

New submission from Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association

From: David (Xing) , Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association
<govwordpress@gov.bc.ca>
To: multiculturalism@gov.bc.ca, TAC Multiculturalism TAC:EX
Sent: November 28, 2020 8:10:08 PM PST
Attachments: csvdata_5fc31f20b964c.csv

Organization Information

Full legal name of organization

Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association

Organization physical address

200 - 6061 No. 3 RD
Richmond, British Columbia V6Y 2B2
Canada
[Map It](#)

Mailing address

200 - 6061 No. 3 RD
Richmond, British Columbia V6Y 2B2
Canada
[Map It](#)

Website

<https://theacea.org>

Organization email address

info@theacea.org

Is your organization a registered society or charity in B.C.?

Yes

Please provide your registration number

S0073352

Is your organization an Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit or Métis) government, tribal council, band council, or other affiliated Indigenous organization?

No

Is your organization a Provincial public institution with at least one BIPOC-led non-profit society as a partner?

Yes

Is your organization a Municipal, regional or private sector organization with at least one BIPOC-led non profit society as a partner?

Yes

When did your organization start operating?

2020-06-29

When does your fiscal year end?

2021-03-31

Is your organization BIPOC-led?

Yes

Which populations does your organization serve or represent?

- East and South-East Asian

Date of your last Annual General Meeting

2020-07-11

Project Information**Name of project**

Discrimination and East Asian Canadians Social Study

Project summary

Sharp-rise of discrimination cases and hate crimes were observed against East Asian Canadians since the Covid-19 pandemic. East Asian Canadians are visible minority to be the easy target of racial discrimination victims. Hidden discrimination exists in workplace as well, a systematic problem.

Project description

Discrimination against East Asian Canadians had been observed on sharp-rise since Covid-19 pandemic and it happened in widely-open public places such as on transits, on Vancouver streets, or grocery stores and happened in violent ways. See mainstream news coverage for examples in the past few months. It is true that the discrimination against Asian/Chinese Canadians has been around even before the Covid-19, and this one we're seeing is just another wave after Chinese Head Tax and Japanese Internment Camp during Second World War.

While the problem has been persistent, Asian Canadian Equity Alliance (ACEA) has this project proposal to lay some ground work in fighting discriminations and hate crimes against Asian/Chinese Canadians which includes:

- Improve the population's awareness of the importance of active participation in public affairs e.g. elections to have their voices heard. It's not news that the voices of East Asian/Chinese population have rarely been heard in public, and the association holds the opinion that the low & inactive participation of the population in public affairs e.g. elections is the direct cause of the dilemma (less representation in public). The association's study has the target to shed light on deeper reasons and/or causes of the issue and to promote positive changes e.g. more participation of the community population in public affairs. Some stereotype opinions do exist about the causes of the problem such as inward-looking and less-vocal, and others may include the political diversity in the population. All those superficial factors may not be the whole story. Though the population's actual participation rates could be readily available from the statistics of each election in the past few years, numbers themselves couldn't tell the whole story e.g. the reasons of the low participation rates.

- Improve the population's awareness on how to fight racial discrimination by engaging police authorities and educating the communities. In many cases victims kept silence rather than seek help, and this in turn incited the problem rather than helping solve it.

The Asian Canadian Equity Alliance (ACEA) study will utilize an online survey on the population's exposure to discrimination or hate crimes, and election participation and hurdles or systematic barriers etc. See the government's definition of East and Southeast Asian Canadians. Ultimately the association would like to promote discrimination awareness and proper actions and election participation in public affairs.

The association will be responsible for the delivery of the project, which includes managing the project and resource relocation to support the delivery. A delivery plan with work details can be found in the project plan section of this submission.

Please describe who will directly benefit from your project.

East and South-East Asian Canadians

Describe the problem, issue or concern your project will address and what positive changes you hope to see as a result

Discrimination against East Asian Canadians had been observed on sharp-rise since Covid-19 pandemic and it happened in widely-open public places such as on transits, on Vancouver streets, or grocery stores and happened in violent ways. See mainstream news coverage for examples in the past few months. It is true that the discrimination against Asian/Chinese Canadians has been around even before the Covid-19, and this one we're seeing is just another wave after Chinese Head Tax and Japanese Internment Camp during Second World War.

