



 **COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS**

As adopted December 12, 2023

# Community Partners

The Town of Aurora's culture and sense of community are formed by the many people, cultures and unique backgrounds in our Town. The Town's community partners help Aurora effectively maintain its small-town charm, while balancing the amenities of a larger urban centre.

Aurora's community partners which are provided Operating Budget funding, include:

- Aurora Business Improvement Area
- Aurora Cultural Centre
- Aurora Historical Society
- Aurora Public Library
- Aurora Sport Hall of Fame
- Aurora Economic Development Corporation

## Operating Budget

### Overview

The operating budget for the Town's community partners includes an increase of \$190,100 in 2024. The main drivers of this increase include a historical base top-up for the Aurora Cultural Centre and inflation on the grants for the Community Partners.

The multi-year budget includes an increase of \$125,700 in 2025 and \$142,800 in 2026. This increase represents inflation on the Community Partners grants.

### Aurora's budget funding support for community partners

	2023		2024		2025		2026	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
<b>Budget (\$000's)</b>								
Aurora Business Improvement Area	40.4	-	40.4	-	40.4	-	40.4	-
Aurora Cultural Centre	714.4	454.3	645.6	549.6	585.6	560.6	586.8	571.8
Aurora Economic Development Board	101.5	1.5	101.5	26.5	101.5	56.5	101.5	101.5
Aurora Historical Society	87.1	87.1	85.9	85.9	87.6	87.6	89.4	89.4
Aurora Public Library	4,107.1	4,052.1	4,177.2	4,122.2	4,259.6	4,204.6	4,343.7	4,288.7
Aurora Sport Hall of Fame	30.8	30.8	31.7	31.7	32.4	32.4	33.0	33.0
<b>Approved Budget</b>	<b>5,081.3</b>	<b>4,625.8</b>	<b>5,082.3</b>	<b>4,815.9</b>	<b>5,107.1</b>	<b>4,941.7</b>	<b>5,194.8</b>	<b>5,084.4</b>
<b>Budget Change</b>			<b>1.1</b>	<b>190.1</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>125.7</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>142.8</b>

## Community Partners overview

### Aurora Business Improvement Area

The Aurora Business Improvement Association (BIA) is a volunteer run organization committed to improving and promoting the Aurora Historical Business District.

Through promotion and business support, the Downtown Aurora BIA strives to build and maintain the downtown area as Aurora's premier shopping, business and entertainment destination. The goal is to support the revitalization of downtown Aurora as a Town focal point where businesses thrive; residents live, work, and play, and visitors feel welcome.

The budget for the Aurora Business Improvement Area is expected to be finalized after the budget is complete. The Board of the BIA will bring forward its budget at a later time. Since its budget is fully recovered from the BIA members, it will not have an impact on the Town's overall tax levy.

<https://downtownaurorabia.ca/>

### Aurora Cultural Centre

The Aurora Cultural Centre is a generator of cultural programming and program partnerships. The Aurora Cultural Centre offers a range of instructional classes for children, teens and adults, an eclectic live music series, special family events and summer arts camps.

The Aurora Cultural Centre's home will be at the Aurora Town Square once construction is complete. They are temporarily relocated to the Aurora Town Hall for the duration of the construction.

The budget for the Aurora Cultural Centre's net operating grant is expected to increase by \$95,300 to \$549,600 in 2024. This includes an inflationary increase on their 2023 grant and the addition of the historical base top-up which was funded from reserves in previous years. The gross cost declines as the 2023 Budget included displacement costs which were temporarily funded from the Aurora Town Square budget. The grant then increases by a further \$11,000 in 2025 and \$11,200 in 2026, to a total tax impact of \$560,600 and \$571,800 in each year.

The budget also includes some additional costs which are funded through tax stabilization over the three years in the budget. These costs are expected to taper off by 2027 as the Aurora Cultural Centre establishes their operations in the new Aurora Town Square Facility. These costs include temporary costs to rent performance space and other off-site costs while they are displaced from the Church Street School.

The Aurora Cultural Centre will also work in partnership with the Town's Cultural Services division to deliver cultural programming at the Aurora Town Square.

<https://auroraculturalcentre.ca/>

## Aurora Economic Development Corporation

The Aurora Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) is a non-share, not-for-profit corporation. On behalf of the Council of the Town of Aurora, the AEDC provides strategic leadership and coordination of community economic development. The AEDC works with partners (provincial, regional and federal governments, community agencies, educational institutions and local businesses) to strengthen and diversify existing business, attract new business and investment, and coordinate strategic economic development initiatives within the community.

The budget for the Aurora Economic Development Board in 2023 was almost completely funded through a reserve draw from the Economic Development reserve. In 2024 through 2026, the draws from this reserve are phased out.

<https://www.aurora.ca/en/business-and-development/aurora-economic-development-corporation-board.aspx>

## Aurora Historical Society

The Aurora Historical Society is committed to the education, heritage, and preservation of Aurora's history. It also has curatorial responsibilities for Hillary House which includes its collections of medical instruments, historic artifacts, and related documents.

The Aurora Historical Society is located at Hillary House which was built in 1862 and was purchased by the Society in 1981. Hillary House is listed as a Canadian National Historic Site as well as being listed as a heritage property by the Town of Aurora.

The budget for the Aurora Historical Society decreased by \$1,200 in 2024 for a total grant of \$85,900. This decrease includes a reduction for the external storage of the Godfrey Collection of \$3,700, which is partially offset by an inflationary increase. In the following two years the budget is expected to increase for inflation of \$1,700 in 2025 and \$1,800 in 2026.

<https://aurorahs.com/>

## Aurora Public Library

Aurora Public Library continues to provide traditional collections along with innovative technology programs, vibrant literary and cultural experiences, opportunities for multi-discipline online learning, expanded newcomer initiatives and increased access to digital collections.

The budget for the Aurora Public Library is approved to increase by \$70,100 to a total of \$4,122,200 in 2024 and then increase by a further \$82,400 in 2025 and \$84,100 in 2026, to a total budget of \$4,204,600 and \$4,288,700 in each year. This increase relates mostly to inflationary pressures.

<https://aurorapl.ca/>

## Aurora Sports Hall of Fame

The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame is a celebration of sport history and excellence, dedicated to the recognition of the important place that sport has assumed within the Town of Aurora. Visitors are encouraged to explore and appreciate Aurora's rich sport heritage and achievement whether it be in-person or online.

The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame is located at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex. The exhibits feature inductee profiles and artifacts, an expanded sports heritage display and more.

The budget for the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame increases by \$925 to a total of \$31,725 in 2024 and then increase by a further \$635 in 2025 and \$650 in 2026, to a total budget of \$32,360 and \$33,010 in each year. This increase relates to inflationary pressures.

The Town provides curatorial services on behalf of the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame at a value of \$20,000 per year. These services are included as part of Community Services operating budget.

<https://aurorashof.ca/>

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