

150 Time Immemorial Grant Program (150 TIGP)

About the grant:

The grant program is intended to raise cultural awareness, educate people about B.C.'s colonial past and its ongoing impacts, advance reconciliation and promote inclusivity and diversity as a foundational aspect of B.C.'s future.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/stories/heritage-bc-announces-results-of-150-time-immemorial-grant-program>

Application:

Name	Joaquin Karakas
Organization: legal name	City of Victoria
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Select one of the following that is applicable to your organization:	Local government
Describe your organization's mandate, vision, and/or programming. How is heritage incorporated into your work?	<p>The City of Victoria's corporate strategic plan 2019-2022 states that "By 2022, Victoria will be a bold, thriving, inclusive and happy city that people love. We will be known globally for our climate leadership practices, multi-modal transportation options, innovative approaches to affordable housing, and for meaningful reconciliation with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations on whose homelands our city was built."</p> <p>This Strategic Plan includes several objectives, with objective two - Reconciliation and Indigenous Relations being the most pertinent to this grant application. Some of the salient measurable outcomes from this objective which relate to this application include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deeper and more engagement with Songhees and Esquimalt Nations including with both hereditary and elected chiefs • Increased awareness of and support for reconciliation and recognition of Indigenous sovereignty • City Council, staff and residents are more aware of Indigenous history, treaties, and leadership structures <p>Increased community collaboration and capacity to do the work of reconciliation by harnessing existing expertise in our community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Indigenous involvement and inclusion in all aspects of civic life, including economic development

Downtown Victoria's Historic Core is a special place of profound importance in Canadian history. It is the largest single historic area in the province, with the Old Town commercial district centered on the Government Street pedestrian mall. Heritage management and stewardship is a key role and responsibility of the City of Victoria. The City has extensive policies, regulations, and funding programs to support the preservation and conservation of built cultural heritage structures. The City provides annual grant funding to maintain, preserve and upgrade heritage registered or designated properties. The City maintains a heritage registry that is periodically updated with new listings added through a combination of staff recommendations and community proposals. The City of Victoria's Official Community Plan has the following goals for heritage:

- 8 (A) Victoria is vibrant and attractive with high quality architecture and urban design that enhance its unique character and sense of place.
- 8 (B) Victoria's cultural and natural heritage resources are protected and celebrated.

The City of Victoria also supports cultural heritage through programming events and providing grant funding to community based not-for-profit organizations. This work is managed by the Arts, Culture and Events team. The city has an Indigenous artist in residence program that provides a two-year paid employment opportunity for professional Indigenous artists to work on cultural heritage, civic capital projects, temporary and permanent new commissioned public art installations, and community programming.

Please indicate the region in which your project will take place.

Vancouver Island/Coast

Is the proposed project site on land that is:

Municipally owned

Describe the level of public access to the site that is the subject of your project.

The project site is comprised of a six-block area of Government Street, starting at the intersection of Humbolt/Wharf Street, and extending northward until Pandora Avenue. This site is completely publicly accessible and owned by the City of Victoria, as it is a public street with wide sidewalks and public right-of-way access including plaza spaces fully accessible to the public. Through the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project we are planning for additional infrastructure and public realm amenities including improved pedestrian space, accessibility upgrades with seating, gathering, and event spaces and cultural heritage representing diverse and marginalized communities including lək'wəŋən people.

Select the grant stream for which you are applying (one selection): (see reference guidelines for definitions)

Cultural Heritage Awareness

Select those program aims that align with your project.

Promoting a diverse and inclusive society including honouring underrepresented peoples and marginalized communities in our history (Indigenous people, black people, and people of color (IBPOC), members of the LGBTQ2S+ community, people with disabilities, and women)

Title of your project:

Weaving lək'wəŋən narratives into the public realm landscape along Government Street

The amount you are requesting from the 150 Time Immemorial Grant Program.

\$50,000

Provide a brief description of your project. What is it you would like to do? What do you want to accomplish and how will you do that?

The City of Victoria proposes an Indigenous led process in partnership with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to develop an Indigenous public realm cultural heritage implementation strategy for Government Street, that will gather both tangible and intangible (living) cultural assets of lək'wəŋən people through a variety of outreach, engagement, and research activities. This information will inform the design, development, and implementation of the strategy, outlining opportunities for local Indigenous cultural representation in the public realm and streetscape. This strategy will address the lack of representation of Indigenous cultural heritage in public space along six blocks of Government Street in the Old Town heritage district. The strategy will be implemented alongside planned infrastructure upgrades as part of the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project over the next three years. This project will help foster stronger working relationships between

the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the City of Victoria and provide an Indigenous led and collaborative framework for future cultural heritage projects in other major planning and public space (re) development.