While the problem has been persistent, Asian Canadian Equity Alliance (ACEA) has this project proposal to lay some ground work in fighting discriminations and hate crimes against Asian/Chinese Canadians which includes:

- Improve the population's awareness of the importance of active participation in public affairs e.g. elections to have their voices heard. It's not news that the voices of East Asian/Chinese population have rarely been heard in public, and the association holds the opinion that the low & inactive participation of the population in public affairs e.g. elections is the direct cause of the dilemma (less representation in public). The association's study has the target to shed light on deeper reasons and/or causes of the issue and to promote positive changes e.g. more participation of the community population in public affairs. Though the population's actual participation rates could be readily available from the statistics of each election in the past few years, numbers themselves couldn't tell the whole story e.g. the reasons of the low participation rates.

- Improve the population's awareness on how to fight racial discrimination by engaging police authorities

and educating the communities. In many cases victims kept silence rather than seek help, and this in turn incited the problem rather than helping solve it.

Project plan

The association will be responsible for the project delivery e.g. managing it and relocates resources to support successful delivery. The association will take on the design of the survey, engage police authorities for educational seminars to fight racial discrimination, seek the assistance of an online survey service consultant and recruit volunteers in communities, coordinate with other registered associations and communities to ensure the survey to have adequate participation & representation of the population. Local area newspapers and social medias (Facebook, YouTube, Twitters, and WeChat etc) will be used to advertise the survey to reach the wide range of the population.

Upon the closing of the survey the association will arrange resources to analyze the survey data, hold meetings/seminars to draw conclusions, and report findings and recommendations to the communities and public.

Task 1: Identify and manage the project resource requirements including Covid-19 safety related measures, services, volunteer recruitment, PPE. Set up project organizational structure. 2021 March 3rd completion;

Task 2: Engage police authority for online educational seminars to fight racial discrimination. 2021 Apr 3rd completion;

Task 3 (Milestone): Complete online survey design with IT technology support. 2021 Apr 15;

Task 4: Survey advertising in Asian communities, on newspaper and online social media. Distribute posters in Lower Mainland community centers and public libraries. 2021 May 20;

Task 5 (Milestone): Online survey alive. 2021 May 24- Jun 28;

Task 6 (Milestone): Report publishing: Analyze survey data, draw conclusions, and recommend solutions to improve the population's participation. 2021 Oct 10;

Task 7 (Milestone): Project closing- Workshops to communicate survey and study. 2022 Feb 9.

Which grant stream are you applying for?

Stream 1 (up to \$10,000)

Amount you're applying for

\$ 10,000.00 CAD

Would you like to be considered for Stream 2 (regular grant) funding if your application is not approved for Stream 1 funding?

Yes

Please identify which community your grant application falls under

Anti-Asian Racism

Organizational capacity (Stream 1)

Project 1: "Justice for Mona Wang", 2020 July 11

In response to the shocking, saddening and traumatizing video footage of Kelowna RCMP Officer Lacy Browning's brutal treatment of Ms. Mona Wang, a nursing student at the University of British Columbia during a wellness check, the association led and organized the peaceful rallies across Lower Mainland to voice the community's support to Justice for Mona Wang and her family on 4 locations on July 11th, 2020.

1. Vancouver Art Gallery

2. Surrey RCMP Headquarter (14200 Green Timbers Way Surrey)

3. Richmond Minoru Park, partnered with BC Chinese Canadian Charity Group Society

4. Kelowna Stuart park, partnered with Okanagan Chinese Canadian Association (OCCA)

The event, led by the association on debut in the community, was a big success given the numbers below:

1) About 3,000 actual participants from Lower Mainland diversified communities, significantly higher than the 1,000 association's planned/expected participants.

2) The association's leadership team mobilized quickly, led coordination with other societies, and recruited 50+ volunteers in less than 10 days. And the leadership of the association guaranteed the success of the event/project.

3) The rallies have been on main stream news and newspaper, Global News and Surrey Now-Leader.

4) The event was successful with relatively small budget with total cost ~\$1,200 all coming from donations of volunteers and participants.

Project 2: Local community support to fight Covid-19, 2020 March- July

When Covid-19 started to spread and hit this county in spring 2020 the association and Chinese/Asian communities acted quickly and offered help to protect frontline workers and most vulnerable e.g. residents in local care homes in fighting PPE shortage at early stage of the pandemic. The association called for the donation of PPEs & fund from community members, and recruited and organized volunteers to make masks and nurse caps while donated PPE was still in shortage to meet request.

