

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)

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Community Economic Development Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ecd/ep/ced/index-eng.asp>

What is the CEDP?

The Community Economic Development Program provides core financial support for First Nation and Inuit communities for public services in economic development. The financial support is intended for community economic development planning and capacity development initiatives, development of proposals and leveraging financial resources, and carrying out economic development activities.

The Community Economic Development Program is expected to lead to community economic benefits including more community employment, greater use of land and resources under community control, enhanced community economic infrastructure, more and larger community businesses, more business opportunities, and a better climate and environment for community economic development.

Who is eligible for this program?

First Nation Councils, governments of self-governing First Nation and Inuit communities, representative organizations of Inuit communities and other organizations mandated by the foregoing to carry out ongoing activities and projects on their behalf may apply.

Where First Nation Councils, governments of self-governing First Nation and Inuit communities and representative organizations of Inuit members in Inuit communities have designated or mandated other organizations to carry out economic development activities on their behalf, they may revoke the mandate or designation for the following fiscal year, subject to notice provided in writing to INAC and the mandated organization by **September 30**.

Eligible Projects and Activities

Eligible one-time projects and ongoing activities address:

1. Community economic planning and capacity development, including but not limited to:
 - a. Community economic development strategies and community economic planning, including economic planning in the context of overall community planning;
 - b. Organizational design and structures;
 - c. Development of the skills and experience of the organization's staff; and
 - d. Coordinating economic development activities with other community initiatives.
2. Proposal development and leverage of financial resources, including:

- a. Identifying and securing funding and other resources for community economic development; and
- b. Development of proposals.
- 3. Community economic development, including:
 - a. Employment of community members;
 - b. Community-owned (e.g. community development corporation) and community member business development;
 - c. Community land and resource development;
 - d. Access to opportunities from land and resources beyond community control;
 - e. Promoting investment in communities; and
 - f. Research and advocacy.

Funding:

National program funds are allocated each year to INAC's regional offices. Regional offices will allocate their regional share of the national allocation:

- 1. To address commitments under existing Alternative Funding Arrangements (also known as Canada/First Nation Funding Agreements and Fiscal Transfer Agreements); and
- 2. To support other First Nation and Inuit communities according to the regional allocation plan.

What is the approval criteria?

For the Community Economic Development Program, funding approval to a particular recipient in any particular year will be based on:

- 1. Whether the recipient has submitted an operational plan for the year;
- 2. The acceptability of the operational plan, including:
 - a. The adequacy of the plan as a basis for accountability or performance measurement;
 - b. Whether the annual operational plan utilizes the annual funding allocation to the recipient;
 - c. One-time projects and ongoing activities as described are eligible for funding; and
 - d. Other economic development initiatives in the region which may influence the effectiveness of the plan have been taken into account.

For applications, reporting forms and more information please contact a regional office:

Atlantic Region
 40 Havelock Street
 P.O. Box 160
 Amherst, NS B4H 3Z3
Tel: (902) 661-6200

Alberta Region
 630 Canada Place
 9700 Jasper Avenue
 Edmonton, AB T5J 4G2
Tel: (780) 495-2773

Fax: (902) 661-6237

Quebec Region

320 St. Joseph Street East, Suite 400
Québec, QC G1K 9J2

Tel: (toll-free) 1-800-567-9604

Fax: (toll-free) 1-866-817-3977

TTY: (toll-free) 1-866-553-0554

Ontario Region - South

25 St. Clair Avenue East, 8th Floor
Toronto, ON M4T 1M2

Tel: 1-800-567-9604

Fax: (416) 954-3189

Ontario Region - North

Northern Access Centre for
Native Business

201-100 Anemki Drive
Thunder Bay, ON T7J 1A5

Tel: 1-800-567-9604

Fax: (807) 623-4514

Manitoba Region

365 Hargrave Street, Suite 200
Winnipeg, MB R3B 3A3,

Tel: (204) 983-4928

Fax: (204) 983-7820

Saskatchewan Region

1 First Nations Way, Room 200
Regina, SK S4S 7K5

Tel: (306) 780-5945

Fax: (306) 780-5733

Fax: (780) 495-4088

British Columbia Region

1138 Melville St, Suite 600
Vancouver, BC V6E 4S3

Tel: (604) 666-7891

Fax: (604) 775-7149

Yukon Region

300 Main Street, Room 415C
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2B5,

Tel: (867) 667-3888

Fax: (867) 667-3387

Northwest Territories Region

P.O. Box 1500
4914 50th Street
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3,

Tel: (867) 669-2500

Fax: (867) 669-2711

Nunavut Region

969 Qimugjug Building
P.O. Box 2200

Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0,

Tel: (867) 975-4500

Fax: (867) 975-4560

Community Economic Opportunities Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ecd/ep/ceo/index-eng.asp>

The Community Economic Opportunities Program provides project-based support to those First Nation and Inuit communities that have the best opportunities for public services in economic development. In these communities, the Community Economic Opportunities Program is expected to lead to community economic benefits including more community employment, greater use of land and resources under community control, enhanced community economic infrastructure, more and larger community businesses, more business opportunities, and a better climate and environment for community economic development.

First Nation Councils, governments of self-governing First Nation and Inuit communities, representative organizations of Inuit communities and other organizations mandated by the foregoing to carry out ongoing activities and projects on their behalf may apply.

What activities are eligible for funding?

1. Employment of community members;
2. Community-owned and community-member business development;
3. Development of land and resources under community control;
4. Access to opportunities originating with land and resources beyond community control;
5. Promotion of the community as a place to invest; and
6. Research and advocacy.

What information is required?

Applicants may submit a brief Statement of Intent prior to submitting a full application. After reviewing the Statement of Intent, INAC will indicate whether the project meets program criteria, and will advise the applicant on the development of the full application.

A full application includes:

1. Project design, including description, objectives, scope and deliverables;
2. Uses and sources of funds;
3. Identification and justification of costs;
4. Management capacity;
5. Project organizational structure;
6. Administrative arrangements;
7. Time lines;
8. Community economic benefits; and
9. Where appropriate, compliance with laws and regulatory requirements, environmental effects; land tenure requirements; and operating, maintenance and repair plans.

Funding:

INAC's funding is directly related to the community economic benefits and the need for funding that has been demonstrated in the application. It will not exceed \$3,000,000. In addition, INAC funding will not exceed two-thirds of the total project cost for economic infrastructure projects or 80% of the total cost for all other types of projects. Recipients must provide at least 10% of eligible project expenditures.