Detail the steps/activities and project timelines that are to be undertaken from start to conclusion?

This project will follow an Indigenous led and informed methodology based on Indigenous worldviews and knowledge systems. Within an Indigenous worldview, connection to place is fundamental to understanding oneself, culture, language, and knowledge systems. Our project scope is intentionally designed to be open, flexible, and adaptable to timelines, project tasks, budget and other project management tools that may not work within an Indigenous methodology to undertake this work. We propose an integrated methodology that combines Indigenous and Western planning systems to gather information that is equitable and inclusionary for a variety of groups including Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, Indigenous members of the community, and City of Victoria staff and consultants.

The first phase of this project will prioritize relationship building through knowledge sharing and establishing a project management methodology that will be informed and developed through a collective learning journey, based on a trust-based relationship with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and Indigenous communities. This phase will begin with a series of meetings with project partners to establish a project management framework that is guided by respect, shared principles and values, and desired project outcomes. This will inform project planning to develop engagement activities that will include preparing, organizing, and hosting a series of 10 workshops, gatherings, and other engagement activities to listen, learn and share knowledge, oral traditions, and perspectives from indigenous communities about Government Street and the surrounding area. This work will involve extensive outreach and will be designed and facilitated in close collaboration with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, with the City providing support as required. The aim of this phase is to provide opportunities for listening and gathering information from elders, knowledge keepers and other Indigenous voices to understand community needs to feel safer and more welcome along Government Street, as well as identifying ləkʷəŋən cultural heritage (oral traditions, living cultural practices, and historic land use practices) that would be culturally appropriate for inclusion in the implementation strategy.

The second phase of this project will prioritize strategy development through several activities including archival, literature, and best practices review and design development. We will conduct archival and historic research about ləkʷəŋən people in the area from colonial times based on written and photographic sources of information. This work will help us better understand the ecology of the area and ləkʷəŋən peoples relationship with the natural environment, including cultivating camas meadows, seasonal resource gathering and the ecology of the area around Government Street. We will also undertake a literature review to identify global best practices and case study examples of best practices in Indigenous cultural heritage representation in public realm and streetscape spaces.

The third phase of this project involves design development work will entail identifying and defining themes, locations, scale, materials, and mediums for sharing ləkʷəŋən cultural heritage along Government Street. This phase will involve working closely with Songhees and Esquimalt Nation representatives, together with the Government Street Refresh and Redesign planning team, to align work plans, funding, and project timelines to ensure that the strategy is integrated as an essential aspect within the overall streetscape design and construction project.

The following key activities will inform the project work:

- Convene working group with members from Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and City staff to define project activities, organizational resources, and capacity, define engagement activities, and review possible consultants for phase two work. February - March 2022
- Host and/or participate in sharing circles, storytelling events, and workshops with elders and knowledge keepers to gather narratives and identify “forgotten” memories with Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and Indigenous communities to listen, learn and ask how we can work together to achieve shared outcomes for integration of living cultural heritage in Victoria and specifically the six-block section of Government Street – May – August 2022
- Conduct research including historic and archival resources – July - August 2022
- Review national and international best practices for Indigenous cultural heritage representation in urban design, public realm, and streetscape spaces – July – August 2022
- Draft strategy and implementation plan based on findings from community engagement archival, and best practices research – September - November 2022
- Host meeting(s) with City staff and project team members to review implementation strategies and alignment with overall project work for Government Street refresh project – September - November 2022
- Present Draft findings to community groups in accessible formats (website, virtual presentations, and print materials) to seek feedback through virtual and possible in-person engagement sessions (following all Public

Health Orders) – December 2022 – January 2023

- Revise draft Strategy based on feedback and input from community engagement – January - February 2023
- Present final strategy document to Chief and Councils of Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and City of Victoria Council – March 2023
- Begin implementation of Strategy within Government Street Refresh and Redesign project work – April 2023 onwards.

Describe the cultural heritage values that are relevant to your project. How will the values benefit or be enhanced or safeguarded as an outcome of the proposed project?

