FIRST NATIONS PARENTS CLUB
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First Nations Parents Club
2026-2027 Grant Guidelines

Grant Information
The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the First Nations Schools Association (FNSA) are pleased to announce continued support for First Nations Parents Club activities, with grants of up to $10,000.00 available to support parent and family engagement and learning opportunities.

Funding is available to all registered Parents Clubs that are associated with a First Nation or First Nations school in BC. A maximum of one grant will be allocated per First Nation per year.

Purpose of Grant:
The initiative recognizes and supports the important role that parents and caregivers play in their children's education. It aims to strengthen parent and family involvement, encourage meaningful connection, and create opportunities for families to actively participate in their children's learning and education.

For the purpose of this initiative, the term parents include grandparents, family members, and any other care givers who play an important role in the lives and educations of First Nations children.

Funding may be used to support a variety of activities that encourage parent engagement, connection, and learning including but not limited to:

- In-person and virtual parent gatherings and events
- Educational workshops and guest speakers
- Books, games, and educations resources that support learning at home
- Activities that strengthen family connections and encourage parental involvement in education
- Attendance initiatives and goals that support both parents and First Nation youths

Eligibility
To be eligible for funding, Parents Clubs must:

- Be a registered First Nations Parents Club with FNESC and the FNSA.
- Submit a completed proposal form – a call for proposal, with proposal form link, will be sent out to all registered clubs and you must use the provided proposal form.
- Have submitted their 2025-26 Parents Club Grant final report, if the club received funding during that year.

Funding Information
Payments can only be issued to a BC First Nation or First Nations school. Payments cannot be made directly to individual Parents Clubs or parents/coordinators.

A maximum of one grant will be approved per First Nation per year.

Proposal Application Process
Eligible Parents Clubs are invited to submit a completed proposal through the online application form – provided through email to all registered parents clubs.

Proposal Form Link:
Click Here – 26-27 Parents Club Grant Proposal

Proposal Deadline: **December 4th, 2026**
**Only proposals submitted by the deadline will be included in the review, any submissions after the deadline will be put on a waitlist.*

You can also find the grant details and proposal form on both our websites at www.fnesc.ca and www.fnsa.ca under the 'funding programs' tab.

We encourage Parents Clubs to consider activities that reflect the interests, needs, and priorities of their families and communities. If any support is needed, please reach out before submitting and the Parent and Community Engagement Coordinator can review your proposal or schedule a phone call/zoom to answer any questions and walk you through the process.

For any questions regarding eligibility, registration of club, or the application process, please contact:
Attention: Crystal Asham
First Nations Education Steering Committee Fax: 604-925-6097
Email: parentsclub@fnesc.ca

Review and Approval:
Once you have completed the online proposal form, click the submit button on the final page to submit your application.

Following a successful submission, you will receive an email confirmation, along with a PDF copy of your completed proposal form for your records.

All submitted proposals will be reviewed by a committee to determine eligibility and alignment with the goals of the First Nations Parents Club initiative as well as a clear, and informed budget breakdown showing how the grant will be used with a connection to the proposed activities.

Following the review, all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their proposal, including whether funding has been approved. Please note that funding is limited, and submission of a proposal does not guarantee approval.

Reporting Requirement:
Parents Clubs that receive funding are required to submit an interim report to receive the final 25% funding and final report that shows activities have been completed, and funding has been spent on eligible expenditures. Furthermore, your club may not be eligible for future years if final report is not submitted.

Interim Report Deadline: **March 31, 2027**
**Final 25% payment will be made on submission and approval of interim report.*

Final Report Deadline: **June 30, 2027**
**Report required to be eligible for 27-28 grant.*

Resources to Support Activities:
The resources below have been created by FNESC and the FNSA, through feedback and engagement from First Nations parents, to support the importance of parental involvement in education.

- A Toolkit for Raising Attendance Rates for First Nations Students in BC
- Attendance Counts! An Information Guide for Families
    - Attendance Tracker – tool to support attendance (pg. 9-14 of Attendance Counts! resource provides more info on this tool)

- Toolkit for First Nations Parents and Families
- Implementation Guide for the Toolkit for First Nations Parents and Families
- Guiding your Education Journey: A Handbook for First Nations Families
- Fun Activities for Learning Together at Home
- More to come!