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40 Havelock Street
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Fax: (902) 661-6237

Alberta Region

630 Canada Place
9700 Jasper Avenue
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Tel: (780) 495-2773
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Quebec Region

320 St. Joseph Street East, Suite 400
Québec, QC G1K 9J2
Tel: (toll-free) 1-800-567-9604
Fax: (toll-free) 1-866-817-3977
TTY: (toll-free) 1-866-553-0554

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Tel: (604) 666-7891
Fax: (604) 775-7149

Ontario Region - South

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300 Main Street, Room 415C
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Manitoba Region

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969 Qimugjug Building
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Saskatchewan Region

1 First Nations Way, Room 200
Regina, SK S4S 7K5
Tel: (306) 780-5945
Fax: (306) 780-5733

Elementary/Secondary Education Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ese-eng.asp>

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) funds band councils and First Nation education authorities for the education of children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 who attend schools on reserves or who attend provincially-run schools off reserve.

In 2006-07, the Elementary/Secondary Education Program supported approximately 120,000 students and 515 schools with a budget of \$1.2 billion.

The program pays for:

- Instructional services in on-reserve schools, operated by the First Nation or by the federal government
- The reimbursement to provinces for tuition costs of students who attend provincial schools off-reserve
- Support services such as transportation, counseling, accommodation and financial assistance

Approximately 60% of First Nations students are taught on reserve, almost always in schools operated by a band council, another First Nations organization, or a federal school.

The other 40% go off-reserve to schools under provincial authority, usually for secondary school.

The program includes a number of project-based initiatives (\$65 million in 2006-07) that provide additional education services designed to support improved educational outcomes, such as professional development for teaching staff, teacher recruitment and retention, and greater parent and community engagement in education.

Post-Secondary Education Programs

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/pse-eng.asp>

INAC provides financial support to eligible Status Indians and Inuit students under broad authorities of the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act* to continue their education. Funding for individual students is available through two programs as follows.

1. Post-Secondary Student Support Program

Tuition support for part-time and full-time students that may include fees for registration, tuition and the cost of books and supplies required for courses.

Travel support for students who must leave their permanent place of residence to attend college or university. Students may qualify for a grant to return home once every semester. This grant also covers any dependents who live with the student.

Living expenses for full-time students to help cover the costs of food, shelter, transportation and day care.

2. University College Entrance Preparation Program

Financial assistance for students with the cost of tuition fees, books and travel, and living allowances, when applicable. Financial assistance for Status Indian and Inuit students enrolled in university and college entrance preparation programs, to help them achieve the academic level required to enter degree and diploma programs.

3. Indian Studies Support Program

Post-secondary institutions receive funding for the development and delivery of special programs for Status Indians. Proposals for funding under this program should be forwarded to the INAC regional office.

Who is eligible for this program?

Inuit and Status Indian students (residing on or off reserve) and ordinarily resident in Canada.

Application Process:

Status Indian students who want to pursue post-secondary studies should contact their band office or the regional office of INAC. Inuit students residing out of the territories for more than one year should contact the Regional INAC office in the province of residence.

Special Education Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/sep-eng.asp>

What is the Special Education Program?

The Special Education Program provides additional investments in programs and services for First Nations children with identified special needs so they can reach their fullest potential.

The program gives them access to quality special education programs and services that are culturally sensitive and comparable to generally accepted provincial standards in that locality.

- direct school-based services, and
- indirect services, such as support for First Nations schools to design and implement special education programs

The special education program is administered by the First Nation, by a First Nations Regional Management Organization or some cases, by INAC regional offices.

Who is eligible to qualify for the program?

Students whose special needs cannot be met within the resources intended for the general student population are eligible.

Cultural/Educational Centres Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/cec-eng.asp>

What is the Cultural/Educational Centres Program?

The Cultural/Educational Centres Program funds 110 centres of activity in all provinces and territories to express, preserve, develop and promote First Nation and Inuit cultural heritage and education.

The program, established in 1971, provides financial assistance to First Nations, tribal/district councils, Inuit communities and First Nation/Inuit non-profit corporations for activities that lead to:

- development of curricula for First Nation and Inuit schools which is more culturally relevant to the student population; and
- an enhanced cultural environment and understanding within communities that contributes to better educational outcomes for First Nation and Inuit students.

How does the program work?

Proposals and workplans are to be completed by each group that expects to receive funds prior to disbursement of funds.

First Nations, Inuit and Innu who expect to receive funds under this program must submit a proposal and workplan to either the INAC HQ or regional office or the First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres in accordance with program guidelines.

Funding is granted based on availability, budget and program approval, community support (by band council resolution or hamlet resolution) and the submission of regular activity reports, financial reports and audits, as required.

First Nations SchoolNet

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/index1-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of the First Nations SchoolNet?

First Nations SchoolNet connects First Nations students and schools to the world. Internet access through the First Nations SchoolNet program has opened the doors to educational, economic, personal and professional opportunities for First Nations students and teachers on reserve.

All 515 First Nations schools on reserve have access to the internet with close to 50 percent connected by a high speed digital telephone line.

Access means students can connect and learn from each other, develop new skills, and participate in national and international events.

It also means that many federal services are brought into communities thanks to SchoolNet.

First Nations SchoolNet was established by the Government of Canada in 1996 to provide Internet access, computer equipment and technical support to First Nations schools on reserves across Canada.

Six non-profit First Nations SchoolNet Regional Management Organizations deliver the program in their respective region, working with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Atlantic: Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey

Quebec: First Nations Education Council

Ontario: Keewaytinook Okimakanak

Manitoba: Keewatin Tribal Council

Saskatchewan and Alberta: Keewatin Career Development Corporation

British Columbia: First Nations Education Steering Committee

For more information, please contact:

E-mail: pnr-fns@ainc-inac.gc.ca

Telephone: (toll-free) 1-800-567-9604

TTY: (toll-free) 1-866-553-0554

First Nation Student Success Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ssp-eng.asp>

What is the FNSSP?

The First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP) is part of an overarching commitment of the Government of Canada to set the foundation for long-term reform of First Nation education. A key component of the broader Reforming First Nations Education Initiative, the FNSSP is a proposal-driven program designed to support First Nation educators on reserve (Kindergarten to Grade 12) in their ongoing efforts to meet their students' needs and improve student and school results. In particular, the program will help First Nation educators to plan and make improvements in the three priority areas of literacy, numeracy and student retention.

The FNSSP has three components:

- *School Success Plans*: To introduce a consistent and comprehensive school success plan and support the development and implementation of activities outlined within the plan;
- *Student Learning Assessments*: The results of student learning assessments are used to identify areas for improvement. At a minimum, schools will participate in their respective provincial standard testing process. The FNSSP will support First Nation schools in selecting and implementing student achievement testing tools; and
- *Performance Measurement*: To support a First Nation school's ability to monitor the progress of students, manage schools and program-related information, and make it easier to gather, analyse and report on financial and performance indicators.

Funding is available on a proposal basis to eligible recipients who undertake **all three components** of the FNSSP within a three year period.

What is the criteria for proposals?

