BCTF Kids Matter Teachers Care

Ed May Social Responsibility Education Fund

2026–27

Application deadline: October 21, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.*

*If not all the funds are allocated, additional applications will be considered until April 15, 2027

BC TEACHERS' FEDERATION
100 - 550 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC Canada V5Z 4P2
BCTF.ca | 604-871-2283

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Ed May Social Responsibility Education Fund

About the fund

The BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) Ed May Social Responsibility Education Fund was established at the BCTF Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 1994 to support teachers in promoting socially responsible teaching practices in the province. The funds are administered by the Professional and Social Issues Division (PSID) and are allocated by grant proposals, to a maximum of $2,000 each.

Who was Ed May?

Ed May was the epitome of the professional teacher. For him, social responsibility was a way of life. Born and educated in South Africa, May gained most of his Canadian classroom experience in Coquitlam. His four years (1981–85) as co-ordinator of the BCTF's program against racism gave him the opportunity to pursue his battle against discrimination and injustice in a wider arena. This fund is a practical memorial to the ideals of Ed May.

Criteria

The following criteria will be used to determine allocation from the fund:

- Teacher initiatives for educational change in areas of social responsibility teaching, such as antiracist and multicultural education, gender equity, 2SLGBTQIA+ support, environmental education, human rights, disability justice, Aboriginal education, peace and global education, poverty issues, and violence prevention. The proposed project may be classroom-based or school-based, or it may involve the school and community.
- Proposals may be based on new initiatives or projects that are currently underway.
- Proposals that are innovative in nature will be considered prior to repeat proposals from individual schools or districts.
- Grants may be used for the following but are not limited to these purposes—release time, materials, publicity, communications, and coalition building.
- Grants are not provided for overseas projects or school supplies, hardware, or materials that are the responsibility of the school district or Ministry of Education.

Consideration of geographical/topical balance will be given to all proposals. Priority will be given to:

- new proposals
- projects of a highly innovative nature
- projects that actively involve students, are collaborative, and have a major impact on the learners
- proposals that address all quadrants of the Social Justice Lens (see *here*).

Process

Applicants must submit the BCTF Ed May Social Responsibility Fund application form for approval of the grant before undertaking the project. All grant applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on October 21, 2026. Applications will be reviewed by BCTF staff working in the BCTF Social Justice Program. Final approval for successful projects will be made by the BCTF Executive Committee. If there are any remaining grant funds available after the initial funds have been allocated, applications that meet the grant criteria and are submitted by April 15, 2027, will be considered for

funding on a first-come, first-served basis. All applicants will be informed of the decision in writing. Successful applicants will receive 50% of approved funds in advance to get their project started. Funds will be sent to the local president for distribution to the grant recipient. The other 50% of the funds will be paid to the local once the project has been fully completed and an Ed May Social Responsibility Fund report has been submitted to the BCTF. Locals must keep a copy of all receipts on file. T4 forms must be issued for honoraria over $500.

Application guidelines

The application form must be fully completed, and include:

- a description of the project, with all fields completed
- a detailed budget, including a list of other sources of funding applied for and/or received
- signatures of the BCTF member (the applicant) and their Local President.

For more details on the above, please refer to the Ed May Social Responsibility Fund Rubric at the end of the application form.

Final report

A one-page final report must be competed on successful Ed May projects from the 2026–27 school year must be received by the start of the following school year. No late reports will be considered. The report must be submitted before funding for new projects will be approved. Unclaimed funds are automatically rolled into next year's balance of the Ed May Social Responsibility Education Fund. This report should include:

- a summary of how the money was spent
- a description of how the project unfolded
- a highlight of the successes and challenges of the project
- a description of the impact of the project.

