

DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
750 17TH STREET, WEST VANCOUVER BC V7V 3T3

COUNCIL REPORT

Date:	December 17, 2024
From:	Christie Rosta, Cultural Services Manager
Subject:	Union of British Columbia Municipalities - Regional Community to Community Program Grant Application
File:	3006-01-2024

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the grant application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Regional Community to Community Program to receive up to \$10,000 to support the National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration at Ambleside Park in June 2025, be approved.

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval for the submission of a grant application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Regional Community to Community Program (C2C) to support the District of West Vancouver (District) National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration on June 21, 2025.

A Council resolution is required to demonstrate the municipality’s support for the project. The grant application (**Appendix A**) was submitted to UBCM on December 6, 2024 to meet the application deadline. UBCM will accept a Council resolution after the application deadline and if the application has been submitted on time.

2.0 Legislation/Bylaw/Policy

There are no legislation, bylaw, or policy implications associated with this report.

3.0 Council Strategic Objective(s)/Official Community Plan

Council Strategic Plan

C2C aligns with Council’s Strategic Plan, specifically, 6.0 Social Well-being, by enhancing relations with local First Nations governments and increasing engagements, educational opportunities, and truth and reconciliation participation.

Official Community Plan

The request to submit a grant application to the UBCM C2C program is supported through the following policies:

- 2.8.7 Support the delivery of programs, services, events and activities that celebrate the full spectrum of cultural and ethnic diversity of the District and promote intercultural and intergenerational connections.
- 2.8.15 Support an expanded variety of community activities ranging from community-wide events and smaller private events through policy, facilities and grants, as appropriate.

4.0 Financial Implications

C2C provides up to \$10,000 that can be used to support and recognize National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, 2025 in Ambleside Park. The celebration costs are also expected to be offset by grants from Heritage Canada and local organizations such as the West Vancouver Foundation. For 2025, the District's contribution to the event is \$4,500, and the overall cost for National Indigenous Peoples Day is approximately \$28,500, pending successful grant funding.

5.0 Background

National Indigenous Peoples Day has been celebrated in Ambleside Park since 2019, bringing together Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. This will be the first year that the District is applying for funds from UBCM C2C grant program to support the event.

5.1 Previous Decisions

There are no previous decisions related to the UBCM Regional Community to Community Program.

5.2 History

Since 1999, the provincial Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Indigenous Services Canada has provided funding for the Regional Community to Community Program. Over the past 25 years, 700 forums and initiatives in communities across the province have been implemented.

6.0 Analysis

6.1 Discussion

The District's National Indigenous Peoples Day event aligns with C2C program priorities. The goal of the C2C is to increase the understanding and improve relations between First Nations and local governments.

National Indigenous Peoples Day is planned in collaboration with members of the Squamish Nation and takes place at Ambleside Beach in front of the Squamish Nation Welcome Figure. The event celebrates Indigenous peoples, honours their traditions, and fosters a shared understanding of a collective history, while supporting ongoing reconciliation efforts.

A central feature of the event is a traditional open-fire salmon barbecue, where Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members can gather to share a meal. The gathering symbolizes the importance of relationship building and cross-cultural connection offering a platform for dialogue and strengthening the ties between the Squamish Nation and broader community. The event is intended to support reconciliation and build a foundation for ongoing cooperation and understanding in the future.

6.2 Climate Change & Sustainability

Granting opportunities by local organizations, as well as provincial and federal governments ensure that community-based events can be held on an ongoing basis with adequate funding.

6.3 Public Engagement and Outreach

The event is designed for visitors and general park users to have an opportunity to casually engage in traditional and contemporary live music or purchase a salmon dinner cooked over open fire. Approximately 1,000 visitors attend the event, with many more who stop by while walking the sea walk. Over 300 salmon dinners are served at the event, with visitors engaging in conversations and sharing stories.

6.4 Other Communication, Consultation, and Research

If the District is successfully awarded a C2C grant, the UBCM and C2C will be recognized on all event marketing materials including onsite signage and media advertising.

