

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Organization Requesting Grant: <i>(Please list parent/sponsor organizations in parenthesis)</i>	Whistler Adaptive Sports Program Society
Name of the program (if applicable):	
Society Registration Number:	S0049510
Organization Mailing Address:	Box 780, Whistler BC V0N 1B0
Contact Name & Title:	Shelley Milstein, [REDACTED]
Organization Phone Number:	604-905-4993
Organization Email Address:	smilstein@whistleradaptive.com
Organization Purpose or Mandate: <i>(Please provide this answer in one sentence.)</i>	For over 20 years, the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program Society has been removing barriers to adventure for people with disabilities and neurodiversity, offering a full range of adaptive sports programs and a dynamic learning centre in Whistler.
Organization Category (choose between Environment, Social Service, Community Service, Recreation and Sports, Arts and Culture)	Recreation and Sports

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

How many years has the organization existed?	23 years
How many active members/participants does the organization have in the current year? <i>(e.g. how many athletes have signed up for this year)</i>	300
For sport organizations, how many youth (U18) participants are enrolled in your programs?	~225
How many Whistler residents members does the organization have in the current year?	150
How many volunteers/executive/staff are required to administer the organization in the current year?	8-12 staff and 100 volunteers
Age range of participants in the organization:	3-80

Please list active website URLs and active social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.):	https://www.facebook.com/WhistlerAdaptiveSportsPr ogram https://www.instagram.com/whistleradaptive/
What are the membership and participation requirements?	Participants (athletes) and volunteers must purchase an annual membership: athlete (\$30) or volunteer (\$15). Supporters may also purchase a membership (\$130). One-day participants may purchase a \$10 membership. Athletes are individuals with cognitive, sensory or physical disabilities or neurodiversities.
Does the organization have any outstanding debts or other means of funding from the RMOW? If yes, please state the amount and reason. <u>Note:</u> Please include any Value In Kind support that you receive from the RMOW (eg. reduced rent, utilities in RMOW buildings)	No outstanding debts. We also receive an in-kind donation for the use of the Alta Lake Cabin, value TBC.

GRANT INFORMATION

1. Purpose of Grant	<i>Explain in detail how the funding will be spent. Please refer to Council Policy A-7 Community Enrichment Program, available at www.whistler.ca/cep for funding criteria and eligibility. Please be as concise as possible using the space below.</i>
<p>Whistler Adaptive is requesting \$8,500 to support our Whistler-based adaptive sport programs and to support a bursary program for low-income Whistler residents.</p> <p>Adaptive Sport Programs WAS' adaptive sport programs provide year-round sport, recreational and therapeutic opportunities for hundreds of people with disabilities in the Sea to Sky area and tourists from around the globe. WAS' multi-sport programs are offered seven days a week for local Sea to Sky athletes and can also be reserved by visitors to the Whistler area.</p> <p>Funding from the RMOW would be used to support bursaries to local athletes with disabilities, as well as a small contribution to program costs:</p> <p>Program Costs We are requesting a small contribution to help support the cost of offering our programs. This would include items such as volunteer recruitment and training, supplies for our summer camps, and signage for programs.</p> <p>Bursary Program WAS programs are offered at a nominal fee in order to remain financially accessible for participants. However, living with a disability or neurodiversity can add significant costs to the family budget, making even low-cost programs challenging for some Whistler families to afford.</p> <p>Through this grant, we will be able to offer bursaries to low income Whistler residents aged 3 and up. Individuals are able to apply for up to \$1000 per year across our four-season programming. The bursary covers between 30-75% of a participants' fees in our community based sessions, depending on the frequency and type of program. Some Whistler Residents use Whistler Adaptive programming over 100 times a year, which would be directly supported through the RMOW funding of Whistler Resident bursaries.</p> <p>Bursary recipients must pass a financial means test and are vetted by a three person Bursary Committee who vote on the funding recommendations of our Athlete Coordinator. Bursary recipients also write a thank you letter to our bursary funders some of which we have included here.</p>	

