Brooks Region
Better. Realized.

City of Brooks
Box 879
201-1st Ave. W.
Brooks, AB T1R 1B7
Phone: 403.362.3333

County of Newell
BOX 130
183037 Range Road 145
Brooks, AB T1R 1B2
Phone: 403.362.3266

Town of Bassano
Box 299
502-2nd Avenue
Bassano, AB T0J 0B0
Phone: 403.641.3788

Village of Duchess
Box 158
103-2nd Ave. E.
Duchess, AB T0J 0Z0
Phone: 403.378.4452

Village of Rosemary
Box 128
103 Railway Ave.
Rosemary, AB T0J 2W0
Phone: 403.378.4246

www.brooksregion.ca

Business Beautification Program

Brooks Region Economic Development, along with **Community Futures Chinook,** is pleased to offer businesses in the Brooks Region an opportunity to receive a beautification loan and grant to enhance the appearance of a business.

Businesses can apply for up to **$10,000** in funding of which 80% would be an interest free loan and 20% would be a grant. Successful applicants could receive up to an $8,000 loan and a $2,000 grant.

General Overview.

The purpose of this program is to encourage and provide Brooks Region businesses the opportunity to improve the appearance of their premises, utilizing grant dollars and interest free loans, to a maximum of $10,000.00 (maximum $2,000 grant and $8,000 interest-free loan per applicant).

The Brooks Region will provide the grant funds and pay the interest on the loan and the loan will be provided by Community Futures Chinook.

Any business within the defined boundaries of the City of Brooks, County of Newell, Town of Bassano and Villages of Duchess and Rosemary may apply.

Eligibility.

The program provides an incentive for local business owners to invest in facade renovations and interior upgrades. Eligible improvements include:

- o Signage on the front of business locations
- o Restoration of exterior finishes and repainting
- o Repair or replacement of storefront windows and doors
- o Exterior lighting of the building and signage
- o Removal and disposal of broken signage and fixtures
- o Installation and design of awnings and signs
- o Interior window display areas and lighting
- o Removal of exterior materials that cover architectural details
- o New architectural details such as entryway features and cornices
- o Creation of new retail bays in an existing building
- o Addition of patio areas and permanent landscaping elements
- o Removal of barriers to access for people with disabilities and mobility challenges
- o Interior painting
- o Interior flooring (carpet, laminate, tile, hardwood)
- o Interior counters, shelving, light fixtures and display cases

The above list is not all-encompassing. Other improvements could be eligible if they meet the objectives of the program and comply with the applicable municipal development regulations.

Program Goals.

Successful projects will strive to make visible improvements to the appearance, curb appeal, design and function of a business by:

- o Adding curb appeal and variety at the sidewalk level, emphasizing active storefronts, orienting windows and doorways to the street.
- o Improving the interior view of shops and restaurants through the use of clear glass, and storefront designs that make use of window display areas.
- o Coordinating façade improvements with neighbouring buildings and the unique character of the local business area.
- o Undertaking general cleaning of the building exterior, repainting faded and peeling paint, repairing damaged areas of the façade, and restoring unique architectural features.

Get in Touch.

Anyone interested in the Business Beautification Program can talk to the Brooks Region Econpmic Development staff via email at **ecdev@brooks.ca** or by calling **403-362-3333**.

To apply for the program and receive loan eligibility information, contact **Community Futures Chinook at 403-223-2984.**

Brooks Region
Better. Realized.

Community Futures Chinook

How the Program Works.

1. Brooks Region Economic Development, in partnership with Community Futures, is offering the program.
2. Community Futures will accept applications and perform the initial pre-screening including a credit check and review of financial statements.
3. Applications will be forwarded to the Brooks Region including project description, proof of proper permits and other verifications. The Brooks Region will approve/decline the project.
4. Upon approval of the project and verification of the loan approval, Community Futures will disburse the project funds to the applicant.
5. Community Futures will work with recipients to confirm the completion of project work through provided receipts and site visits.