1. Called for PPE and fund donations from community members.

2. Organized community volunteers to sew facial masks and nurse caps in response to PPE shortage during Covid-19 outbreak in early 2020.

3. The project fund, \$2,000, solely came from community members' donation and used to purchase materials. The project eventually delivered PPE worth of \$5,000 to benefit the following recipients:
- Surrey Memorial Hospital;
 - Surrey care homes.

Describe how you plan to deliver programming in the context of COVID-19 and the Provincial Health Officer Orders, Notices and Guidance as applicable at the time of submitting this application.

- Major tasks e.g. project meetings, the online survey, and workshops and or seminars will use virtual methods to deliver. No physical gathering is required;
- PPE requirements in accordance to Provincial Health Officer Orders, Notices, and Guidance will be strictly implemented for volunteers who are assigned to deliver posters and have physical interactions for advertising. Those measures include (but are not limited to) volunteers' self health assessments for satisfactory health condition before taking on any tasks, social distancing, and mandatory mask requirement when work indoor.

Describe how the proposed project will include partnerships and/or collaborations between multiple stakeholders and how diverse viewpoints and perspectives of under-represented and/or marginalized groups will be incorporated into the planning, delivery and evaluation of the project.

- To reach out to wide and various communities and groups
- ACEA will recruit volunteers of different background to reach out the Asian communities under the study.
 - The design of survey questionnaires will exclude any partisan factors that may affect the study and results.
 - ACEA, an NPO organization, has goals to promote equality and against discrimination towards under-represented and/or marginalized groups. We believe the goals are well-aligned with the study which should resonate with the population's interest to participate.
 - The participation of the survey by the communities is critical for the project to be successful, and for this reason ACEA will reach out to local charities and groups which have been in collaboration (for examples Okanagan Chinese Canadian Association, and BC Chinese Canadian Charity Group) in the past for advertising and promoting the survey.

Date(s) the project will be run/held.

2021 Feb 2nd to 2022 Feb 9th.

Project location(s)

Lower Mainland BC

Please describe how your project will be accessible to people with financial barriers, physical accessibility barriers, and/or other barriers to participation.

As can be seen from the project delivery plan majority tasks e.g. survey, seminars/workshop will be delivered using virtual methods, and this should remove almost every barriers for people with financial or physical access barriers. The report and workshop will be in English and Chinese, with other languages being added as applicable, and again language shouldn't be a barrier either.

How many people are anticipated to participate in this project/event(s)?

The association expects and estimates ~5% of the population of the interest to participate the study, which makes a good sample to represent the whole population in the region.

Financial information

Project budget: Costs/Expenditures

Short description	Amount
Consulting and IT services, PPE, marketing, fees, equipment rental, volunteer expenses	\$11,550

Project budget: Funding sources

Source	Amount
Association's fund, the grant	\$11,000

Date of financial statements used to provide the information below

2020-11-27

Total REVENUES for your organization as reported in your financial statements

\$ 8,500.00 CAD

Total EXPENDITURES for your organization as reported in your financial statements

\$ 11,200.00 CAD

Total ASSETS for your organization as reported in your financial statements

\$ 0.00 CAD

Total LIABILITIES for your organization as reported in your financial statements

\$ 2,700.00 CAD

Contact Information and Declarations**Contact name**

David (Xing) Zhang

Contact phone

(604) 496-3961

Contact email

info@theacea.org

Declarations

- I am a bona fide member of the organization (the “applicant”) making this application, and my position, title or role within it is as indicated herein.
- I am authorized to complete and submit this application by and on behalf of the applicant.
- I undertake to comply with all provisions of the Legislation and Policies governing this grant program.
- I undertake to comply with all conditions, guidelines, rules and policies published by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture and the Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism, whether published or issued before or after the date of this application.
- I confirm that my organization/agency will comply with all Provincial Health Officer mandated COVID-19 guidelines as relevant throughout the administration of this grant cycle.
- I confirm that my organization (or partner organization) meets the criteria of “BIPOC-led”
- I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, my organization is free from discrimination, bullying and harassment.
- I understand and confirm that any information submitted herein may be disclosed by the Province of B.C. publicly, in compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.
- I wish to receive information from the Multiculturalism Branch about other programs, events, and funding.

