the final report).
  - Other program information as may be required by the Government of Alberta.
- Reporting dates:
  - Final reports are due on or before October 31, 2026 (or 60 days following the termination of the grant agreement, if terminated).

## Privacy Legislation

---

The grant recipient must comply with the privacy requirements of Alberta privacy legislation, including the *Protection of Privacy Act*, with respect to the personal information the recipient has access to, collects, or uses in operating the program under the grant agreement. The grant recipient is required to protect the confidentiality and privacy of personal information accessible to the recipient or collected under the grant agreement.

The personal information collected through the Alberta Community Pathways to Justice (CPJ) grant application is for the purpose of administering the CPJ grant program. This collection is authorized by section 4(c) of the *Protection of Privacy Act*. For questions about the collection of personal information, contact just.gbvgrant@gov.ab.ca, or 780-617-4416.

All records developed or acquired, including electronic records, must be handled in accordance with the Alberta Justice's Records Retention and Disposition Schedule, and in the case of Young Offender files, in accordance with the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*: [www.alberta.ca/managing-government-information.aspx#toc-10](http://www.alberta.ca/managing-government-information.aspx#toc-10).

### Contact information

For questions regarding application or program details please contact the CPJ grant program by emailing just.gbvgrant@gov.ab.ca.