

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Attention: News Editor

### **Grant opportunities open**

The Regional Grants Scheme (RGS) and the Community Chest Fund (CCF) will open to community groups and local governments across the Great Southern on Monday 11 January.

Communities will benefit from a 50 per cent increase to the funding pools this year.

Just over \$2 million has been allocated to the Great Southern for economic and social infrastructure projects across 11 local government areas.

On Monday 21 December, Regional Development Minister Terry Redman announced the funding as part of a \$20 million state-wide program made possible by the State Government's Royalties for Regions.

Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) Chairman Peter Rundle said the Great Southern's funding allocation included \$1.67 million for RGS grants from \$50,001 to \$300,000. The CCF would provide \$556,000 for grants of up to \$50,000.

Mr Rundle said the previous round of the CCF was for grants up to \$20,000 but prospective applicants should note that the funding limit for the program has been raised to \$50,000.

In the previous round, the RGS provided almost \$1.1 million funding allocation supporting projects worth a total of \$12 million.

"The previous round of the RGS supported major projects in the Great Southern such as stage one of the Denmark Riverside Club improvements and building accommodation units for seasonal workers and visitors in Nyabing," Mr Rundle said.

"Previous CCF grants provided \$370,000 to support 26 smaller projects in the region, including events and minor upgrades to community facilities.



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“Royalties for Regions funding through these programs is helping to build the economy of the Great Southern and to ensure that the region strengthens its social advantages,” he said.

Four previous rounds of the RGS have supported 104 projects with more than \$11 million in funding.

CCF applications close at 4pm on Tuesday 1 March 2016, and RGS applications close at 4pm on Thursday 17 March.

It is important to note that the RGS is for projects starting from 1 July 2016.

Guidelines and application forms will be available from Monday 11 January on the GSDC website at [www.gsdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gsdc.wa.gov.au).

Further information can be obtained by emailing [gsdc@gsdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:gsdc@gsdc.wa.gov.au) or by phoning 9842 4888.

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