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Canada Community Revitalization Fund

The Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) aims to help communities across Canada build and improve community infrastructure projects so they can rebound from the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. With a national investment of \$500 million over two years, the Fund's purpose is to support not-for-profit organizations, municipalities and other community groups, as well as Indigenous communities:

- build new community infrastructure and revitalize existing assets
- bring people back to public spaces safely as health measures ease
- create jobs and stimulate local economies

Indigenous applicants

Indigenous applicants are invited to apply through the process described below for projects of all types and sizes. Under the Fund, FedNor can contribute up to 100% funding for projects with Indigenous groups.

Indigenous applicants to the Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) may request additional time to submit applications, taking into account that the CCRF (Canada Community Revitalization Fund) is a time-limited initiative ending March 31, 2023. For more information, Indigenous applicants are asked to contact their respective [FedNor Program Officer](#) as early as possible prior to July 23, 2021.

Eligible Recipients

- Not-for-profit organizations;
- Co-operatives and business improvement areas (BIAs);
- Municipal or regional government established by or under provincial or territorial statute;
- Local Service Districts, regional districts or similar types of entities that are established as unincorporated units of governance;
- Rural communities that are incorporated but considered non-municipal bodies;
- A public-sector body that is established by or under provincial or territorial statute or by regulation or is wholly owned by province, territory, municipal or regional government and that provides municipal-type infrastructure services to communities; and
- An Indigenous organization such as Indigenous-led not-for-profits and organizations which include but are not limited to First Nations as represented by their Chief and Council, Tribal Councils, Indigenous Representative Organizations, Métis and Inuit organizations and Settlements as well as Indigenous/First Nation/Métis Settlement owned organizations.

Ineligible Recipients

Individuals, businesses and provincial or territorial governments are **not** eligible to apply to the CCRF.

What type of activities are eligible?

The Fund will provide support for the following project types:

- Adapting and reimagining/re-envisioning community spaces and maintaining accessibility standards so that they may safely be used by

communities in accordance with social distancing and local public health guidelines to help revitalize areas and support future planning efforts. Projects could include community transformation infrastructure to help rejuvenate communities, downtown cores, main streets, and shared spaces.

Examples include projects such as farmers markets, community centres, community museums, cultural centres, parks, community gardens, green houses, recreational trails and facilities, bike paths, outdoor sport facilities, libraries, waterfront spaces and tourism facilities.

- Building (i.e. the construction of) or improving community infrastructure through the expansion, improvement or creation of community spaces to encourage Canadians to re-engage in and explore their communities and regions.

Examples include supporting economic growth by investing in infrastructure for existing community assets for public benefit that have a local community impact, multi-purpose centres, co-working spaces and other similar spaces while ensuring that post COVID-19 health and safety requirements are addressed.

What are the priorities?

Four priorities have been identified for the CCRF. The priorities are listed in order of importance:

1. **Downtown core and main street**

- Core: The dissemination areas encompassing the highest job density based on the place of work information.

- Downtown neighbourhood: Area composed of the downtown core, and encompassing one-kilometre adjacent area surrounding the core (based on the Census classification).
- Main street: Includes not only the highest job density areas, but also important commercial areas.

2. Outdoor space

- Includes open-air facility or space (e.g. anything without doors or windows). In addition to parks, sport facilities (e.g., outdoor ball fields, rinks), and recreational trails, open air markets like farmers markets that aren't fully enclosed/roofed may qualify.

3. Green projects

- Projects that support a clean growth economy and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. This could include, for example, projects to mobilize communities that want to reduce their carbon footprint (e.g. support for the development of a green local development plan, support to local businesses for local circular economy projects, support for the construction of community greenhouses), with a special focus on Indigenous communities.
- Projects that make the community space more energy efficient (e.g., encouraging new build to net zero standards), lower carbon (e.g., electrification), more resilient (e.g., more resistance to extreme climate events like floods), and higher performing (i.e., better results with same or fewer resources resulting in less inputs and/or waste).

