

## Grants & Funding Opportunities to Support Healthy School Environments

Last Updated Feb. 20, 2026

Below is a summary of some of the grants and funding opportunities available to support health and well-being within your school community. This is not an exhaustive list. If you are aware of another funding opportunity that you think we should add, please let someone from our Health Promoting School Team know!

**Important note about grant application due dates:** We have provided an approximate range with respect to the application window based on previous years and/or info available on funder websites; however, we cannot guarantee that dates will remain consistent each year. We recommend checking for updates on funder websites regularly when applications are expected to open and/or close.

If you have questions about any of the grants, please reach out to CCRCE's School Health Promoter, Britt Vegsund [Britt.Vegsund@nshealth.ca](mailto:Britt.Vegsund@nshealth.ca)

Organization / Grant Name	Due Date	Typical Amount	Details
<b>SCHOOL-SPECIFIC</b>			
<a href="#">Healthy School Grant</a> (DEECD)	Each school year	\$5,000 plus \$1 per student	This grant should be used by schools to support the implementation of the <a href="#">Physical Activity Framework</a> (PAF) and benefit the entire school community. There should be input from school community members and partners (e.g., students, parents, SACs, educators, etc.)
<a href="#">School Advisory Council (SAC) Funding</a> (DEECD)	Ongoing	\$5000 + \$1 for each student	School Advisory Councils receive \$5000 plus one dollar for each student to direct towards initiatives that will support student success. Spending guidelines can be found on p. 22 of <a href="#">SAC Handbook</a> .
Student Success Planning (SSP) funds	Each school year	\$5,000 per school	To support the development and implantation of Student Success Goals in Math, Literacy, and Wellbeing.
CCRCE <a href="#">Health Promoting Schools (HPS) Core Funding Plan</a>	Opens in October. Due by the end of March annually.	Dependent upon school (equity formula)	Health Promoting Schools (HPS) funds support well-being initiatives that help everyone thrive at school. These funds aim to support projects that benefit your whole student community. To access your school's annual HPS allocation, you will need to submit an <a href="#">HPS Core Funding Plan online</a> . The plan should outline how the funds will be used to promote healthy, safe, and inclusive school environments. This process ensures CCRCE is accountable in meeting provincial reporting requirements.
CCRCE HPS Youth Grants	Annually, the application deadline will be communicated via CCRCE internal channels (i.e. Intranet, email)	Maximum of \$500	HPS youth grant applications are to be completed by youth. Youth-led grants should focus on a whole school approach and HPS priority areas such as the food environment & healthy eating, physical activity, and school climate & mental health. Contact your school health promoter for more information and stay tuned for notices on the CCRCE Intranet.
DEECD <a href="#">School Advisory Council (SAC) Innovation Fund</a>	Typically the process opens in mid-February, and application deadline is mid-April	Up to \$10,000	SACs can apply for this fund for new and innovative ideas to support student achievement and well-being, and to address real problems experienced by students and schools. This funding is meant to provide SACs with the opportunity to test an idea, which if successful, can be expanded to other schools.

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DEECD <a href="#">Student Support Grants</a>	Each school year	\$5,000 plus \$1 per student	This grant was created to help address fundraising pressures on families, parents, and school communities to enhance experiences for students. It can be used for things like class trips, band, uniforms, grad ceremonies, student competitions, etc. Both teachers and parents can request the grant through their school principal.
Nova Scotia Teachers' Union: <a href="#">Program Development Assistance Fund</a>	First day of Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct and Dec of each year	Unknown	To encourage innovative and unique program development in Nova Scotia schools, directly related to the Public School Program. Applicants must be active NSTU members and teaching in the current school year. Teachers are eligible to submit one PDAF application per school year.
<a href="#">S'Cool Life Fund</a>	Contact <a href="mailto:info@scoollifefund.ca">info@scoollifefund.ca</a> for details	Under \$3,000 on average	Since launching in 2005, the S'Cool Life Fund has provided grants for over 1,200 D.R.E.A.M.S. (Drama, Recreation, Extra-Curricular, Arts, Music, or Sports) projects across the country worth over \$3 million helping to make school life more enjoyable for thousands of public elementary school kids.
DEECD: <a href="#">Out-of-School-Time Learning Grants</a>	April	Eight grants of \$22,000 each	Out-of-School-Time Learning Grants are designed to assist communities and public schools throughout the province that require additional supports outside of school time to help students succeed in Math and Literacy. Activities will include academic coaching or tutoring and other complementary experiences such as enrichment, homework help, entrepreneurship, apprenticeship, recreation, arts and music programs, mentoring, community service, and more. Grants for programs that support family literacy are also welcome. Before submission, all applicants are required to contact the RCE/school board to review and obtain approval to move forward with the proposed program. CCRCE Contact: Shelley MacLean; macleanam@ccrce.ca; (902) 897-8950
<b>PHYSICAL ACTIVITY &amp; OUTDOOR RECREATION</b>			
Communities, Culture, Tourism & Heritage (CCTH): <a href="#">Recreation Community Development Grant (CDG)</a>	Typically, applications are accepted from <b>April to mid-December</b> , annually	Up to \$10,000 per year	<p>The Recreation CDG is designed to support activities and initiatives which respond to the recreation and physical activity goals and priorities of communities and the Shared Strategy for Recreation in Nova Scotia: i) Active Living, ii) Inclusion and Access, iii) Connecting People and Nature, iv) Supportive Environments, and v) Capacity Development.</p> <p>Applications must come from the RCE on behalf of the RCE or a specific school. Schools can not apply directly. Applicants are encouraged to contact their regional CCTH office to discuss the initiative or project before applying.</p> <p>CCTH's contribution will not normally exceed 50% of project costs.</p>
CCTH: <a href="#">Active Communities Fund</a>	Typically, applications are accepted from <b>April to December</b> annually, or until the funds have all been distributed.	Up to \$5000	<p>This fund was designed to help communities get active and stay active. In particular, this fund supports community-wide approaches and plans for less-structured movement. It is part of <a href="#">Let's Get Moving Nova Scotia: An action plan for increasing physical activity in Nova Scotia</a>.</p> <p>This fund can be used to help you plan, develop or evaluate policy; plan, create, improve, or evaluate physical environments (The fund is limited to supporting low-cost physical environment initiatives.); plan, create, improve, or evaluate social environments.</p> <p>RCEs can apply on behalf of schools (schools cannot apply directly) and/or schools can partner with eligible applicants, such as municipalities, villages, Mi'kmaw bands, or registered non-profits.</p> <p>Applicants are encouraged to contact their regional CCTH office to discuss the initiative or project before applying. CCTH will contribute up to 75% of a project's cost.</p>