Fisher, Samara CITZ:EX

From: Hardy, Chris MUNI:EX
Sent: December 10, 2020 2:59 PM
To: Zaman, Karishma AG:EX
Cc: Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX
Subject: RE: B.C. Multiculturalism Grants 2020/21: Verification of Registration Numbers of Applicants
Attachments: 2020_21 Multiculturalism Grants Master spreadsheet.xlsx

Please find attached completed spreadsheet 😊

Chris Hardy
A/Manager, Financial Operations
Management Services Division
Economy Sector (MAH – JEDC – TAC - LBR)
Phone: (778) 698-5205 | Fax: (250) 387-2815

From: Zaman, Karishma TAC:EX <Karishma.Zaman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 9, 2020 10:10 AM
To: Hardy, Chris JEDC:EX <Chris.Hardy@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Mannix, Stephanie L TAC:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: B.C. Multiculturalism Grants 2020/21: Verification of Registration Numbers of Applicants
Importance: High

Hi Chris,

Hope you are well.

My colleague Baljinder Jacques advised to reach out to you regarding an aspect of the Multiculturalism Grants 2020/21 that our Branch manages. We understand your team verified the registration numbers of the non-profit applicants last year.

I am sharing the applicant data with registration numbers in the attached. There are 199 applications this year, however, some of them are provincial public institutions as would be clarified in the spreadsheet. Please let us know if we are due to provide any other information. Appreciate if you can also let us know the expected timeline from your end.

Happy to connect to discuss further.

Thanks very much,

Karishma

Karishma Zaman (She/her)

Program Advisor, Multiculturalism Branch
Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture & Sport
Phone: 250.217.1216

On the traditional territories of the Lekwungen Peoples, today known as the Esquimalt & Songhees Nations

**MINISTRY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
MULTICULTURALISM & ANTI-RACISM
DECISION BRIEFING NOTE**

PURPOSE: For DECISION of Rachna Singh
Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives

ISSUE:
2020/21 Multiculturalism Grants Assessment Recommendations

DECISION REQUIRED/ RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Ministry to notify Multiculturalism Grant applicants of the results of their applications, in accordance with the distribution amounts identified on Appendix 1 (allocating \$799,888 to 133 community projects). Should additional recovery contingency funding of up to \$441,920 become available before the end of the fiscal year, approve distribution of funding to 59 additional projects and top-up funding to 31 recommended projects in order of how they scored.

SUMMARY:

- The Ministry has finished assessing 199 applications it received for the annual Multiculturalism Grants Program for community projects that address anti-Indigenous, anti-Asian and anti-Black racism, and support BIPOC/LGBTQ2S+ youth, pandemic-related resilience and recovery and BC150+ inquiry initiatives.
- 133 proposals are approved for funding based on the available budget of \$800,000, which includes the program's base budget of \$300,000 plus an additional \$500,000 in pandemic-response recovery funding the program received in September 2020. The total value of all applications received was \$1.4M.

• s.12; s.13

BACKGROUND:

- The goal of the Multiculturalism Grants Program is to support community-based projects that build intercultural trust and understanding between British Columbians, and address racism and systemic barriers faced by racialized and other underrepresented groups.
- The program budget is \$300,000 annually; however, as part of the new \$1.9M for anti-racism initiatives in BC's Economic Recovery Plan, the program received a budget lift of \$500,000, bringing its total budget for 2020/21 to \$800,000.
- The following new allocation and priority themes for this year's grants were created:

- **BIPOC Larger Grants:** \$300,000 investment in 30 grants of \$10,000 each to eligible organizations led by Black, Indigenous or people of colour (BIPOC) to support projects that focus on anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Asian racism and anti-Black racism.
- **Regular Grants:** \$500,000 investment in approximately 100 grants of \$5,000 each to any eligible organization under the following streams:
 - BIPOC/LGBTQ2S+ Youth: Projects that support cultural expression, leadership and capacity building initiatives for these youth;
 - BC150+ Inquiry: In view of the 150th anniversary of BC entering confederation, projects that amplify the voices of cultural and racialized groups that have been under-represented in traditional BC historical narratives; and
 - Resilience and Recovery Initiatives: Projects that build connections within racialized and marginalized communities most affected by social isolation measures during the pandemic and promote access to tools and resources.
- According to the program guidelines, if applicants are not successful in the BIPOC larger \$10,000 grant stream, they can be considered for a regular grant of \$5,000.
- The application period ran from October 15 to December 3, 2020.
- Funding is intended to be distributed in February or March 2021 for projects or events occurring between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022.