4. Accessibility

- Projects that intend to improve accessibility, as well as all new builds, that will meet or exceed the highest published accessibility standard as defined by the requirements in the Canadian Standards Association's Technical Standard Accessible Design for

the Built Environment (CAN/CSA B651-18) or the most recent standard, in addition to provincial or territorial building codes, and relevant municipal by-law.

Should your project not fall within one of the priorities outlined above, it may still be considered for funding.

Other priorities include:

- Shovel ready: describes projects that are considered to be at an advanced stage of development for which activities are set to begin promptly. Priority may be given to those projects that can demonstrate an increased capacity of the applicant to be able to complete their project within the required timeframe;
- Bringing in other partners to leverage project funding (priority may be given to those projects that require a federal contribution of only 50 percent);
- Of a smaller scope where the project will be completed within the required timeframe to ensure that the program benefits will be shared broadly;
- Requesting funds under \$500K;
- Helping communities rebound from the effects of the pandemic and contribute to the reanimation of communities, towns and cities; and/or
- Demonstrate measurable direct or indirect social-economic benefits.
- Priority may be given to projects that encourage the participation of under-represented groups.

Eligible costs

- Eligible costs include those already eligible under current program authorities and include all costs deemed reasonable and necessary for

carrying out eligible projects that contribute to achieving the Fund's objective. Eligible costs include items such as:

- Costs associated with the constructions, enhancements, alterations, restoration and/or
 - the undertaking of leasehold improvements;
 - Incremental fees paid to professional, technical personnel, consultants and contractors;
 - Purchase of equipment or machinery directly related to or necessary for the project;
 - Costs associated with the enhancement, improvement and/or development of a site or infrastructure;
 - Direct materials and supplies related to the project;
 - Incremental salaries and benefits for individuals employed for the project
- Costs may be eligible on a retroactive basis up to 12 months prior to the receipt of a project application, but no earlier than April 19, 2021.

Ineligible costs

- Costs associated with maintenance and operational activities that typically need to be undertaken on a recurring/annual basis;
- Motorized vehicles;
- The purchase of a building; and
- Land.

Percentage of eligible costs

- Max contribution rate for eligible projects costs shall not normally exceed 75%.

- For assistance provided to an Indigenous not-for-profit organization or a band, the maximum contribution rate for eligible costs may go up to 100%.

Stacking limit (all assistance provided through government funding)

- Stacking limit may be up to 100%.

Financial assistance

- Financial assistance will be non-repayable contributions.

Maximum amount per project

- The maximum contribution amount per project shall not exceed \$750K
- The actual contribution amount will be based on the minimum amount required to carry out the project.

How will projects be screened?

Projects will be screened based on the following criteria:

1. **Eligibility:** The extent to which the applicant meets the criteria of who can apply.
2. **Alignment:** The extent to which the applicant demonstrates how their project aligns with the following:
 - objective of the fund
 - priority areas (i.e. 1) downtown cores and main street, 2) outdoor spaces, 3) green projects and 4) accessibility)
3. **State of readiness:** The extent to which the project is ready to begin.

4. **Other funding:** The extent to which the applicant has secured project funding from other sources.
5. **Inclusive growth:** The extent to which the project benefits or encourages the inclusion of under-represented groups.

Disbursement of Funding

You can expect to receive an email including a contribution agreement and additional forms that will be required to be completed by you. Following the execution of a contribution agreement signed by both parties, an initial Advance Payment will be issued based on your cost forecast. An initial advance payment letter will follow and include the final claim reporting package for your completion and submission. The final claim will be required to reconcile the advance payment and to allow release of the balance of funds, as required.

Application Process

A one-time special scheduled intake will focus on eligible projects that are ready to proceed. Initial screening will begin during the four-week period. Assessment of applications will begin on July 23, 2021. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit their applications by this date.

Should there be remaining funding after the scheduled intake period, applications will continue to be accepted and funded on a continuous intake basis over the next two years or until such a time as the allocated funding is fully distributed.