7.0 Options

7.1 Recommended Option

THAT the submission of a grant application for \$10,000 to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Regional Community to Community Program to support National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration be approved.

7.2 Considered Options

Council may request further information or provide alternate direction.

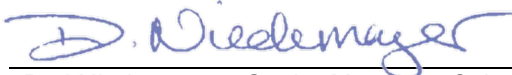
8.0 Conclusion

This report is to seek Council approval to apply for the UBCM Regional Community to Community Program to provide funding for National Indigenous Peoples Day in Ambleside Park in June 2025. The event is intended to enhance relations with the Squamish Nation and increase engagement, educational opportunities, and truth and reconciliation participation.

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From: Christie Rosta, Cultural Services Manager
Subject: Union of British Columbia Municipalities - Regional Community to Community
Program Grant Application

Author: 

for Christie Rosta, Cultural Services Manager

Concurrence: 

Doti Niedermayer, Senior Manager, Cultural Services

Appendix A: UBCM Regional Community to Community Program Application

Regional Community to Community Program 2024/25 Application Worksheet

Please complete and return the worksheet with all required attachments. Applicants will be advised of the status of their application within 60 days of the below application deadlines.

Funding permitting, the application deadlines for 2024/25 are:

- April 5, 2024
- September 6, 2024
- December 6, 2024

All questions are required to be answered by typing directly in this form. **As all questions are reviewed as part of the adjudication process, please do not leave any questions blank.**

If you have any questions, contact lgps@ubcm.ca or 604-270-8226 ext. 220

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION	
1. First Nation or Local Government full name: District of West Vancouver	2. File number*: LGPS-11423

** Refer to the LGPS Online Application Form submission confirmation email.*

SECTION 2: C2C FORUMS. <u>Only complete this section if you applying to plan and host a C2C forum event.</u>
3. Date(s) of proposed event(s) June 21, 2025
4. a) Proposed participants. Please attach an additional page if required. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Nation(s): Squamish Nation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local government(s): District of West Vancouver <input type="checkbox"/> Other participants:
b) Confirmation of attendance from proposed participants Please <u>attach</u> written confirmation from each invited local government and/or First Nation that elected officials and/or senior staff have agreed to attend the planned forum. Confirmation can be in the form of a letter or e-mail. Written confirmations can be submitted after the application, but are required for grant approval.
5. Description of proposed event(s). Please provide a description of the proposed C2C event(s), including proposed format, topics, speakers, etc.

If more than one event is proposed, please include a rationale for multiple events and a description of each.

The proposed community-to-community event for National Indigenous Peoples Day will take place at Ambleside Beach, in front of the Squamish Nation Welcome Figure, on the traditional, unceded territory of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh people. In collaboration with the Squamish Nation, the event will celebrate Indigenous peoples, honour their traditions, and foster a shared understanding of collective history, while supporting ongoing reconciliation efforts.

A central feature of the event will be a traditional open-fire salmon barbecue, where staff from West Vancouver and the Squamish Nation, Elders, children, and both Indigenous and non-Indigenous families will gather at long tables to share a meal. This communal gathering symbolizes the importance of relationship building and cross-cultural connection, offering a platform for dialogue, mutual respect, and the strengthening of ties between the Squamish Nation and the broader community.

Throughout the day, staff from both the Squamish Nation and West Vancouver will informally engage with the community, working together to build stronger links and foster future cooperative actions. This may include discussions on reconciliation and the importance of collaboration, providing gathering spaces to deepen understanding and create lasting relationships rooted in respect and shared history.

The event will also feature a Welcome Ceremony and performances by Indigenous musical groups blending traditional and contemporary sounds. Additionally, canoe families, including representatives from the West Vancouver Police Ch'ich'iyuy, Integrated First Nations Unit Sema7maka, and West Vancouver School District 45 Tel'Tiwet, will showcase traditional canoeing practices, paddling through local waters and sharing stories of the land. Groups will be invited to join the canoe families on the water, experiencing the significance of this traditional practice firsthand.

