

Youth Harm Reduction Award Application

For projects completed during 2025/2026 school year

Awarded in June 2026

What are the application criteria?

- Nomination or self-application
- Youth must be under age 19 and live in any community in the Island Health region
- Applications accepted from March 1 - April 15
- Project completed during 2025/2026 school year

What types of projects are applicable?

- Any independently conceptualized, developed, and implemented project related to substance use and public health (e.g.: drug poisoning risk and safety)
- Any form of project that advances public health harm reduction in a region, community, or local environment
- Project impact at the individual, community, or population level

How will projects be reviewed?

- Impact and meaning of the work, rather than the scale of the project
- Meaningful engagement with harm reduction
- Demonstrated importance of work to the local community
- Clear identification of the harm/risk of harm
- Clear identification of the actions taken within the project to reduce harm
- Clear engagement with, or involvement of, the project's target population
- Success of the project; demonstrated impact
- Major learnings related to the project
- Validated by referee
- Priority consideration will be given to work in Indigenous communities and/or to Indigenous-identifying applicants

Please complete Part 1 section a) or b); Parts 2 & 3; Part 4 section a) or b); and Part 5.

Email completed application to: harmreduction@islandhealth.ca

Applications will be reviewed after April 15, 2026.

Award recipient(s) will be notified in May 2026.

Awarded in June 2026.

Part 1: Applicant/Nominee Information

Complete section a) or b)

a) Self-application (you are completing the application for your own project). If there are multiple applicants associated with your project, enter all names and current grade(s) together (example: “John Doe & Jane Smith”).

Name(s) (*First Name & Last Name*): Click or tap here to enter text.

Grade(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

Island Health region: Click or tap here to enter text.

b) Nomination (you are completing the application for someone else’s project). If there are multiple nominees associated with the project, enter all names and current grade(s) together (example: “John Doe & Jane Smith”).

Nominator (your) name (*First Name & Last Name*): Click or tap here to enter text.

Nominator (your) relationship to nominee(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

Nominator (your) phone number and email: Click or tap here to enter text.

Nominee(s) name(s) (*First Name & Last Name*): Click or tap here to enter text.

Nominee(s) grade(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

Nominee(s) Island Health region: Click or tap here to enter text.

Part 2: Project Information

a) Describe how this project is connected to substance use and/or drug poisoning risk and safety. How did the idea of the project come about, and why did you/the nominee choose to focus on this?

Click or tap here to enter text.

b) What was/were the project goal(s) and/or intended impact? In other words, what was the purpose of the project, and how did you/the nominee hope the project would change people or systems?

Click or tap here to enter text.

c) What was the project’s actual impact? In other words, how did the project meet its goals and actually change people, systems, or yourself/the nominee? What were the unintended impacts or consequences (if any)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

d) Provide a description of the project (written, audio, or video). What were the major learnings that resulted from the project? If written, <500 words. If audio or video, <3-4 minutes. If an audio or video file, please note this below and attach the file to the email application or provide the link.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Part 3: Project Reference

a) Provide a project reference from a non-family adult (e.g.: teacher, employer, coach, mentor) that speaks to work on this project and the project's meaning and/or impact within the community. This may be an attached letter, audio, or video file. For a letter, <500 words. For an audio or video file, <2-3 minutes. If an audio or video file, please note this below and attach the file to the email application or provide the link. Please ensure the referee is aware they may be contacted in relation to this application.

Referee name (*First Name and Last Name*): Click or tap here to enter text.

Referee's relationship to the project and/or nominee/applicant: Click or tap here to enter text.

Referee's phone: Click or tap here to enter text.

Referee's email: Click or tap here to enter text.

Reference format (attached letter or audio/video file or provide link): Click or tap here to enter text.

Part 4: Privacy & Consent

Complete section a) or b)

a) As a nominator, I Click or tap here to enter text. acknowledge that the nominee(s) named in this application is/are aware of this nomination and application. Should the nominee(s) named in this application be offered the award, they will complete a consent form relating to video/audio/photography for educational, public engagement, or social media purposes. No personal information will be released unless offered the award.

b) As an applicant, I/we, Click or tap here to enter text. acknowledge that no personal information will be released on social media or other platforms unless offered the award. If offered the award, I will complete a consent form relating to video/audio/photography for educational, public engagement, or social media purposes.

Part 5: Award Receipt for Projects with more than one nominee/applicant

As a nominator or applicant, I/we [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) acknowledge that if a project with more than one nominee/applicant is offered the award, distribution of award funds is solely the responsibility of the project nominees/applicants. The nominees/applicants must identify one project nominee/applicant to be named on the award cheque.

The applicant/nominee whose name will be on the award cheque if offered the award is:

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)