Organization / Grant Name	Due Date	Typical Amount	Details
CCTH: <a href="#">Community Recreation Capital Grant</a>	Typically, applications are accepted from <b>April to mid-December</b> , annually, or until the funds have all been distributed.	Up to 1/3 of total project cost - to a max of \$8000	This grant assists in the development of indoor or outdoor recreation projects. It can support the renovation or expansion of existing community recreation facilities. Eligible for capital projects below \$30,000. Projects must be related to recreation or physical activity and be open and available to the public. These projects would be of a capital and permanent nature.
CCTH: <a href="#">Recreation Facility Development Grant</a>	Typically, applications are due in mid-February	Up to 2/3 of total project cost, up to a maximum of \$150,000.	Eligible for capital projects above \$30,000. The RFD grant supports projects that develop facilities to increase public use of facilities and participation in sport and recreation. The deadline is typically early February annually, with funding intended for the following fiscal year. The RCE must be the applicant. Applications are scored based on established review factors. Please contact the regional CCTH office early to discuss ideas and plans as they can guide you in what is needed for a strong application. Program Contact for Fundy (Cumberland, Colchester, East Hants): Courtney Nicholson-Patriquin (fundyregion@novascotia.ca).
CCTH <a href="#">Connect2 Grant</a>	Typically, the Expression of Interest deadline is mid-January, and applications are accepted on an on-going basis until mid february or early March.	Up to 75% to a max of \$100,000	Funding is available for active transportation projects that improve connectivity within and between communities and have the potential to reduce emissions and increase physical activity. Funding can be used for community planning, feasibility studies, learning by doing, public engagement sessions, program promotion, and demonstration projects. Schools are not directly eligible, but are encouraged to partner with municipalities, Mi'kmaw Bands, community groups, or other eligible applicants. Staff are available to discuss project ideas year-round: <a href="mailto:connect2@novascotia.ca">connect2@novascotia.ca</a>
CCTH: <a href="#">Trail Funding programs</a>	4 grant programs - see <a href="#">website</a> for details	4 grant programs - see <a href="#">website</a> for details	<p><b>1.Community Trails Leadership Fund</b> (<a href="#">Program guidelines (PDF)</a>: <a href="#">Please note, this program is currently under review</a>) For more information contact: <a href="mailto:ccthtrailgrants@novascotia.ca">ccthtrailgrants@novascotia.ca</a>            This program supports trail development through the provision of funds for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaders, organizational development</li> <li>• Capacity building for community trail groups</li> </ul> <p><b>2.Engineering Assistance Grant Program</b> (<a href="#">Program guidelines (PDF)</a>)            This program is designed to provide trail builders and managers with funding for professional engineering expertise. This could include planning and design work of bridges or other large structures.</p> <p><b>3.Trail Expansion Grant Program</b> (<a href="#">Program guidelines PDF</a>) <b>Expression of Interest Deadline is Nov 1 2025</b>            The Recreational Trail Expansion Program (RTEP) assists municipalities and not-for-profit organizations in developing new recreational trails, expanding recreational trails, and making capital upgrades to existing infrastructure and connectivity. This program increases opportunities for Nova Scotians to recreate in the outdoors, connect with nature, and get moving, which responds to the goals of the Shared Strategy for Trails in Nova Scotia.</p> <p><b>4.Trail Maintenance Program</b> (<a href="#">Program guidelines (PDF)</a>)            The program provides funding to community trail groups who are involved in regular and on-going maintenance on their trails, as well as emergency funding for major maintenance issues due to fire and weather related events.</p>

