


## GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Organization Requesting Grant: <i>(Please list parent/sponsor organizations in parenthesis)</i>	Whistler Children's Centre
Name of the program(s) (if applicable):	Periwinkle Playground
Society Registration Number:	<b>S0039764</b>
Organization Mailing Address:	7146 Nesters Rd, Whistler BC V8E 0E2
Contact Name & Title:	<b>Kari Gaudet, Executive Director</b>
Organization Phone Number:	
Organization Email Address:	director@whistlerchildren.com
Organization Purpose or Mandate: <i>(Please provide this answer in one sentence)</i>	Provide quality care and education to local children age 3 months to 5 years.
Organization Category (choose between Environment, Social Services, Community Services, Recreation and Sports, Arts and Culture)	Community Services

## ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

How many years has the organization existed?	<b>40 years</b>
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>	We currently have 100 children enrolled
For sport organizations, how many youth (U18) participants are enrolled in your programs?	N/A
How many Whistler residents members does the organization have in the current year?	this varies but we generally average 100 children enrolled at a time.
How many volunteers/executive/staff are required to administer the organization in the current year?	22 paid staff 10 volunteer Board Members
Age range of participants in the organization:	3 months to 5 years for children enrolled

Please list active website URLs and active social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.):	Facebook: The Whistler Children's Centre Website: <a href="http://www.whistlerchildren.com/">http://www.whistlerchildren.com/</a>
What are the membership and participation requirements?	children enrolled in child care program
<p>Does the organization have any outstanding debts or other means of funding from the RMOW? If yes, please state the amount and reason.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> Please include any Value In Kind support that you receive from the RMOW (eg. reduced rent, utilities in RMOW buildings)</p>	no

## GRANT INFORMATION

<b>1. Purpose of Grant</b>	<i>Explain in detail how the funding will be spent. Please refer to Council Policy A-7 Community Enrichment Program, available at <a href="http://www.whistler.ca/cep">www.whistler.ca/cep</a> for funding criteria and eligibility. Please be as concise as possible using the space below.</i>
<p>We have an urgent need to upgrade our Periwinkle playground covering to meet the required standards. This project will enhance the safety and sustainability of our outdoor play area by replacing the current sand ground cover with durable, rubber playground tiles. As a licensed childcare facility, we are required to commit to the “Standards of Practice Safe Play Spaces”. This standard provides directions on specific height and depth guidelines for play structures and ground surfaces.</p> <p>Currently, our ground covering is sand and unfortunately, it becomes packed down due to the weather and children playing. Despite constant raking and refilling, it does not meet the depth requirements, and it has become very costly and unsustainable. We need to install rubber tiles which will provide a long-lasting, maintenance-free solution that meets the necessary safety standards and ensures an enjoyable and safe play environment for the children. This project is a priority following feedback from our Licensing Officer during our last inspection.</p>	

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

<b>3. Current Year Highlights and Community Benefits:</b>	<i>Detail the specifics of activities and community benefits your organization provides.</i>
<p>Whistler Children’s Centre was created by the community and has been serving the Whistler community for over 40 years. We:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- care for 100 Whistler children providing developmentally appropriate care</li> <li>- support 100 Whistler families with childcare, enabling parents and caregivers to work and participate in community life</li> <li>- are the only childcare centre in Whistler that welcomes infants (children under 3 years old)</li> <li>- are the only childcare centre in Whistler that welcomes every child, unlike some centres with exclusion policies. No child or family is turned away. Our centre supports this inclusive approach by ensuring we have the resources and training to provide care and support to every child. This includes, for example children who may be autistic or have learning or physical disabilities. We provide caring, non-judgmental care for Whistler’s children, which in turn supports the parents and caregivers who contribute to the Whistler community and economy.</li> <li>- have continued to provide high-quality support throughout the recent funding challenges due to Provincial Government policy changes.</li> </ul>	

<b>4. Existing Funding and Grant Applications:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>List the specific grants, funding and fundraising planned, approved or pending for the existing year, and</i></li> <li>2. <i>Please also list rejected or non-approved funding (with reasons).</i></li> </ol>
<p>For this specific project we have also applied to the Community Foundation of Whistler for \$4,000. To date this amount has not been confirmed.</p> <p>We have small ongoing fundraisers that are a part of our operating budget and have already been allocated to items in our programs and operations.</p>	