Government Street is located on the site of a camas meadow that was cultivated by the ləkʷəŋən for centuries before the Hudson's Bay Company established a fort centering around what is now Bastion Square, with a palisade running along what is now the sidewalk. The street has significant local, regional, and national value with largely continuous and intact heritage buildings and facades with connections to the development of Victoria as a diverse city that was and is home to many cultures and peoples. It traverses Old Town and Chinatown, where many buildings have architectural and cultural value and contribute to the value, heritage, visual interest, and activity of the streetscape as a whole. The street also has social and cultural value as a destination for locals and visitors alike both in the present and throughout its history.

This project will enhance these values by fixing the colonial narrative to include the diversity of stories present in the landscape, streetscape, and architecture. It will also help make Government Street more culturally safe for Indigenous residents and visitors, thus reinforcing and expanding its cultural heritage values for future generations by becoming a place for all people.

Our project will seek to expand and make visible cultural heritage beyond the built or tangible elements to include intangible cultural heritage including language, customs and traditions and living heritage of ləkʷəŋən people in the present. Recognizing and celebrating intangible and living cultural heritage will help safeguard these practices and create opportunities to share them with other communities.

Please describe why the project is needed now and how the need was assessed.

The City of Victoria begun a journey of reconciliation in 2017 and this has involved several actions including a series of Reconciliation Dialogues and a Witness Reconciliation Program. We recognize that colonial policies and practices to erase and assimilate Indigenous Peoples, such as residential schools, laws against Indigenous ceremonial and cultural practices, land displacement and resource extraction, have led to "intergenerational trauma in maintaining and transmitting cultural knowledge and values to future generations" (Aird et al., 2019, p.8). The City of Victoria recognizes that it has a role to play with several specific Truth and Reconciliation Commission actions. We are committed to working closely with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to support increased representation of Indigenous narratives and identities across the city.

For the most part Indigenous culture, including language, is largely invisible within Canadian cities (Nejad et al., 2020) which is critical as many Indigenous Peoples, especially youth, are being drawn into urban environments (Nejad et al., 2020). This is particularly evident along Government Street that falls within the 'Old Town' heritage district where colonial architecture and settler identities are featured prominently, while there is very little reference to Indigenous presence and identities in this area.

The timing and need for this project are aligned with the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project that is currently under development. Its timeline is related to ongoing infrastructure and capital projects planned for the area in the next 2-5 years. Replacement of the City's water main infrastructure on Government Street is planned between Broughton Street and Pandora Avenue. Within this same zone, there are several locations where City assets (including traffic signal infrastructure, street furniture and street trees) are at end of life and will need to be replaced. Larger scale, street redesign is planned for the two northern blocks between Yates Street and Pandora Street with a construction timeline for 2023-2025. A refresh of streetscape elements and pedestrian enhancements are planned for the southern blocks.

Through discussions with Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils we received feedback that currently the narrative of the built environment along Government Street is not welcoming to Indigenous peoples. This is because there are no references to Indigenous people and their history, culture, language, or traditions. A public survey conducted by the City of Victoria in summer 2021 found that many participants who identified as Indigenous felt that the street felt unwelcoming. This project seeks to fix and broaden the narrative and create a place and a sense of belonging for ləkʷəŋən and other Indigenous peoples.

Please identify any project challenges (social, financial, environmental, human resources, timeline, additional impacts of COVID-19) and the mitigation strategies to address these (e.g. if your project does

not have public support, a strategy to mitigate the challenge might be to hold public consultation, if not already held.)

Although City staff have ideas and approaches to undertake this work, the first step is to meet with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils and community groups to listen, learn and ask how we can work together to achieve shared goals and desired outcomes for integration of living cultural heritage in Victoria.

Establishing a trust-based relationship and being flexible and adaptable to working in non-Western systems of task-based work is key to realizing successful outcomes. This will involve a willingness for City staff to be open, flexible, and adaptable to timelines, project tasks, budget and other project management tools that may not work within an Indigenous methodology to undertake this work. The project plan and timelines will be developed in close collaboration and respecting the sovereignty of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils.

Covid-19 has had an impact on many communities; however, we recognize that the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and other Indigenous groups have faced a greater degree of hardship, isolation, and vulnerability because of under resourced capacity. We recognize that project timing could be affected by our shared ability to gather either online and/or in-person for critical discussions and meetings. Access to high-speed internet, technology and technological skills/comfort levels are barriers within Indigenous communities. We will develop meeting, working, engagement and outreach activities that are low barrier and allow diverse members from these communities to participate. Funding support and staff resources will be allocated to assist with overcoming these technological barriers.

