

BC SPCA Community Animal Spay/Neuter Grant Program

2021 Application Guide



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The BC SPCA Community Animal Spay/Neuter Grant Program is designed to support non-profit community organizations, veterinarians and regional and municipal governments that wish to implement targeted spay/neuter projects at a low cost to the community. The primary goal of this grant program is to assist communities working to systematically address community cat population growth through spay and neuter in British Columbia.

Applications are accepted from:

- BC SPCA Branches
- First Nation Governments and Tribal Councils
- Municipal and Regional District Governments
- Registered Animal Welfare Charities and Non-profits
- Veterinary clinics and hospitals

Types spay/neuter projects funded

Cat Spay/Neuter Program

Funds must be targeted toward reducing the number of free-roaming or feral cats in a community.

1. Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR)

Free roaming cats, defined as intact neighborhood or community-fed cats, abandoned cats, unfriendly or feral cats living in colonies, where there are one or more caretakers.

2. Cats on First Nation land

Owned and unowned cats that are cared for by owners/guardians in a First Nation community.

Selection Criteria for all projects

- **Identified number of animals:** Must include a current estimate of the number of both: 1. altered and unaltered free-roaming animals, or 2. estimates of the number of owned unaltered pets for the grant project, and provide an explanation for how this number was determined. For community cats, the grant only provides funding for cats returned to the colony (e.g. not kittens that are adopted out), please ensure this is incorporated in your count and explanation.

- **Targeted approach:** The applicant has identified a geographically defined target area, such as a First Nation community, colony location or specific address where the animals are located.
- **Commitment:** The applicant is committed to spaying and neutering at least **95% of the animals in each of the colonies/communities** listed in the grant application by September 15, 2021. (e.g., if you know of 3 colonies, but can only get 2 fully completed in the year, apply for 2).
- **Colony or community knowledge:** The applicant has 1) an established relationship with the colony caretaker and can confirm shelter and water is available and provided for the cats; the caretaker is informed and on board with the TNR process or 2) an established relationship with the community and knowledge of previous work and needs.
- **Prioritization of approved colonies/communities:** If funding is approved for one or more, but not all colonies or communities for which the applicant applied, the applicant commits to prioritizing the colonies and communities for which they were approved.
- **Matching funds:** The applicant must prove their ability to provide enough matching funding to pay for additional costs incurred (see “Matching Funds”). The source can come from municipal funds, community foundations, corporate sponsors or public/private donations. *If there are no contributed funds for a First Nation project, the community members must be willing to pay for those additional costs.*
- **Vaccinations:** The applicant commits to providing all cats in the program with the standard vaccinations.
- **Veterinary commitment:** The applicant must provide documentation from participating veterinarian(s) willing to provide discounted rates for the animals covered by the grant.
- **Partner commitment:** If the project includes a partnership, such as a First Nation community, a letter of support must be provided from this partner.
- **Project administrator:** There must be an identified project administrator to manage the community relationship, administer the program and fulfill all reporting requirements.

How can I apply?

- Complete the application form located at spca.bc.ca/spayneutergrant (Note: applications for cat colonies and cats on First Nation land must be submitted separately as they are two separate granting categories)
- Submit all required documents. Applications with missing documents will not be reviewed.
- Email the complete application to spayneuter@spca.bc.ca
- Completed application must be **received** by mail or by email no later than **December 1, 2020**. The BC SPCA will provide confirmation of receipt by email for all applications received.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will everyone be approved?

Our goal is to be able to make a demonstrated impact on a group of animals. This means that applications targeted at fixing at least 95% of the animals identified in a colony or community will be prioritized. All applicants will be evaluated using the selection criteria (see above). As funding is limited, some programs that meet all of the criteria may not be funded.

For 2021, applications in the Cariboo/Central Coast region, Thompson-Nicola Regional District and Powell River area will receive priority.

What are the expectations of grant recipients?

- Able to communicate via email for grant reporting;
- Able to track each individual animal and surgery cost in a **digital excel spreadsheet** provided by the BC SPCA and provide a completed spreadsheet before or on the dates indicated in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA);
- Able to provide an address or neighbourhood of where colonies are located and provide updates as requested by the BC SPCA for up to five years;
- Provide recognition for BC SPCA funding in communications about the work that is done with the funds in both social and traditional media and web content;
- Able to meet the program reporting deadlines;
- Able to follow the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by both parties.

Why do you require TNR to be targeted?

By targeted TNR we mean that the goal is to trap every cat in a colony or specific area, before expanding to surrounding colonies. We require this of colonies that are part of the grant program because it is the evidence-based proven solution to help the most cats and provides the best results to reduction in the cat population in the most efficient way. If you are approved for funding, you will receive a grant to cover 100% of the colony in order to ensure this reduction in cats.

What expenses will the grant cover?

BC SPCA grant funds will cover the full cost of the following:

- 1) Spay/Neuter Surgery
All necessary inclusions: pain control, IV fluids, cryptorchid/in-heat/pregnancy surcharges
- 2) Permanent ID
Must be tattooed or microchipped, can also be ear tipped.

How do you calculate the amount of funding my organization receives?

Grants awarded range between \$1,000 and \$10,000. Funding is calculated based on the number of animals indicated that are unfixed in each colony or community. As our goal is to make a demonstrated impact, we provide funding for 100% of the animals that need to be fixed in a colony or community. We base our calculation on the costs indicated in the veterinary letter of support, assuming a 60:40, F:M sex ratio and 15% of females pregnant or in heat.

What expenses is the grantee required to pay?

As mentioned, the grant applicant must provide enough matching funding to pay for additional costs incurred for each animal. Below is a list of potential expenses that are the responsibility of the grantee to cover. It is required that standard vaccinations are provided to all spayed/neutered cats from the program.

- Start-up and ongoing costs (cat traps, ferry fees, gas fees, etc.)
- Vaccinations
- Medical treatments (ear flush, abscesses, etc.)
- Disease testing
- Parasite treatment (ear mites, fleas, etc.)
- Euthanasia where surgery is not a viable option due to poor health
- Spay/neuter for kittens removed from the colony, socialized and adopted out

Can the funds be used to spay or neuter animals adopted out by our organization?

No, surgeries for kittens that are removed from a colony to be socialized and adopted out must be funded through adoption fees or other sources available to the grant recipient. The focus of the BC SPCA Community Animal Spay/Neuter Grant is to fund spay/neuter surgeries for free-roaming community animals or the surgeries of animals cared for by owners/guardians in a First Nation community.

What are the reporting requirements and deadlines?

Grant recipients are responsible for tracking the individual surgeries and costs for each animal covered by the grant. Additional documentation may be required. Other reports requested include:

- **February 15, 2021** Animal Location Chart and Project Plan
- **May 30, 2021** Interim Report
- **September 15, 2021** Final Report