Digital copies can be found on both the FNESC and FNSA website or physical copies can be requested by contacting parentsclub@fnesc.ca

Ideas for Parents Club Activities:
Please see some sample activities below that you can use to guide your proposed activities. Please note, Parent Clubs are not limited to the suggestions below and can be modified to reflect your specific community needs or be flexible to your original ideas. If you have other interesting activities to propose, we would love to see them!

Activities to bring parents and schools closer together, such as:

- Hosting parent luncheons or evening events in schools, with guest speakers or other learning activities, possibly including participation from children, parents, teachers and Elders. Can also do virtual and provide meals/incentives to the home.
- Providing support to promote parent participation in school activities, such as childcare assistance, meals, refreshments, transportation to the school, etc.
- Sponsoring workshops or sessions with the school to share information about helping children with homework / home learning activities.
- Organizing family board game nights, or family recreation activities, or family arts and crafts nights, etc. held at the school or other location that bring families together to share and connect.
- Efforts to promote parent volunteerism in schools, possibly including funding criminal record checks, or training for parents, or incentives to recognize volunteers. This could also include members of the club volunteering together to ease nerves or hesitation.

- Setting up a space for parents to visit with teachers and school staff, possibly with refreshments and scheduled opportunities to "meet and greet," such as "coffee and cookie with the principal," or "coffee and muffins with other parents," or "meet the special education teachers," etc.
- Hosting graduation celebrations and for all family, community, and teachers to attend and support the students.
- Other relevant activities.

Activities to help parents support their children to be successful in school, such as:

- Delivering kits for home-based learning – examples such as science / art / baking projects to families.
- Sharing strategies for student success through community and club networking/exchanges.
- Taking children and their parents on field trips to universities, science centres, or career fairs to promote career and education planning (or sharing information about virtual tours).
- Sharing resources/inviting speakers or engagement to support parents in addressing challenges with the school, such as racism, bullying, temporary suspensions, expulsions, etc.

Activities to strengthen First Nations cultural learning, such as:

- Inviting First Nation community leaders, authors, or artists to lead a workshop or discussions with families.
- Offering workshops on topics such as learning on the land, virtual storytelling, community role models etc.
- Supporting language activities for students and families.
- Holding an art or photo contest that engagements students and families.

Activities to support parents to be school leaders, such as:

- Holding regular meetings to discuss education topics and concerns.
- Organizing opportunities for parents to get involved in school decision-making.
- Providing training for parents to be coaches (e.g. coaching certification for Basketball BC).
- Providing opportunities for parents to engage in coaching and extracurricular activities that support their children.
- Providing leadership training to support parents being advocates.

Activities to promote family health, such as:

- Inviting guest speakers to speak on healthy living topics.
- Supporting a community kitchen.
- Holding workshops focused on healthy foods and cooking, skills such as canning, etc.
- Organizing outdoor learning activities with families, such as family hikes.
- Providing mean programs for students and families.
- Incentives for students and families to engage in healthy activities togethers.

Activities to celebrate and support family togetherness, such as:

- Organizing family photo sessions.
- Hosting games nights with families and communities, can provide refreshments and invite Elders to attend.
- Rent out a movie theatre for all families and children in the community to get together and celebrate.
- Hosting evenings for scrapbooking, baking and learning new crafts.
- Promoting parent/student bonding through recreation events.

Activities to promote improved attendance, such as:

- Hosting workshops on the importance of school attendance, using the Attendance Toolkit (see Attendance Counts! An Information Guide for Families resource)
- Sharing information about current guidelines for when students should stay home for illness and when they are well enough to go to school – a particularly significant issue now.
- Working with the school to involve parents in reviewing attendance policies to ensure they are relevant, feasible and well understood.
- Organizing incentive programs to promote attendance (see the Attendance Toolkit for ideas related to incentive raffles for families)
- Preparing and sharing materials to encourage parents to promote regular attendance.

We look forward to seeing all your amazing plans and hope that you use the above suggestions and make these plans your own for what works within your Parents Club!