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Jumpstart <a href="#">Community Development Grant</a>	Typically there are three intakes throughout the year: Oct, Jan, and May	unknown	Grant 1 Programming Support assists organizations with the costs of delivering sport and recreational programming, including program leaders, instructors and coaches, facility rentals, equipment needs as well as transportation needs. Grant 2 Operational Support where an organization's mandate is to provide sport and recreation programming to marginalized children and youth, build capacity to provide more inclusive, equitable, safe sport participant experiences including building staff/volunteer experience through training and education, organization intersectionality approaches to reduce or eliminate systemic barriers to participation and costs related to rebuilding or expanding organizational program offerings.
PHE Canada <a href="#">Empowerment Grants</a>	Typically open early October to mid-November	\$500 - \$2500	Grants are targeted towards advancing physical and health education, and healthy schools across Canada. There are two streams: <a href="#">Healthy Active School Programming</a> and <a href="#">Professional Development</a> .
PHE Canada <a href="#">Gopher Physical Activity Equipment Grant</a>	Typically open early October to mid-November	\$500 - \$2,500	The Gopher Physical Activity Equipment Grant provides schools with up to \$2,500 in Gopher gift certificates to acquire the physical activity equipment they need to advance physical activity opportunities and programming in their school community.
Kal Tire: <a href="#">Kal's Replay Fund</a>	January - February	Cost of recycled products	This fund provides grants to offset the cost of recycled rubber products made from Canadian scrap tires. The fund was created to enhance community facilities with durable, recycled rubber products such as playground surfaces, matting, flooring, paving, roofing, landscape tiles, and other construction and landscaping products.
Green Municipal Fund <a href="#">Safe and Active School Routes</a>	October	Up to 50-80% of eligible costs, \$125K max	This fund supports new or improved active transportation infrastructure along school routes (within 2km of school), including quick-build or permanent features such as pathways, sidewalks, bike lanes, crossings, and safety enhancements—along with knowledge and capacity to implement these improvements effectively.
Arc'teryx <a href="#">No Wasted Days Community Grant</a>	April 2 - 30	Up to \$5,000	Designed to support people who've traditionally faced barriers to getting outdoors - whether cultural, racial, financial or otherwise - leading to underrepresentation or exclusion. These funds are offered without restriction. If you need them to support your operating expenses, great. If you need them to support a specific project, equally great. The ask is simply that you share how your organization seeks to increase access to outdoor spaces or experiences for the community you intend to serve. Prioritization is given to organizations that are led by people who self-identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour. *organization must be within 200km of Arc'teryx store
<b>ACCESSIBILITY AND EDI (EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION)</b>			
Public Safety Canada: <a href="#">Canada Community Security Program</a>	Ongoing	70% of cost, up to 1.5 million per project	This program provides time-limited funding and support for communities at risk of hate-motivated incidents and hate-motivated crimes to enhance physical security at their gathering spaces
Canada Race Relations Foundation <a href="#">Event and Youth Initiative Grants</a>	June	Up to \$10,000	The National Anti-Racism Fund (NARF) supports a commitment to build a national framework for the fight against racism in Canadian society by strengthening the capacity of racialized communities, religious minority groups and Indigenous people to carry out their own work to combat racism and create opportunities for meaningful dialogue,