DISCUSSION:

- Each application was scored out of 100 points by a team of two or three assessors (internal staff and external contractors) based on pre-established criteria that evaluated the goals, quality and merit of the proposed activities, organizational capacity, partnerships and collaborations. See Appendix 1 for scores.
- Based on the scores, the Ministry has identified 133 organizations that will receive funding as follows:
 - 30 projects led by Black, Indigenous, and Asian-Canadian community organizations receive grants of up to \$10,000 each.
 - 31 additional projects that were submitted in the larger grant stream, scoring 72 points or higher receive half the amount requested at \$5,000 each.
 - 72 additional projects that were submitted in the regular grant stream be awarded grants of up to \$5,000 each.

- The recommended projects are geographically dispersed throughout the province and roughly match the regional submission rate.
- Several organizations applied for the larger \$10,000 grants that did not match the Ministry's original intent of prioritizing this funding for Black, Indigenous or Asian-led community organizations wishing to lead projects that address the unique types of racism each community faces. For example, several public institutions like a university, a library and schools applied for funding under this stream, while in other cases BIPOC community organizations applied for grants to lead projects related to racism experienced by other BIPOC groups, with varying levels of partnership and collaboration proposed with the affected groups.
- Although several of these proposals scored within the top 30, the Ministry applied discretion and so that some of these organizations will receive a \$5,000 grant instead of the \$10,000 grant based on the \$800,000 budget, [s.12; s.13](#). In the coming year, the Ministry will seek feedback from the Multicultural Advisory Council and community stakeholders on whether the program guidelines should be adjusted to make the intent clearer.
- [s.12; s.13](#)
- In the last 2 years, when the budget for the program was smaller (\$300,000), the Ministry (then TACS), chose to reduce the amount distributed to each successful applicant by 20% in order to maximize the number of projects and organizations funded. Seventy-six (76) \$4,000 grants were awarded in total in 2019/20. Feedback from grant recipients was mixed, with some noting that the reduction made it difficult to deliver what they had proposed, while others expressed satisfaction at getting at least partial funding. [s.13](#)
- Four applications were not approved for funding because they scored lower than 50 points. These applications either failed to provide enough detail about the projects being proposed or the proposed activities did not align with grant criteria.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be offered the opportunity to review how their proposals were scored with Ministry staff and will be encouraged to apply again in the fall. They will also be advised of other provincial and federal grant programs that are currently accepting applications.

- A draft letter the Parliamentary Secretary can send to the successful applicants is attached in Appendix 2, while a letter Ministry staff can send to unsuccessful applicants is attached in Appendix 3.
- Once approved, GCPE will develop a plan to publicly announce the results.

Option 1 (recommended):

- Approve Ministry to notify Multiculturalism Grant applicants of the results of their applications, in accordance with the distribution amounts identified on Appendix 1 (allocating \$799,888 to 133 community projects). [s.12](#); [s.13](#)
[s.12](#); [s.13](#)

Option 2:

- [s.12](#); [s.13](#)

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONSIDERATIONS:

- The 2020/21 program prioritizes Indigenous-led projects that focus on addressing anti-Indigenous racism. Twenty-three (23) projects that focus specifically on anti-Indigenous racism are recommended for full or partial funding, while numerous projects recommended under the regular grants stream also include Indigenous partners and themes.

OTHER MINISTRIES IMPACTED/CONSULTED:

- The Ministry of Education, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport and Ministry of Municipal Affairs all helped to promote the grant opportunity to their partners and stakeholders in October and November 2020.
- Once approved, MAG will share the list of grant recipients with these and other ministries through the Cross Ministry Anti-Racism and Anti-Hate Working Group.

