

The City of Edmonton Community Investment Operating Grant (CIOG) provides operating assistance to Edmonton’s non-profit organizations, including recreation/amateur sport, working towards the following outcomes:

- increasing social inclusion
- increasing equitable access to participation

The 2023 City budget reduced funding to the CIOG program by 75% and divided the program into two streams. Sport and Recreation organizations, and Social Service organizations, were able to apply to a dedicated fund for each stream. As a result, the Community Services Advisory Board was tasked to look at changes to the eligibility requirements while maintaining the current program outcomes. The following changes to the eligibility were made:

- organizations must have eligible operating expenses of under \$500,000
- a minimum of 75% of an organization’s participants must be residents of Edmonton

The 2023 CIOG program awarded \$479,499 to 70 Edmonton non-profit sport and recreation organizations. In 2022, the CIOG program awarded \$1.61 million to 139 sport and recreation groups.

The average award in 2023 (\$6,850) decreased from 2022 (\$11,851) due to the lower overall budget and lower maximum award (decreased from \$16,500 to \$15,000). Only 4 organizations received the maximum of \$15,000, compared with the 68 groups who received more than \$15,000 in 2022. The eligibility cap of \$500,000 in operating expenses undoubtedly removed many previously eligible sport and recreation organizations who received significant CIOG funding in the past.

Five new sport and recreation groups received funding from the CIOG Program in 2023, while 25 sport and recreation groups that applied did not receive funding.

The breakdown of value of awards to sport and recreation groups is:

2019 # of Awards	2020 # of Awards	2021 # of Awards	2022 # of Awards	2023 # of Awards	VALUE
68	77	79	68	4	\$15,000 - \$16,500*
17	9	12	17	14	\$10,000 - \$14,999
15	23	24	25	24	\$5,000 - \$9,999
17	11	12	25	25	\$1,000 - \$4,999
5	2	4	4	3	\$1 - \$999
122	122	131	139	70	

*maximum award was \$15,000 in 2023

Included in the 2023 awards were:

- one dance organization received \$11,598 (4 dance groups received \$25,604 in 2022)
- five active recreation organizations received \$29,460 (9 active recreation organizations received \$101,184 in 2022)

The Edmonton Sport Council will continue to provide the sport and active recreation community with information regarding the reimagined Community Investment Operating Grant program as it evolves.