



7030 Trans-Canada Highway
 Duncan, BC V9L 6A1 Canada
www.northcowichan.ca
 T 250.746.3100
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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 | Jacquele 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 within the Municipality last year: 300

Approximate number of your clients that reside in North Cowichan: 300 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: **most recent financial statement and the proposed operating budget.**

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

If yes, please list:

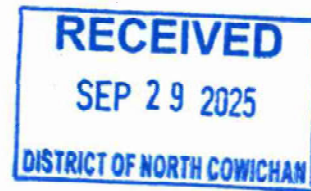
Applicant's signature: FIPPA s. 22(1) **Date:** Sept 16, 2025

In order to be eligible for consideration for a 2025 grant-in-aid, this application and all requested supporting materials must be received no later than October 15th, 2024.

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

Print Form

Note: Personal information is collected by the Municipality of North Cowichan under the authority of section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of processing and administering grant-in-aid applications. Should you have any questions about the collection of this personal information, please contact the Deputy Director of Corporate Services, (250) 746-3100; 7030 Trans-Canada Highway, Duncan, BC V9L 6A1.



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

September 16, 2025

To the Municipality of North Cowichan Grant Review Committee:

Thanks to your support, this year there was the highest number of Western Bluebirds in the Salish Sea area since before the bluebirds were extirpated.

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 2024 GRANT IN AID

The \$2000 grant received in 2024 was most appreciated. This funding was used 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 have been 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 650 volunteer hours were put in over the year working on this project. Since the project's inception in 2012, the local bluebird

population has grown from just one reintroduced breeding pair and their 9 chicks at the Cowichan Garry Oak Preserve in Maple Bay to this year's high of 20 adults and 72 fledglings!

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 Duncan Days, River Day Event and Migratory Bird Day, providing presentations to various groups (school groups, nature walks, Rocky Point Bird Observatory) 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).

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 2026 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,

FIPPA s. 22(1)

Jacquie Taylor,

Project Coordinator for Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds

**British Columbia Conservation Foundation
Project Financial Statement of Expenditures 2025-2026**

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Today's Date | 15-Sep-25 |
| Primary Project Contacts | Jacque Taylor and Danielle Owen |
| PROJECT NAME | Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds Project |
| PROJECT NUMBER | (MULTIPLE) |
| PRIMARY FUNDS | \$82,605.12 |
| ADMINISTRATION FEES | \$11,067.91 |

| GL ACC'T. | EXPENDITURE | AMOUNT |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 3050 | Administration Fees Earned | \$6,670.44 |
| 4056..5025 | Project Coordinator and Technician Wages | \$36,647.17 |
| 5110 | Project Biologist/Conservation Specialist | \$0.00 |
| 5111 | Sub Contracts 2 | \$0.00 |
| 5124 | One-time contractors | \$0.00 |
| 5125 | Housing Allowance | \$300.00 |
| 5126 | Electronic Equip Allowance | \$0.00 |
| 5127 | Field Equip Allowance | \$0.00 |
| 5128 | Other Allowances | \$0.00 |
| 5129 | Premises Rent | \$0.00 |
| 5220 | Field Equipment | \$0.00 |
| 5230 | Equipment Repair/Rentals | \$0.00 |
| 5240 | Communications | \$0.00 |
| 5245 | Computer/Website Costs | \$46.18 |
| 5300 | Project Supplies, including Mealworms and Volunteer Support | \$4,963.83 |
| 5350 | Specialized Materials | \$0.00 |
| 5400 | Project Publications | \$0.00 |
| 5500 | Vehicle Operating Costs | \$0.00 |
| 5510 | Fuel | \$0.00 |
| 5520 | Transportation | \$0.00 |
| 5530 | Vehicle Rental | \$0.00 |
| 5540 | Mileage (only) | \$2,187.39 |
| 5545 | Travel Costs | \$210.00 |
| 5550 | Accommodation/Food | \$0.00 |
| 5560 | Per Diem (only) | \$0.00 |
| 5600 | Miscellaneous/Permits | \$115.00 |
| 5700 | Training / Safety | \$0.00 |
| 5800 | GST (50%) | \$0.00 |
| Total Project Costs | | \$51,140.01 |

Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds Project Funding Sources 2025-2026

| Project Number | Funding Source | Total Budget | Expense Budget | Administration Fee |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 27166001 | Community Gaming Grant | \$10,668.90 | \$9,277.30 | \$1,391.60 |
| 27126002 | Ministry of Transportation | \$4,992.24 | \$4,992.24 | \$0.00 |
| 27316003 | North Cowichan Grant Aid | \$2,000.00 | \$1,739.13 | \$260.87 |
| 27326004 | Prentice Pauls Foundation | \$1,500.00 | \$1,304.35 | \$195.65 |
| 27306005 | Various Contributors - Inherited funds from previous project managers, Cowichan Valley Naturalist Society | \$2,978.29 | \$340.98 | \$2,637.31 |
| 27336006 | Takla Foundation | \$3,551.13 | \$3,087.94 | \$463.19 |
| 27336007 | Private Donations | \$4,965.66 | \$4,317.97 | \$647.69 |
| 27326019 | TD Friends of the Environment | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| 27416022 | Victoria Natural History Society | \$10,000.00 | \$8,695.65 | \$1,304.35 |
| 27416031 | McLean Foundation | \$5,000.00 | \$4,347.83 | \$652.17 |
| 27336033 | Hodgson Family Foundation | \$10,000.00 | \$8,695.65 | \$1,304.35 |
| 27416038 | Sitka Foundation | \$10,000.00 | \$8,695.65 | \$1,304.35 |
| 27326044 | Island Return It Donation | \$6,948.90 | \$6,042.52 | \$906.38 |
| | Total | \$82,605.12 | \$71,537.21 | \$11,067.91 |

*Cowichan Bring Back the Bluebirds Proposed Operating
Budget 2026-2027*

| Expenditures | |
|---|--------------------|
| Labour: | |
| Professional: Project biologist/conservation specialist; includes costs of translocations plus data analysis, report writing and advising | \$12,000.00 |
| Professional: Project Coordinator | \$40,176.00 |
| Field Technician | \$21,045.00 |
| Direct Costs: | |
| Project Coordinator and Technician Mileage, Travel and Per Diems | \$3,000.00 |
| 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 | \$500.00 |
| Overhead: | |
| Administration; BCCF | \$13,363.36 |
| Project Total | \$96,884.36 |