DATE:

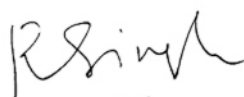


February 17, 2021

Richard J. M. Fyfe, QC
Deputy Attorney General and
Deputy Minister Responsible for Housing

OPTION 1 APPROVED

DATE:



March 1, 2021

Rachna Singh
Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives

Prepared by:

Alison Dudley
Executive Director
Multiculturalism & Anti-Racism
(604) 398-6286

Approved by:

Cheryl May
Associate Deputy Minister
Housing, Construction Standards, and
Multiculturalism
778 698-1701

Attachments:

Appendix 1: Multiculturalism Grants Recommendations
Appendix 2: PSS Notification Letter to Successful Applicants
Appendix 3: Ministry Notification Letter to Unsuccessful Applicants



Ref: 613757

Dear Community Partner:

Congratulations! I am very pleased to inform you that your organization is receiving a 2020/2021 British Columbia Multiculturalism Grant.

This year, the Ministry of Attorney General & Minister responsible for Housing received a high volume of applications for projects that strongly address issues of anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Black racism, anti-Asian racism, as well as other priority themes such as support for IBPOC and LGBTQ2S+ youth, resilience and recovery initiatives, and BC 150+ inquiry projects, among other innovative projects. We are delighted to be able to support your proposal.

I appreciate the valuable leadership that your organization and so many others in B.C. are demonstrating in eliminating racism and discrimination of all forms, as well as in promoting cross-cultural understanding and trust between British Columbians.

The Ministry's Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Division will be in contact with you shortly with additional details about your grant.

Once more, congratulations on your successful grant application. I look forward to seeing the results of your project.

Sincerely,

Rachna Singh
Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives

Ref: 613757

Dear Community Partner:

We regret to inform you that your organization's application for a B.C. Multiculturalism Grant was not successful.

This year the B.C. Government received many high-quality applications and we regret that we were unable to support all applications within the funds available.

If you would like more information about our selection process, please review Section 3.6 Application Assessment in the 2020-2021 B.C. Multiculturalism Grants Guidelines: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/multiculturalism-anti-racism/multiculturalism/multiculturalismgrants>.

We would be pleased to provide you with additional feedback and answer any questions you may have concerning your application. Please email requests for feedback to multiculturalism@gov.bc.ca. A Ministry staff person will follow up with you as soon as possible.

We encourage you to monitor our website in the Fall of 2021 if you wish to apply again. We also encourage you to explore other funding opportunities, including:

- BC Community Gaming Grants: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/gambling-fundraising/gaming-grants/community-gaming-grants>
- BC Arts Council – Community Arts Festivals Grants: <https://www.bcartscouncil.ca/now-open-community-arts-festivals/>
- Destination BC – Tourism Events Programs: <https://www.destinationbc.ca/BC-Tourism-Industry/Municipal-and-Regional-District-Tax-Program/Tourism-Events-Program.aspx>
- Canadian Heritage - Community Support, Multiculturalism, and Anti-Racism Initiatives Program: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/community-multiculturalism-anti-racism.html>

Sincerely,

Alison Dudley
Executive Director
Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Division

Dear X:

We are pleased to inform you that following the submission of your application for the BC Multiculturalism Grants program between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, your organization is being awarded a grant of \$X. Congratulations!

As part of the grant, you are required to submit a final report by March 31, 2022 to multiculturalism@gov.bc.ca. The final report template can be found on the Multiculturalism Grant program website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/multiculturalism-anti-racism/multiculturalism/multiculturalismgrants>

We request that you do not make any public announcements about your grant until after the BC Government has posted its media release, which is scheduled for the end of March/beginning of April 2021.

We greatly appreciate your commitment to promoting multiculturalism and addressing racism, and wish you success with your project.

Thank you,

Multiculturalism & Anti-Racism Division
Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing
multiculturalism@gov.bc.ca



BRITISH COLUMBIA

March 30, 2021

Dear Community Partner:

Congratulations! I am very pleased to inform you that your organization is receiving a 2020/2021 British Columbia Multiculturalism Grant.

This year, the Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing received a high volume of applications for projects that strongly address issues of anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Black racism, anti-Asian racism, as well as other priority themes such as support for IBPOC and LGBTQ2S+ youth, resilience and recovery initiatives, and BC 150+ inquiry projects, among other innovative projects. We are delighted to be able to support your proposal.

I appreciate the valuable leadership that your organization and so many others in BC are demonstrating in eliminating racism and discrimination of all forms, as well as in promoting cross-cultural understanding and trust between British Columbians.

The ministry's Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Division will be in contact with you shortly with additional details about your grant.

Once more, congratulations on your successful grant application. I look forward to seeing the results of your project.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Singh'.

