

What is VIPIRG?

The Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG) is a non-profit organization dedicated to research, education, advocacy, and other action in the public interest. Located in Lekwungen territories, at the Student Union Building of the University of Victoria, VIPIRG is a place where students and community members connect to work together on social justice and environmental issues. Over the next three years, we are committed to projects, campaigns, and training in social justice with a particular lens on poverty.

VIPIRG Grants Program for Collectives

The purpose of the VIPIRG Grants Program for Collectives is to support grassroots action-based projects at UVic and in the greater Victoria communities.

The Grants Program offers groups and collectives a funded opportunity to create positive change in the community, through events, campaigns, actions, research or education in social justice. The projects may include research papers, events, workshops, publications, multi-media presentations, performances or other means of sharing and displaying the work of the grant recipients. Projects should increase knowledge, awareness, and dialogue on a given topic, with a particular emphasis on poverty.

VIPIRG is specifically interested in projects that might help us fill a gap in topics that are not being significantly covered at this time through local organizing or research. Preference may be given to proposals that contribute to ongoing campaigns. The Grants Committee is made up of Coordinating Collective members and staff members.

*Application deadline for the Grants for Collectives is **Thursday April 21, 2011.***

Tell me more...

VIPIRG's support for collectives and groups who are eligible and accepted to the Grants Program may include the following elements:

Financial donations: VIPIRG will provide up to \$1000 in grant funds to allow a group or collective to spend time on the project.

Mentorship and/or support: VIPIRG staff will meet with the grant recipients at the beginning, middle and end of the project to provide guidance, input and support as needed.

Media, communications and outreach: VIPIRG staff will support the successful applicants in promoting their events, publications, workshop or presentation of their project. This may include room booking, advertising on VIPIRG website and outreach through our listserves and networks.

Endorsement: Grant recipients will be asked to credit VIPIRG as the funding source on project reports and other materials. They will also be asked to include VIPIRG's name and logo on their posters and advertisements.

Co-organizing: Groups or collectives may wish to collaborate with a current VIPIRG campaign or working group on a project. VIPIRG may be able to provide limited assistance with organizing, outreach, logistics and room bookings.

The Grants Criteria

The VIPIRG Grants Program for Collectives offers funding to groups and collectives. Within the group or collective, we ask that two individuals be the primary contacts responsible for follow-up and evaluation with VIPIRG. Individuals may apply to the VIPIRG Grant Program for Students if they are a UVic student.

The **following criteria** will guide the Grants Committee in its applicant selection process:

- The project follows VIPIRG's ethical guidelines, including respecting Indigenous rights, and environmental and ecological standards. Please review VIPIRG's ethical guidelines at http://www.vipirg.ca/research/ethical_guidelines.html.
- The project demonstrates a potential to create positive change.
- The project involves both a research and an action component.
- The project is consistent with VIPIRG's overall mandate for research, education, advocacy, and action in the public interest.
- The project incorporates or is based on an analysis of poverty, focusing on any of its wide-ranging impacts and/or its root causes.

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- The project includes a contribution to thoughtfully designed campaigns that have a long-term focus.
 - The project offers opportunities for increased community involvement on the issues at stake.
 - The project budget and timeline is clearly laid-out and reasonable.

After applying*, what should I expect next?

The VIPIRG Coord and Staff will review your application to ensure it is complete.

The Grants Committee, which is comprised of at least one staff person and one volunteer Coordinating Collective member, will review the application. The purpose of this “first pass” is to see if your proposal fits within VIPIRG’s focus and available resources. In this review the Grants Committee will consider the elements described in the criteria section.

If the Grants Committee has enough information to make a decision based on the above questions, they will submit the application to the Coordinating Collective for the “second pass.”

You may be asked to sign an agreement if your request involves equipment rentals.

** To apply for Grants for Collectives please proceed to application on the next page.*

Grant Application for Collectives

Grantee Information

Name of the stipend applicant:

This is for a: Group Collective Other:

Name of the primary contact person:

Phone:

Email:

Do you prefer to be contacted by: Phone Email

Name of the secondary contact:

Phone:

Email:

Do you prefer to be contacted by: Phone Email

Project Information

Project Name:

Anticipated start date:

Anticipated end date (before October 2011):

Questions

In a separate attachment, please answer the following questions in relation to project you are applying for on behalf of a collective:

1. What is the purpose, rational and/or objectives of the project?
2. Describe the major project activities and timeline.
3. How does your project address issues related to poverty?
4. How does this initiative benefit the communities you are working with?
5. How will your project strengthen community involvement on poverty issues?

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6. How does this project adhere to VIPIRG's ethical guidelines? (see http://www.vipirg.ca/research/ethical_guidelines.html)
 7. What kind of assistance would you require from VIPIRG? (i.e. grant funds and other)?
 8. Please provide a budget that outlines how grant funds will be spent. (i.e. expenses, hours, etc.)

Please email your completed form to outreach@vipirg.ca as a word or pdf file, OR print it and drop off at the VIPIRG Resource Centre (room b122, student union building, UVic), OR mail to VIPIRG, PO Box 3035, Stn CSC, Victoria BC, Lekwungen & WSANEC Territories , V8W 3P3.

A staff member will contact you with 2-3 working days to confirm receipt of your sponsorship application. If you don't hear from us within a week please call 250.472.5170 to make sure that your proposal was received.

For more information on action research see:
http://www.vipirg.ca/links/research_links.html
