



**REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George**

Main Office: 155 George Street, Prince George, BC V2L 1P8
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COMMUNITY GRANT-IN-AID APPLICATION

Applications must be made in accordance with Regional District Policy RD-16-20
Prior to completing this form please see the **Community Grants-in-Aid Application Guidelines**

Contact Information:	
Organization Name: Dunster Mushroom Society	President/Contact Person: Terry Winkler
Organization Mailing Address: [Redacted]	Phone Number(s): [Redacted]
	Email: [Redacted]
Total Grant Requested: \$ 2400.00 <small>grant requests over \$5,000 must include an outline and description of the project.</small>	Benefitting Electoral Area: H - Robson

Applicant Profile:	
Overview of Organization's Programs and Services.	<small>Comment must be between 1 and 450 characters</small>
The Dunster Mushroom Society purpose and goals: - To provide a gathering group for mushroom enthusiasts to get together, network and exchange information on edible and non-edible mushrooms in the Robson valley. To organize and provide workshops and seminars for local and regional mushroom enthusiasts, - To provide training opportunities on field identification and collection of mushrooms- To gather and document information on the variety of mushroom species growing in the Robson Valley	

Project Information:	
What would this grant be used for?	<small>Comment must be between 1 and 550 characters</small>
(If more space is required please attach information and support documentation to form for submission)	
see attached letter explaining festival-	
The \$2400.00 applied for from grant would be used to pay speaker/presenter fees and expenses for 2 presenters @\$1200.00 ea	

Other Revenue Towards Project/Purchase:	
What other revenue/in-kind works is available to be put towards this project/purchase?	
Revenue includes ticket sales, t-shirt and book sales and camping sales	
In kind works includes Volunteers and festival facilitators - app 12 individuals 3 days 4hr/day (144hr)	
provision porta potties for site (by a local business)	
I am applying for grants from other organizations but have not received any funds to date	

The information required by this form and the documents you provide with it are collected to process the grant application with the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. Information pertaining to this grant application, other than personal information, will be available for review by any member of the public. Personal Information collected in this application is for the sole purpose of processing the application and will be managed in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Questions regarding the collection and use of your Personal Information may be directed to Corporate Services/ at 250-960-4400 or FOI@rdffg.bc.ca.

	<u>Jan 22 2025</u>
Signature (Organization President)	Date

Submit grant application form by email to communityservices@rdffg.bc.ca or
Mail or drop off to: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, 155 George St., Prince George, BC V2L 1P8

Regional District Grants Received over previous 3 years:
(RDFFG Staff to complete)
Feb. 2022 - Jan. 2023 \$0 Feb. 2023 - Jan. 2024 \$0 Feb. 2024 - Jan. 2025 \$500

Fraser Fort George Grant In Aid Application

Date of submission January 22 2025
Name of organization Dunster Mushroom Society for the Robson Valley Mushroom Festival
Contact phone number [REDACTED]
Contact person Terry Winkler
Contact email [REDACTED]

I have been interested in mushrooms and wild foraging for many years and feel that there is a strong interest by residents within the Robson Valley to learn more about the diversity of fungi surrounding us and its interrelationships with the environment. Last fall I organized and held a 3 day Robson Valley Mushroom Festival at the Dunster School which had 95 attendees. (which Fraser Ft George supported) Last year I also formed the Dunster Mushroom Society and as a group we are planning on organizing and delivering the 2nd Mushroom Festival this fall on September 26,27 and 28th.

Describe your project:

I am potentially looking a setting up the 2nd Robson Valley Mushroom Festival based out of the Dunster School on September 26 to 28th 2025. Festival would run over the weekend and would include field trips to various locations in the Robson Valley with instructors who would focus on field identification of mushrooms and fungi as well as workshops and presentations from instructors at the school. One of the instructors was involved with a non-timber resource study of the McBride, Dunster and Valemount community forest 25 years ago which would allow us to compare species diversity over a 25 year period. Another instructor is from the U of Alberta and is involve in DNA typing of mushroom species and cancer research. I have also been approached by two professors from UNBC and their students who are interested in attending and presenting on the role of mycellium in the recovery of logged areas. All have expressed interest in working in the area from the point of view of increasing the knowledge of mushroom and fungi species in the area as well as seeing how the species distribution may have changed in the past 25 years due to climate change.

Sessions at the school will include species identification and description, guide to edible mushrooms, mushroom dying, wild foraging, medicinal mushrooms, growing or cultivating mushrooms, cooking with mushrooms and nature arts and crafts.

Local artisans will be encouraged to attend and have tables where they could sell their mushroom theme art. This is an event that will broaden the knowledge of mushrooms for local residents and give them an opportunity to learn from experts in the field.

There will be an evening meal which will be catered by local chefs where attendees can meet, mingle and share information and knowledge. The meal will be followed by presentations on fungi and their interrelationships with the environment.

Describe the anticipated benefit to the Dunster community:

I feel that this would be a worthy project to support from the point of land managers of the Dunster Community forest and BC Parks as it provides an opportunity to for the collection of a wide variety of data on mushrooms and fungi within their land base. The opportunity for DNA typing of various species as well as follow up surveying after a 25 year period and its implications are also invaluable as well as insights into the role of mycelium in the recovery of logging areas..

I and many people have a fascination for mushrooms but have only a select few that I trust to eat. I feel that many residents of the valley feel the same way and would benefit greatly from expanding their knowledge. Learning about the diversity of mushrooms and fungi that are growing in our own “back yard” would go a long way to providing a sense of food security and resilience for local residents. It

would even go toward emergency preparedness in that people could learn which mushrooms are safe and not safe to eat in a pinch. In addition it would provide a greater awareness to residents of the bounty that surrounds them in the Dunster area and would encourage them to get out and explore. The festival will provide local economic opportunities for residents through the sale of arts and crafts, the provision of food for festival goers such as bag lunches and catering the Saturday evening meal as well as providing accommodation at local B&B's and hotels. Festival would be aimed at Dunster residents but would attendees would be from the Valley ranging between Dome Creek to Valemount but may also attract visitors from Jasper, Hinton and perhaps as far away as Prince George or Kamloops.

Amount requested: \$2,400.00

Funds would be used to pay speaker/presenter fees and expenses for 2 presenters @\$1,200.00 ea