By focusing on these collaborative activities, the event will offer opportunities for engagement and education, highlighting the cultural heritage of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh people. Through shared experiences, the event will strengthen connections between the Squamish Nation and the wider community, supporting reconciliation efforts and building a foundation for ongoing cooperation and understanding in the future.

6. C2C program objectives. The objectives of the Regional C2C program are identified in Section 1 of the Program and Application Guide. Please describe how your event(s) will meet these objectives.

West Vancouver's National Indigenous Peoples Day will meet two of the objectives of the Regional Community to Community program.

1) Strengthening Relationships and Fostering Co-Operative Actions:

National Indigenous Peoples Day will provide a meaningful platform for staff from both the Squamish Nation and West Vancouver to actively engage with one another and the broader community. Through shared participation in the event and the activities such as the open-fire salmon barbecue, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members, including Elders, children, and families, will come together at long tables to share a meal. This communal gathering symbolizes the importance of relationship building, cross-cultural connection, and dialogue. Staff will have opportunities to interact, collaborate, and build

stronger links, laying the foundation for future cooperative actions. Casual discussions on shared history will help deepen understanding and create lasting, respectful relationships between the Squamish Nation and local government staff, fostering future cooperation.

2) Supporting local reconciliation efforts, UNDRIP, and shared capacity building.

The event will support reconciliation efforts by acknowledging and honouring the cultural heritage of the Skwxwú7mesh people and fostering a shared appreciation of their traditional territories. The participation of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members, alongside the performance of traditional and contemporary music, and canoe demonstrations, will promote cultural exchanges and educate attendees about Indigenous practices. By creating opportunities for collaboration and conversations, the event will contribute to local reconciliation efforts, supporting the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Staff from both West Vancouver and the Squamish Nation will work together, building capacity for ongoing cooperation and shared decision-making, furthering the goal of strengthening relationships and supporting reconciliation at the local level.

In summary, the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration will actively foster stronger relationships between community members and West Vancouver and Squamish Nation staff, creating space for shared experiences and collaborative action. Through its focus on reconciliation, cultural sharing, and capacity building, the event will contribute to a stronger foundation for future cooperation between the two communities.

7. Intended outcomes and deliverables. Please describe the specific outcomes and deliverables that your forum will work towards:

Relationship building, reconciliation and/or joint cultural safety and cultural humility training. Please describe:

The West Vancouver National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration will work toward the following outcomes and deliverables focused on relationship building, reconciliation, and the start of joint cultural safety and cultural humility training.

1) Relationship Building:

National Indigenous Peoples Day will provide a platform for relationship-building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous attendees, including senior staff from the Squamish Nation and West Vancouver, to engage in direct meaningful interactions with one another and community members. Through the planned activities and performances, such as the traditional open-fire salmon barbecue, participants will deepen their understanding of one another's shared traditions and values. The shared long tables will support opportunities for dialogue between attendees and for meaningful connections and the creation of long-term relationships.

2) Reconciliation:

The event will actively support local reconciliation efforts by acknowledging and celebrating the cultural heritage of the Skwxwú7mesh people. Through interactive workshops, musical performances, and canoe demonstration, the event will foster a deeper understanding of Indigenous traditions and practices, helping bridge gaps in knowledge between Indigenous and non-Indigenous attendees. The shared experience of the long table and collaborative activities will provide an opportunity to engage in reconciliation at the community level, encouraging a process of healing and mutual

respect. The event will contribute to the broader goal of reconciliation by offering tangible opportunities for community members to connect with each other, and learn about Indigenous history, culture, and perspectives, promoting healing and understanding.

3) Joint Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training:

A potential deliverable of West Vancouver's National Indigenous Peoples Day will be the opportunity to lay groundwork for future Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training between the two communities. This forum will bring together staff from both communities to begin collaborative conversations. By actively involving Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members and staff, the event will set the foundation for future training sessions aimed at ensuring cultural safety in interactions with Indigenous communities, enhancing respect, and improving the quality of cross-cultural engagements.