Rachna Singh
Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives

Fisher, Samara CITZ:EX

From: info@theacea.org
Sent: March 31, 2021 10:26 PM
To: Johal, Dayah AG:EX
Subject: Re: Notification of 2020-2021 B.C. Multiculturalism Grants Results

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Dayah,

It's our great pleasure to know our organization have the honor to receive this fund!

Yes this fund will help us to further our cause in against anti-Asian racism. ACEA just held the #STOP Asian Hate rally at Vancouver Art Gallery on Sunday March 28 and received mass support from our Asian community.

Anti-Asian racism is systemic and hidden, and the association has the goal to study the problem(s) systematically so it can be understood better in order to facilitate solutions.

Kind regards,
David Zhang
ACEA Director
Tel: 604-496-3961

On 3/31/2021 2:55 PM, Johal, Dayah TACS:EX wrote:

Dear Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association:

We are pleased to inform you that following the submission of your application for the BC Multiculturalism Grants program between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, your organization is being awarded a grant of \$5,000.00. Congratulations!

As part of the grant, you are required to submit a final report by March 31, 2022 to multiculturalism@gov.bc.ca. The final report template can be found on the Multiculturalism Grant program website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/multiculturalism-anti-racism/multiculturalism/multiculturalismgrants>

We request that you do not make any public announcements about your grant until after the BC Government has posted its media release, which is scheduled for the end of March/beginning of April 2021.

We greatly appreciate your commitment to promoting multiculturalism and addressing racism, and wish you success with your project.

Thank you,

Multiculturalism & Anti-Racism Division
Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing
multiculturalism@gov.bc.ca

Fisher, Samara CITZ:EX

From: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX
Sent: May 4, 2021 9:06 AM
To: Dudley, Alison AG:EX; Singh, Milan AG:EX; Zaman, Karishma AG:EX
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

This definitely helps!

Thank you Alison.

I will build a response to the reporter and get it back to you for approvals.

Mita

From: Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: May 4, 2021 9:04 AM
To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>; Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Zaman, Karishma AG:EX <Karishma.Zaman@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Because it's a grant and not a contract, we don't have formal authority to force them to return the funds. Our main lever is to ensure that they're not eligible to apply again in the future if they don't submit a report.

I want to emphasize that the risks on this are super low. It's a low dollar amount and they were required to submit a proposal outlining how they planned to use the funds. In our experience, the requirement to submit a final report keeps everyone on track. Most applicants are motivated to reapply year after year so we don't typically have issues with people not submitting their final reports.

Occasionally if a grant recipient can't complete the project they originally proposed, we work with them to invest it in another related project that meets the grant criteria.

I hope that helps.

Alison

From: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 8:47 AM
To: Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>; Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Zaman, Karishma AG:EX <Karishma.Zaman@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Great.

One last question: if they do not fulfill their obligations for the program they were being supported for, what happens? ie. The program never gets executed in community. Are they asked to return the funds?

Mita

From: Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: May 4, 2021 8:43 AM

To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>; Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Zaman, Karishma AG:EX <Karishma.Zaman@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Hi Mita:

Yes, the reporting requirements are described at the bottom of the application page. Basically, recipients are requested to submit a one page report to us once the project has finished (or by March 31, 2022 at the latest) describing what was achieved. If they do not submit the report, they are not eligible to apply for the grant in the future.

[Multiculturalism grants - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

From: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 8:23 AM

To: Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>; Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>; Jacques, Baljinder AG:EX <Baljinder.Jacques@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Morning Alison,

Thank you for this. Some helpful context!

We received some further direction from MO yesterday.

They would like us to share any accountability pieces we have that ensure the grant recipients are delivering on what they promised.

Is there an accountability framework and are organizations who receive the multi grants, monitored/measured? If so, how often?

Thanks so much,

Mita

From: Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: May 3, 2021 7:05 PM

To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>; Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>; Jacques, Baljinder AG:EX <Baljinder.Jacques@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Hi Mita: Quick note to add my thoughts:

- Staff connect with BC Registry Services to verify that all applicants are registered legal entities and are in good standing (which basically means that they regularly file their annual reports and have not violated any of the basic requirements to be registered in B.C. as a society or company.