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			<p>learning and sharing with the broader public. The Events and Youth Initiatives (EYI) grants stream provides funding for organizations planning short-term initiatives such as community events, youth-led projects, and public education activities that actively address and counter racism in Canada.</p>
<p>Indigenous Youth Roots <a href="#">Creation Grants</a></p>	<p>Multiple funding streams and application windows throughout the year (see Details column)</p>	<p>\$2,500 - \$30,000</p>	<p>Grassroot youth groups (<b>led by 2+ Indigenous youth ages 15-29</b>) are eligible to apply for funding to support community programs and projects while receiving innovative mentorship, training and capacity-building opportunities. Funding will be provided to projects/groups that seek to create impactful community change and increase the wellness, resiliency and engagement of Indigenous youth. Below are the relevant funding streams:</p> <p><a href="#">Youth Empowerment Stream</a> will provide small grants from <b>\$2,500 – \$5000</b> to new and emerging youth-led projects that focus on increasing the resilience, engagement, and wellness of youth. The Youth Empowerment Stream can be used as a stepping stone to implement a new idea. <b>Application period July - August</b></p> <p><a href="#">Small Project Stream</a> will provide funding of <b>up to \$15,000</b> to Indigenous youth-led projects and groups that seek to create impactful community change and increase the wellness, resiliency and engagement of Indigenous youth. <b>Application period July - August</b></p> <p><a href="#">Medium Project Stream - Indigenous Youth Roots</a> will provide funding of <b>up to \$30,000</b> to Indigenous youth-led projects and groups of non-profits that seek to create impactful community change and increase the wellness, resiliency and engagement of Indigenous youth. Applications open <b>March</b></p> <p><a href="#">Scaling Grants Stream - Indigenous Youth Roots</a> - multi-year funding stream (<b>\$30,000</b> total) that will support small and emerging groups to scale and build their projects over three phases. Groups should focus on providing programming, training or capacity-building opportunities for Indigenous youth. Applications open <b>Spring 2026</b></p> <p><a href="#">Land and Food Sovereignty Stream - Indigenous Youth Roots</a> will provide <b>\$20,000</b> to youth-led projects that aim to increase opportunities to participate in land-based programming, learn about food and medicines and engage with knowledge keepers. Applications open <b>October 2025</b></p>
<p>TELUS: <a href="#">Indigenous Community Fund</a></p>	<p>Applications are accepted twice a year (<b>February</b> and <b>September</b>).</p>	<p>\$5,000 - \$25,000</p>	<p>The ICF provides one-time grants to Indigenous-led organizations such as Band Councils, Indigenous Governments or representative groups, community groups and non-profits. Non-Indigenous-led organizations can apply if they demonstrate a clear and tangible relationship with an Indigenous organization and have documented support from an Indigenous-led organization or community. Preference may be given to programs where technology is being used to advance reconciliation. Funding is available for projects focused on, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health, mental health and well-being</li> <li>- Access to education and resources</li> <li>- Preservation of the land and water</li> <li>- Community building and enhancement</li> <li>- Intergenerational language and cultural revitalization</li> </ul>

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RBC <a href="#">Barrier Buster Grants Program</a>	Applications are accepted until Mid-March	Up to \$40,000	Barrier Buster projects improve access to physical spaces. Your community can use your grant to build: Accessible play spaces, improved parking and exterior access, interior accessibility improvements for community facilities and workspaces, elevators and lifts, accessible washrooms and showers, accessible kitchens, cafeterias and eating spaces, emergency response and safety improvements, improvements to parks, trails and marine access, and more. See a list of additional project ideas <a href="#">here</a> .
CCTH: <a href="#">Community ACCESS-Ability Program</a>	Applications open in December and close mid February	2/3 of accessibility improvements up to \$50,000	Eligible projects can include improvements to the built environment, transportation, communications, assistive devices, and other accessibility related improvements. Eligible Applicants may include: Registered non-profit organizations, such as Community Halls, Legions, Churches, Day Cares, Shelters, Recreation facilities, etc.; Municipalities, Towns, Villages and First Nations communities; Public institutions, such as libraries, museums, schools, hospitals, etc. Program Contact for Fundy (Cumberland, Colchester, East Hants): Courtney Nicholson-Patriquin (fundyregion@novascotia.ca).
CCTH: <a href="#">Business ACCESS-Ability Grant Program</a>	Applications open in December and close mid February	Up to 2/3 of accessibility improvements; up to \$50,000	This program offers cost-shared grants to business for accessibility related improvements. Grants are intended to improve overall accessibility and create welcoming environments that persons with disabilities can access for business and employment opportunities. Program Contact for Fundy (Cumberland, Colchester, East Hants): Courtney Nicholson-Patriquin (fundyregion@novascotia.ca).
<b>FOOD &amp; GARDENS</b>			
CCTH: <a href="#">Community Food Access &amp; Literacy Fund</a>	Typically, applications are accepted until the <b>end of March</b> .	Up to \$5000 If > \$2500, applicant must make 25% contribution	The Community Food Access and Literacy Fund supports programs that improve access to affordable, healthy food and which build food literacy. The fund supports initiatives that: improve food access for vulnerable Nova Scotians; teach meal planning skills; teach food, nutrition and budgeting skills; and build and maintain community gardens to increase individual, family and community food access.
Farm to Cafeteria Canada & Whole Kids Foundation: <a href="#">Farm to School Canada Grants</a>	Applications accepted every 2 years - check website regularly for updates (next cycle likely opens in 2026).	Up to \$10,000	Delivered directly to schools, Farm to School Canada Grants are valued at up to \$10,000 each and are designed to bring more healthy, local foods into school communities. They support hands-on food literacy, including growing, harvesting and cooking food at school; and school meal services such as salad bars that allow students to build their own bowls or create their own plates. Learn more <a href="#">here</a> . Funding guidelines can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
Farm to Cafeteria Canada: <a href="#">Dig in! Seeds Grant</a>	Typically Sept to Oct	\$500 to \$3000	Seed Grants provide schools with access to funds, knowledge and inspiration to 'Dig in' to farm to school by making small, positive changes in their school food environments. These grants are intended to help improve school food environments by increasing access to healthy, local and culturally appropriate foods in schools and/or improve opportunities for hands-on learning through food and food systems. They are best suited for schools that are looking to get started, although schools that have an existing project that could use a boost are also eligible to apply. Seed grants can serve as an excellent stepping stone to the Farm to School Canada Grants program.
Farm to Cafeteria Canada: <a href="#">Indigenous</a>	February - March	\$500 - \$20,000	This grant provides funding for Indigenous school communities to support their long-term community visions of indigenous food security and food sovereignty to be implemented in school settings. This grant aims to enhance infrastructure, knowledge, and