All proposals will be assessed using the following criteria:

- **Capability**: The experience and capacity of the recipient and identified project leader to manage the implementation of activities within their proposal successfully and complete the project in a timely manner.
- **Consultation and Commitment**: The extent to which the proposal has the support of the community; and the extent of, and approach to, community consultation for the implementation of the three Program components.
- **Implementation Activities**: The extent to which the proposal aligns with the eligible activities for the three components of the FNSSP and meets Program objectives. The assessment process will consider timelines, cost-effectiveness and the degree to which the activities will result in the intended outcomes.

- **Project Management:** How the project will be managed, including project governance, human resources, risk management, and project monitoring, control and reporting.
- **Project Costs:** A demonstration of a realistic assessment of estimated total costs and a justification of the level of the FNSSP funding required.

When can I submit my proposal?

The First Nation Student Success Program was launched in the autumn of 2008. The Program will roll out through successive rounds. Each round will begin with INAC's call for proposals from interested applicants. The annual Call for Proposals letter, which includes important proposal information and the deadline for submitting proposals, can be found on the INAC Education Web site under "Key Dates." (Last posted deadline: December 30, 2009)

How are proposals selected?

All proposals will undergo an initial screening process by the INAC Regional Office. Each proposal will be evaluated against the proposal selection criteria and forwarded to the National Selection Committee. The Committee will then decide which proposals will receive funding. The Committee is made up of representatives from INAC, and other external organizations, including Aboriginal education experts, as appropriate.

The number of submissions funded will depend on the strength and quantity of submissions and the funds available each year.

Proposals will be funded based on an allocation methodology that considers per student amounts and fixed costs up to a maximum of approximately \$2 million. This \$2 million would cumulate year over year (depending on the number of schools and students participating). Funding under this Program is for one fiscal year only, although proposals will cover a three-year period. Continued funding will depend on the Program recipients' achieving their targets and demonstrated progress in addressing the three priority areas of literacy, numeracy and student retention.

2010-2011 National Selection Committee:

http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/nsc10_11-eng.asp

Aboriginal Bursary Program

<http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/ab/site.nsf/index-eng?openview>

The purpose of the Aboriginal Bursary System is to provide Aboriginal students with a valuable tool to facilitate their pursuit of post-secondary studies. These awards are made available by various organizations and institutions. Bursaries may be searched by regions, disciplines, providers and key words.

To apply for bursaries, the organizations that are awarding them must be contacted.

More Federal Assistance for Aboriginal Students:

Students should also review the programs and assistance available through Human Resources and Social Development Canada at the following sites:

Learning and Post-Secondary Education

<http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/learning/index.shtml>

Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/employment/aboriginal_training/index.shtml

National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation

http://www.naaf.ca/html/home_e.html

First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ys/index-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of this strategy?

The Government of Canada created the Youth Employment Strategy to help young Canadians (between the ages of 15 and 30) obtain career information, develop skills, find good jobs and stay employed.

The First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy is part of that initiative.

There are four programs for First Nations and Inuit youth.

- First Nations and Inuit Youth Work Experience Program
- First Nations and Inuit Summer Student Employment Opportunities Program
- First Nations and Inuit Science and Technology Program
- First Nations and Inuit Career Promotion and Awareness Program

Job Search Toolkit for Aboriginal Youth:

The *Job Search Tool Kit for Aboriginal Youth* is designed to help you look for a job! Finding a job is really a full-time job in itself. It takes effort, dedication and time. And even more, it takes patience. This should give you a good start on the what, where and how of job hunting.

There are some exercises to help you discover your own personality, skills and talents (including ones you might not know are there). Then there is a section on the job market, with suggestions for you to follow up in your own province or territory.

In the practical sense, there is information on how to apply for that job - writing a résumé and cover letter, and going for an interview. Then when you get the job (and you will, with patience and perseverance), there are some suggestions for your first day on your new job. There are even tips on how to make yourself indispensable to your employer.

Finally there is a section on becoming an entrepreneur - how to figure out whether you have what it takes, as well as some information on where you can get more help and information.

For further information, please contact:

Toll Free: 1 800 622 6232

Food Mail Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nth/fon/fm/index-eng.asp>

What is the Food Mail Program?

The Food Mail Program is a combined effort of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Canada Post and Health Canada. It provides nutritious perishable food and other essential items to isolated northern communities at reduced postal rates. These items are provided to over 70,000 people in 80 communities across the North every week. More than 18 million kilograms of food mail are shipped annually under the program and this amount is increasing as Northern communities grow and thrive. In addition, the Food Mail Program conducts regular surveys to measure nutrition and food costs in remote Canadian communities serviced primarily by air transportation.

What are eligible products in the Food Mail Program?

The following products are eligible for shipping at the reduced postage rates. For a full list of eligible products, please see <http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nth/fon/fm/pubs/eig/eig-eng.asp>.

- dairy products (e.g. fresh milk, UHT milk, buttermilk, chocolate milk, cheese, processed cheese, processed cheese spreads, cottage cheese, butter, cream, ice cream, ice milk, sherbet, yogurt, frozen yogurt, yogurt drinks, powdered milk), excluding canned milk
- margarine
- meat, fish and poultry products (fresh or frozen, including cured and smoked products, fish sticks and fish cakes)
- fruits and vegetables (fresh or frozen)
- fresh juice (pure or reconstituted), frozen juice concentrate, juice in Tetra Paks and similar containers, all of which must be without sugar added
- bread and bread products without sweetened filling or coating
- eggs and egg substitutes
- selected semi-perishable food products (unsweetened seeds and nuts, cook-type cereals, whole wheat and rye flour, peanut butter, salad dressing, mayonnaise, yeast)
- prescription and non-prescription drugs
- canned products such as milk, unsweetened juice, fruit, vegetables, soup, meat, fish, poultry, stew
- dry beans, peas and lentils
- crackers, crispbread, hard bread, Pilot biscuits, melba toast
- all purpose flour, cake and pastry flour

What products are ineligible to ship?

The following products are ineligible for shipping at the reduced postage rates. For a full list of ineligible products, please see <http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nth/fon/fm/pubs/eig/eig-eng.asp>.

- sandwiches, hamburgers, hot dogs, prepared salads and other prepared foods for immediate consumption which are subject to the Goods and Services Tax
- fresh or frozen products consisting of meat, poultry, fish, vegetables or eggs which are breaded or battered or in pastry
- combinations containing any of the products described above
- fried chicken
- sausage rolls
- fish in batter
- fish and chips
- chicken and chips
- breaded onion rings
- poutine
- meat pies
- quiche
- frozen dinners containing breaded chicken or a sweetened baked good.
- beer, wine and spirits
- soft drinks
- carbonated and flavoured mineral water

Contact Information:

Food Mail Program Coordinator

Phone: (819) 994-4810

Fax: (819) 994-6769

E-mail: foodmail@ainc-inac.gc.ca

Assisted Living Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/hb/sp/alp-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of the Assisted Living Program?

