

## **Summary of Eligible Applications**

### **The Canadians Locally Improving Communities Society (CLIC):**

Amount Requested: \$ 62,500

In-Kind Contributions: \$ 0

Other External Contributions: \$ 2,500 (from RDN Parks and Recreation)

#### **Key objectives**

- Create a hub for storing and upcycling household goods by purchasing two shipping containers to preserve and store diverted materials
- Recycle textiles by purchasing an industrial washing machine and by repairing existing sewing machines.
- Conduct research initiating partnerships with non-profits who build socially supportive housing and contribute by providing diverted construction materials.
- Initiate a partnership with the University of British Columbia and Athabasca University to support the research of reclaimed material in construction. Partnerships with these schools can assist in grant applications for more grants to continue research.
- To divert 62,500lb of waste from the landfill (1\$ per pound diverted)

#### **Overview**

The CLIC Society proposes to scale up its current operations by selling recycled products that would contribute to the sustainability of its operations. To increase waste diversion and scale up their upcycling operations, CLIC proposes that the purchase of two shipping containers for storing material will increase storage capacity to contain and organize materials. CLIC would further utilize the RDN's funding support by acquiring an industrial washing machine and repairing an industrial sewing machine to repurpose textiles. CLIC intends to partner with UBC and Athabasca University for research and development opportunities for repurposing construction materials. This partnership would allow CLIC to apply for more grants to continue research with the universities. CLIC estimates that receiving full funding would allow them to divert 1lb of waste per dollar awarded.

### **Gabriola Island Recycling Organization (GIRO):** Circular Economy Textile Initiative Project C

Amount Requested: \$ 61,545

In-Kind Contributions: \$ 8,500

Other External Contributions: \$ 142,000 (\$50,000 in 2021 from Island Coastal Economic Trust and \$92,000 from Pacifican/Western Diversification).

#### **Key Objectives**

- To complete the construction of the Cradle to Cradle (C2C) building
- To continue product research and development for acoustic sound panels in preparation for market launch in August 2023.

- To increase production and marketing for C2C products sales (ReLove Local)
- To grow the C2C Makers apprenticeship program for training skilled makers contributing to the local economy
- To continue outreach workshops to other communities in BC interested in this textile initiative.
- To address additional and unforeseen building and construction costs.
- To cover costs of the first year of the Makerspace operational costs.

## **Overview**

Funding provided to GIRO in 2023 would address additional and unforeseen building construction costs & essential equipment permitting-related issues, increased material costs and unforeseen issues related to the building site located on the GIRO property (\$30,000). The RDN's funding would cover the costs of the first operational year of the Makerspace to address expected shortfalls due to the time required to develop footholds into the various markets for the C2C products and services in the first year.

In 2021 and 2022 the RDN has provided funds to GIRO that supported:

- Researching building types that would be best suited for project uses
- Designing and engineering for building plans
- Contracting a builder and purchase of building materials.

GIRO aims to reduce textile waste by repurposing them into construction projects, stuffed applications and more that will act to replace single-use items for environmentally conscious consumers throughout Western Canada. GIRO is currently constructing a building provisioned with a solar array that will provide the space for makers, entrepreneurs, and workshops to take place, and will store the shredder. GIRO will offer shredding services for other organizations or businesses that seek environmentally responsible methods to recycle textiles. An online platform will be created where entrepreneurs will be able to market their upcycled products. GIRO will reduce GHG emissions by over 32.5 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually through its actions.

## **Habitat for Humanity**

Amount Requested: \$ 234,000

In-Kind Contributions: \$ 0

Other External Contributions: \$ 0

## **Key Objectives:**

- To initiate the Books and Beyond Initiative where hardcover books can be repurposed into furniture and paperback books can be repurposed into a heating fuel source.
- To continue upcycling and redesigning furniture through the ReFresh store.
- To continue the workspace membership program
- To continue accepting metal, bottles, and old furniture
- To continue accepting wire products for their wire stripping service
- To continue to conduct free pickups and accept large items from the surrounding community.
- To continue conducting upcycling and reupholstering workshops

## Overview

The RDN has supported HFHMMVI through the ZWRF in 2021 and 2022, where funding was utilized to initiate the ReVive space and used to help increase the frequency of upcycling workshops and created a workspace membership program.

In 2023, HFHMMVI proposes to utilize funding that contributes to the continuation of the ReVive and Refresh centers and intends to initiate book recycling, “Books and Beyond Initiative”. This new initiative will utilize volunteer resources and aims to create products that would not otherwise be sustainable with paid employees. The books initiative plans to utilize hard and soft cover books by upcycling hardcover books to create unique furniture pieces. Softcover, paperback books and wastepaper created will be turned into paper logs that can be burned in any wood-burning fireplace. HFHMMVI plans to create and market this product for this proposed “Fuel for Families” initiative. The paper logs can be sold to customers which will generate a new revenue source. Through this book recycling and repurposing, it is estimated that between 6,000 and 10,000 books will be diverted from landfill annually. This book recycling would immediately benefit the local Rotary Club through the planned partnership, as the club has encountered book storage issues through their biannual book sales.