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<a href="#">Foodways in Schools Grants</a>			connections needed to teach about and integrate Indigenous foods, foodways, worldviews, and approaches into daily practices at school.
Nutrients for Life: <a href="#">Learning Garden Grant</a>	Typically, applications close at the <b>end of March</b> annually	\$500 & \$3000	This grant supports schools to incorporate a learning garden that allows students and teachers to connect with the surrounding community, and nurture engaged citizens who are passionate about the impact of food security and global issues through effective, experiential scientific learning opportunities.
PC Children’s Charity – <a href="#">Power Full Kids Eat Well</a>	See website for details. Application process has changed so schools cannot apply directly.	Up to \$10,000	Schools that participate in the Power Full Kids Eat Well program can receive up to \$10,000 to help cover the costs associated with the purchase of food and consumable supplies for daily school food programs. Review the <a href="#">FAQ document</a> on the website for more information.
PC Children’s Charity – <a href="#">Power Full Kids Grow &amp; Cook</a>	See website for details. Application process has changed so schools cannot apply directly.	Up to \$2,000 depending on project type (see <a href="#">website</a> for details)	Schools that participate in the Power Full Kids Grow & Cook program can receive up to \$2,000 in funding to cover the cost of purchasing a growing system OR cooking equipment to be used for educational purposes. This equipment is intended to help educators incorporate food-based education into their lesson plans. To receive Power Full Kids Grow & Cook funding, applicants must be a current Power Full Kids Eat Well participant.
PC Children’s Charity – <a href="#">Power Full Kids Equipment Fund</a>	See website for details. Application process has changed so schools cannot apply directly.	Up to \$2,000	Schools can receive up to \$2,000 annually for the purchase of equipment necessary to deliver daily school food programs. To receive Power Full Kids equipment funding, applicants must be a current Power Full Kids Eat Well participant.
Scotts Canada: <a href="#">Gro for Good Grant</a>	Typically, applications open in January and are accepted until the <b>end of February</b> annually	\$2500	Grants awarded to selected projects across Canada based on community impact, youth involvement and sustainability. Applicants are invited to apply for a grant to create or expand a garden or green space that will provide tangible benefits to the community in one or more of the following ways: addressing health and wellness needs, enhancing the environment and/or engaging with youth. Application period opens in early January each year.
Tree Canada <a href="#">Edible Trees Grant</a>	October to early December annually	Up to \$10,000	This grant is to cover the cost of purchasing and planting edible trees and shrubs, site preparation, tree maintenance, planting materials and developing education materials. Applications are accepted from October to early December the year before project implementation. Applicants are informed by the following March if their project has received a grant or not. Projects must be completed by the following spring or fall. Projects may also be waitlisted in case a new funding opportunity arises.
Whole Foods Market Foundation: <a href="#">Garden Grant Program</a>	Typically, applications are accepted from <b>February to March</b> annually	\$3500	Through the WholeKids Garden Grant program, schools and non-profit organizations turn outdoor spaces into powerful hands-on learning gardens that connect kids with food, spark their curiosity and support classroom curriculum. This grant can be used to support a new or existing edible educational school garden. Typically, applications open in mid-February annually, with applicants notified in August and packages arriving in September.