2. Is This a New Program or Activity?	<i>If yes, what are your targets and goals for this program/activity?</i>
No.	

3. Current Year Highlights and Community Benefits:	<i>Detail the specifics of activities and community benefits your organization provides.</i>
<p>This Winter WAS welcomed a new Executive Director, Sian Blyth, the original founder of the organization and a long-time supporter. We also successfully reignited our volunteer program, which had suffered from the pandemic.</p> <p>Other highlights included two visits from the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, who visited our adaptive ski program on Whistler Mountain. We also worked with AMI-tv to showcase the sport of adaptive Nordic Skiing in the Callaghan Valley.</p> <p>Throughout the year we partnered with many organizations for special events including the Invictus Games, Camp Goodtimes and Canuck Place. Our Ski and Ride program in partnership with Vail Resorts gave over 1,300 lessons and our community multi-sport programs gave an additional 1,500 adaptive sports lessons to those living in the Sea to Sky and Vancouver.</p> <p>https://www.piquenewsmagazine.com/local-news/photos-prince-harry-visits-whistler-ahead-of-2025-invictus-games-7863506 https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-13084253/Prince-Harry-Meghan-Whistler-Canada-Winter-Invictus-Games.html</p>	

4. Existing Funding and Grant Applications:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>List the specific grants, funding and fundraising planned, approved or pending for the existing year, and</i> <i>Please also list rejected or non-approved funding (with reasons).</i>
<p>Grants applied for April 1, 2023 - February 2024:</p> <p>Approved Grants and Fundraisers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Here to Be (Lululemon) \$135,000 - Canadian Tire Jumpstart \$10,000 - Abercrombie Foundation \$80,000 - Annual Giving Campaign - \$51,000 - Delta Whistler Village Suites Raise the Roof \$9,000 - RMU Fundraising event \$4,000 - Squamish Community Foundation \$5,000 - Membership fees \$20,000 <p>Pending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canada Summer Jobs \$15,000 - Annual Gala \$80,000 - BC Gaming Grant \$60,000 - Hamber Foundation \$4,000 - Program fees \$72,000 - Whistler Community Foundation \$5,000 - Whistler Health Care Foundation \$4,000 - New grants yet to be applied for \$20,000 - Individual donations ~\$125,000 - Downhill Derelicts fundraiser \$60,000 <p>Declined</p> <p>None to date in this fiscal</p>	

GRANT INFORMATION (CONTINUED):

5. Grant Request Amounts and Financial Breakdown:			
<i>Please ensure numbers provided in this table coincide with the required financial documents you provide in your application</i>			
	Annual Operating Budget	Grant Requested	<i>Provide a brief description of the specific amount requested. (Ex: Products, services, staffing roles, advertising, etc.)</i>
Salaries/contracts:	538,016	1500	Salaries for 8 core staff and hourly wages for seasonal coaches
General operations:	251,302.49		Program supplies, equipment maintenance, mileage, volunteer and staff training
One-time project / program:	8,000		Website rebuild
Physical assets:	15,000		Canoes, sailboat, adapted bike
Rent (RMOW facilities):	2,132.51	N/A	Meadow Park Swim Facility
Rent (other facilities):	3,300		Whistler Sport Legacies
Other:	11,000	7000	Sea to Sky Bursaries
Total	\$ 828,751	\$ 8500	1 % <i>(Grant request ÷ Annual budget amount)</i>
Reminder: The grant amount requested cannot be more than 50% of the annual operating budget of the organization.			

6. Additional Information:	<i>Please list any additional information, details or explanations regarding your grant request that you would like to be considered by Council.</i>
	<p>We have included some of the thank you letters from our Bursary Recipients.</p> <p>The need for adaptive sports programming:</p> <p>A 2022 study by the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education determined that “based on available evidence, children and adolescents with disabilities received a grade of D for overall physical activity, F for active play and a C+ for organized sport and physical activity.” These failing grades support what we already know: that individuals living with disabilities face many barriers in maintaining their health/wellbeing. Adaptive sports, recreation and gym equipment is hard to find. Local facilitators don’t often have the knowledge, skills or confidence to support individuals with a physical disability. Parents of those living with a cognitive disability/Autism spend most of their time and energy focused on meeting daily needs like school, medical appointments, and managing challenging behaviours (University of Toronto, 2020). Many cannot participate in school or community teams and need extra support to participate in physical activity. And we know that people living with disabilities, and their families, often experience high levels of social isolation and struggle to feel a sense of belonging in their communities.</p> <p>WAS programs support this vulnerable and under-served population by providing access to sports and recreation activities that help to build physical literacy skills for life.</p> <p>Programs are tailored to the individual participants, including any adaptive equipment and specialized instruction needed to have a safe and enjoyable experience. Our summer programs offer outdoor sport and recreational programming such as hiking, biking, and athletics, as well as kayaking, canoeing, rowing and paddle boarding. Our winter programs include alpine ski and snowboard, Nordic skiing, and snowshoeing. Throughout the year we offer swimming lessons, yoga, strength and conditioning and other indoor activities.</p>