### **Island Futures Society:** Circular Economy Waste Vegetable Oil Initiative

Amount Requested: \$22,800

In-Kind Contributions: 3,800

Other External Contributions: \$ 0

### **Key Objectives**

- To upcycle waste vegetable oil (WVO) on Gabriola Island
- To create a viable and sustainable circular economy initiative for waste vegetable oil (WVO) on Gabriola that can be replicated and scaled up in the RDN and beyond.
- To upcycle WVO to create biodiesel that replaces diesel.
- To use WVO to heat a local greenhouse (in partnership with Gabriola Agricultural Co-operative)
- To produce purer glycerine, liquid soap, recovered methanol and potassium fertilizer

## Overview

In 2022 the RDN provided ZWRF (\$2,500) to the Island Futures Society (IFS) to research the potential of repurposing WVO, equipment requirements and marketability.

In 2023, IFS proposes to repurpose approximately 7000L annually on Gabriola Island by primarily upcycling it into biodiesel for local transportation organizations (e.g., Gulf Island Food Transport). The IFS proposes to utilize the remaining WVO to fuel a heater in a local, commercial greenhouse utilized by, Gabriola Agricultural Co-operative, contributing to increased resiliency of the food system on Gabriola. Further, through the recommendations of the consultants utilized in 2022, IFS will seek to purchase equipment (centrifuge) used to purify the raw glycerine by-product of the production of biodiesel into a variety of products including liquid hand soap, cleaning products, and potassium-based fertilizer that can be sold to farmers and gardeners on the island.

**Loaves and Fishes:** Capital Infrastructure and Equipment

Amount Requested: \$150,000

In-kind Contributions: \$150,000

Other External Contributions: \$12,440,000

**Key Objectives:**

- To develop a new warehouse
- To purchase or invest in equipment to optimize the Food 4U Food Recovery program.
- To purchase or invest in equipment for automated empties sorting.

**Overview:**

The RDN provided ZWRF to Loaves and Fishes Community Food Bank in 2021 and 2022 which contributed to the new warehouse development costs and warehouse. This seed money was able to support and be a catalyst in gaining support from other levels of government.

Loaves and Fishes propose to utilize ZWRF in 2023 to continue successful food recovery operations that run 7 days a week and 364 days each year. As a result of high levels of operations, significant investment in key equipment is essential for ensuring food is put to its highest and best use. The 2023 ZWRF funding would also be utilized to reach the goal of accepting the delivery of an automated empties sorting system prior to warehouse completions that will effectively sort and store beverage containers. Implementation of this new system would allow Loaves and Fishes to accept increasing quantities of drink containers.

**Ocean Ambassadors Canada:** Initiative to increase waste diversion and decrease waste produced by small businesses and multi-family housing communities in the Regional District of Nanaimo

Amount Requested: \$29,700

In-Kind Contributions: \$ 0

Other External Contributions: \$

**Key objectives**

- Educate 80 small businesses to understand the importance of minimizing waste and maximizing reuse by working with them directly.
  - Reduce waste generated, by underscoring the waste reduction hierarchy and particularly focusing on minimizing waste and maximizing reuse
  - Work with businesses to implement appropriate food and organics waste systems
  - Educate small business owners and staff about effective recycling practices

- Assist small businesses in educating customers through signage, appropriate receptacles and communications
- Educate businesses on regional bylaws/plans and regulations implemented provincially and federally.
- Work with 50 multifamily housing communities to decrease food waste, improve recycling and waste diversion systems and improve recycling compliance from residents to strata councils.
  - Reduce waste generated by underscoring the waste reduction hierarchy and particularly focusing on minimizing waste and maximizing reuse
  - Educate residents about the importance of separating food scraps and organic waste from landfill waste.
  - Work with strata councils and residents to implement appropriate food and organics waste systems.
  - Educate strata councils and residents and staff about effective recycling practices. Promote the RDN Curbside app
  - Promote the ReTHINK waste tools and resources (Love Food Hate Waste, Recycle Right, What Goes Where)

## **Overview**

Ocean Ambassadors Canada (OAC) proposes to focus on meeting and working with small businesses and multi-family housing communities to provide education on the waste hierarchy and efficient recycling. They aim to assist 80 businesses, primarily comprised of cafes and restaurants, and 50 multi-family communities to reduce organic and food waste and minimize the use of single-use items.