



'A' Fresh Start

Community Support Grant Program

'A' Fresh Start is an initiative that would provide enhanced Community Support Grants to selected organizations / individuals. To qualify for this grant, the money sought by an organization / individual must be used for creative new events within the Town, or for major enhancements to an existing event. Applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on October 3, 2018, via one of the methods listed below. The 'A' Fresh Start Committee will review the applications and will present the Top 5 applications to Council. Organizations / individuals selected in the Top 5 must be prepared to make a 10-minute presentation to the general public on October 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Credit Union Business Innovation Centre, explaining why their event should receive a Community Support Grant. Members of the public in attendance who are 16 years and older will have the option to purchase a ballot to vote. The ballot costs \$2.00, with all proceeds being donated to charity. Based on the requests submitted by those selected for the Top 5, up to \$17,500 in grants will be available. Those receiving grants will receive 80 per cent of the funding granted up front. The remaining 20 per cent will be issued after the event has been completed, and a final report is presented to the Town. Events must be held by March 31, 2019. The Town of Amherst will be recognized on any advertisement as a partner of the event, and copies of all advertisements must be provided to the Town.

Organization/Individual Name: **The Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County**

Contact Person: **Rene Ross, Executive Director**

Phone Number: **(902) 667-7500**

Email: **shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca**

Website: **website under construction**

Address: **11 Elmwood Drive, Amherst, Nova Scotia**

Event Location: **Amherst, with specific location to be determined**

Provide detailed event description including budget and amount of funding requested

Submit by 4:30 p.m. on October 3, 2018, to amherstrecreation@amherst.ca, or fax to 902-667-5409, or drop off to Town Hall, or mail to Town of Amherst, P.O. Box 516, Amherst, N.S., B4H 4A1.



A Fresh Start with the Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County

Organization Overview

The Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County (SHCCC) champions positive sexual health throughout the lifespan through innovative programs, collaborative partnerships and individual guidance and referral. Our programs and outreach reflect an inclusive, sex positive, pro-choice, anti-oppressive and trauma informed approach. Throughout our 36-year history, everyone who walks into our doors finds a space that respects individual agency and choice.

Existing Programs

Through the work of SHCCC, rural communities receive education, training and support on all aspects of sexual health, including gender identity, sexual orientation and issues impacting LGBT+ populations.

We strive to provide programs and services tailored to the needs of our community. We offer educational and capacity building programs to local schools and communities. This year we presented our program to hundreds of students in 11 schools across the county. Our programs do not end with the school year. Our long serving Girls World Program is one of the few self-esteem camps for girls in the province and is a flagship program of the Sexual Health Centre. Additional programs are being added to our suite of services, as we continue to explore the complicated relationship between technology and sexual health education.

Our sexual health education videos set the record straight on misinformation, engage youth, improves the profile and importance of sexual health in our community and provides consistent, accurate information while addressing specific community needs. We believe it is possible – and essential – to deliver sexual health education in a fun, accessible, relevant and accurate way. We are currently developing a "media club" in partnership with the teen health centre to engage youth on sexual health issues throughout the county and beyond. We will use peer led models where youth in older grades will be targeting media aimed younger adults and other audiences such as teachers and parents. The intention of the media club is that students in the club will identify topics of concern and relevance to themselves and their community then develop educational materials in the form of print, video, or voice (podcasting) for release on social media channels.

Identified Needs

Research and information collected from the Sexual Health Centre continues to show poor sexual health outcomes for youth, including here in Amherst. For instance:

- may sexually active youth do not use condoms consistently
- more than 42,000 women between the age of 15 and 19 became pregnant in Canada, with their pregnancies resulting in pregnancy or abortion.
- Rates of STIs are highest among young people, particularly teens.
- There is a subpopulation of at-risk youth who are practising risky sexual behaviours

Program Goals

With this funding, the Sexual Health Centre is seeking to host a youth engagement forum and event that will interest and engage youth, facilitate broader awareness, and encourage local action on sexual health and wellness issues. We will host a youth forum and invite a high-profile speaker who resonates with youth around the theme of technology and sexual health. A long-term goal is to determine our capacity and the need in Amherst to expand on our summer day camp program, thereby increasing opportunities and awareness for youth and the community beyond.

In summary, this event will:

- To determine from youth local sexual health priorities;
- Provide opportunities and practical information on sexual health;
- Involve youth in future program design for community programs;
- Engage the community on crucial issues in fun and innovative ways;
- Build support for improved sexual health in the community.

Budget

Venue	\$ 500.00
Supplies	\$ 500.00
Guest Speaker	\$ 1500.00
Printing and Advertising	\$ 500.00
Total	\$ 3000.00