Gathering culturally sensitive and appropriate information including stories, language and histories will be another challenging area and we will rely on directions and expertise from Songhees and Esquimalt Nation experts to inform appropriate methodologies to collect, store and present these types of information in the Strategy document.

Securing adequate funding and prioritizing the implementation of this strategy through the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project is a longer-term challenge. This strategy will provide us with the content and resources necessary to identify, and advocate for appropriate longer-term funding and implementation to realize public realm improvements that showcase Indigenous cultural heritage.

Who will be involved in the project activities and how will these people/organizations be identified and assessed? You may attach resumes and related information about people/organizations involved in your project.

The Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils, along with City of Victoria staff from the community planning, urban design, and arts, culture and events team will be involved in establishing the project plan and reviewing work at regular intervals through group meetings. We will rely on the leadership and guidance from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils to identify knowledge keepers, elders, and community groups to participate in the engagement and knowledge sharing phase of the project.

The City of Victoria's Indigenous artist in residence Dylan Thomas, will be involved in the community engagement and strategy development and design phases as he has spent the past 18 months conducting archival research and community engagement to develop public art and heritage interpretation strategies for other projects in the city. We will identify and engage additional consultants and experts in the heritage management and urban planning fields for the strategy and design development phase of the project through consultation with and as directed by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils to ensure that these professionals and consultants are either Indigenous or have extensive experience and/or previous relationships working with Indigenous communities in the region.

Will your project be undertaken with a partnering organization? (Partnering organization(s) are not required but are encouraged.) If yes, signed letters of commitment from all partnering organizations must be attached with your application.

Yes – please list, including name of organization, contact person, phone number, and email address

If applicable, have you already established the partnerships that will be critical to the success of your project? If not, how will you develop these relationships? How will you maintain these relationships beyond the conclusion of the project?

The City of Victoria has developed trust-based relationships with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils on a journey of reconciliation. The City Family is a forum for leaders from each group to gather regularly to share and exchange information, plans, and collaborate on activities of importance to each group. In addition,

City staff have developed working relationships with Indigenous organizations and individuals in the community to work collaboratively on heritage, park, and public space projects. This project will allow us to deepen and strengthen these pre-existing relationships by creating a framework for Indigenous cultural heritage planning in future public space and urban planning projects across the city of Victoria.

The relationships and learnings from this project will inform future City work in areas of heritage policies, public and community engagement and project planning. Relationships developed through this project with Songhees, and Esquimalt Nation Councils and community groups will be nurtured through continuous engagement in the form of meetings, email and online updates and gatherings (as safe and appropriate) during the implementation of the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project. We will continue to work together to realize the strategy and identify opportunities for further collaboration and engagement in other projects.

Have you/will you engage in public consultation for this project? How will the broader community (beyond your organization) and the public be involved or benefit from the project?

The City of Victoria conducted public engagement through an online survey, focus group discussions, and walking tours as part of the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project in Summer 2021. We also conducted formal presentations to the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils and hosted workshops with Councillors and Dylan Thomas – Indigenous artist in residence at the City of Victoria.

Focused engagement activities with ləkʷəŋən peoples are a key part of all phases of our project plan, and with an emphasis on phase one, as outlined in our project plans above. Following protocols and with consent and permissions, and where appropriate we will document and record events and activities with Indigenous groups. These videos, photos, audio narratives and other content will be hosted on the City's website and will be shared with the public through the City's social media, newsletters, and other digital outreach platforms. Sharing this information will benefit non-Indigenous individuals by providing learning opportunities on aspects of Indigenous cultural heritage including practices, language, and traditions.

In addition to these engagement activities that will be planned and organized with guidance from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils we will also share project updates and the draft Strategy with the public through public engagement tools including surveys and presentations hosted by the City of Victoria.

How are the outcomes of your project relevant to the 150 Time Immemorial grant program?

Our project outcomes are relevant to all three of the 150 Time Immemorial Grant Program in the following ways:

Advancing reconciliation and learning: Working collaboratively with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils and staff will advance shared understanding and foster stronger relationships between the City of Victoria Council and staff. Developing a project methodology that respects Indigenous sovereignty and cultural practices will create room for future collaboration on projects of shared importance. The engagement process will strengthen existing relationships and help foster new ones between the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, Indigenous groups, and the City of Victoria. This project will build capacity including developing research methodologies and gathering knowledge and information with and as directed by, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, to protect and preserve their cultural heritage. The City of Victoria staff will have opportunities to listen, learn and engage with Indigenous communities to better understand their needs, concerns and priorities that will inform future work. The project will provide a framework for working collaboratively and in partnership between the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the City of Victoria Councils and staff on future public space and urban planning projects, with applicability and value to other jurisdictions as well.

