

## **Applying for Pollinator Patch Funding**

Gardeners who are supporting pollinators on their own land have the advantage of making their own choices, but they'll be responsible for financing their own pollinator patch. If your plan is to use public lands, your collaboration with others often means you're eligible to apply for funding in the form of grants. Squamish is the perfect place to do community work for pollinators because there are many groups located in or connected to who recognize their importance and want to help.

Our initial grant came from Squamish Savings, whose grant application is available [at this link](#). We applied under the "Environmental Sustainability" category. We connected our application specifically to the sub-categories of (1) "Supporting actions or initiatives that drive environmental improvements" because we are hoping to convince everyday gardeners to make the easy switch to pollinator-friendly gardening habits and (2) "Growing local and sustainable food" because the vast majority of edible plants rely on pollinators. For those of you who might find a sample application useful, a redacted copy of our successful application is [linked here](#).

The most important thing to remember about grant applications is that you must communicate about your pollinator patch in a way that explains its importance for the community as well as how it supports the mission and funding goals of the institution to which you're applying. As an applicant, it is your responsibility to make those connections and communicate about them clearly. If your potential funders are left wondering why you're asking them for money, your request will probably not be successful. This requirement means that you have to tailor each application a little bit based on some research about the organization, but that research takes minutes, not hours, and is worth every second when you receive the notice that your garden is being funded!

Squamish Savings does a lot for the community, but there are many other potential outlets for funding:

[District of Squamish Community Enhancement Grants](#)

[Squamish Community Foundation](#)

[Whistler Blackcomb Foundation Envirofund](#)

[Vancouver Foundation Systems Change Grant](#)

[TD Bank's Friends of the Environment Grant](#)

[BMO Financial Group Community Giving](#)

[RBC Canada Donations](#)