The main objective of the Assisted Living program is to assist First Nations people with functional limitations (because of age, health problems or disability), to maintain their independence, to maximize their level of functioning, and to live in conditions of health and safety. There are three components to the Assisted Living Program: in-home care, which provides homemaker services; foster care, which provides supervision and care in a family setting; and institutional care, which provides services in Types I and II institutions. Type I is residential care for individuals requiring only limited supervision and assistance with daily living activities for short periods of time each day, and Type II is extended care for individuals requiring some personal care on a 24 hour basis, under medical and nursing supervision. Individuals requiring more intensive levels of medical care (ie. Types III, IV and V) are considered the responsibility of health authorities.

Who is eligible for this program?

Assisted Living services are provided to registered First Nations individuals living on reserve, who have functional limitations because of age, health problems or disability and who require care. The program is administered by First Nations officers who assess the financial and social needs of the client.

Contact Information:

For further information on the Adult Care Program in your community, contact the INAC regional office nearest you.

First Nations Infrastructure Fund

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/h/ci/pubs/prg/prg-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of the First Nations Infrastructure Fund?

The objective of First Nations Infrastructure Fund is to improve the environment and the quality of life of First Nation communities by improving and increasing the development of public infrastructure. This fund also supports roads and bridges, energy systems, planning and skills development projects and solid waste management. In September of each year, until 2011, First Nations are invited to submit applications for funding that includes project proposals to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada offices.

Who is eligible for funding?

Four categories of projects are eligible for funding under the program, each with several subcategories. All projects must fall within one or more of the eligible subcategories:

- *Planning and Skills Development:* Comprehensive Community Planning, Capital / Infrastructure Planning, Community Infrastructure Awareness and Maintenance Capacity, Training Related to Supporting Community Infrastructure
- *Solid Waste Management:* Waste Disposal Site Construction, Waste Diversion Projects, Transfer Stations, Recycling
- *Roads and Bridges:* Local Roads, Access Roads, Cost Sharing With Provincial / Municipal Roads Projects, Bridges
- *Energy Systems:* Grid Hook-Up Projects, Sustainable Energy Systems for Facilities (Solar Walls, Ground-Source Heat Pumps, Wind Power, Etc)

Eligible FNIF recipients are First Nation communities, which includes:

- a First Nation government including a band or tribal council or its agent (including its wholly owned corporation) on the condition that the First Nation has indicated support for the project and for the legally designated representative to act as an Applicant through a formal Band or Tribal Council resolution, or other documentation from Self-governing First Nations; and
- Innu communities where the applicant is on reserve or on Crown Land in the provinces;

The following are not eligible FNIF recipients:

- Departments, ministries and agencies of Canada or of a Province or Territory and federal, provincial or territorial departmental corporations or Crown corporations.
- Any other entity, such as private sector entities, that delivers core municipal services agreed to in a jurisdiction by Canada and that jurisdiction.

Project Funding:

In an effort to recognize the range of infrastructure needs in First Nation communities across the country, regional committees will strive to ensure that all parts of the region benefit from projects, and in an effort to respect this, the contribution from FNIF will not exceed \$10 million per project. While FNIF will allow a First Nation to apply every year to access FNIF funding, the maximum allowed payable per recipient will also be capped at \$10 million over the five year program. This will also support the objective of FNIF to ensure that as many First Nations as possible have the opportunity to access these funds.

Additional Information:

For additional information on the First Nations Infrastructure Fund, please contact your respective INAC regional office.

First Nations Market Housing Fund

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ai/mr/nr/j-a2009/nr000000178-eng.asp>

What is the First Nations Market Housing Fund?

Budget 2007 confirmed an investment of \$300 million to create a First Nations Market Housing Fund (FNMHF) designed to give First Nations people living on-reserve a better chance to own their own home by providing a backstop for private sector loans. The Government of Canada expects that the Fund will assist with the generation of 25,000 housing units over ten years.

The Fund will not replace existing Government funding for these programs. Instead, the Fund will broaden the range of housing options available to individuals residing in First Nations communities, to enable First Nations members to have the same housing choices and opportunities as other Canadians. It is an innovative new tool to help interested First Nations take steps to ensure their members living on-reserve can obtain loans from financial institutions to build, buy or renovate a house.

The Fund will ensure that eligible First Nation members can obtain housing loans, while leaving reserve lands for the collective benefit of First Nations members. Participation in the Fund is voluntary and will be available for those First Nations who choose to apply and qualify. The fund will work with First Nations that do not qualify to help them strengthen the way they manage housing in their communities so that they can meet the fund criteria and obtain loans in the future.

Family Violence Prevention Program for First Nations

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/hb/sp/fvp-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of this program?

The Family Violence Prevention Program aims to reduce family violence and create a more secure family environment for children on-reserve, by providing abuse prevention and protection services for Indian children and their families resident on reserve.

The INAC First Nation Family Violence Prevention Program is one component of Social Policy & Programs, which include Child & Family Services, Social Assistance, Adult Care, the National Child Benefit program and other social services that address individual and family well-being.

Project Haven Shelters, community based preventive projects, and off-reserve shelters all receive funding for providing services on-reserve or to First Nations people ordinarily resident on-reserve.

In 1998-1999, 30 Project Haven shelters assisted 4,194 First Nations people on-reserve. A further 1034 individuals were assisted in provincial/territorial off-reserve emergency shelters. During the same period, INAC funded family violence prevention projects in most First Nation communities. Included were public awareness and education campaigns, conferences, workshops, stress and anger management seminars, support groups, and community needs assessments for First Nation communities.

Who is eligible for the Family Violence Prevention Program?

INAC provides operational funding to shelters on-reserve and reimburses costs for off-reserve shelter services used by First Nations people ordinarily resident on-reserve. Community based projects must be aimed at reducing the incidents of violence on reserve.

Project funding for prevention, treatment and research is distributed regionally on a per capita basis. Funds are managed at a regional/community level. In some regions, family violence prevention activities are funded on a project basis, while in other regions First Nations are provided with funding on a per capita basis.

Contact Info:

For further information on the First Nation Family Violence Program in your community, visit <http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/hb/sp/fvp-eng.asp> or contact the INAC regional office nearest you.

First Nations Child and Family Services Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/hb/sp/fncf/index-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program?

The main objective of the First Nations Child & Family Services (FNCFS) Program is to assist First Nations in providing access to culturally sensitive child and family services in their communities, and to ensure that the services provided to First Nations children and their families on-reserve are comparable to those available to other provincial residents in similar circumstances.

The First Nations Child and Family Services Program funds 108 agencies (and provinces and the Yukon Territory where there are no agencies) to deliver culturally appropriate child and family services on reserve in accordance with provincial/Yukon Territory legislation and standards.

Funding has more than doubled over the past 10 years, from \$193 million in 1996/97 to approximately \$481 million in 2007/08. Funding is projected at \$523 million in 2008/09.