Promoting a diverse and inclusive society including underrepresented people: The Indigenous cultural heritage strategy and implementation plan for Government Street will identify and define opportunities for ləkʷəŋən cultural heritage to be integrated as part of the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project. This work will inform integration of Indigenous content within phased improvement plans to the streetscape and public realm that will reframe existing colonial and settler dominant narratives that currently feature prominently along the heritage streetscape. The implementation of this strategy will result in improvements to Government Street to make it a welcoming space for Indigenous people where they can see their culture and identity showcased prominently. The inclusion of ləkʷəŋən culture and identity through these improvements will serve as learning opportunities for promoting dialogue amongst non-Indigenous communities. A plurality of identities and voices would provide a richer and more holistic narrative, recognizing the contributions and presence of Indigenous communities in this historic area of the city.

Supporting resiliency into the next 150 years: Embedding Indigenous cultural heritage as a key part of Government Street will help ensure that the public realm and streetscape serves the entire community,

including underrepresented and marginalized groups. It will foster a greater sense of pride and belonging for Indigenous members of the community who face a variety of systemic barriers that have detrimental outcomes in all aspects of their lives including employment, health and well-being and education.

Including Indigenous knowledge and land use practices into the narrative of this area will help cultivate a stronger sense of ecological responsibility and place-keeping where residents and visitors will be able to reflect on the importance of protecting our natural environment. The planned infrastructure upgrades will also include high levels of environmental sustainability to ensure that our actions are reducing GHG emissions and encouraging lifestyle changes that can slow down global warming. The infrastructure upgrades are also being designed with climate change mitigation principles to increase resiliency from extreme weather events including increased rainfall and extreme heat episodes.

Explain how your project will achieve your identified aim(s). Why do you feel your project is well-suited to bring about the aim(s) you have identified?

Our project is based on developing and nurturing trust-based relationships with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations that will allow for dialogue and shared understanding and respect for Indigenous cultural heritage including intangible and living heritage that has previously remained excluded from, or with little representation in, the public realm and municipal planning projects. Developing collaborative project planning and management frameworks and engagement strategies will ensure diverse representation from Indigenous communities. The narratives, history and cultural heritage information collected through this project, along with the design and implementation framework developed, will help better align and integrate Indigenous practices, knowledge and traditions within western project management processes and systems. This strategy will identify actions and opportunities for including Indigenous cultural heritage along Government Street that will be realized through the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project that is currently being developed. This project will provide much needed financial resources to undertake this important work that will be led by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations in partnership with the City of Victoria.

We believe that our project is well-suited to bring about our identified aims because we have had the opportunity to listen and engage with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and are open to develop new and collaborative ways of working together on planning and public space projects in areas that are important to Indigenous communities. This part of Government Street has historically marginalized the voices, identities, and role of ɫəkwəŋən people in the development of Victoria and we believe that this project will help the City of Victoria continue a journey of reconciliation through changes to our practices by prioritizing Indigenous voices.

Who will benefit from your project? How do you know your project is the right approach for the beneficiaries? If your project will include or affect Indigenous, cultural, diverse, or marginalized communities, how will you ensure equity, equality, and respect?

Our project will benefit ɫəkwəŋən people including the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations along with the City of Victoria. In addition, through the public realm upgrades that will include Indigenous cultural heritage, residents and businesses in the region and visitors will benefit by access to knowledge and learning opportunities to engage with Indigenous cultures from the area. The Songhees and Esquimalt Nations will benefit by maintaining ownership of the knowledge and information gathered and developed as part of the strategy. The learnings and outcomes from this project will also have relevance and be applicable to other jurisdictions within B.C. and beyond.

In discussions with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils we have learnt that this project is a priority for them because their cultural heritage is not currently represented in this prominent public streetscape that is a destination for locals and visitors. Through our engagement we have learnt that Indigenous people do not feel welcome or comfortable with visiting Government Street in its current form. Our project has been developed collaboratively with members of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation councils as well as input from multiple departments at the City of Victoria including, Arts, Culture and Events, heritage, and urban planning experts.

