

## 2018

# BUSINESS FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

## Program overview

The Northern Development Initiative Trust, Business Façade Improvement program provides annual grant funding for municipalities and regional districts located within the Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet region. Total annual funding of \$20,000 is available to each municipality and regional district to enhance economic development by encouraging private sector investment in businesses façade improvements.

The District of Lillooet has been receiving this funding since 2014, distributing \$73,000 to 24 businesses to date. The majority of these funds go directly back into the local economy, supporting other local small businesses

## Features and benefits of the program

- Enhanced economic viability and vibrancy of northern and central B.C. communities by supporting visual improvements such as facades, signage, murals, architectural features, siding, lighting and awnings.
- Private sector investment in local business improvement.
- Increased assessed values and tax base as a result of improved properties.
- Attractiveness of community to enhance community pride as well as tourism experience.
- Improved community appearance to support recruitment of new businesses and/or residents.

## The Program

- The *DISTRICT OF LILLOOET* will provide a *maximum of 50%* reimbursement grant up to a maximum of *up to \$5,000* per project to improve facades.
- Each building/business is eligible for a one time grant only.
- Projects must have a minimum total cost of *\$1,000*

## Eligible Properties & Applicants

*All Main Street Commercial properties starting at the 100 block and Community Gateway properties (as described in the OCP Map page 112) and side street streets off Main street in the business core are eligible.*

- **Property owners or business owners (if the applicant is the business owner, the property owner must approve the application in writing and confirm that all improvements are to be paid for by the applicant);**
- **Non-profit societies occupying commercial storefronts; and**
- **Home-based businesses (eligible for wayfinding signage only\*).**



## Timeline

The District of Lillooet applied for and received this NDIT funding for Lillooet Businesses. The District is accepting applications as of February 15, 2018. First round of applications will be reviewed February 16, 2018. Grants will be awarded on a first come first served basis, and evaluated on ranked criteria (as per the application document) by a Project Review Committee consisting of: one council member, one staff member and one Chamber of Commerce member.

Information packages are now available on the District of Lillooet Website.

Funding cannot carryover from one calendar year to the next.

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## New!

- **Deadline for initial round applications: March 1, 2018. Applications will still be accepted after this date but there is no guarantee how much funding will still be available for distribution.**
- **Approved Projects must send in a progress report on or before June 1 and the project must be completed by September 2018.**

## Note the following guidelines:

### Eligible Façade Improvements

Eligible improvements may consist of but are not limited to:

- Exterior lighting (new but not replacement);
- Exterior architectural features;
- Exterior surfaces and details (decorative details, moldings, trims etc.);
- Windows (only if part of larger improvements, no stand-alone window replacement);
- New siding;
- Façade Painting;
- Entrances and doorways (only if part of larger improvements, no stand-alone entrance/doorway replacement); and
- Awnings.
- Signage (affixed to the building);
- \*Way finding signage (*sign located on the business property i.e. at the bottom of a driveway*). Signs are eligible for 50% to a maximum of \$500 and must adhere to any signage bylaws and regulations.
- **Accessibility improvements (ramps, wider doors etc.) to the outside of the building only AND are part of a larger facade improvement project.**

### Ineligible Façade Improvements

The following improvements are ineligible:

- Routine maintenance;
- Structural repairs;
- Roofs,
- Non-permanent fixtures (benches, planters, patios, patio heaters etc.)
- Landscaping
- Paving
- Fencing
- Interior / internal improvements;
- Any improvements not visible from the public right of way;
- Construction of additions, accessory buildings or new buildings;
- Any improvements that have been started prior to application approval.
- Any improvements deemed inconsistent with redevelopment purposes and design guidelines