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Whole Foods Market Foundation: <a href="#">Bee Grants</a>	Typically, applications are accepted starting in <b>Sept</b> and close in <b>mid- Oct for part 1</b> , and the <b>end of Oct for part 2</b>	\$1,500	The Bee Grant program allows for schools and non-profit organizations to receive support for educational beehives, so students can observe bees up close and learn about the vital role these pollinators play in our food system. Part 1 of the application typically opens in early September.
Farm Credit Canada: <a href="#">Community Funding</a>	Ongoing	Up to \$10,000	Eligible organizations can apply for up to \$10,000 in FCC Community Funding annually and applications are accepted year-round. Eligible focus areas include food security, education and food literacy, and building public trust in agriculture and food.
Farm Credit Canada: <a href="#">AgriSpirit Fund</a>	Typically, Applications are accepted in the month of <b>April</b> .	\$5000 - \$25,000	FCC AgriSpirit Fund is about enhancing rural communities. Eligible projects include things like supporting food recovery or reduction of food waste; initiatives that support agriculture and food; projects that reduce your environmental footprint; projects that improve accessibility and inclusion, and construction of or upgrades to community buildings.
Nourish <a href="#">Grow Eat Learn</a>	May 8 - June 20	\$200 - \$1,000	The grant aims to help support both new and existing gardens (school garden, or community garden on school grounds). It funds and supports the installment of 1 or 2 of the following: Garden Beds (\$500), Cold-frames (\$500), Compost Systems (\$500), Water Catchment & Storage (\$500), Fruit Tree Guild (\$500), Hydroponics (\$500), General Garden Infrastructure (\$500), Pollinator Tea Garden Kit (\$200 value in plants we bring to you), or Indoor Growing & Seed Starting Kit (\$500 value in supplies we bring to you).
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>			
<a href="#">Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia</a>	Applications vary through the year	Various	The Foundation's grant programs provide funding to community initiatives throughout Nova Scotia. Grant opportunities include community grants (up to \$25000), NSH Mental Health and Addictions Program Grants (Central Zone) and St. John Ambulance Mental Health Literacy grants (provides funding access mental health and wellness training courses).
Nova Scotia Teachers Union: <a href="#">Student Mental Health and Wellness Grant</a>	Annually mid Oct	Up to \$600	The Student Mental Health and Wellness Grant was established to support initiatives that promote the mental health and well-being of students in the schools across Nova Scotia, programs in classrooms, schools or communities for children and youth. The <b>student</b> Mental Health and Wellness Grant was established to support initiatives that promote the well-being of " <b>students</b> " in coping with the pressures of growing up. To be eligible, the individual must have a permanent, probationary, or term contract and be a member of the NSTU or PSAANS at the time of application. Please note, successful applicants are only eligible every two years.
Kindred Foundation: <a href="#">Youth Mental Health Grant</a> (Community Organizations)	Typically opens sometimes between Jan. and March	Up to \$30,000	The Kindred Foundation Youth Mental Health Grant is focused on providing financial support to Canadian organizations providing mental health services to Black and/or 2SLGBTQ+ youth, and youth living with a disability across the country. The Kindred Foundation Youth Mental Health Grant started in 2022, and focused on supporting two youth communities, Black and/or 2SLGBTQ+ youth. Beginning in 2025, they added a third focus to support youth living with a physical disability. The goal of this grant is to help ensure that smaller-sized Canadian organizations directly supporting youth mental and physical health have the funds they need to carry out their mission. A maximum of \$30,000 will be awarded to each successful application, with approximately 5 grants provided in total. The grant duration is for one year.  There are 2 separate application information pages depending on the applying organization:

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">For organizations supporting Black and/or 2SLGBTQ+ Youth</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">For organizations supporting Youth Living with a Physical Disability</a></li> </ul>
Bell Let's Talk <a href="#">Diversity Fund</a>	Typically, applications are accepted starting in <b>early July</b> and closing in <b>mid-August</b>	Up to \$25,000	The Bell Let's Talk Diversity Fund supports the mental health and well-being of members of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities across Canada. The Bell Let's Talk Diversity Fund supports organizations with projects aiming to reduce the stigma around mental illness and/or increase access to culturally informed mental health and well-being support for BIPOC communities in Canada. It doesn't appear that schools are directly eligible, but could partner with community organizations.
Government of Canada: <a href="#">Youth Mental Health Fund</a>	Applications are accepted until <b>mid-January</b>	Up to \$500,000 per fiscal year for 4 years	<p>The Youth Mental Health Fund is looking to fund projects of up to \$500,000 per fiscal year for projects that may be up to 48 months in length, to enhance the capacity of community health organizations to deliver more care for young people living in Canada and better equip these organizations to refer youth to other mental health services within their networks and partnerships. Project proposals exceeding the \$500,000 per year limit may be considered, at Health Canada's discretion, based on their potential to achieve the objectives of the YMHF.</p> <p>The following types of organizations may apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not-for-profit organizations</li> <li>- Public post-secondary education institutions</li> </ul>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>			
TD: <a href="#">Friends of the Environment Foundation Grant</a>	Typically, applications are accepted in two rounds, one ending in <b>mid-January</b> and one ending in <b>mid-July</b> , annually.	\$2000 - \$8000	The Foundation supports a wide range of environmental initiatives, with a primary focus on environmental education and green space programs. Examples of eligible projects include the following: Schoolyard greenings and outdoor classrooms; Butterfly gardens & pollinator programs; Natural playgrounds; Citizens science projects in public green spaces; Bioblitzes; Trail building & restoration; Tree plantings (native species)
<a href="#">Go Wild School Grants</a>	Typically, applications open in <b>September</b> and close <b>mid-October</b> annually	\$500	This grant funds projects that take a hands-on approach to protecting nature.
<a href="#">Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Grants</a>	Typically, applications are accepted in <b>November</b> annually.	\$1000	This fund can be used to support a youth-led action project (can be guided by an adult champion) that makes the community better for animals, people and the environment. Eligible projects fit into one of three project streams: Sustainable Food, Indigenous Perspectives or Climate Change.
Tree Canada: <a href="#">Greening Canada's School Grounds Grant</a>	Typically, applications are accepted annually starting in <b>October</b> and closing in <b>early December</b> .	Up to \$10,000	This grant can be used by schools to cover the cost of purchasing and planting trees and shrubs, site preparation, tree maintenance, planting materials, and developing education materials. After a project is selected to receive funding, Tree Canada will reach out to confirm details and pair the school with a technical expert located nearby. These Forestry Specialists provide guidance, support, and recommendations to help ensure the success of the project.

