

Jason Trottier

From: ICIPCOVID (MOI) <ICIPCOVID@ontario.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 12:50 PM
To: Jason Trottier
Subject: COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream: Local Government Intake Notification
Attachments: Appendix A - Remote Communities.pdf; Appendix B - Project Eligibility Criteria.pdf

Dear **Jason Trottier**
Municipality of East Ferris

Re: Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) – COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream

On October 28, 2020, Ontario announced the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (“COVID stream”) under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) in Ontario.

Under the new COVID stream, \$250 million in combined federal-provincial funding will be dedicated to local governments across the province. **Your municipality’s allocation is \$100,000 for this new stream.**

The federal government has indicated that investments under this stream are to support public infrastructure, defined as tangible capital assets, including temporary infrastructure related to pandemic response, primarily for public use and/or benefit. According to federal parameters, eligible projects include (see Appendix B for full details):

- **Retrofits, Repairs and Upgrades** for municipal, provincial, territorial and indigenous buildings, health infrastructure and educational infrastructure;
- **COVID-19 Response Infrastructure**, including measures to support physical distancing;
- **Active Transportation Infrastructure**, including parks, trails, foot bridges, bike lanes and multi-use paths; and
- **Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation**, including natural infrastructure, flood and fire mitigation, tree planting and related infrastructure.

Municipalities should work with the federal eligibility criteria to identify projects to address COVID-19 responses and resilience, including in municipal/regional owned long-term care homes. Municipalities are also able to partner with not-for-profit and broader public sector organizations (e.g. any public sector body) and submit projects on their behalf, using their municipal allocations. This will be subject to the municipality’s own project evaluation prior to submission to the province. Not-for-profits and broader public sector organizations are not eligible to apply on their own. More information will be available on this in the program guidelines.

As with other ICIP streams, projects that have already commenced construction or contain no capital components (i.e. planning projects) are ineligible for funding under this intake. Additionally, costs for land acquisition, infrastructure for tourism or facilities home to a professional sports team, and any project already nominated to the federal government under another ICIP stream are ineligible under the COVID stream.

Municipalities will not be required to cost-share under this stream. The federal government will cover 80% of the total eligible costs associated with any approved project and Ontario will cover 20%, however, total eligible costs for all submitted projects cannot exceed your municipal allocation noted above.

Municipalities will have the opportunity to submit projects for review and approval, but eligible costs associated with any given project cannot exceed \$10 million.

There will be a project cap based on your municipal allocation:

- 1 project submission for those receiving a maximum of \$100,000;
- 2 project submissions for those receiving \$100,001 to a maximum of \$500,000; and,
- 5 project submissions for those receiving \$500,001 and above.

Projects are limited to one of four categories as outlined by the federal government in the list in appendix B. Please contact our delivery team (email below) if you have questions about this. Municipalities can bundle various assets, within one of the four categories, under one project submission.

The federal timelines of this program require all parties to work together quickly to implement funding. Applications will be reviewed and prioritized by the province based on a rolling intake (i.e. first-come, first-served), but the following deadlines will apply:

- Applications for single projects must be submitted to the province through the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system by December 21, 2020;
- Applications for multiple projects must be submitted to the province through the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system by January 7, 2021;
- Projects must have started construction by September 30, 2021; and,
- Projects must have completed construction by December 31, 2021; except for remote communities which will have until December 31, 2022 (see below).

Only projects that meet the above criteria, as well as those that will follow in the provincial program guidelines will be considered for nomination by the Province to the federal government. No deadline extensions will be considered. If you do not submit your application on time, or your project does not start and/or complete by the deadlines required by the federal government, you will lose any opportunity to access this funding allocation.

As per federal parameters, remote communities will receive additional time and have until December 31, 2022 to complete project construction. Communities who fall under this definition, as per the Canada-Ontario Integrated Bilateral Agreement, are outlined in the attached in Appendix A.

Application materials (i.e. application forms, program guidelines and federal Environmental Assessment/Duty to Consult forms) will become available on the TPON website once the stream has officially launched the week of November 16th. Please check back on the site for updates in the coming weeks.

If you have questions about your municipality's allocation, program eligibility, getting prepared for project submission or would like a copy of this communication in French, please contact ICIPCOVID@ontario.ca for support.

We look forward to working with you as you submit projects.

Sincerely,

Trevor Fleck
A/Director, Intergovernmental Policy and Delivery Branch
Ministry of Infrastructure