7. Attachments:	<i>Please indicate the attachments you are including with your Grant Application Form:</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Financial Statement (audited preferred) or Organization Budget (Required) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Proof (copy) of registered not-for-profit society status or registered charity status (Required) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Other:	

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

<p>8. Please list how your organization may improve Community Performance Indicators:</p>	<p>Please visit https://www.whistler.ca/municipal-gov/strategies-and-plans/strategic-plan/ to learn about the four priority areas of RMOW 2023-2026 Strategic Plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing 2. Climate Action 3. Community Engagement 4. Smart Tourism <p>Please determine how your grant (or organization) can contribute to fulfilling any priorities described in the four areas listed above. Each priority has numerous specifications to choose from while describing how your grant (or organization) may help to improve Strategic Plan.</p>
<p><i>Example: This grant addresses the priority of “Community Engagement” because it strives to connect locals to each other. Specifically, this is because...</i></p>	
<p>Smart Tourism WAS' programs and community work are directly aligned with the concept of SMART Tourism. As a leader in adaptive sports and recreation, we provide visitors to Whistler with unique offerings year-round. For many families traveling with person with a disability, the option of an adaptive sports and recreation program, accessible accommodations, and inclusive transportation heavily influence where they vacation. Our adaptive ski and snowboard program is one of the best in the world and attracts many families to visit the Whistler area, providing over 1,500 lessons to people from around the globe each year and bringing thousands of dollars to the local economy. WAS is also a leader in the emerging sport of adaptive mountain biking, bringing dozens of adaptive mountain bikers to Whistler each year through its athlete camps and private lessons and inspiring local businesses like Vail Resorts to follow in our footsteps. Our ongoing work on local accessibility and inclusion has helped make Whistler one of the most accessible resort communities in Canada, and we take the time to work with journalists, filmmakers, tourism groups, and so many others to help promote the destination as inclusive, innovative and welcoming. Most recently, this included hosting activities for the 2025 Invictus Games 2024 prep-camp, which not only brought visitors from around the world to participate in adaptive Alpine sports but culminated in a second visit to our adaptive ski facility by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. The event drew over 50 media who shared photos and video footage of the famous pair learning about the types of adaptive Alpine skiing offered in Whistler, including Prince Harry having a go at sit skiing.</p> <p>Community Engagement WAS is proud of the work it has done to build opportunities for community engagement for its staff, volunteers and participants. Through our programs, local participants have access to sport and recreation programs that meet their diverse needs, allowing them to play in one of the world's most spectacular backyards. Program participants build confidence and skills to support their independence, create important networks of peer support and friendships. Our volunteer program provides opportunities for more than 100 residents each year to engage with their community in an incredibly meaningful way that builds understanding, inclusion and new skills. And our community partners and local businesses see how we work with our membership across the corridor, and are able to learn new ways to connect with and support our diverse Sea to Sky population.</p>	

SUPPORT FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

The RMOW is committed to working with the Líl'wat People, known in their language as L'il'wat7úl and the Squamish People, known in their language as the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw to: create an enduring relationship; establish collaborative processes for Crown land planning; achieve mutual objectives; and enable participation in Whistler's resort economy.

9. How has your organization considered truth and reconciliation with the Indigenous Nations?

Our organization is invested in truth and reconciliation and is working to build and continuously share an understanding of our shared past while we navigate a way forward that is respectful, empathetic and that provides opportunities for our local Indigenous neighbors. This work is ongoing, and we welcome any opportunities and suggestions to collaborate with and support our local Indigenous Communities.

1) In our organizational training, we have included a sport-specific training on working with Indigenous athletes and make those available to coaches, board members and staff.

2) We work to find outside funding to support our Indigenous athletes so that they can continue to participate without financial burden.