## Grants & Funding Opportunities to Support Healthy School Environments

Last Updated Feb. 20, 2026

Organization / Grant Name	Due Date	Typical Amount	Details
Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF): <a href="#">EcoLeague Action Project Funds</a>	Applications typically open at the beginning of the school year, and remain open on a rolling basis until Spring.	Up to \$500	LSF provides funding of up to \$500 to schools to implement an Action Project. Action Projects must: increase awareness about sustainability issues and responsibilities; directly engage students in actions that address a local sustainability issue; and involve and benefit the school and/or local community.
Rural Communities Foundation of NS (RCFNS) <a href="#">Joan Feynman Climate Change Fund</a>	Typically, applications are accepted starting in <b>late April</b> and closing in <b>late May</b> .	\$2000 for youth-led projects and \$5000 for adult-led projects	These are small matching grants for climate change-related projects throughout Nova Scotia. The grants are designed to support innovative, community-based action and to promote environmentally sustainable, socially supportive, and economically thriving communities. Applicants are required to provide a 50% match from community-based or local sources. Youth applicants must be between the ages of 13 and 25.
Tree Canada: <a href="#">Treemendous Communities</a>	October - December	Up to \$10,000	This grant supports community tree planting projects that create long-lasting benefits. A wide range of project proposals may be accepted such as heat island mitigation projects, biodiversity corridors, stormwater retention, invasive species control, riparian planting, park and street tree plantings, and more. Tree Canada supports greening projects wherever people live, work or play. Treemendous Communities funding is available to Canadian municipalities, Indigenous communities, business improvement associations, non-profits and community groups.
Nature Canada: <a href="#">Young Nature Leaders Grant</a>	Mid to late February	\$1000	The Young Nature Leaders grant/bursary has been established for a young person (under 30) to develop and implement a youth-led, community-based project centered around nature and sustainability in Canada.
Clean Foundation: <a href="#">Climate Action Grant</a>	Mid to late February	Up to \$500 or \$1000	Clean Climate Action Grants help youth in Nova Scotia take action to address climate change in their communities. These grants of up to \$500 or \$1000 can be used to turn a project idea into a reality. Youth may apply individually or as a class with support from a teacher, community leader, or other adult mentor (age 19+) who will oversee their project.
Learning for a Sustainable Future: <a href="#">Action Project Funding</a>	Early March	Up to \$500	Learning for a Sustainable Future provides funding for students and teachers to engage their school and community in climate Action Projects. This includes any action that is student-led and contributes to the sustainability of your school or community.
<b>OTHER OPPORTUNITIES</b>			
Community Health Boards: <a href="#">Wellness Funds</a>	Typically, applications close in <b>early May</b> .	Up to \$5000	Wellness Funds are intended to support the implementation of the CHB Community Health Plan recommendations by funding local community projects that use a population health approach, addressing the Social Determinants of Health, such as income, education, social supports, early childhood development, etc. NOTE: CCRCE falls within the <a href="#">Northern Zone Community Health Boards</a> . Refer to <a href="#">Northern Zone Community Health Plans</a> for Community Health Board priority areas.
CCTH: <a href="#">Legion Capital Assistance Program</a>	Closes mid February.	Up to 50% of total eligible	The Legion Capital Assistance Program (LCAP) is intended to assist Royal Canadian Legions across Nova Scotia with capital upgrades to existing buildings used to house legion events and community activities. Contact <a href="mailto:Communitiesns@novascotia.ca">Communitiesns@novascotia.ca</a> for more information.