**GRANT INFORMATION (CONTINUED):**

<b>5. Grant Request Amounts and Financial Breakdown:</b>			
<i>Please ensure numbers provided in this table coincide with the required financial documents you provide in your application</i>			
	<b>Annual Operating Budget</b>	<b>Grant Requested</b>	<i>Provide a brief description of the specific amount requested. (Ex: Products, services, staffing roles, advertising, etc.)</i>
Salaries/contracts:	\$1,188,449		
General operations:	\$299,781		
One-time project / program:		\$20,000	labour and materials to purchase and install rubber playtiles
Physical assets:			
Rent (RMOW facilities):		N/A	
Rent (other facilities):			
Other:			
<b>Total</b>	1,488,230 \$	\$ 20,000	<b>1.3</b> % (Grant request ÷ Annual budget amount)
<i>Reminder: The grant amount requested cannot be more than 50% of the annual operating budget of the organization.</i>			

<b>6. Additional Information:</b>	<i>Please list any additional information, details or explanations regarding your grant request that you would like to be considered by Council.</i>
	<p>This grant request is critical for us as our budget has been significantly reduced due to the changes resulting from the BC government's Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative. Whilst this policy is welcome for its significant financial benefit to families, it has dramatically impacted our finances and cash flow because allowable increases are not keeping up with the rate of inflation and the Centre's increased operating costs, including for things like upgrading equipment and the playground.</p> <p>We are pursuing all options to meet this urgent, significant gap in our funding (e.g., advocacy, fundraising, and grants) and we are hopeful the community will support us as we look for ways to continue to provide high quality, inclusive childcare. Providing Whistler's families with inclusive childcare from infancy to school-age is central to our philosophy, and our 40-year history has proven that we are adaptable and responsive to the community's needs. We are meeting a critical need for childcare in Whistler and provide care for an increasingly diverse group of children, including those who are not able to attend other childcare centres (often due to age or specific developmental or behavioural needs).?</p>

<b>7. Attachments:</b>	<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 <b>(Required)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proof (copy) of registered not-for-profit society status or registered charity status <b>(Required)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Other:</b> playground photo quote letter of support	

## COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

<b>8. Please describe how your organization can contribute to the RMOW Strategic Plan:</b>	<p><i>Please visit <a href="https://www.whistler.ca/municipal-gov/strategies-and-plans/strategic-plan/">https://www.whistler.ca/municipal-gov/strategies-and-plans/strategic-plan/</a> to learn about the four priority areas of RMOW 2023-2026 Strategic Plan:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Housing</i></li> <li>2. <i>Climate Action</i></li> <li>3. <i>Community Engagement</i></li> <li>4. <i>Smart Tourism</i></li> </ol> <p><i>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.</i></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>The Whistler Children's Centre's project to install the necessary upgrades to our playground covering contributes to the RMOW Strategic Plan in the following key ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Housing</b> While the project is not directly related to housing, it supports the broader community's sustainability by ensuring families have access to inclusive, high-quality, reliable childcare. A healthy environment for children is a vital aspect of ensuring parents can continue to live and work in Whistler.</li> <li>2. <b>Climate Action</b> This project contributes to climate action as it will reduce the need for frequent maintenance and minimize waste.</li> <li>3. <b>Community Engagement</b> The Whistler Children's Centre was created by the community more than 40 years ago and continues to be a primary service to over 100 children each year. It continues to be a community-led organization with a strong board of Whistler families. We are open to collaborative opportunities to further the RMOW's community engagement goals.</li> <li>4. <b>Smart Tourism</b> By caring for over 100 children every year, the Whistler Children's Centre fosters a strong, sustainable workforce which is essential for the local economy and the tourism industry. A well-supported workforce is integral to maintaining Whistler's appeal as a destination for visitors and people wanting to live and work here.</li> </ol>	

## SUPPORT FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

*The RMOW is committed to working with the Lílwat 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 planning on unceded territories, as currently managed by the provincial government; 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 teachers acknowledge truth and reconciliation by wearing orange shirts leading up to truth and reconciliation day as a visual prompt to have discussions with the children as to what the orange shirts represent. We use this as a way to share stories that are developmentally age appropriate for the children in our care.

The facility is closed on Truth and Reconciliation Day as a way to honour the children who never returned home and the survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. This gives our teachers the opportunity to volunteer or participate in local events and/or time to learn about our country's history.

Moving forward we continue to look at ways we could engage more deeply with the children by expanding our learning library and inviting Elders into our programs. We want to find ways that will have impact at a level the children can process and understand.

**GRANT APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION:**

Submitted by:	Kari Gaudet
Phone number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	director@whistlerchildren.com
Acknowledgement:	<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]

**Funding decisions will be announced during a Regular Council Meeting in April 2025.**

Please contact the Legislative Services Department at [corporate@whistler.ca](mailto: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.*