



## **RDKS Facade Improvement Program**

We're excited to offer a new program to residents in Electoral Areas A-F. This includes communities like Thornhill, Dease Lake, Telegraph Creek, Iskut, Kitwanga, Two Mile, South Hazelton, Rosswood, Old Remo, Bell II, and others.

With funding from Northern Development Initiative Trust's Façade Improvement Program, business owners and non-profits can apply to the Regional District for a grant of up to \$5,000 (50% of project costs) to improve the appearance of the outside of their buildings. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Exterior lighting
- Exterior architectural features
- Exterior surfaces and details (decorative details, moldings, trims etc.)
- Windows
- New siding
- Façade painting
- Entrances and doorways
- Awnings
- Signage
- Wayfinding signage
- Accessibility improvements

If you're interested in pursuing this funding, email [ecdev@rdks.bc.ca](mailto:ecdev@rdks.bc.ca) for an application form.



## Stay Local, Support Local

While now is not the time to travel, there's plenty to do safely and responsibly just outside your door. Explore your local community this winter, and support local businesses in the process.

[To find out more about the current provincial health orders around travelling, click here.](#)

[Read more](#)

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## Grant Writing

There are opportunities all the time for community groups and businesses to access funding programs through governments and organizations. Programs and funding seldom come without a bit of leg work on your end- this is the grant writing process. It can be a tedious task, but it can have big payouts when it's done strategically. Here are a few tips for writing successful grants.

### **1. Have the full project mapped out before you apply**

*This means having a timeline of deliverables with assigned tasks that take you through the project from start to finish. If you don't know where your project is headed, neither will the funder.*

### **2. Read the entire application well in advance of applying**

*Often times, grant applications will request a letter of support from a local government. These can take a while to get, so ensure that you give yourself enough time to gather all the documents you'll need to submit the grant.*

### **3. Budget, budget, budget- with proof**

*A detailed budget with recent (within 6 months) quotes from qualified professionals demonstrates that you've thought through how you'll pay for the project. If the grant that you're applying for will not cover 100% of the project costs, ensure that you're able to show where the remaining money will come from.*

### **4. Include studies, reports, and other evidence to demonstrate need**

*We can help here. A great addition to an application is a report from a qualified professional or government body that has demonstrated that there is a need for a program like yours. Ec Dev knows about a lot of these reports, and we can help you find the ones that match with your project.*

### **5. Write clearly**

*The person making a decision on your project wants to know clearly what you'll be doing, and how you'll be spending the money. Have someone else look over your application before you submit it to make sure that your grammar and spelling are good, and that your project makes sense.*

### **6. Talk to Ec Dev!**

*RDKS Economic Development has tons of tips, tricks, and resources to help you be successful.*

Happy Writing!

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