We believe that learning and sharing is the key first step and therefore a significant amount of time and resources have been allocated to these activities. While we have outlined general formats and principles for engagement, we are looking forward to detailed discussions with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils and staff on the formats, content, and outreach for these activities. We are intentionally planning flexible timelines and adaptable work plans to ensure that our partners can inform and shape the project approach. Process and outcomes. We have not selected consultants for the design phase at present to allow additional time for discussions with Songhees and Esquimalt Nation groups to ensure that this approach and any consultant(s) selected have an Indigenous background and/or have experience working with Indigenous communities.

The City of Victoria established an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Office with three staff members in 2021. We will rely on their diverse expertise to help define and outline equity considerations for all phases of this project including consultation and engagement, knowledge gathering, and public dissemination of information and opportunities for participation. We will organize activities based on reviews of all four dimensions of equity (structural, procedural, distributional, and transgenerational) to ensure that our partners, Indigenous participants and other marginalized or underrepresented individuals or communities are able to participate in this project. As part of the strategy design and implementation plan, we will prioritize Indigenous cultural heritage representation within the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project timelines, workplans, and budgets.

Thinking beyond the aim(s) of the 150 Time Immemorial grant program, what other goals and outcomes will your project achieve?

This Strategy will be used as a framework for future cultural heritage projects in public spaces. Developing new methodologies and defining working relationships between the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the City of Victoria will advance our reconciliation work in other areas of the city. It will provide the City of Victoria staff with a deeper understanding of Indigenous perspectives and priorities for their communities so that we can better align our work with their objectives.

This project will also help us make Government Street into a place for people and with greater diversity, by prioritizing pedestrian access, activities, and programming for all. Adding layers of Indigenous cultural heritage will create a unique experience and provide opportunities for gathering, events and storytelling. This would increase visitors to the area and support economic development objectives to support local businesses and encourage sustainability by shopping locally.

This project will also enable us to work closely with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to better understand their economic development objectives and to work together to create economic opportunities for Indigenous communities through strategy development and supported by public space design, infrastructure and programming associated with implementation of the Government Street Refresh and Redesign processes.

How will you know you have achieved the goal(s)? How will you measure success and impact(s)?

To understand if we have achieved our goals, we will monitor the process throughout to ensure we are achieving process and project goals. This will include post project evaluation, specifically, post-project roundtable meetings with our partners including Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils, city staff from different departments and community partner organizations. We will rely on the responses from our Indigenous partners to understand whether and how we are building stronger relationships and how this project has supported their objectives through the lens of increased capacity and resources, framework for collaboration on public realm cultural projects and deeper engagement with Indigenous members of our communities.

We will rely on a variety of qualitative and quantitative methods to measure success and impacts of this project, including roundtables, surveys, economic impact and visitor numbers and feedback throughout the process. Because the strategy will be used for other City projects and initiatives going forward, the success of the strategy itself and the Government Street project will be regularly revisited and reevaluated over time.

Please describe revenue sources and in-kind contributions in addition to the requested funding. Please note: only confirmed revenue sources and in-kind contributions can be included in your budget projection (with the exception of your request to the 150TIGP).

Project revenue sources include a grant funding request from the 150 TIGP in the amount of \$50,000 as well as confirmed funding from the City of Victoria.

The City of Victoria's financial contributions are separated into in-kind (\$13,325) which represents staff time that are part of the confirmed 2022 operational budget and workplans. The City will also contribute (\$10,500) allocated through the Indigenous artist in residence program for Dylan Thomas. This funding is not considered or listed as in-kind because it is to hire Dylan Thomas as an external consultant to assist with a part of this project.

Can your project be separated into independent phases? If yes, please describe the different phases and associated budget requirements. This should also be indicated on your budget projection.

We can separate our project into three independent phases. Phase one is focused on listening, learning, sharing, and relationship building activities with our partners and Indigenous groups. Phase two is focused on developing a cultural Interpretive strategy based on the outcomes of phase one and including further research and analysis with regards to design, integration, and interpretation, along with the development of an implementation framework in close collaboration with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nation Councils. Phase 3

involves design development work to inform implementation, including identifying and defining themes, locations, scale, materials, and mediums for sharing ləkʷəŋən cultural heritage along Government Street. This phase will involve working closely with Songhees and Esquimalt Nation representatives, together with the Government Street Refresh and Redesign planning team, and external consultants to align work plans, funding, and project timelines to ensure that the strategy is integrated as an essential aspect within the overall streetscape design and construction project.

Phase one budget requirements: \$21,250
Phase two budget requirements: \$21,925
Phase three budget requirements: \$30,650

When do you anticipate your project will start?

