



REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: FN-RBAC-384

From: Financial Administration

Date: July 24, 2025

Subject: Grant Request – Northern Lights College Foundation

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize a grant in the amount of \$5,000, with \$3,333.33 payable from Function 120 – Electoral Area D Fair Share and \$1,666.67 payable from Function 120 – Electoral Area E Fair Share, to be issued to Northern Lights College Foundation to assist with offsetting operational costs associated with hosting their 4th Annual Intercollegiate Rodeo, taking place on September 27-28, 2025.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Northern Lights College Foundation (NLCF) is requesting financial assistance in the amount of \$5,000 to support the delivery of the 4th Annual Northern Lights College Intercollegiate Rodeo, scheduled for September 27-28, 2025, at the Lakota Agriplex in Dawson Creek. The total budgeted cost of the event is \$64,025. The grant requested, representing approximately 8% of the overall budget, will be allocated towards the event's operational expenses.

The event is sanctioned by the Canadian College Rodeo Association (CCRA) and marks the fourth intercollegiate rodeo to be hosted in British Columbia. The NLC Rodeo Team, established in 2018, has grown from three to twelve student-athletes, with seven team members qualifying for the Canadian College Finals Rodeo in the past year. The team has also produced the top Season Leader All-Around Cowboy and Cowgirl for two consecutive years. Developing the Athletics & Recreation Program at Northern Lights College is a key part of the NLCF's strategic plan to create more opportunities and meaningful experiences for students.

Since 2022, the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) provided grant funding totaling \$17,500 to support the NLCF Intercollegiate Rodeo, based on a consistent 2:1 cost-share basis between Electoral Area D and E Fair share allocations, as outlined below:

Year	Funding Stream	Area D Contribution	Area E Contribution	Total Grant
2024	Fair Share	\$3,333.33	\$1,666.67	\$5,000.00
2023	Fair Share	\$3,333.33	\$1,666.67	\$5,000.00
2022	Fair Share	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$7,500.00

PRRD supports NLCF through multiple healthcare initiatives. In 2021, the Regional Board approved a five-year extension of the 2017-2021 agreement to the healthcare scholarship fund with an annual contribution of \$20,000. The agreement will expire in 2026. In 2024, the Regional Board approved a

three-year annual grant for \$150,000, totaling \$450,000 to NLCF to support the development of the Allied Health Care Strategy to help support staffing needs in Northeast BC.

The recommendation is consistent with previous year's funding allocations. However, RBAC retains full discretion and authority to approve, amend, or deny the grant request.

NLCF is a registered not-for-profit society in good standing with the *Societies Act* of BC. This request meets the eligibility criteria outlined in the attached Electoral Area Grant-in-Aid policy.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee respectfully deny the grant application from Northern Lights College Foundation and provide no grant funding to Northern Lights College Foundation to assist with offsetting operational costs associated with hosting their 4th Annual Intercollegiate Rodeo, taking place on September 27-28, 2025.
2. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

As of June 30, 2025, the balance after remaining commitments in Electoral Area D and Electoral Area E Fair Share is as follows:

- Electoral Area D \$250,021.43
- Electoral Area E \$2,894,355.94

Grant funding is payable upon approval of the grant by the Rural Budgets Administration Committee and will be issued directly to Northern Lights College Foundation.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

NLCF will be notified in writing regarding the Rural Budgets Administration Committee's decision and, if grant funding is approved, will be asked to recognize the Regional District for their financial contribution.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachment:

1. Grant Application – Northern Lights College Foundation

External Link:

1. [Electoral Area Grant-in-Aid Policy #0340-69](#)