



7030 Trans-Canada Highway
Duncan, BC V9L 6A1 Canada
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GRANT APPLICATION

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name of Organization	Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds Project- British Columbia Conservation Foundation
Address of Organization	Head Office: #206-17564 56A Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 1G3
Full Mailing Address	#206-17564 56A Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 1G3
Telephone Number & Email	250-889-1892 email: jtaylorbluebird@gmail.com and downen@bccf.com
Contact Person/Title	Jacque Taylor, Bluebird Project Coordinator and Danielle Owens, BCCF Project Coordinator

Primary purpose of organization: The goal of this project is to promote stewardship of our unique Garry Oak habitat and return the once common Western Bluebird to this area

Category under which greatest portion of services fall:

Social Service Sports Cultural Economic Development Other nature conservation

Services available to all members of community: Yes No

If no, please list criteria for receiving your service:

Total Number of people that used your service last year: 550

Approximate number of your clients that reside in North Cowichan: 450 outreach participants and landowners

(Please note that North Cowichan includes the communities of Chemainus, Crofton, Maple Bay, and the Duncan area north of the Cowichan River, and outside the one square mile Duncan core.)

Amount of grant requested: \$2000

Describe how the grant will be used: (e.g. special projects, operations, maintenance, etc.)

These funds will be used for the support and coordination of over 70 North Cowichan volunteers as well as to cover costs associated with caring for Western Bluebirds brought to the Cowichan Valley

In order to be considered for a Municipal grant, please ensure that you enclose the following: the most recent financial statement, and the proposed operating budget.

Other Information: Have you obtained a previous grant from the Municipality? Yes No
Or have you applied to another local government for funding? Yes No

If yes, please list:

Applicant's signature:  **FIPPA s. 22(1)** Date: Oct 6, 2023

In order to be eligible for consideration for a 2024 grant-in-aid, this application and all requested supporting materials must be received no later than October 15th, 2023.

Please submit in person at 7030 Trans Canada Hwy or email to finance@northcowichan.ca

Print Form

grown from just one reintroduced breeding pair and their 9 chicks at the Cowichan Garry Oak Preserve in Maple Bay to a peak of over 65 chicks throughout the Quamichan and Somenos Lakes area in 2016. Since 2016 numbers have been declining and so we are initiating more translocations. A new round of translocations was started in 2021 and we are already seeing bluebirds return from this renewal, with four nesting pairs and a total of 38 young in the Valley in 2023.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

An important goal of this project is to foster stewardship of the Garry Oak ecosystem that the bluebirds rely on and that makes North Cowichan the incredible place it is. We accomplish this through our public outreach. This includes:

Public events such as hosting a table at the Cowichan Exhibition, Wildwings Festival and Migratory Bird Day, providing presentations to various groups (school groups, nature walks, Duncan Meadow Golf course youth camp) and the Trail Monitor Training Workshop.

Online outreach including email updates, Facebook page (Bring Back the Bluebirds), website (cowichanbluebird.ca), and Instagram ([Cowichan_valley_bluebirds](https://www.instagram.com/Cowichan_valley_bluebirds)).

Articles and media such as submissions in the Valley Voice newspaper, Bird Babble Podcast, CBC interviews, Nature Conservancy Canada magazine, Nature News, Cowichan Valley Naturalist Newsletter, Victoria Natural History Society newsletter and more.

Landowner stewardship support: North Cowichan landowners that participate as nest box hosts receive support from our staff and volunteers to help improve the quality of habitat on their property.

REQUEST:

Members of the North Cowichan community including project partners, volunteers, landowners, and interested public have shown that they care about investing their time and effort in to restoring biodiversity. With help from the North Cowichan Municipality, we can help support the community's goal of reestablishing this lost species. In 2024 we plan to do a series of translocations, moving birds, under international permits, from a healthy population at Joint Base Lewis-McChord Military installation, to further support this small population that needs reinforcement.

Your support is much needed. To this end we request a Grant in Aid of \$2000.

A copy of our most recent financial statement and proposed budget is included in this submission.

If you require any additional information to assist you in considering this request please don't hesitate to contact Jacquie Taylor, Bluebird Project Coordinator at 250-889-1892.

Thank you for considering this project.

Sincerely,

Jacquie Taylor,

Project Coordinator for Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds

Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds Project Funding Sources 2023-2024

Project Number	Funding Source	Total Budget	Expense Budget	Administration Fee
7134001	Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF)	\$20,459.00	\$17,790.43	\$2,668.57
7124002	Ministry of Transportation	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$0.00
7324003	North Cowichan Grant Aid	\$2,000.00	\$1,739.13	\$260.87
7324004	BC Conservation and Biodiversity Awards	\$4,446.14	\$3,917.30	\$528.84
7304005	Various Contributors - Inherited funds from previous project managers, Cowichan Valley Naturalist Society	\$12,025.85	\$10,457.26	\$1,568.59
7334006	Victoria Natural History Society	\$3,980.09	\$3,460.95	\$519.14
7334007	Private Donations	\$6,522.17	\$5,671.44	\$850.73
7334008	Organization Donations	\$4,705.91	\$4,092.10	\$613.81
7164009	Community Gaming	\$15,000.00	\$13,043.48	\$1,956.52
7324036	BC Nature Donation	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
	Total	\$88,939.16	\$79,972.09	\$8,967.07