## Grants & Funding Opportunities to Support Healthy School Environments

Last Updated Feb. 20, 2026

Organization / Grant Name	Due Date	Typical Amount	Details
		costs to a maximum of \$10,000	
CCTH: <a href="#">Community Facilities Improvement Program</a>	Applications open in December and close mid February.	Not specified	The Community Facilities Improvement Program supports community-led projects which enhance the public use of existing facilities. This includes repairs and improvements to building exteriors, and interior features that are integral to the long-term sustainability of the facility. Eligible Applicants may include: Joint Stocks-registered Not-for-Profits in good standing; Federally registered Charities or Not-for-Profit Corporations in good standing; Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw bands. Program Contact for Fundy (Cumberland, Colchester, East Hants): Courtney Nicholson-Patriquin (fundyregion@novascotia.ca).
Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage: <a href="#">Diversity and Community Capacity (DCCF)</a>	3 times a year	Up to 75% funding to a maximum of \$10,000	The Cultural Communities and Identities Fund (CCIF) supports activities which recognize and celebrate the diversity of Nova Scotia's new, emerging, and established cultural communities. Schools may be eligible for this grant if the project/activity takes place outside of school hours and is not part of regular school-based programs.
Canada Post: <a href="#">Community Foundation Grant</a>	Typically, applications open in early February and close later that month	Up to \$25,000	Eligible projects increase the capacity of an organization. Such projects create or expand services rather than maintaining existing services. Examples for small projects (up to \$5,000) include playground equipment, park upgrades, library supplies, and after-school programs. Examples for large projects (\$5,001 to \$25,000) include purchasing new equipment or launching new programs. Refer to <a href="#">Eligible projects for Community Foundation grants</a> for more information on project eligibility.
Credit Union Atlantic: <a href="#">Community Investment Grant, Community and Non-Profit Grants</a>	Typically, applications open in the fall and close between <b>early December</b> and <b>late January</b> .	\$1000 - \$25,000	Supports projects or initiatives led by community groups and/or non-profit organizations in Nova Scotia. Grants are awarded in categories such as: Community; Health, Wellness, and Recreation; and Arts and Culture. Check their website for updates on application deadlines.
NS Federation of Municipalities: <a href="#">Funding Database</a>	N/A	N/A	This database shares many funding opportunities, including those related to parks, recreation, and health. While many of these grants be not be available directly to schools, there is often an opportunity to form partnerships between schools and municipalities.
Kent Building Supplies: <a href="#">Donations &amp; Sponsorship</a>	Ongoing	N/A	Kent Building Supplies donates to various opportunities and events offered by charitable organizations (not individuals) which support community wellness in Atlantic Canada. Requests for donations must be made at least 90 days prior to the event.
Hospital/Healthcare Foundations	N/A	N/A	Healthcare/hospital foundations are charitable organizations that provide funds to support the delivery of health care and health-related community based projects within their respective geographical areas. A map/list of foundations in NS can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
Royal Canadian Legion	N/A	N/A	Through its local Branches and members, the Legion raises funds and supports essential services for those in need, and responds to the unique needs of their community. Whether helping local Veterans, supporting seniors, providing youth sports programs,

Organization / Grant Name	Due Date	Typical Amount	Details
			raising funds, volunteering to help those in need, or simply offering a place to gather for fun and celebration, Legionnaires provide essential services in their communities. Find your local branch <a href="#">here</a> .
Lions Clubs	N/A	N/A	Lions Clubs support their communities in various capacities. Check out their website and find your local club <a href="#">here</a> .
Municipality grants	N/A	N/A	Reach out to your municipality to learn of additional funding opportunities for your school.
Rotary Club	N/A	N/A	The main objective of Rotary is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. They also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchanges for students, teachers, and other professionals, and vocational and career development. Search for local clubs <a href="#">here</a> .
<a href="#">Pictou County United Way</a>	Mid-October	Unknown	Provides funding for local charitable organizations and qualified donees serving Pictou County.  If you have any questions, please reach out to Executive Director, Darcy MacDonald at 902-755-1754 or via email at <a href="mailto:exccdirector@pictoucountyunitedway.ca">exccdirector@pictoucountyunitedway.ca</a> .

## Potential Grant Opportunities

In the table below, we have listed funding opportunities that have been available in the past, but are uncertain for the coming year due to a variety of factors. We recommend checking the websites to see if further details become available.

Canadian Teachers' Federation: <a href="#">Imagination Program</a>	N/A	N/A	Funding opportunities or other supports for school-community social action projects tied to the Imagination themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CONNECT [relationships]; ENGAGE [active and participatory democracy]; THRIVE [health and wellness]; LEAD [leadership]; LIVE [environmental sustainability]; CARE [poverty]</li> </ul>
MAZON Canada <a href="#">food security grants</a>	Sept - Oct (grocery grant)	\$2,500 - \$5,000 (grocery grant)	Innovative grant opportunities to tackle hunger from different angles. There are four funding streams: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Grocery</a>: funds frontline food programs that primarily serve children and youth (e.g. food banks, shelters, community kitchens, school or after-school nutrition programs, meals on wheels and out of the cold programs).</li> <li>Gear: help front-line agencies afford the equipment they need to feed their communities.</li> <li>Garden: supports community gardening as a tool to end hunger by teaching people to grow their own food.</li> <li>Advocacy: support activists and advocates with the resources to tackle hunger at the very root.</li> </ol>