02/08/2022

When do you anticipate your project will end?

03/31/2023

Who will own or manage the completed project? For applicants to the planning stream, who will implement the plan?

The Songhees and Esquimalt Nations along with the City of Victoria will share ownership of the Strategy document that will inform future work along Government Street. The Songhees and Esquimalt Nation will determine protocols for sharing content and ownership rights of cultural heritage information collected as part of this project. The City of Victoria will be responsible for the implementation of the Strategy alongside the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project. The City will be responsible for production, and installation expenses for heritage and cultural infrastructure as mutually agreed upon with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

Who will be responsible for the ongoing operational costs and maintenance of the project when complete?

The City of Victoria will be responsible for ongoing operational costs and maintenance of cultural heritage infrastructure and all public realm upgrades that are realized as a result of this project and the Government Street Refresh and Redesign project.

Attach the budget projection for your project.

- [Project-Budget 150 TIGP.xlsx](#)

If your project includes partnering organizations, please attach the signed letter(s) of commitment from all partners.

- [Letter-of-Partnership Songhees-Nation.pdf](#)
- [Letter-of-Partnership Esquimalt-Nation.pdf](#)

Partner Organization 1

Esquimalt Nation

Name

Chief Robert Thomas

Email

rob@esquimaltnation.ca

Partner Organization 2

Songhees Nation

Name

Councillor Karen Tunkara

Email

Karen.Tunkara@songheesnation.com

Attach supporting documentation

- [Pages-from-Government-Street-Refresh-Phase-1-Public-Engagement-Key-Findings.pdf](#)
- [Pages-from-2021-07-09-Stakeholder-Workbook-for-grant.pdf](#)
- [govt-st-refresh-design-draft-framework.pdf](#)

Name of applicant, authorized to submit this application for funding.

Joaquin Karakas

Title

Senior Urban Designer

Organization

City of Victoria

150 Time Immemorial Grant Program Application - Budget Sheet

Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and City of Victoria; Joaquin Karakas; Weaving lək'ənjən narratives into the public realm landscape along Government Street

EXPENDITURES		
ITEM DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	NOTES
Project Management & Expertise: Songhees Nation	\$ 10,000	Staff and subject matter experts for project management, expertise and knowledge. Also includes associated administrative expenses for the Songhees Nation
Project Management & Expertise: Esquimalt Nation	\$ 10,000	Staff and subject matter experts for project management, expertise and knowledge. Also includes associated administrative expenses for the Esquimalt Nation
Engagement Events and Activities with indigenous groups from Songhees and Esquimalt Nations	\$ 5,000	Budget estimate for 10 events and activities organized in various formats (online and in person as safe and appropriate) - community presentations, focus groups, storytelling circles with elders and knowledge keepers. Expenses include in-person event costs (venue costs, food and catering, print materials) and technology services for online events. (\$500 per event x 10 events)
Speaker and Participant Honoraria	\$ 5,000	Remuneration for indigenous elders and knowledge keepers at community gatherings and engagement events (\$250 per person per event upto 4 hours max x 2 people per event x 10 events)
Archival Research and Community Engagement Liasion	\$ 10,500	Dylan Thomas is the indigenous artist in residence at the City of Victoria. Funding for 3 months of paid part-time work on this project including archival research and best practices review of indigenous cultural heritage integration in public space projects, and participation in design development project phase 2 (20 hours per week x 13 weeks)
Strategy Design Development	\$ 20,000	Design development and implementation plan: This scope of work can be allocated to an external planning consultant that has professional expertise and previous relationships working with indigenous communities and public space project. Budget estimate based on other project references.

In-Kind Expenditures	AMOUNT	NOTES
City of Victoria - Project Management - Planning Staff	\$ 8,250	Joaquin Karakas & Ammar Mahimwalla - City of Victoria projects - responsible for organizing meetings and providing support for Songhees and Esquimalt Nation partners (150 hours x \$55 per hour)
City of Victoria - Engagement Staff	\$ 3,500	Graphic designer and content writer - produce, edit and support with dissemination of engagement event info, online surveys, presentation materials, etc. (100 hours x \$35 per hour)
City of Victoria Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Staff	\$ 450	Support for reviewing engagement materials and advising on best practices for project methodology implementation (10 hours x \$45 per hour)
City of Victoria - Heritage Planner staff	\$ 1,125	Support for conducting research into existing policies, guidelines and best practices in indigenous cultural heritage practices in public spaces (25 hours x \$45 per hour)
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:	\$ 73,825	

