

## RDN Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Program Stewardship Support Seed Funding

### *Background*

The Regional District of Nanaimo's Drinking Water and Watershed Protection (DWWP) program supports the efforts of stewardship groups who take community-level action to monitor, safeguard and enhance our local water. Several volunteer-based stewardship groups from across the region participate in the RDN DWWP Community Watershed Monitoring Network – an initiative where volunteers are trained to collect water quality data on local creeks and streams, to fill gaps in the Provincial network. The RDN DWWP program also sponsors the training and execution of physical stream assessments that are most often completed to compliment and expand upon the data collected through the water quality monitoring initiative. Through both of these avenues, a better understanding of the state of our local creeks, rivers and streams is achieved. And in some cases, recommendations emerge for next steps to restore or enhance water quality and/or habitat viability in these waterways. It is the intention of this seed funding to support those stewardship groups that are now poised to take further action including remediation efforts that have been identified and recommended through the monitoring and assessment process.

Additionally, this seed funding is open to groups who have not previously participated in RDN DWWP initiatives, but demonstrate momentum and relevance in their proposed project description, as it connects to improving watershed health in our region.

### *Eligibility*

To be eligible for this seed funding, groups must be a volunteer-based, not-for-profit group, that is actively pursuing the completion of restoration/research/enhancement projects that are of direct benefit to a creek, stream, river or wetland within the Regional District of Nanaimo.

Priority will be given to groups pursuing recommended actions generated from RDN supported stream assessments or water quality monitoring, but not limited to this.

Groups can receive funding annually for up to three consecutive years, after the third year of funding the group is ineligible for funding for that following year. After one year grace period to allow other groups to access funds, the group is eligible to apply for funding again, for up to three consecutive years.

To be eligible for this seed funding, projects must:

1. Actively enhance the stream health, hydrology or function
2. Involve volunteers
3. Be jointly funded by other partners / donors (this includes in-kind contributions)

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### *Application*

Name of Group or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Involved with RDN DWWP initiatives: Yes \_\_\_ If yes, list below. No \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Stream/Creek/River/Wetland of interest for this funding: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated project cost (total): \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the works you wish to put this seed funding towards, and demonstrate relevance:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Attach supporting documents such as a location map, current site condition photos, assessment report, cost break-down, landowner letter of support etc.

Date of project start: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated completion date: \_\_\_\_\_

List other partners on this project:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### *Awarding Process*

Seed funding is awarded by the RDN DWWP program, based on the merit of the application and how it matches current program priorities. Funding issued can be between \$1000- \$3000. Apply early, limited total funds are available each year. It will be announced when funding is exhausted for the year.

### *Submission*

Email this completed form to [lfegan@rdn.bc.ca](mailto:lfegan@rdn.bc.ca) or mail to Attn: Lauren Fegan, Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Program, Regional District of Nanaimo, 6300 Hammond Bay Road, Nanaimo BC, V9T 6N2.