

Required information	Applicant provided response
Project name	Renovation of the St Arnaud Rail Station for Community Use.
Project location	St Arnaud Rail Station, Queens Avenue, St Arnaud.
Name of organisation applying for a grant	Raillery Hub Incorporated. (RHI).
Brief description of the organisation applying for a grant	A not for profit, Incorporated Association registered with Consumer Affairs Victoria (Aoo 96551Q) and run by a volunteer Committee of Management.
Brief project summary (max 100 words).	Renovation of the St Arnaud Rail Station for community use by VicTrack, under their <i>Community Use of Vacant Rail Buildings Program</i> . All funds received from VicTrack go directly to renovation of the Station and no funds have been received by RHI. We will be responsible for all operating costs, utilities, insurance and a nominal rent. A new kitchen will be provided, but we must purchase all kitchen appliances/equipment and pay for installation. We consider this a priority to offer spaces for community use, provide services to visitors and to host events.
Maximum amount applied for.	\$3,000 for purchase of kitchen appliances; cooker/oven, extractor fan, ducting, fridge, bar fridge, dishwasher, microwave, coffee machine, washing machine & labour costs to install. Plus, all cooking utensils & serving dishes.
Expected date of project completion.	Mid-2019.

Project Details

Include in this section information about the project and how it will help to contribute to achieving the goals of the grant program. Reference to the “*CBWF Community Grant Program Guidelines*” is important. Make sure to also include information on the following details:

- **A summary of what the project is, including where it is.**

Raillery Hub Incorporated “Statement of Purpose” is: To be custodians of the 1879 Heritage Listed St Arnaud Rail Station, ensuring it becomes a viable community asset, which attracts tourism, addresses local needs and contributes to the well-being of the local and surrounding rural communities through the:

- Delivery of a not for profit, Multi-Purpose Centre, which fosters an inclusive, diverse and healthy community.
- Provision of services, venues and facilities that encourage participation and engage the community in a variety of educational and creative activities and events.
- Establishment of an innovative community art gallery for the promotion & development of the visual, literary and performing arts.

Our role and objectives are to:

1. Remain financially viable, flexible, innovative and responsive to community needs.
2. Not duplicate or replace, but complement and collaborate, with existing service providers and community organisations.
3. Enhance and value the history and heritage of the region.
4. Contribute to local environmental sustainability and community resilience.
5. Make cultural and educational opportunities available and affordable to all residents.
6. Provide meeting spaces and facilities for community groups, artists and other community information and service providers.
7. Engage the community in activities, programs, workshops, lectures, exhibitions, services and events, that foster the values of participation, wellbeing, social interaction, personal growth and lifelong learning.
8. Focus on providing spaces for education and celebration, gathering places, spaces for reflection, places for making and experiencing art, and learning and doing.

- **An indication of the objectives of the project, what the planned outcomes are and how they can be measured.**

RHI wishes to provide a ‘Principle Point’ of social, educational, cultural, environmental and economic development possibilities for all residents. The retention and increase of local skills and talent in the community will ensure it remains viable in to the future, continues to provide opportunities for the existing population and potentially will attract new visitors, residents & businesses. A measure of our relevance in the community will be seen by visitor numbers, workshop and event attendance, engagement with other community organisations, use of the facilities, increased volunteers, successful funding and media coverage. We have policies and innovative ideas in place to achieve this.

- **An explanation of how the community will benefit.** We believe this is an exceptional opportunity for St Arnaud which will ensure the Station becomes a long term and viable community asset, which addresses local needs, contributes to the wellbeing of local & surrounding communities, attracts increased tourism to our town, supports local business and which is culturally appropriate for our community. The flow on effects of to the Station will benefit accommodation providers, food outlets and

other retailers, as well as attendance at other available local attractions. We aim to provide cultural, educational, social and economic benefits to our community by growing involvement in the arts, regional development, increased tourism, the exchange of knowledge & skills, while improving the overall amenity of the town. Our focus is to expand beyond St Arnaud over time and engage surrounding rural communities. We believe this is necessary to continue to engage a larger population and benefit from positive relationships with other communities, which will advantage us by increased support and the availability of additional visitors, instructors, volunteers, supporters, students and creative people.

- **An estimation of how many people will benefit.** The continuous planned expansion and offering of new workshops, experiences and services in an ongoing program of activities, will provide opportunities for all residents, irrespective of age, gender, income or interests to participate. There will also be an emphasis to promote and provide attractions, exhibitions and events that local, interstate and overseas travellers visiting St Arnaud would be attracted to. We believe we can offer a venue that will appeal to the local and surrounding rural communities, as well as visitors to our region.

- **What contribution/in kind support your organisation will make towards the project.**

As with all not for profit, community organisations to remain financially viable fundraising, grant applications, Crowd Funding and Corporate Sponsorship will be necessary to supplement revenue received from course fees, venue hire, ticket sales, sale of goods and services, commissions, donations or other sources. We are also applying for Deductible Gift Recipient status, so that monetary donations can be tax deductible and offer an encouraging incentive to donate, plus allow additional possibilities for grants. We will remain a not for profit Association, but must also generate enough income to cover our operating costs.

- **Who will manage the project.**

A volunteer Committee of Management and community volunteers. In the future, as funds become available we would like to employ a Manager to administer activities and oversee the premises. We have also formed good relationships with other community organisations, trades people, local businesses, artists and potential instructors, and have received Pro Bono legal, interior and landscape design advice and other expertise. Direct community engagement will be invited through the formation of Working Bees and Sub-Committees with specific skills, prepared to take responsibility for tasks identified that appeal to their individual interests. This may include landscaping, maintenance, curation, interior design, advertising, marketing, communication, youth involvement or workshop instructors, volunteer recruitment, governance or grant writing.

- **What the overall cost of the project is.**

VicTrack will not release the total cost of the project for all the renovations at this time, because it is commercial in confidence and until all building works are completed. 15 other Rail Stations have already been completed across the state under this Program. The most recently opened was in Avoca, where the estimated cost to complete was \$420K. The St Arnaud Station is much larger than Avoca and could be estimated to

cost above this figure. None of these funds come to our Association, they are used exclusively for the Station renovations and require no contribution from another source. We approximate for RHI to fitout the Station internally with furniture, kitchen appliances, office equipment and other essentials we will need \$40K.

- **What the timeline of the project is.**

Heritage Works were completed in 2017. An Architect and Heritage Consultant have been appointed and the building tender awarded. The Planning Application was received from Northern Grampians Shire Council in October 2018. RHI will Sub Lease the Station from the Head Lessee, the Bendigo Bank and occupy the refurbished Station in Mid-2019.

Project Eligibility Criteria

Criterion 1: We believe that St Arnaud, being located within 18K of Coonooer Bridge, demonstrates a strong connection to the district and its residents. St Arnaud is the closet regional centre for these surrounding rural communities.

Criterion 2: Attached is a Letter of Support from a shareholder of the Wind Farm.

Criterion 3: As described in our 'Statement of Purpose' above, our project will contribute to maintaining environmental, economic and social sustainability and continue to promote the wellbeing of our and surrounding rural communities. We will also provide opportunities for community participation, art, culture, recreation and education.

Criterion 4: According to the current VicTrack schedule, we are estimated to occupy the Station in Mid-2019. If for any reason this schedule was delayed, funds would still be used for the purpose intended and all kitchen appliances, which we have applied for grant funding would be purchased and installed as soon as possible.

Criterion 5: We understand, accept and agree to all the terms and conditions of applying for funding from the Coonooer Bridge Wind Farm Community Grant Program.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit our application to you. Thank you.