British Columbia Conservation Foundation		
Project Financial Statement of Expenditures		
TIME PERIOD	1 April 2023 - 29 September 2023	
PRIMARY PROJECT CONTACTS	Jacquie Taylor and Danielle Owen	
PROJECT NAME	Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds Project	
PROJECT NUMBER	Multiple	
PRIMARY EXPENSE FUNDS	\$79,972.09	
ADMINISTRATION FEES	\$8,967.07	
TOTAL BUDGET DOLLARS	\$88,939.16	
GL ACC'T.	EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT
3050	Administration Fees Earned	\$6,966.49
4056..5025	Project Coordinator and Technician Wages	\$37,524.90
5110	Project Biologist/Conservation Specialist	\$8,187.58
5111	Sub Contracts 2	
5124	One-time contractors	\$256.25
5125	Housing Allowance	\$200.00
5126	Electronic Equip Allowance	\$200.00
5127	Field Equip Allowance	
5128	Other Allowances	
5129	Premises Rent	
5220	Field Equipment	
5230	Equipment Repair/Rentals	
5240	Communications	
5245	Computer/Website Costs	\$141.25
5300	Project Supplies, including Mealworms and Volunteer Support	\$3,417.01
5350	Specialized Materials	
5400	Project Publications	
5500	Vehicle Operating Costs	
5510	Fuel	
5520	Transportation	
5530	Vehicle Rental	
5540	Mileage (only)	\$1,185.25
5545	Travel Costs/Fuel	\$479.00
5550	Accommodation/Food	
5560	Per Diem (only)	\$158.00
5600	Miscellaneous/Permits	\$168.52
5700	Training / Safety	
5800	GST (50%)	
Total Project Costs		\$58,884.25

Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds Project Budget

Expenditures	
Labour:	
Professional: Project biologist/conservation specialist; includes costs of translocations plus data analysis, report writing and advising	\$15,000.00
Professional: Project Coordinator	\$40,000.00
Field Technician	\$15,875.00
Direct Costs:	
Project Coordinator and Technician Mileage, Travel and Per Diems	\$2,500.00
Project Supplies, including Mealworms	\$4,000.00
Volunteer Support Costs	\$1,000.00
Translocation Permits	\$200.00
Home Office Allowance for Project Coordinator and Technician	\$1,600.00
Communications:	
Photocopying, Layout and Design of Educational Outreach Materials	\$1,000.00
Overhead:	
Administration; BCCF 15% fee	\$12,176.25
Project Total	\$93,351.25

Grant Review Committee,
Municipality of North Cowichan,
7030 Trans-Canada Highway,
Duncan, BC V9L 3X4

September 27, 2023

To the Municipality of North Cowichan Grant Review Committee:

Did you know that North Cowichan Municipality is the only place in Canada that has Western Bluebirds being brought back from local extinction?

Thank you so much for all the support that the Municipality has provided to the Bring Back the Bluebirds Project. Every cent is carefully used and the support of North Cowichan Municipality is critical to our success. We are honoured to have you as one of our partners.

USE OF 2022 GRANT IN AID

The \$2000 grant received in 2023 was most appreciated. This funding was used to cover the cost of a permit for translocations as well as to coordinate and support the volunteers that make this project possible.

NORTH COWICHAN AID IN KIND

North Cowichan Municipality supports the Project in a variety of helpful ways. Ernie Mansueti, Don Stewart and staff are most helpful in allowing and placing for us Western Bluebird boxes on North Cowichan lands at Art Mann Park. They were also helpful in hosting the Bluebird blitz, an opportunity for birders to do an indepth look for Western Bluebirds. This event was hosted in Art Mann Park.

Project Administration

The Cowichan Valley Naturalist Society has partnered with the BC Conservation Foundation (BCCF), which takes care of administrative tasks such as budget tracking, invoicing, and hiring. Genevieve Singleton continues to guide and support the project and Jacquie Taylor continues to be the project coordinator. BCCF has a great reputation for keeping BC conservation projects on track. This collaboration has strengthened our efforts to bring the Western Bluebird population back to our Cowichan Valley. BCCF's address is in Surrey, but all the practical work is still continuing in Cowichan.

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

The Bring Back the Bluebirds Project is an initiative to re-establish a healthy breeding population of Western Bluebirds (which have been locally-extinct since the mid-1990s) to their historic habitat in the Cowichan Valley. Less than five per cent of original Garry oak habitat is left in the world. We are fortunate to have a large proportion of this very rare habitat in the Valley, making it a perfect location to reintroduce these iconic birds.

We have established relationships with 70 landowners in North Cowichan, who have volunteered to host bluebird nest boxes on their property, providing the Western Bluebird population with the habitat it needs to flourish. We have built a strong volunteer group of nest box monitors and have set up eighteen Bluebird Trails (groupings of bluebird nest boxes that are monitored). Over 800 volunteer hours were put in over the year working on this project. Since the project's inception in 2012, the local bluebird population has