

Applicant Guide:

The Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund

The Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF) is a growing fund with over a 1.4 million dollars to distribute to Indigenous-led organizations & groups.

With the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic, communities across Canada and around the world are facing an unprecedented moment; one that is challenging our collective ability to deliver services that communities depend on. For Indigenous communities and Indigenous-led organizations working to respond to COVID-19 in the context of pre-existing economic and health disparities, the impacts are even more pronounced. This is especially true for Indigenous people in rural, remote and Northern communities with inequitable access to basic supports.

To address these critical gaps, a coalition of Indigenous leaders and philanthropic and corporate funders have come together to establish the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund. To date, the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund has been seeded with support from the following organizations: The Counselling Foundation of Canada, Laidlaw Foundation, the Lawson Foundation, and the McConnell Foundation.

This new fund is Indigenous-led, and complementary to the Government of Canada's Indigenous Community Support Fund and other Government and philanthropic efforts. It will leverage local data and community knowledge alongside philanthropic capital to provide flexible, adaptive and crucial support where it is most needed within Indigenous organizations or communities.

The Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund is being developed by Indigenous philanthropic knowledge holders and is being incubated with support from Community Foundations of Canada, the national leadership organization for Canada's 191 local community foundations.

This document intends to support applicants interested in applying to The Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund.

Who is Eligible?

The IPRF will support Indigenous-led organizations running projects at the community level that serve this vulnerable populations that have been especially affected by COVID-19. Eligible projects include ongoing programs that meet the eligibility criteria outlined in this document.

Applicants will be required to share how their project assists the Indigenous populations they serve, and the impact of the project on the community.

Examples of eligible organizations include:

- community groups;
- registered charities;
- registered not-for-profit organizations;
- public bodies performing a function of government in Canada

Those ineligible to apply include:

- individuals
- the Government of Canada (federal government);
- provincial and territorial governments;
- the Crown; and
- the United Nations.

If you have additional questions about your eligibility, please contact: info@iprfund.ca

Eligible projects

The IPRF will provide immediate financial support for projects that are serving Indigenous populations as they manage the impacts of COVID-19. Applicants may only apply for one project at a time, but no more than 2 applications if they are distinctly separate initiatives. Should you apply for more than one, it must be done at 2 separate intake times. Your project cannot be fully completed at the time of application.

Specifically, eligible projects will:

- Clearly address a pressing social inclusion or well-being need caused by COVID-19;
- Serve Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis, Inuit) and preferably led by Indigenous peoples;
- Be carried out in a short timeframe with a reasonable budget, before December 31, 2020

Examples of eligible projects responding to urgent community needs, while taking a long-term view on building community resilience through the provision of:

- Training and financial support to areas where gaps in funding are needed to strengthen emergency health care efforts (*ex: training of new cleaning procedures*) and health-related transportation services (*ex: purchasing PPE for medical drivers*) and *community safety initiatives*;
- Sustainable access to food and strengthened local food systems (*ex: purchasing food to distribute or cook and distribute to vulnerable groups, and purchasing gardening needs*);
- Training and infrastructure to help communities overcome technological barriers and connectivity challenges (*ex: purchasing additional connectivity for community social-distance use, connectivity for summer student support or assisting in training Elders who would not otherwise use Zoom or social media to get connected*);

- Innovation in employment, internships and experiential learning, either virtually or through safe, social-distancing programming;
- Ensuring access to counselling, mental wellness and health supports where there are gaps in funding available from government programs (*ex: provide mental health or cultural classes virtually to those in need*);
- Innovative techniques for Elders and Healers who provide counselling, traditional medicines and teachings to youth in their communities;
- Request for funding to fulfill a gap where a shortage of funding for a specific program has been received from another foundation or organization.
- Operating funds that allows for innovation and gaps in services for to ensure ongoing sustainability for programs of Indigenous led organizations, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities providing support at a community level that have been affected by COVID19;

Eligible expenses

All budget items must be project-related and must be incurred between June 1st, 2020 and December 31, 2020. Eligible expenditures will vary depending on the project. The list below are examples of possible expenditures.

- Elder honorarium;
- Wages and employment-related costs for existing or additional staff;
- Fees for professional service;
- Disability supports for staff of the recipient;
- Materials and supplies;
- Printing and communication;
- Travel costs including mileage (*car mileage using the government of Canada's standard rates*);
- Utilities;
- Insurance;
- Rental of premises;
- Lease, purchase and maintenance of equipment;
- Performance monitoring and reporting costs;
- Data collection; and
- Knowledge development activities.

Ineligible Projects and expenditures

Ineligible projects include:

- Projects that are designed for fundraising purposes;
- Projects that are fully completed prior to application;
- Profit generating projects or activities; and
- Any activity taking place outside of Canada

The following expenditures are ineligible, and will not be supported by the IPRF:

- Purchase of real property (land or building)
- Expenses incurred prior to June 1, 2020
- Expenses incurred after December 31, 2020
- Any expenses that are covered by another funding source. Projects may receive funding from other sources, but those funds may not cover the same expenses as this resiliency support funding.

Timeline

The Fund will be accepting applications beginning on June 16th, 2020. Applications must be submitted before July 31st, 2020.

What is the resiliency funding amounts available through the IPRF?

The IPRF offers a range to be effective to organizations working in communities of various sizes and geographies, \$5,000 to \$30,000 in allocations are available.

How are decisions made?

Applications will be reviewed by an all Indigenous adjudication committee using the common criteria from the application questions. Using a sliding point scale of 1 to 5.

When can I expect to receive results?

Applications are received and evaluated on a rolling basis. Decisions will be made bi-weekly. You can anticipate a communication from us within 21 days of submitting your application. Applicants will receive a decision no later than Friday, August 28th, 2020.

What are the reporting requirements?

Should your application be accepted the IPRF will ask you to report on the use of the funds provided. Honouring our oral traditions, we invite you to answer the questions through video/phone call or share a video (max 3-5 min). Please email: info@iprfund.ca to schedule a time. Or if you prefer writing, please answer the following questions. (Maximum 400 words per question.)

1. How did you use the support that was provided?
2. Were you able to implement your response within budget you submitted for the application? If you deviated from the budget, how and why were those deviations made?
3. Did you have any difficulty in implementing your response to COVID?
4. How has the support provided made a difference to your group/community?
5. Please share your successes, challenges and learnings.
6. If you had a partner or another funder, how did you use their support in your response?
7. Please provide us with any feedback on how we can improve. (Example: the application or reporting process.)

How to apply

We wish for you to apply in the best and simplest way for you and your organization/group, please choose one of the following:

1. Online at www.iprfund.ca
2. By Email at info@iprfund.ca, we will email you a fillable PDF or a PDF to fill out by hand
3. By Mail, please send to IPRF c/o 1035 Bank St. #302, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5K3
4. Send by FAX to: 1-613-280-1553
5. Not as comfortable with written communication? No problem, feel free to send us a 3 min video, share your YouTube video link or email/call to set up a time to orally provide your application (please note we will record for transcribing purposes.)

If you have any questions, please reach out to us to discuss your proposal.

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