FedNor has a Two-phase application process that is used across all programs.

Refer to the Application Guide for instructions on how to complete FedNor's Phase One Application for Financial Assistance. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review the Application Guide in conjunction with these programming guidelines.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact a FedNor Program Officer prior to submitting an application.

Assessment Process

FedNor will review Phase One applications as they are received.

All applications will be screened initially for completeness.

Complete applications are those that include all prescribed documentation containing all information needed for FedNor to complete the review.

Information should be accurate, verifiable, relevant and consistent.

Phase Two Detailed Application

Upon initial review of the Phase 1 Application for Financial Assistance, applicants will be invited to submit a Phase Two Detailed Application, Annex and provide supporting documentation. The information required and instructions on how to proceed will be provided to applicants.

Phase Two Detailed Application Review:

Phase Two Detailed Applications will be evaluated on their ability to support the objectives of the program and meet the following criteria:

- Applicant can demonstrate it has an established track record in the delivery of projects;

- Applicant has the expertise and the resources required to complete the proposed project;
- Applicants have established a clear project governance structure and decision-making process;
- The project addresses a need identified by end users and will not duplicate existing efforts or projects;
- Accountability mechanisms are in place to ensure due diligence in administering public funds and the ability to report on performance measures; and
- Identification of a person and position responsible for project delivery and management along with key officers that have signing authority.

Confidentiality

All proprietary data, commercially sensitive information and potentially valuable results or ideas will be protected from unauthorized, inadvertent or untimely disclosure. This information will be treated in accordance with the [Access to Information Act](#) and the [Privacy Act](#).

These laws govern, protect and limit the collection, use and disclosure of personal and confidential information by federal government departments and agencies. Beyond the parties already mentioned above, confidential commercial information will not be shared without the applicant's consent.

Reporting Requirements

Successful applicants will be required to report to FedNor on project expenditures and activities, the results/outcomes of the project, and achievement of performance indicators as identified in contribution agreements.

Visibility and Communications Requirements

Recipients must agree to participate in a public announcement and other promotional activities linked to the Contribution, as outlined in the Communications requirements section of FedNor's website.

Service Standards

FedNor is committed to providing quality service to all applicants and funding recipients in the official language of their choice.

Our goal is to:

- acknowledge receipt of an application within three (3) working days; and,
- provide a decision on applications within eighty (80) working days of receipt of a fully completed application.

Other

Where applicable, FedNor requires that:

- Capital projects respect Canada's obligation to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Indigenous communities;
- Applicants use a fair, competitive and transparent procurement process to ensure the best value for money when supplies, equipment and services are purchased or personnel hired; and
- An appropriate authority or regulatory body endorses the project.

If you decide to accept public funding, depending on the nature of your project and the targeted clientele, you may be asked to assume official languages obligations among other obligations outlined in your

contribution agreement.

FedNor requires that all projects conform to requirements set out in the Canadian Impact Assessment Act 2019 (IAA 2019). The *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) and its regulations establish the legislative basis for the federal impact assessment process.

Regulations define the types of projects subject to IAA that may require an impact assessment, the information to be provided in project descriptions, Agency deliverables provided to proponents, circumstances of when the Minister may suspend the legislated timelines, and what costs can be recovered from proponents.

Contact Us

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact FedNor to discuss their project with a FedNor Program Officer, who will also explore other government programs that may be applicable, or begin your application process.

For more information on FedNor's programs, visit Our Programs, or call 1-877-333-6673. TTY (for hearing-impaired): 1-866-694-8389.

Note:

- A complete Application for Financial Assistance must first be submitted to determine your project's eligibility.
- Electronic or Written confirmation that an application may proceed to a Phase Two Detailed Application should not be interpreted as FedNor's approval of the proposed project or authorization to start with the proposed activities.

- Applicants cannot presume that financial support will be provided toward their project until written approval is obtained through a signed contribution agreement.

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