In Budget 2008, the federal government has committed an additional \$43 million over two years to continue to improve child and family services on reserve.

The INAC First Nations Child & Family Services Program is one component of Social Policy & Programs, which include Adult Care, Children's Programs, Social Assistance, Family Violence Prevention and other social services that address individual and family well-being.

Who is eligible to receive funding for this program?

The First Nations Child & Family Services Program provides services, where authorized, to registered First Nations individuals living on-reserve. First Nations Child & Family Services agencies are administered by First Nations, in co-operation with provincial or territorial authorities.

Contact Information:

For further information on the Child and Family Services program in your community, visit <http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ai/mr/is/fn-chfam-eng.asp> or contact the INAC regional office nearest you.

Provincial or Territorial Government departments of social service (<http://www.canada.gc.ca/othergov-autregouv/prov-eng.html>)

Income Assistance Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/hb/sp/iap-eng.asp>

The Income Assistance Program for First Nations is managed nationally by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). Through various kinds of funding arrangements, the program provides income assistance to eligible final recipients living on reserves across Canada.

INAC delivers the Income Assistance Program with the objective of providing all eligible final recipients on reserves with the means to meet basic needs for food, clothing and shelter. INAC also funds special needs allowances for goods and services that are essential to the physical or social well-being of a final recipient, but are not included as items of basic need. Amounts payable are done so according to the rates and eligibility requirements of the reference province or territory.

Indigent residents may require financial assistance to cover basic needs such as the following:

- shelter
- food
- clothing

Financial assistance may be required to cover special needs that may include:

- personal incidentals
- special diets
- essential household items
- guide dogs
- special transportation and moving costs
- child care and accommodation, transportation and equipment costs related to employment and training
- children's winter and school clothing
- funerals and burials
- other items identified in the relevant provincial or territorial legislation

Financial assistance may also be provided to support pre-employment activities that may include:

- pre-employment assistance such as financial support for employment- and training-related child care and accommodation, transportation and equipment costs
- employment-related relocation costs, basic work experience and training in essential skills
- counselling and life skills
- employability counselling and job-seeking skills
- transfers of income assistance entitlements to training and work experience projects

Who is eligible for this program?

To be eligible for income assistance, individuals must be *ordinarily resident on a reserve*, which means that they either:

- usually live at a civic address on a reserve
- in the case of children in joint custody, live more than 50 percent of the time on a reserve
- stay on the reserve and have no usual home elsewhere

Individuals, who are off a reserve for the primary purpose of any of the following, continue to be considered ordinarily resident:

- obtaining care not available on the reserve
- accessing social services because no reasonably comparable service is available on the reserve

For a list of communities where all residents are considered to be ordinarily resident on a reserve, see Annex B (http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/mnl/afv/anb_e.html).

Students - Students are persons who meet both of the following criteria:

- they are registered full-time in a post-secondary education or training program
- they are receiving federal, band or Aboriginal organization education or training support funding

Students continue to be considered ordinarily resident on a reserve if any of the following apply:

- they maintain a residence on the reserve
- they are a member of a family that maintains a residence on the reserve
- they return to live on the reserve with parents, guardians, caregivers or maintainers during the year, even if they live elsewhere while attending school or working at a temporary job

*Note: Students are any persons who are registered full time in a post-secondary education or training program, or who are receiving federal, band or Aboriginal organization education or training support funding.

National Child Benefit Reinvestment

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/hb/sp/ncb/index-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of the National Child Benefit Reinvestment?

The First Nations' National Child Benefit Reinvestment (NCBR) initiative provides a great opportunity to First Nations to develop projects that will address child poverty which exist in their individual community. The initiative is flexible enough to allow First Nations to choose different ways to improve the well-being of low-income families. Communities can decide which priority they would like to see addressed during the course of a given year. There is a wide range of initiatives that can be undertaken, such as hot lunch program for school children, improving employability of parents, cultural enrichment, child care, child nutrition, support for parents, or home-to-work transition.

The National Child Benefit is a federal/provincial/territorial initiative. It has three objectives:

- to help prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty;
- to promote workforce participation by ensuring that low-income families with children will always be better off as a result of parents working; and
- to reduce overlap and duplication by simplifying governments' administration of benefits for children.

As part of the NCB, the Government of Canada funds the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB), which is aimed at all low- and middle-income families (about 80 percent of Canadian families with children). Over and above the CCTB (the base benefit), the National Child Benefit Supplement provides additional benefits specifically for low-income families with children (about 40 percent of Canadian families with children).

The NCB Supplement enables provinces, territories and First Nations to reduce their income assistance program expenditures, without affecting the total amount of income that families with children receive. The Government of Canada invests approximately \$2.5 billion annually in the National Child Benefit Supplement.

Aboriginal Business Canada (ABC)

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ecd/ab/abc/index-eng.asp>

Aboriginal Business Canada (ABC) is an Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Program that maximizes Aboriginal people's participation in the economy through business development. ABC provides support to Aboriginal entrepreneurs for a range of activities including business planning, start-up, expansion and marketing.

What are the various levels of funding?

Individual Aboriginal entrepreneurs may receive up to \$99,999 in funding assistance. For community-owned businesses, this assistance can be up to \$1 million. The level of support for your business project will depend on a number of factors that you will need to discuss with your Aboriginal Business Canada Development Officer. Talk to your Development Officer about inventory and operating costs.

Requests for financial support are assessed on each project's viability and merits. Factors include the scope of the project, the need for financing, and whether other sources of financing are available — including funds received from other government departments and agencies. A successful application requires a balanced financial package, involving debt financing from other sources and a minimum level of your own equity.

The minimum level of equity for each project depends on the following factors:

- For youth applicants (over 18 and under 36), the minimum equity requirement is 10 per cent of eligible capital costs.
- For applicants who are 36 years of age or older, the minimum equity requirement is 15 per cent of eligible capital costs.
- For applicants applying as a legal entity, the minimum equity requirement is 15 per cent of eligible capital costs.

Non-commercial projects that promote Aboriginal entrepreneurship such as conferences, special events, and research may qualify for contributions to defray up to 100 percent of costs.

Who is eligible to receive support from this program?

Clients must be individuals of Canadian Aboriginal heritage — Status or Non-status Indian (on or off-reserve), Métis or Inuit — or a majority-owned Aboriginal business, financial organization, or development corporation.

To be eligible for support, clients should also be involved full-time with the proposed business in a management capacity and must be able to provide some level of cash equity to support the project.

What is the application process?

If you think you may be eligible for support, submit a completed application form (also referred to as a Business Proposal).

Download a copy from <http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/e cd/ab/abc/abcnu-eng.asp>, or request a form from the Aboriginal Business Canada office nearest you.

A Development Officer will review your application and present it to a screening committee. If you are eligible for support, you will then be asked to submit a business plan to determine the viability of your business venture.

Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS)

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/employment/aboriginal_employment/index.shtml

The Aboriginal Human Resources Development Strategy (AHRDS) is designed to expand the employment opportunities of Aboriginal people across Canada, and to assist Aboriginal people to prepare for, find, and keep jobs. All Aboriginal people, regardless of status or location, may access its programs and services. These include: labour market interventions; programs for youth, urban and Aboriginal persons living with disabilities; creation and maintenance of child care spaces (First Nations and Inuit Child Care), and capacity building for Agreement holders.

Under this Strategy, Aboriginal organizations design and deliver employment programs and services best suited to meet the unique needs of their communities. In Canada, 80 Aboriginal Human Resources Development Agreement (AHRDA) holders deliver labour market programming in over 400 locations. The AHRDS can provide access to training, upgrading your skills, or finding a job.

Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership (ASEP)

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/employment/aboriginal_training/index.shtml

What is the purpose of the ASEP?

The overall objective of the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Partnership (ASEP) program is sustainable employment for Aboriginal people in major economic industries, leading to lasting benefits for Aboriginal communities, families, and individuals. It is geared to providing Aboriginal people with the skills they need to participate in economic opportunities such as mining, construction, fisheries, tourism, hydro development, and public infrastructure projects across Canada.

ASEP is a nationally managed, opportunity-driven, and project-based program that promotes increased participation of Aboriginal people in major economic developments. It achieves this through a collaborative approach of Aboriginal, private-sector, and provincial/territorial partnerships.

As announced in Canada's Economic Action Plan, the Government is investing an additional \$100 million over three years in ASEP to help Aboriginal people participate in the work force and get the training they need to make the most of employment opportunities. By creating partnerships, the Government of Canada is taking action to ensure that Canada's work force is the best educated, most skilled, and most flexible in the world.

(http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/employment/aboriginal_training/index.shtml)

What is the selection process?

Note*: The most recent project proposals for funding were due on May 15, 2009. Request for proposals remains closed as of July.

To be considered for funding under ASEP, project proposals are required to clearly demonstrate a solid partnership arrangement and set out a comprehensive, multi-year training-to-employment plan.

Each partnership must demonstrate that it can share the cost of implementing the proposal with significant investment funding from the private sector/major employer, the provincial or territorial government and the Aboriginal groups involved.

The training-to-employment plan covers a broad continuum ranging from basic skills, literacy, academic upgrading, job-specific training and apprenticeships, to retention counselling and other supports while on the job. As part of the training-to-employment plan, the major employer must guarantee a minimum of 50 long-term jobs for Aboriginal people by the completion of the project.

Centenary Medal Commemorating the International Polar Year

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nth/st/awd-eng.asp>

The Centenary Medal was created to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the International Polar Year, 1882-1883. The medal, together with a prize of \$10,000, is awarded annually by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to give prominence to the importance of scientific knowledge and its applications to Canada's North.

Who is eligible for the Centenary Medal?

Until 1997, the award was presented to an individual who had made distinguished contributions to Northern Canada through their scientific work. In recognition of the contribution of indigenous knowledge to the scientific understanding of the North, the eligibility requirements for the award were expanded to include indigenous groups who themselves possess and share indigenous knowledge for the benefit of all.

The award is presented annually to an individual or to a group of indigenous people who have made a significant contribution to meritorious knowledge and understanding of the Canadian North.

Who can make a nomination?

Anyone may make a nomination. The nominator should provide to the selection committee:

- A letter of nomination clearly setting out the case in favour of the candidate;*
- The candidate's basic personal data;
- Documentary evidence of the candidate's scientific achievements in northern science (research activities, publications, other awards and distinctions, professional and public services, sharing of indigenous knowledge);
- The candidate's other contributions or experience relevant to achievements in northern science; and
- Three letters of reference highlighting the candidate's achievement(s).

* ***the term candidate includes either an individual or an indigenous group***

As part of the selection process, the selection committee will judge each candidate on the following combination of achievements:

- wide recognition of the quality of the work;
- productivity in field(s) of activity;
- significant contribution to advancement of northern knowledge;
- relevance to northern societies or communities; and
- training or participation of northerners in the work.

THE AWARD IS PRESENTED TO THE WINNING CANDIDATE AT AN ANNUAL CEREMONY. ONCE NOMINATED, A CANDIDATE WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THE PERIOD OF THREE YEARS..

NOMINATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30TH OF EACH YEAR

Inquiries should be directed to:

Jean Villeneuve

Northern Science and Contaminants Research Directorate

(819) 997-8314 or VilleneuveJ@ainc-inac.gc.ca

Nominations can be forwarded to:

Northern Science Award

Northern Science and Contaminants Research Directorate -- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Room 658 10 Wellington

Gatineau, Quebec

Ottawa, Ontario

K1A 0H4

First Nations and Inuit Youth Work Experience Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ys/iye/ywe1-eng.asp>

What is the First Nations and Inuit Youth Work Experience Program?

This is one of four programs administered by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) under the First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (FNIYES). The national annual budget for INAC's *Youth Work Experience Program* is \$9,675,000.

The key activities of this program are:

- Mentored work experience;
- Career planning and counselling activities, including a youth needs assessment for each participant;
- Life and work skills development for the participant

What are the primary objectives of the FNIYWEP?

- Support the provision of opportunities for mentored work experience;
- Support the development and enhancement of essential employability skills, such as communication, problem solving, and working with others;
- Expose youth to a variety of career options;
- Promote the benefits of education as being key to labour market participation.

Who are the eligible recipients for this program?

First Nation and Inuit governments and organizations may submit proposals.

Proposals must:

- be in accordance with these program guidelines;
- outline the activities that support any or all of the above objectives;
- demonstrate that the activities will provide assistance only to eligible participants;
- provide an estimate of eligible costs to be incurred, including any share to be borne by partners;
- outline the results to be achieved, and;
- be gender-balanced.

Who are the eligible participants for this program?

First Nations and Inuit youth aged 15 to 30 ordinarily resident on reserve or in recognized communities who are out of school, unemployed or underemployed.

***Note: Projects must not exceed 11 months and must be completed by March 31.**

Wage Rates:

The delivery agency will pay participants the applicable provincial/ territorial minimum wage.

What are the maximum program contributions?

The non-profit sector is eligible to receive a contribution of up to 100% of the applicable minimum wage plus mandatory employment related costs (MERC) and the private sector up to 50% of the applicable minimum wage only.

***Note:** Where a participant with disabilities is hired, **all** employers are eligible to apply for 100% of the wage. A maximum contribution of \$3,000 per participant may be available, on an actual cost basis, for special equipment and facilities to accommodate the participant's needs.

What is the Review and Approval Process?

Proposals will be reviewed and approved by the INAC regional office or by the First Nations or Inuit organization managing the program.

What are the Reporting Requirements?

A final activity report, evaluation report and a youth needs assessment for each participant are required by **March 31**. Organizations who do not submit an evaluation report within 30 days of the above-noted date will not be eligible for funding in the following fiscal year.

The form and content of the final activity report and evaluation report is attached in Annex Two and the form and content of the youth needs assessment is attached in Annex Three.

The First Nations Forestry Program (FNFP)

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ys/iye/ywe1-eng.asp>

What is the FNFP?

The First Nations Forestry Program (FNFP) provides funding and support to improve the capacity of First Nations to develop and sustainably manage their forest resources and to participate in and benefit from forest-based development opportunities.

The purpose of the program is to improve economic conditions in status First Nation communities with full consideration of the principles of sustainable forest management.

The First Nations Forestry Program is jointly funded by Natural Resources Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and delivered in partnership with First Nations.

The four federal funding objectives of the program are:

- To enhance the capacity of First Nations to sustainably manage their forest lands
- To enhance the capacity of First Nations to operate and participate in forest-based development opportunities and their benefits
- To advance the knowledge of First Nations in sustainable forest management and forest-based development, and
- To enhance the institutional capacity of First nations at the provincial and territorial level to support their participation in the forest-based economy.

Who is eligible for funding?

Elected First Nations Bands and Tribal Councils, First Nations organizations, and other First Nations group or company involved in improving First Nations economic conditions and who can contribute to the program objectives.

For more information about funding visit Program Information.

How to become involved...

The First Nations Forestry Program accepts applications for funding at various times throughout the year. For application deadlines and to find the program officer nearest you visit Applications for Funding.

First Nations and Inuit Student Summer Work Experience Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ys/iye/index-eng.asp>

What is the First Nations and Inuit Student Summer Work Experience Program?

This is one of two programs administered by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) under the First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (FNIYES). The FNIYES, with a national annual budget of \$26.5 million, is a component of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy.

The national annual budget for INAC's *Summer Work Experience Program* is \$8 million.

What are the primary objectives of this program?

- Support skills acquisition through the provision of wage subsidies for short term work experience;
- Assist First Nations and Inuit secondary and post-secondary students to prepare for future entry into the labour market by facilitating access to summer employment;
- Support First Nations and Inuit students to earn wages for post-secondary financing.
- Support work experience opportunities during the summer months for First Nations and Inuit secondary and post-secondary students.

Who is eligible for this program?

Eligible Recipients:

First Nations and Inuit governments and organizations may submit proposals.

Eligible Participants:

First Nations and Inuit secondary and post-secondary students aged 15-30 ordinarily resident on-reserve or in recognized communities who were registered as full-time students during the preceding academic year and who intend to return to school on a full-time basis in the next academic year.

Eligible Proposals:

Proposals must:

- be in accordance with these program guidelines;
- outline the activities that support any or all of the above objectives;
- demonstrate that the activities will provide assistance only to eligible participants;
- provide an estimate of eligible costs to be incurred, including any share to be borne by partners;
- outline the results to be achieved, and;
- be gender-balanced.

Wage Rates:

The delivery agency will determine the wage rate for participants which must be at or above the applicable provincial/ territorial minimum wage.

What are the maximum program contributions?

The non-profit sector is eligible to receive a contribution of up to 100% of the applicable wage plus mandatory employment related costs (MERC) and the private sector up to 50% of the applicable wage only.

NOTE: Where a participant with disabilities is hired, **all** employers are eligible to apply for 100% of the wage. A maximum contribution of \$3,000 per participant may be available, on an actual cost basis, for special equipment and facilities to accommodate the student's needs.

Review and Approval Process:

Proposals will be reviewed and approved by the INAC regional office or by the First Nations or Inuit organization managing the program.

Reporting Requirements

Recipients who do not submit a final activity report and an evaluation report **within 30 days** of the above noted date, **will not be eligible for funding in the following fiscal year.**

http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/ys/yth6_e.html

First Nations and Inuit Skills Link Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ys/isl/index-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of the First Nations and Inuit Skills Link Program?

The First Nations and Inuit Skills Link Program is one of two programs that Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) administers under the First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (FNIYES). The FNIYES, with a national annual budget of \$26.5 million, is a component of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy.

The national annual budget for INAC's *Skills Link Program* is \$18.5 million.

The Program's key activities are:

- Wage subsidies for work placements and mentorship for youth who are not in school to help them develop employability skills and support their educational and career development.
- Work experience specifically in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT).
- Training experiences that support youth in acquiring skills needed for work placements.
- Career development information, including awareness and support activities such as career fairs and leadership projects, for example.
- Co-operative education (mentored school-based work and study opportunities) for students in band-operated and federal schools.
- Career planning and counselling activities.
- Activities that promote science and technology as an educational and/or career choice, including science camps, computer clubs, and activities that connect science and technology to traditional Aboriginal knowledge.

Who is eligible for this program?

Eligible participants include First Nations and Inuit youth ordinarily resident on-reserve or in recognized communities or on community lands. Youth means persons aged 15 to 30 inclusive.

Mentored work placements are for youth who are not in school, and either unemployed or underemployed.

Mentored work placements for the First Nation SchoolNet program (ICT) are for youth who are in school, or out of school and unemployed. For more information on requirements, see the "Eligible Proposals" section below.

Co-operative education placements are for students in grades 7 to 12 enrolled in and attending a federal or band-operated school.

For career promotion and science and technology activities, youth may be younger than 15 years of age.

First Nations and Inuit Science and Technology Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ys/ist/stp1-eng.asp>

This is one of four programs administered by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) under the First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (FNIYES). The FNIYES, with a national annual budget of \$24 million, is a component of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy.

Support science and technology related activities that will provide First Nations and Inuit youth with first-hand experience in various science and technology disciplines which can include the enhancement of traditional knowledge.

The national annual budget for INAC's *Science and Technology Program* is \$2 Million.

What are the objectives of this program?

- Promote Science and Technology as an educational and/or career choice;
- Support the development and enhancement of essential employability skills, such as communication, problem solving, and working with others;
- Expose youth to a variety of career options;
- Promote the benefits of education as being key to labour market participation;
- Encourage the enhancement of traditional knowledge (where applicable).

Who is eligible for this program?

Eligible Recipients:

First Nations and Inuit governments and organizations may submit proposals.

Eligible Participants:

First Nations and Inuit youth ordinarily resident on-reserve or in recognized communities.

Eligible Proposals:

Proposals must:

- be in accordance with these program guidelines;
- outline the activities that support any or all of the above objectives;
- demonstrate that the activities will provide assistance only to eligible participants;
- provide an estimate of eligible costs to be incurred, including any share to be borne by partners;
- outline the results to be achieved, and;
- be gender-balanced.

Proposal Outline

The form and content of the proposal template is attached in Annex One.