- These are small, low risk grants so the only further vetting we do is to review the quality of the proposal. If the proposal meets the grant criteria and we have sufficient budget, we support it. Even on larger contracts however, government typically doesn't do background reviews on founding members, etc. Often we do reference checks for larger contracts, but the nature of the ref checks focus on whether the agency delivered what it said it was going to, not background checks on former or current board members. I think it's a subjective, slippery slope for ministry staff to base funding decisions on the reputation or politics of people who may or may not be affiliated with an org. In this case, the names of the people the journalist mentions below were not listed on the application.
- All applicants check off a statement on their applications that they support and adhere to all aspects of the Human Rights Code. If we found that an agency was violating the Human Rights Code we could theoretically ask for the grant back but I don't think that's the case here.
- s.13

Let us know if you want to chat further.

Thanks,

Alison

From: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 11:23 AM

To: Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>; Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>; Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>; Jacques, Baljinder AG:EX <Baljinder.Jacques@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Hi Milan,

This seems to be quite a serious allegation. So if we could get some further details on the actual government 'verification' process that would be great – who actually grants the "good standing" designation, and how they determine this, especially.

Thanks so much for the help,

Mita

From: Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: May 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>; Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>; Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>; Jacques, Baljinder AG:EX <Baljinder.Jacques@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Hello,

No, I was not aware of the information suggested below. The government has a process to check all organization to ensure they are in good standing before adjudication and dissemination of funds, and so when the grant apps first came in, the team sent the list of organizations that applied to get verified. The Asian Canadian Equity Alliance came back as

being in “good standing.” I am not too sure what this process entails, but I can check-in with Stephanie or Karishma for the name of the person they were working with in that unit for more information, if it helps.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Milan

From: Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:46 AM
To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>; Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>; Jacques, Baljinder AG:EX <Baljinder.Jacques@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>; Singh, Milan AG:EX <Milan.Singh@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Copying Milan into the conversation, as she oversees the grants program.

From: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:39 AM
To: Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>; Jacques, Baljinder AG:EX <Baljinder.Jacques@gov.bc.ca>; Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

I’ve added the grant details for ACEA in the background section.

Mita

From: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX
Sent: May 3, 2021 10:34 AM
To: Dudley, Alison AG:EX <Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca>; Jacques, Baljinder AG:EX <Baljinder.Jacques@gov.bc.ca>; Mannix, Stephanie L AG:EX <Stephanie.Mannix@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: AG Media Request: Interview: Multiculturalism Grant awarded to Asian Canadian Equity Alliance

Morning Alison,

Would you be able to provide some background for the media request below. It’s quite specific.
The deadline is tomorrow, so feedback anytime today would be great.

Thanks!

Mita

Reporter

Jeremy Nuttall, Reporter
Toronto Star
jnuttall@thestar.ca
778-858-0945 c:s.22

Deadline Tuesday, May 4, 2021 4:30 PM

Request

Deadline is flexible

Is there someone there I can speak to about the Multiculturalism Grant? I see one was awarded to the Asian Canadian Equity Alliance.

I'm curious if the fact a founding director of ACEA has been in trouble with the law society a number of times, including on allegations of misappropriation of funds, was known when this grant was awarded. Hong Guo, or Guo Chen, as she is listed as on the organization's filings has been in trouble with the Law Society a number of times. ACEA also has some concerning ties to CCP organizations and prevented someone from protesting the CCP for human rights abuses at their recent rally.

Background

Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association	Richmond	Anti-Asian Racism	\$10,000.00		\$5,000.00	Discrimination and East Asian Canadians Social Study	Sharp-rise of discrimination cases and hate against East Asian Canadians since the Cov Canadians are visible minority to be the ea discrimination victims. Hidden discriminati a systematic problem.
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Organization Name	Mandatory Criteria Met (Y/N)	s.17	s.17	s.17	s.17	Total Score (out of 100)
Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association	Y	s.17				60

Organization Name	Mandatory Criteria Met (Y/N)	s.17	s.17	s.17	s.17	Total Score (out of 100)	Average
Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association	Y	s.17				53	51.16667

Organization Name	Mandatory Criteria Met (Y/N)	s.17	s.17	s.17	s.17	Total Score (out of 100)
Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association	Y	s.17				42

Organization Name	Mandatory Criteria Met (Y/N)	s.17	s.17	s.17	s.17
Asian Canadian Equity Alliance Association	Y	s.17			

Total Score (out of 100)
40.5

s.13