REVENUE			
ITEM DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	NOTES	FUNDING STATUS
Applicant Contributions			
City of Victoria - Arts, Culture and Events Budget 2021-2022	\$ 10,500	Funding for Dylan Thomas - indigenous artist in residence secured through Arts, Culture and Events project budget from 2021-2022 City Budget	Confirmed
In-Kind Contributions: Applicant(s)			
City of Victoria - Project Management - Planning Staff	\$ 8,250	Staff time dedicated to project, allocated from 2022 operating budget and department work plans	Confirmed
City of Victoria - Engagement Staff	\$ 3,500	Staff time dedicated to project, allocated from 2022 operating budget and department work plans	Confirmed
City of Victoria Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Staff	\$ 450	Staff time dedicated to project, allocated from 2022 operating budget and department work plans	Confirmed
City of Victoria - Heritage Planner staff	\$ 1,125	Staff time dedicated to project, allocated from 2022 operating budget and department work plans	Confirmed
EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES:			
150 TIGP Funding Request	\$ 50,000	Funding requested to support Songhees and Esquimalt Nation staff capacity, engagement events and participant honoraria, and strategy development project items.	Unconfirmed
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE:	\$ 73,825		



ESQUIMALT NATION

1189 Kosapsum Crescent
Victoria, BC
V9A 7K7

December 20, 2021

RE: Letter of Partnership/Commitment for City of Victoria 150 Time Immemorial Grant Program

Dear Grant Evaluation Committee,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Esquimalt Nation, to outline our partnership and collaboration with the City of Victoria as part of the 150 Time Immemorial grant application.

The City of Victoria in collaboration with the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations are working towards reconciliation by fostering a relationship based on trust and mutual respect. Over the past few years through the City Family, we have established new protocols for sharing, supporting, and engaging with each other. More recently we have been collaborating with the City of Victoria on a number of projects, including the Songhees Park process and currently, the Government Street Refresh design process.

This project, titled, weaving $l\acute{a}k^w\acute{a}n\acute{e}n$ narratives into the public realm landscape along Government Street is an important and priority initiative because it will lay the foundations to address the historic lack of representation of our people and culture along this major public space in downtown Victoria. We are committed to working collaboratively with the City of Victoria to engage elders, knowledge keepers and indigenous members in our communities to gather narratives, and identify opportunities for showcasing our culture, identity, and intangible cultural heritage.

The process of creating a cultural heritage implementation strategy, supported by this grant funding will allow us to strengthen and deepen our relationship with the City of Victoria and can provide a framework for future collaboration on other infrastructure, heritage, and planning projects for sites of major significance to our Nation.

If you have any questions about this letter, please feel to email me at rob@esquimaltnation.ca

Regards,

Chief Robert Thomas,
Esquimalt Nation



Songhees Nation

December 20, 2021

Dear Grant Evaluation Committee,

RE: Letter of Partnership for City of Victoria 150 Time Immemorial Grant Program

It is my honor to write this letter on behalf of the Songhees Nation, to outline our partnership and collaboration with the City of Victoria as part of the 150 Time Immemorial grant application.

The City of Victoria in collaboration with the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations is working towards reconciliation by continuing a relationship based on trust and mutual respect. Over the past few years through the City Family, we have established new protocols for sharing, supporting, and engaging with each other. More recently we have been collaborating with the City of Victoria on several projects, including the Songhees Park process and currently, the Government Street Refresh design process.

This project weaves ləkʷəŋən stories, culture, and language into the public realm landscape along Government Street. This is an important and priority initiative because it will lay the foundations to address the historic lack of representation of our Nations and culture along this major public space in downtown Victoria. We are committed to working collaboratively with the City of Victoria to engage Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and Nation members in our communities to gather information, and identify opportunities for showcasing our culture, identity, and intangible cultural heritage.

The process of creating a cultural heritage implementation strategy, supported by this grant funding will allow us to strengthen and deepen our relationship with the City of Victoria and can provide a framework for future collaboration on other infrastructure, heritage, and planning projects for sites of major significance to our Nation.

If you have any questions about this letter, please feel to contact me at 250-884-0202 or Karen.Tunkara@songheesnation.com. Thank you for your time and consideration. We wish you all the best over the holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Tunkara', with a small flourish at the end.

Karen Tunkara
Councillor

pc: Songhees Chief and Council
City of Victoria