

DOWNTOWN FERGUS ILLUMINATION GRANT STREAM

Program Description

The purpose of this grant is:

- to enhance the visual appeal of the downtown Fergus core by supporting the installation of lighting on commercial, mixed-use, and institutional buildings;
- to align lighting improvements with the broader *Fergus Illumination Project* vision;
- to promote longer business hours, increase foot traffic, and foster a vibrant, safer and more active downtown environment during the evening.

What is the Maximum Amount?

This program provides a maximum grant of up to \$6,500 per project, made up of two components:

- Lighting Funding: Up to \$2,500 for the purchase of lighting equipment, funded through the Community Improvement Plan.
- Installation Funding: Up to \$4,000 for the professional installation of lighting, funded through provincial grants to the Township of Centre Wellington's Community Development Division.

Applicants must enter into a Financial Assistance Agreement with the Township of Centre Wellington before grant funds are disbursed. Funding is limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis while funds remain.

What Type of Lighting Expenses are Eligible for a Grant?

Lighting Equipment (up to \$2,500):

- LED lighting systems
- Decorative and programmable lighting fixtures
- Illumination devices compatible with the Fergus Illumination Project
- Equipment must meet the Downtown Fergus Illumination Grant Lighting Guidelines

Lighting Installation (up to \$4,000):

- Professional installation services
- Electrical work conducted by a licensed contractor
- All work must meet safety standards and design guidelines per the Illumination Grant Project

What are the Program Requirements?

- Location: The property must be within the Fergus downtown area, with priority given to buildings on St. Andrew St W.
- Building Type: Eligible buildings include commercial, mixed-use, institutional, and some industrial buildings within the downtown Fergus area.
- Lighting Guidelines: All lighting equipment and installation must comply with the Downtown Fergus Illumination Grant Lighting Guidelines.
- Quotations: Applications must provide at least one quote for both lighting equipment and installation, outlining the type and cost of the work proposed.
- Architectural Compatibility: Priority will be given to buildings that feature distinctive architectural characteristics. Lighting proposals must enhance the building's historic or visual appeal in a way that contributes positively to the overall aesthetic of the downtown core.

