

2027 ReTHINK WASTE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION PACKAGE



BACKGROUND AND SCOPE

The Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) ReTHINK Waste Grant Program provides funding to projects that reduce waste in North Okanagan Landfills. The program prioritizes projects that encourages and assists RDNO residents to focus on the first two R's "reduce" and "reuse" that can have the greatest impacts on reducing waste, greenhouse gas emissions and conserving resources. Find more information on what it means to ReTHINK Waste at www.rdno.ca/rethink.

Examples of potential projects that the RDNO may support in this grant program include but are not limited to:

- Events and/or education resources that support reduce, reuse, repair or share initiatives.
- Replacement of single-use items with reusable items.
- Active collection of salvageable materials before they go to disposal facilities.
- Small scale and community composting.

ELIGIBILITY

This program supports structured projects that are additional to an organization's regular operations. Initiatives that prioritize new and additional solutions to waste reduction in RDNO communities are a priority for grant funding.

Individuals, community groups or non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for funding. For-profit businesses, political advocacy groups and religious groups are not eligible for this program.

Projects must be based within RDNO boundaries and be open and/or accessible to the public and reach beyond an organization's members to the broader community.

Previously selected projects may be eligible for funding in future years if they have continued or increased potential for waste reduction. However, eligible first-time applicants that have strong evaluations will be given preference.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Primary elements that projects will be evaluated for are:

- A clearly described project;
- Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timely goals and measurable objectives;
- Prioritization of the pollution prevention hierarchy (the first two R's "Reduce" and "Reuse");
- Project design and timeline;
- Accessible to the broader community;
- Collaboration in the community;
- Potential for reducing waste in landfills;
- Cost efficiency in keeping waste out of landfills; and
- Sound management and fiscal responsibility.

The RDNO will evaluate applications according to the RDNO ReTHINK Waste Grant Procedure (No: CS-004) and reserves the right to accept any or none of the applications submitted.

MEDIA EXPOSURE

Recipients of funding can expect that the RDNO will publicize information about the grant award and project highlights, including photos related to the project to the media.

FUNDING AND PROJECT COMPLETION

A total funding allocation will be reviewed and determined by the Regional District Board of Directors each year. An effort will be made to award funding to a number of projects from this allocation. Project Grant funds may be requested for up to 100% of the total cost of a project.

Fifty percent (50%) of the eligible funding amount awarded will be provided upon selection. Projects for which funding was provided must be substantially complete within the calendar year that the initial 50% was disbursed. Follow up by RDNO staff will take place to confirm that the project for which the funding was provided was completed as described in the recipient's application package.

A Final Project Report will be required upon completion of the project describing the outcomes. Failure to complete the project as described in the recipient's application package and a Final Project Report will result in the second 50% disbursement being withheld.

If funding for a project is not to be used, the RDNO must be notified and these funds must be returned to the RDNO.

SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION

PROJECT GRANT DEADLINE: December 15, 2026, 4:00pm

Applicants have two options for submitting a ReTHINK Waste Grant application:

1. An online application form on the dedicated grant webpage.
2. A project proposal that covers the topics on the following two pages of this document.

Mail or deliver completed project proposals, along with supporting materials by the deadline to:

ReTHINK Waste Grant
Regional District of North Okanagan
9848 Aberdeen Road
Coldstream, BC, V1B 2K9

Applications will also be accepted by email at rethinkwaste@rdno.ca

Funding is intended to support project expenses for the 2027 year.

Topics on the following two pages are in the online application form, or you have the option to prepare your own project proposal covering these topics.

Applicant Information

1. Organization Information: Name, Address, and Website.
2. If the organization is a Registered Non-Profit Society, please provide the Society Number and the Date of Incorporation.
3. Applicant Contact Information: Name, Title, Email and Phone Number.
4. Alternate Contact Information: Name, Title, Email and Phone Number.
5. Has your organization applied for an RDNO Grant in the past?

Project Description

6. Provide a name for your project.
7. Describe your project and its goals.
8. How does your project prioritize ReTHINK Waste and focus on the first two R's "Reduce" and "Reuse".

Project Impact

9. How will your project contribute to reducing waste in RDNO Landfills.
10. How will you measure the success of your project.
11. Please describe potential impacts of your project to neighbours on adjacent properties and how issues will be resolved.
12. Please identify and explain any negative environmental impacts that may result from your project and how you will address them.

Project Management and Participants

13. Provide a timeline for your project, and any supporting material.
14. Who is the primary target audience or user group for your project?
15. Does this project involve collaboration with other local organizations? If so, please describe.
16. Will volunteers play a role in your project? If so, please advise how many volunteers may be involved and describe any training you will provide to them.
17. Who are the members of the project management team or organization representatives? What role will they play? What experience/related skills do they have?

Planning and Financial Information

18. What is the amount of your grant request?
19. How will the grant money be spent in your project? Please be specific and provide a budget listing your anticipated project expenses and how they will contribute to waste reduction.
20. What other sources of project funding are you currently pursuing and what are other potential sources of project revenue (i.e. fees charged for services)? Please identify any groups, agencies, or businesses that you have approached as donors or sponsors for this project.
21. Please outline how this project will be continued in future years (how will it be sustainable financially and operationally). Recipients of Project Grants may be able to re-apply for funding for the same project, if there is evidence of continued progress in waste reduction/prevention.
22. If the amount requested as part of this application is not fully funded, how will you proceed differently with this project (e.g. seek more sources of alternate funding, cancel certain aspects of the program, run the project from a different venue, etc.)?

For more information, contact:

RDNO Solid Waste Management
Email: rethinkwaste@rdno.ca
Phone: 250-550-3785