For further information, please contact:
Heather Kelley, Assistant Director, Social Justice
hkelley@bctf.ca,
Direct—604-871-1850
Toll-free—1-800-663-9163 (ext 1850)

The Ed May Social Responsibility Education Fund
2026–27 Grant Application Form

Project title:	
Date of Application:	Name of applicant:
Applicant Address:	
Applicant's phone:	Applicant's fax:
Applicant's email address:	
Name of local/sub-local:	Local association number:
Name of Local President:	Local President's phone:
Local President's email:	
Applicant's school name:	
School address:	
School phone:	School fax:

An applicant may wish to provide, on a voluntary basis, information as to whether they self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking group.

I self-identify as a member of the following equity-seeking group(s):

Project Description:

Project goals:

Intended beneficiaries of the project:

Rationale/need for the project:

Community partners involved (if any):

Description of the planning process (solitary, consultative, collaborative):

Intended school-based systemic impacts of this project:

Proposed timeline (list each activity, from commencement to completion, with tentative dates):

How socially just is your social justice grant or project? Please provide details on how your grant application fits within the Social Justice Lens.

Access: How do you ensure that there are no barriers to participating in this project?

Agency: How will this project empower participants to know their rights, voice their concerns, and create change?

Advocacy: How does this project help participants to develop concrete skills to effect change?

Solidarity action: How does the project allow for networking and coalition building among students, teachers, family, and community groups to effect systemic change?

Project budget (please keep all receipts on file at the local office).

Expenses	
Item	Cost
Total expenses	

External funding

Funding source	Amount
Total external funding	
Net amount of Ed May Funding requested from the BCTF	

The applicant may apply for up to $2,000 from the Ed May Social Responsibility Fund.

Has your local received funding for a similar project in the past? ☐ No ☐ Yes, year(s) _____

Grant cheques will be issued to the local, not to the applicant. The first cheque will be for 50% of the total grant; the balance will follow upon BCTF's receipt of the final report.

You may mail or fax this application to:

BC Teachers' Federation
100–550 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2
Fax: 604-871-8886
Email: *edmaygrant@bctf.ca*

Applicant signature: _____ Local President Signature: _____

Date: _____

Ed May Social Responsibility Fund Rubric

This will be used along with your application form to assess the merits of each application.

Project Title: _____

Social Justice topic: _____ Zone: _____

Criteria	Meets all criteria	Meets some criteria	Not within criteria
Initiative for educational change in one or more areas of social responsibility	Applicant clearly describes how the project will effect educational change in at least one area of social responsibility.		No evidence of how the project will effect educational change in at least one area of social responsibility.
Potential impact on learners	High potential degree of impact	Moderate potential degree of impact	Low potential degree of impact
Involvement of students	Students actively involved over long period of time	Students actively involved over moderate period of time	Students passively involved or actively involved over very short period of time
Potential to create systemic change	Project addresses underlying causes of an issue and provides participants with tools to effect systemic change.		Project responds to an immediate need but does not address underlying causes of an issue.
Project related to classroom, school, or community needs	Applicant clearly explains how this project meets The social justice-related needs of the classroom, school, or community.		No clear explanation of how this project Meets the social justice-related needs of the classroom, school, or community.
Addresses all quadrants of the *Social Justice Lens*	All quadrants of the Social Justice Lens explained clearly with connections to the project	Some quadrant connections are made; others are tenuous in nature.	No consideration of the Social Justice Lens in planning or content of project.

Project is innovative in nature	A similar project has never been funded by an Ed May grant.	Projects somewhat similar in nature have been funded by Ed May grants in the past.	A project that closely resembles this project has been funded by Ed May grants in the past.
Newness of proposal	new proposal	modified proposal based on previous project of similar nature	repeat proposal
Degree of collaboration	high degree of collaboration among teachers, outside partners, and students	one teacher involved in majority of planning, with some input from other partners	project planned and run by one teacher with no collaboration involved
Application only covers allowable expenses	covers allowable expenses, with additional funding from other sources covering ineligible expenses		expenses include items that the BCTF does not pay for

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