- Coordinated climate change emergency preparation, mitigation, response and recovery. Please describe:
- Discussion of protocol agreement (e.g. communications, dispute resolution, planning and development approval processes). Please describe:
- Discussion of service agreement (e.g. water, sewer, solid waste disposal or fire protection). Please describe:
- Discussion of memorandum of understanding (e.g. protection of archaeological or environmental resources). Please describe:
- Discussion of joint project or plan (e.g. economic development, cultural initiative, youth engagement). Please describe:
- Other:

8. **Repeat applicants only**

a) **Date of last C2C event:**

b) **Progress:** Please describe any improvements in the First Nation/local government relationship since your last C2C event and how the proposed event would build on the results of previous forums.

SECTION 3: AGREEMENTS AND JOINT REVIEW OF BYLAWS/POLICIES. *Only complete this section if you are applying to develop agreements (such as protocols, MOUs, and service agreements), joint plans and/or strategies that advance First Nation/local government reconciliation and relationship building, or undertake joint review of bylaws and/or policies in order to develop recommendations for amendments or new bylaws/policies that advance reconciliation.*

9. a) **Proposed participants.** Please attach an additional page if required.

- First Nation(s):
- Local government(s):

Other participants:

b) Confirmation of participation from proposed participants

Please attach written confirmation from each invited local government and/or First Nation that elected officials and/or senior staff have agreed to participate in the proposed activities. Confirmation can be in the form of a letter or e-mail. Written confirmations can be submitted after the application, but are required for grant approval.

10. Description of current local government/First Nation relationship. Please describe the current relationship between the proposed participants identified above. Specifically, please provide information on any past C2C Forum events as well as information on how all parties have worked together to identify the proposed activities.

11. Description of proposed activities. Please describe the specific activities you plan to undertake. Refer to Section 6 of the *Program and Application Guide* for eligible activities.

12. C2C program objectives. The objectives of the Regional C2C program are identified in Section 1 of the Program & Application Guide. Please describe how the proposed activities will meet these objectives.

13. Intended outcomes and deliverables. Please describe the specific agreements, plans, strategies, bylaws or policies that will be developed, amended or reviewed and how these outcomes will advance reconciliation and relationship building in your community:

- Development of agreements (such as protocols, MOUs, and service agreements) that advance First Nation/local government reconciliation and relationship building:
- Development of joint plans and/or strategies that advance First Nation/local government reconciliation and relationship building:
- Joint review of bylaws and/or policies in order to develop recommendations for amendments or new bylaws and/or policies that advance reconciliation:
- Other:

SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

14. Additional information. Please share any other information you think may help support your submission.

SECTION 5: REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Only complete applications will be considered for funding.

The following separate attachments are required to be submitted as part of the application:

- Band, Council or Board resolution indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management.
- Detailed budget(s) for proposed Forum(s) and/or Agreement(s) that indicates the proposed expenditures from C2C Program grant and that aligns with the proposed activities outlined in the Application Worksheet. Although additional funding or support is not required, any other grant funding or in-kind contributions must be identified. Applicants are encouraged to use the new [LGPS Budget and Financial Summary Tool](#).
- Confirmation from partners. Written or email confirmation from partners confirming their willingness to participate. These can be submitted after the application, but are required for grant approval.

SECTION 6: SIGNATURE

This worksheet is required to be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant (*i.e., staff member or elected official*). Please note all application materials will be shared with the Province of BC and the First Nations Summit.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge: (1) all information is accurate, (2) the area covered by the proposed project is within the applicant's jurisdiction (or appropriate approvals are in place) and (3) it is understood that this project may be subject to a compliance audit under the program.

Name: Rachelle McCormack

Title: Cultural Services Supervisor

Signature*:

Date: December 6, 2024

**A certified digital or original signature is required.*

Documents should be submitted as Word, Excel, or PDF files.

Total file size for email attachments cannot exceed 20 MB.

**All documents should be submitted to Local Government Program Services,
Union of BC Municipalities by e-mail: lgps@ubcm.ca.**

Please note "2024/25 C2C" in the subject line.