3) Through Truth and Reconciliation Day on Sept 30th, we took advantage of the chance to share actions staff can take, community celebrations and events to participate in as well as free learning resources:

- Show your solidarity and support by wearing an Orange Shirt:

You can order an orange shirt online (or a flag) and pick it up today from the SLCC. The Orange Shirt Day movement was started by Phyllis Webstad, a member of the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation and former residential school student, to honour Survivors and intergenerational Survivors, and to remember those children who never made it home. Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity for people of all ages, backgrounds, and cultural identities to engage with the legacies of the residential school system. <https://shop.slcc.ca/product-category/clothing-accessories/t-shirts-hoodies/orange-shirt/>

- Attend the SLCC for free on Saturday to commemorate National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with a full day of immersive programming: <https://slcc.ca/ndtr-at-the-slcc/>

- Attend the Squamish Commemoration for those who attended residential school <https://squamish.ca/discover-squamish/calendar/national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation/>
Stay up to date on Indigenous issues through CBC Indigenous News: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous>

- Resources to learn about Indigenous history:

There are many great books to support learning about Indigenous history in Canada. Here is a reading list put together by the Calgary library. <https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393989767/1135277198>

Free Course on Coursera – Indigenous Canada *I have done this course and it provides a good background on Indigenous history in Canada*.

Indigenous Canada is a 12-lesson Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from the Faculty of Native Studies that explores the different histories and contemporary perspectives of Indigenous peoples living in Canada. From an Indigenous perspective, this course explores complex experiences Indigenous peoples face today from a historical and critical perspective highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations. Topics for the 12 lessons include the fur trade and other exchange relationships, land claims and environmental impacts, legal systems and rights, political conflicts and alliances, Indigenous political activism, and contemporary Indigenous life, art and its expressions.

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/indigenous-canada>

Free Course through UBC: Reconciliation through Indigenous Education

This course will help you envision how Indigenous histories, perspectives, worldviews, and approaches to learning can be made part of the work we do in classrooms, organizations, communities, and our everyday experiences in ways that are thoughtful and respectful. In this course, reconciliation emphasizes changing institutional structures, practices, and policies, as well as personal and professional ideologies to create environments that are committed to strengthening our relationships with Indigenous peoples.

For educators, this means responding to educational reforms that prioritize improved educational outcomes for Indigenous learners. In addition, educators must support all learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of Indigenous people's worldviews and cultures as a basis for creating equitable and inclusive learning spaces. To support these goals, teachers, administrators, young people, school staff, and researchers will learn from Indigenous Elders, educational leaders, and culturally relevant learning resources as part of their experiences in this course.

For others who want to build their own competence and the capacity of those around them to engage with in relationships with Indigenous peoples based on intercultural understanding, empathy, and respect, this course will help get you get started in this process.

<https://www.edx.org/learn/education/university-of-british-columbia-reconciliation-through-indigenous-education>

Free course through U or Toronto - Aboriginal Worldviews and Education

Intended for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal learners, this course will explore indigenous ways of knowing and how they can benefit all students. Topics include historical, social, and political issues in Aboriginal education; terminology; cultural, spiritual and philosophical themes in Aboriginal worldviews; and how Aboriginal worldviews can inform professional programs and practices, including but not limited to the field of education.

GRANT APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION:

Submitted by:	Shelley Milstein
Phone number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	smilstein@whistleradaptive.com
Acknowledgement:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • I confirm that the information provided in this CEP Grant Application Form is true;<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • I confirm that a representative is required to present this grant request at a future Council Meeting;<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • I confirm that if any amount is granted that the Grant Reporting Form is due by December 1 of this year;<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • I confirm that if any amount is granted, it will be used only for its intended purpose unless otherwise approved by Council.
Signature:	[REDACTED] Digitally signed by Shelley Milstein Date: 2024.02.15 07:32:26 -08'00'

Funding decisions will be announced during a Regular Council Meeting in April 2024.

Please contact the Legislative Services Department at corporate@whistler.ca if you require any assistance.

Personal and third party information provided in this application form is collected under the authority of Section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Should you have any questions regarding the collection, use and disclosure of this information please contact the Legislative and Privacy Coordinator at 604-935-8118 or at 4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler.