

VITALIZATION GRANT

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
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VITALIZATION GRANT

The Vitalization Grant was established to offer local businesses and organizations additional financial support to enhance the exterior appearance of their business or property.

The objectives of this program are:

- To assist businesses or organizations located in the downtown core or along Highway 43 corridor to make permanent upgrades to their buildings that meet the architectural wood/stone theme of the Town of Whitecourt Vitalization Plan.
- To assist local businesses or organizations located in the downtown core or along Highway 43 to contribute to the vitalization of Whitecourt.
- To enhance the quality of life and well-being for the residents of Whitecourt, by increasing the aesthetic appeal of the community.
- To enhance the pride and profile of the Town of Whitecourt for both residents and visitors alike.

ELIGIBILITY

The Vitalization Grant is offered in two phases:

1. The first phase is open to businesses and organizations located along Highway 43, or in the downtown core marked in red on the map.
2. If funds are still available after the first round, a second phase of grant funding is offered. This second phase is expanded to businesses adjacent to the downtown core, included in blue on the map.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DO I APPLY FOR FUNDING?

Application forms can be downloaded from www.whitecourt.ca or picked up at the Planning & Development Department at the Town Office. Applications must be submitted at the Town Office (attn: Planning Department) or by email to planning@whitecourt.ca by the date and time listed on the Town's website.

What materials can I use in my project to meet the architectural wood/stone theme for Whitecourt?

The following are examples of building materials that meet the architectural wood/stone theme:

- Natural stone (river rock, shale, etc.);
- Cultured stones (includes stone veneer);
- Ledge stone/fieldstone;
- Wood siding or shakes;
- Wood/log posts or beam structures;
- Slate, ceramic, or wood shingles;
- Wood-look siding or shakes (including cement fiber board, etc.).

If you would like to discuss your proposal prior to submitting your application, feel free to contact the Planning and Development Department at 780.778.2273 or planning@whitecourt.ca.

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GRANT GUIDELINES

Allocation decisions will be graded per the Vitalization Grant Application Rating Sheet. This sheet is available for viewing on the Town's website at www.whitecourt.ca. Funds must be used for enhancement and cannot be used to fund projects a business/organization would normally be expected to provide (eg. maintenance).

- Up to 25% of the total project cost, to a maximum of \$10,000, is eligible for funding under this program.
- Funds will be allocated for upgrades to faces of buildings fronting streets and roads. A minimum of 20% of this building face(s) must be wood/stone as per the Vitalization Plan's architectural theme.
- Grant funds will be distributed once the project is complete and a final inspection by the Planning and Development Department has been completed. Applicants will also be required to submit a project cost summary and display a construction sign and window decal recognizing Whitecourt's contribution to the project.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications will be reviewed by Town Council. Approved projects must be completed and final reporting must be submitted by October 31 annually (unless an extension has been granted). Grant applications must include:

- Project description/details, including:
 - drawings showing, and labelled with, all work to be done including dimensions of the building and all proposed upgrades.
 - coloured samples/pictures of all proposed materials.
- The applicant's ability to manage the project.
- Project cost and funding including a minimum of one business quote for each item.
- A list detailing any other approved grant funding.

Get more information on the
Whitecourt Vitalization Plan



Download the Vitalization Grant
Program Application Form



TOWN OF WHITECOURT - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed between 12:00 noon and 12:30 p.m.)