Who reviews and approves the applications?

Proposals will be reviewed and approved by the INAC regional office or by the First Nations or Inuit organization managing the program.

Funding Arrangements:

Funding will be distributed to eligible recipients according to INAC's funding authorities.

What are the reporting requirements?

A final activity report and an evaluation report are required by March 31.

Recipients who do not submit a final activity report and an evaluation report will not be eligible for funding in the following fiscal year of the above-noted date, **will not be eligible for funding in the following fiscal year.**

Northern Scientific Training Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nth/st/nstp/index-eng.asp>

What is the purpose of the Northern Scientific Training Program?

The program supports scientific training provided by Canadian universities which gives advanced students professional experience in the North and encourages them to develop a commitment to northern work. The program aims to increase the number of graduate and senior undergraduate students in Canadian universities who have specialized in some aspect of northern scientific studies and who have northern research experience.

What are the application procedures?

Applications for NSTP funds must be made by the Chairperson of a Northern Studies Committee at a Canadian university. The Committee must be officially recognized by the President of the university. **Applications from individuals are not accepted.** If a student's university does not have a recognized Northern Studies Committee, the candidate may apply through a participating university.

What are the eligibility requirements?

- Must be enrolled in a degree Program at a Canadian university.
- Funds are available in support of graduate students. However, senior undergraduate students entering their final year and intending to undertake an honours thesis based on northern fieldwork or research which will be continued in subsequent graduate studies are also eligible.
- Students supported by training funds must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents.
- Summer and winter projects are eligible.

*Note: Post-doctoral studies are not supported.

When is the deadline for submission?

The deadline for submission to the NSTP Secretariat is December 1st each year. Students should inform themselves of the earlier deadlines set within each university by their respective Northern Studies Committee.

For further information, please contact:

Secretary

Northern Scientific Training Program Committee

Northern Science and Contaminants Research Directorate

Indian Affairs and Northern Development

TEL:(819) 997-9667

E-MAIL: NSTP@ainc-inac.gc.ca

INTERNET: <http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/index-eng.asp>

Strategic Investments in Northern Economic Development

<http://www.north.gc.ca/pr/si-eng.asp>

SINED focuses on strengthening the driver sectors of the territorial economies, economic diversification and encouraging Northerners' participation in the economy. Projects are prioritized based on five-year territorial investment plans developed with input from territorial stakeholders, and are approved by the Minister of CanNor.

Budget 2009, *Canada's Economic Action Plan*, renewed funding for the SINED program at \$90 million over five years (April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2014). For each territory this means potential federal contributions of \$25,261,667 over 5 years for the Targeted Investment Program, the Innovation and Knowledge Fund and the Partnership and Advisory Forums. In addition, a new \$5 million dollar Pan-Territorial Fund has been established for projects impacting more than one territory.

The Targeted Investment Program (TIP) provides \$22,261,667 per territory. Investment plans are established for each territory, with the advice of northern governments and stakeholders, and updated annually. Projects must align with the relevant plan. Depending on the content of the plan there may or may not be a general call for project proposals. See regional for the Targeted Investment Program.

Objectives of the Targeted Investment Program centre around four thematic areas:

- 1 - ***Building the knowledge base***
- 2 - ***Enhancing the economic infrastructure base***
- 3 - ***Capacity development***
- 4 - ***Economic diversification***

The Innovation and Knowledge Fund provides \$ 2,500,000 per territory. Investments under the Innovation and Knowledge Fund assist territorial residents to participate in and benefit from innovation, knowledge, and the knowledge-based economy. The priority continues to help Northerners seize opportunities in the new economy, and further science and technology. Eligible activities include research and consultation projects, as well as those designed to be innovative or build the capacity of individuals and organizations.

Partnership and Advisory Forums funding of \$100,000 per territory, per year, previously only allocated in the Northwest Territories is now available to each territory, totalling \$500,000 per territory over five years. The Partnership and

Advisory Forums will increase dialogue on northern economic development issues and will also help to increase capacity in delivering projects in the North.

A Pan-Territorial Fund of \$5 million over five years (\$1.25 million per year from years 2 to 5) has been created under the renewed SINED. The Pan-Territorial Fund will be used for projects that include multiple territories or a territory and one or more provinces. For projects that include areas outside of the territories, SINED funding will be provided only for project elements related to areas within the territories. Other federal funding partners such as federal regional development agencies will be encouraged to fund project elements entirely outside of the territories.

For more information:

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Education Partnerships Program Overview

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/epp-eng.asp>

The Education Partnerships Program is part of an overarching commitment of the Government of Canada to set the foundation for long-term reform of First Nations education. A key component of the broader Reforming First Nations Education Initiative, this proposal-driven program is designed to promote collaboration between First Nations, provinces, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), and other stakeholders towards improving the success of First Nation elementary and secondary students in First Nation and provincial schools.

The Program supports the establishment and advancement of formal partnership arrangements that aim to develop practical working relationships between officials and educators in regional First Nation organizations and schools, and those in provincial systems. These partnership arrangements open the way to sharing information and better coordination between First Nation and provincial schools. The result will be concrete benefits for the students, teachers and administrators involved.

Funding is available on a proposal basis to eligible regional First Nation organizations for:

- the negotiation and drafting of tripartite education Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) and joint action plans where they do not already exist (partnership establishment); and,
- the drafting and implementation of joint action plans within established partnerships where there is an MOU or similar formal partnership agreement already in place (partnership advancement).

If required, the Program may provide a regional First Nation organization with a limited amount of funding for up to one year for preliminary consultation.

Contact the INAC Regional Office for more information.

First Nation On-Reserve Housing Program

<http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/h/fnh/orh-eng.asp>

Many First Nation communities in Canada need more housing and/or better quality housing as overcrowding and inadequate housing are of particular concern on-reserve. Inadequate housing poses health and safety risks, creates an unhealthy growing environment for children and is linked to several health and social problems.

In 1996, INAC introduced the On-Reserve Housing Policy that allowed First Nations to play a key role in decisions about how, where and when housing funds are invested.

First Nations who have not voluntarily adopted the 1996 Policy approach continue to operate under a subsidy program established in the 1960's.

The 1996 Policy is based on the principles of:

- First Nations control;
- First Nations expertise;
- Shared responsibilities; and
- Increased access to private sector financing.

The Government of Canada invests approximately \$272 million per year to assist First Nations to meet their on-reserve housing needs, including \$138 million through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and close to \$134 million through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Based on INAC's \$138M annual contribution for on-reserve housing, over 2300 new housing units and nearly 3300 renovations are completed on average each year.

First Nations can use these funds to build and renovate houses, as well as contribute towards costs such as maintenance, insurance, debt servicing, and the planning and management of the housing portfolio. INAC does not cover the full cost of housing and First Nations and their residents must secure other sources of funds to fully construct a housing unit and/or establish a housing authority.