

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is Community Safety and Well-Being?

Durham Region's Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan is focused on helping people in Durham feel safe and connected, while addressing needs like education, health care, food, housing, income, and opportunities for social and cultural expression. It's a team effort—bringing together community partners to work collaboratively, taking a proactive approach to address the priority risk factors affecting safety and well-being across the region.

The [CSWB Plan](#) was officially adopted by Regional Council on November 26, 2025 following updates to Ontario's Police Services Act.

What is the purpose of this funding opportunity?

The CSWB Fund will help local non-profits and community groups create or run projects that meet the needs of people living in Durham Region. It supports the goals of Durham's CSWB Plan and lines up with the Region's 2025–2035 Strategic Plan.

The CSWB Fund focuses on preventing violence and helping young people stay out of the justice system. It supports local efforts that build stronger community services, fill service gaps, and encourage residents to get involved and take on leadership roles. This program is funded by the Region of Durham.

What is the application deadline?

Stream One: Direct Intervention Fund

- Applications open: April 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
- Applications close: May 22, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.
- Results Announced: 30 days after application is submitted

Stream Two: Community Strengthening Fund

- Applications open: April 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
- Applications close: May 22, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.
- Results Announced: 30 days after application is submitted

Stream Three: Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Gender Based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Response Fund

- Applications open: April 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
- Applications close: May 22, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.
- Results Announced: 30 days after application is submitted

Are there any restrictions on how the funds can be used?

Eligibility with respect to the use of funds will be based on the fund parameters set out by The Regional Municipality of Durham. Eligibility with respect to the use of funds will aim to be flexible and based on community and equity needs. Please review tab three and tab four of the budget form for full list of eligible and ineligible expenditures.

Examples of the eligible use of funds for project activities include, but are not limited to the following:

- Salaries and wages.
- Equipment rental.
- Program supplies (e.g. food, supplies, etc.).
- Promotion and publicity (e.g. flyers, posters, etc.).
- Purchased services (e.g. web design, translation, catering, printing, etc.).
- Accessibility supports (e.g. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation).
- Administrative costs – related or required for the delivery of your project (e.g. partial rent for office space, partial staff cellphone costs, photocopies).
- Small capital cost expenses (e.g. equipment to support virtual activities).
- Space rental (not including space rental for pre-existing programs).
- Transportation to and from project activities by youth leaders, participants, staff and volunteers.
- Volunteer honorarium and expenses.
- Caretaking costs for participants and volunteers to support participation in project activities (e.g. for children, dependents, etc.).

Examples of the ineligible use of funds include, but are not limited to the following:

- Debt repayment or deficit funding.
- Fundraising events.
- Salaries and wages that exceed 60 per cent of the total project value.
- Overrepresented professional services and consulting costs (organizations are required to deliver programming in kind to the best of their ability).
- High-liability activities (e.g., fireworks).
- Projects and activities outside of Durham Region.
- Amortization.
- Interest charges or costs of borrowing.
- Core or ongoing operating expenses.
- Goods and services that, are normally provided by the First Nation community or by the federal, provincial, territorial or local municipal government.

Are there start and end dates for funded projects?

Project Implementation Period: June 2026 to December 2026.

Your funds must be spent within this timeframe; however, your project may continue beyond this time frame.

How will applications be evaluated for funding?

An advisory committee including Region of Durham staff will review the applications, using an equity framework. Application review committee members will indicate where they have a conflict of interest with an applicant or project. Reviewers declaring a conflict of interest will be excused from the review of the specified application.

Final grant decisions shall be made by the Community Safety and Well-Being Secretariat, in accordance with the Region of Durham's terms and conditions.

The following scoring criteria will be used:

1. Project quality and relevance (30 per cent)
2. Anticipated impact of the project (25 per cent)
3. Budget, financial feasibility (20 per cent)
4. Organizational capacity (25 per cent)

Adherence to principals of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion should be demonstrated throughout the application. This will be assessed through all four review criteria.

Can I seek assistance during the application process?

If you have any questions or require more information about the CSWB Fund, please contact cswb@durham.ca.