

## **Q&A – Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grants**

### **Q1 What is a Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grant?**

- Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grants is stream two of the funding made available from the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions in February.
- The first stream of grant funding was created to support the creation of Community Action Teams (CAT) in 20 high-priority communities. This second stream of funds will expand the impact of these CAT grants.

### **Q2 What is the purpose of a Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grant?**

- The grant's purpose is to support overdose prevention and response efforts that are **community directed and led** to address local needs, with an emphasis on **actions to reach people using substances alone**.
- The grant also aims to support communities to develop collaborative **partnerships** to provide focused, action-oriented strategies tailored to local community needs to address the overdose crisis.

### **Q3 How much can each applicant apply for?**

- Up to a maximum of \$75,000.

### **Q4 Who is eligible to apply for a Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grants?**

- Agencies who are addressing the overdose crisis from communities across B.C. can apply for a Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grant.
- Lead financial agencies are eligible to apply on behalf of a partnered coalition.
- **Applications that demonstrate collaboration across local community partners, Health Authority and/or local government will be viewed favourably.** Funding decisions will take into account equitable distribution of resources across regions affected by the overdose crisis.

### **Q5 Can the 20 CAT grant communities also apply for a Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grant?**

- Yes, agencies and coalitions within communities that have an Overdose Emergency Community Action Team (CAT) are eligible to apply for this grant, but funding decisions will take into account equitable distribution of resources across regions affected by the overdose crisis.

#### **Q6 What can Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grants be used for?**

- Similar to CAT grants, Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grant are available for initiatives aligned with the OERC's *Comprehensive Package of Interventions* (see [OERC Terms of Reference](#)).
- For example, grant funding may be used to support new initiatives to strengthen pathways to treatment and care, innovative strategies to reach people who use alone, expansion of Indigenous approaches to healing and wellness, and initiatives to enhance engagement of people with lived experience.

#### **Q7 What data should I reference to inform my proposal?**

- It is our expectation that your proposal demonstrates how your project aligns with overdose data specific to your community or region. For instance, you may wish to align your proposal with key demographics impacted by the overdose crisis (e.g. age, gender, occupation) or health utilization patterns of individuals overdosing, just as two examples.
- Potential data sources include local health services delivery area, township or health authority data in the BC Coroners Service Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths.
- The following resources may provide data relevant to your proposal:
  - <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/public-safety/deathinvestigation/statistical-reports>.
  - <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/harmreduction/overdose-data-reports>

#### **Q8 Can applicants apply for more than one Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grant?**

- Applicants are eligible to apply for one grant up to a maximum of \$75,000. One or more projects may be included in each application.

#### **Q9 Where has the money for the Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grants come from?**

- The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, through the Overdose Emergency Response Centre provided, announced provincial grant funding in February 2018.
- The funding package contained:
  - Up to \$2 million for stream-one funding in 2017/18 to support 20 Community Action Teams (CATs) in 20 communities in B.C. identified as having the greatest need.
  - A minimum of \$1.65 million for stream-two funding in 2017/18 to support B.C. communities in the form of Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grants. Any surplus funds remaining from stream one will be applied to stream two.

**Q10 Can the lead financial agency named in the funding application be the health authority?**

- No, health authorities cannot be named as lead financial agencies.

**Q11 What types of organizations can be lead on the Community Overdose Crisis Innovation Grant funding application?**

- Municipalities, non-profit agencies, or First Nations, Métis or Indigenous-mandated organizations can serve as the lead agency in receipt of funds.
- The lead financial agency must also have a Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) number or B.C. Society Registration.

**Q12 What does the application review process look like?**

- The final application will be reviewed by a review committee that includes community and health authority representation, as well as representatives from the OERC, CAI, the First Nations Health Authority and the Health Authorities Regional Response Team.
- Applications that demonstrate collaboration across local community partners, Health Authority and/or local government will be viewed favourably.
- All applicants will be notified of results; only successful applicants will be notified of amount awarded.

**Q13 Where should I go if I have questions about the grant or the application process?**

- All general enquires should be sent to: [nahmadi@communityactioninitiative.ca](mailto:nahmadi@communityactioninitiative.ca).



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- Where appropriate (for example, for information about peer engagement), you can contact the OERC at [OERC@gov.bc.ca](mailto:OERC@gov.bc.ca).