



The Xwisten Entrepreneurial Grant

Tcwák7an Tewcpc N7á7žeń muta7 Táwmiń

Tcwák7an Tewcpc N7á7žeń muta7 Táwmiń translates literally to "give someone money to, or to help somebody buy something to trade or sell".

The Xwisten Entrepreneurial Grant is a non-repayable allocation of dollars that Xwistenmec can use to finance economic endeavours. As per our Working Together: Xwisten's Economic Development Plan, one of our community objectives is to encourage entrepreneurialism and self-sufficiency in Xwistenmec. This was also voiced in our Comprehensive Community Plan which lists one of our Economic Development objectives is to provide entrepreneurship support for Band members. All grant applications must have outcomes tied to an economic development activity and result in an increase to revenue for the business venture. This grant is for Xwistenmec to establish or grow their business ideas.

Examples of how the grant may be used:

- Purchasing equipment to support or expand your business - such as a tractor for your farm, a new professional camera, or a saw for your mill.
- Marketing your business - such ordering business cards or hiring graphic design services for logos and website design.
- Purchasing supplies or professional services to start your business – such as hiring a lawyer to incorporate your business or purchasing the required tools to create your artwork.
- Using the grant as a down payment to access a bank loan or line of credit for the business.

Ineligible expenses:

- Costs incurred prior to the date of the grant application
- Purchases for personal use that provide no economic benefit
- Wages
- Education and training expenses
- Travel costs
- Operational day to day expenses of the business

Eligibility

To be eligible for this grant the applicant(s) must be registered as a member of the Bridge River Indian Band, 18 years of age or older.

To apply, members must fill out the Xwisten Entrepreneurial grant application form. It is required that the applicant contribute at least 20% in cash to the project.



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The Funding

This grant is made possible using the funds allocated to our community through the St'at'imc Trust annual funds under the Economic Development pillar. Chief and Council have dedicated an annual budget for this grant to \$50,000.00 (per fiscal year of April 1st to March 31st).

- There is no minimum amount for grants (no idea is too small);
- There is a maximum amount of \$10,000 per application.
- Members may only be awarded the grant once per year;
- Each business may only be awarded one grant per year (if multiple band members own the business, it is seen as all those members have applied for the grant)
- The grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Once the grant has been approved, the payment can be issued either:

- 1.) In full (100%) to a service provide or supplier based on invoices provided. A copy of the receipt must be provided directly back to Bridge River Indian Band; or
- 2.) At 80% of the application amount to the applicant. The remaining 20% will be issued once all receipts for expenses have been submitted to Bridge River Indian Band. The invoices and receipts must show that the applicant has contributed the 20% cash contribution as per the funding guidelines.

After the grant has been awarded and spent, it is important for Bridge River Indian Band to track and monitor how this grant is helping Xwistenmec. Bridge River Indian Band will follow up with all successful applicants to gather a brief report. Xwistenmec who have previously received a grant will be required to report on how previous grant money was spent and how it benefitted their business before they can apply for another grant.

Selection Criteria

Grant applications will be reviewed by Chief and Council at duly convened Council meetings. A quorum (currently three) must approve the application in order for the grant to be awarded.

The selection committee will evaluate the application using the following criteria:

- Return on investment: Will the grant money help the applicant establish or grow their business idea?
- Viability: Will the grant contribute to a successful economic endeavour?
- Need: Has the applicant demonstrated why the grant money is needed as part of the overall business idea?
- Revenue generation: Does the grant result in increased revenue for the business?



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Applications

Please contact the Community Development Worker if you require assistance with this application process. Applications Forms and supporting documents are accepted on a continual basis to:

Xwisten Community Development Worker
#1A Joseph Road, PO Box 190 Lillooet, BC V0K 1V0
Email: communitydevelopment@xwisten.ca
Fax: 250-256-7999

Please allow 8-12 weeks to process. The Community Development worker will review the application and may contact you to provide additional information. Completed application will then be submitted to Council to be reviewed at a council meeting.



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Grant Application Form

Name	
Band Number	
Date	
Title of Project	
Is this a new business or an existing business?	
What is the vision and objective of your business idea? Describe the product you will be selling.	
How much money are you asking for?	
What will you spend the money on?	



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<p>Why do you need us to help finance you?</p>	
<p>What are the timelines and tasks for your plan?</p>	
<p>What is the expected outcome of your idea?</p>	



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<p>What have you contributed so far to your business or idea?</p>	
<p>If you have any of the following please submit it with your application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business Plan• Most recent Financial Statements• Quotes	
<p style="text-align: center;">Applicant Contact Information</p>	
<p>Phone Number</p>	
<p>Email Address</p>	
<p>Physical Address</p>	
<p>Mailing Address</p>	

Applicant Signature

Date



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Financial Form

	Previous year	This year (include grant)
<u>Revenues:</u>		
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
Xwisten Entrepreneurial Grant	\$	\$
Total Revenue		
<u>Expenses:</u>		
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
Total Expenses		
Total Revenues minus Total Expenses	\$	\$