

Indigenous Grants Application Form



Proposal ID (assigned by program)

Funding requested (completed by program)

Legal name of the applicant organization:

Name of signatory:

Signatory's role in the organization:

Full mailing address:

Telephone:

Email:

Objectives

The Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (CMIF) supports the development and deployment of clean energy and transportation infrastructure that will enable the development and expansion of critical minerals projects. Indigenous engagement is a crucial part of infrastructure and mining development in Canada. Indigenous Peoples are the stewards, rights holders and, in some cases, title holders to the land upon which this development takes place. In this regard, it is important to ensure that Indigenous groups have the support they need to determine how they would like to participate meaningfully in critical minerals infrastructure projects, to represent their community's interests in project discussions, and to engage with industry and government.

The CMIF Indigenous Grants will provide Indigenous communities and organizations, and those working on behalf of an Indigenous partner with funds to support their engagement, capacity building or knowledge sharing to this end.



For this call for proposals, the CMIF will fund projects that can take place up until March 31, 2026. For this application form, “your project” means the engagement, capacity building and/or knowledge sharing activities that you would like to have funded by this grant.

You may submit one appendix document if you require more space for a question than the form allows.

If you are not sure whether your project would be eligible for a CMIF Indigenous Grant, you may submit an optional Expression of Interest form, available on the [CMIF website](#) or by email at cmif_ig-sa_fimc@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca. Upon receipt of the form, the CMIF Secretariat will be in touch with you to indicate whether you should apply to the CMIF for grant funding, or whether more information is needed.

Project Assessments

Your application will be reviewed to ensure it is complete, that the proposed activities are feasible, and that the project meets the CMIF program’s eligibility requirements and overall objectives. This will include consideration of recent, ongoing, and/or expected activities undertaken by the infrastructure and critical mineral development projects that your project relates to, as well as how your community or organization may be impacted by that infrastructure and critical mineral development.

Application requirements

1. An applicant must be either an Indigenous organization or a non-Indigenous organization validly incorporated or registered in Canada that is working with or on behalf of an Indigenous partner (questions **a** and **b** below). Whether an applicant is a Representative Organization (question **c** below) and/or located in a northern or remote location (question **d** below) will determine the maximum funding available.

a. Select your type of organization:

Indigenous community or government

Indigenous tribal council or representative of tribal council

Indigenous for-profit organization (51% or greater ownership by Indigenous Peoples)

Indigenous non-profit organization (51% or greater ownership by Indigenous Peoples)

Academic or research institution (on behalf of an Indigenous partner organization)

Provincial, territorial, regional and municipal governments (on behalf of an Indigenous partner organization)

Canadian non-profit organization (on behalf of an Indigenous partner organization)

b. If you are not an Indigenous organization, please provide the name of your Indigenous partner organization:

To be considered for grant funding, applications submitted by non-Indigenous organizations must **include a letter from an Indigenous partner organization** confirming they are working with or on behalf of an Indigenous partner.



c. Is your organization located in a remote or northern area? Yes No

The following guidance is provided to support this self-declaration:

- **Northern** is defined as all communities located in the Northwest Territories, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut and the Yukon.
- **Remote** includes:
 - Communities that are not connected to the broader critical infrastructure networks such as the electrical grid, highway system or piped natural gas network
 - Communities that lack year-round surface transportation and have a year-round population according to the national census
 - Communities that are either a long distance from larger settlements or lack transportation links that are typical in more populated areas
 - Communities that receive infrequent postal services as shown in the [postal codes of remote areas table](#)¹

d. Is your organization a Representative Organization? Yes No

Representative Organizations are Indigenous entities representing the rights and interests of multiple Indigenous nations or communities, which could be linked by cultural or linguistic background, geographic area or treaty / comprehensive land claim boundaries, and would include tribal councils, treaty organizations, land claim organizations, regional-level organizations and national Indigenous organizations.

2. Your project must support Indigenous engagement on the potential development or deployment of an **eligible infrastructure project** (i.e., clean energy and/or transportation projects) that will enable critical minerals development at the mining stage (i.e., not including processing or manufacturing). Eligible infrastructure projects could include, for example, a new road to an area where mines may be established and could be in the planning stages (e.g., in the process of obtaining permits and/or conducting impact or environmental assessments), could be ready for construction, or could be already underway. Eligible infrastructure projects may or may not proceed to completion.

a. Does your project relate to an eligible infrastructure project? Yes No

¹ <https://www.canadapost-postescanada.ca/cpc/en/support/articles/delivery-standards/processing-facilities-direct-marketing-transaction-mail.page#postal-codes-of-remote-areas>

b. What is the name (or description) of the eligible infrastructure project? (Limit of 500 characters)

For example, the name of the project could be “Cherry Hill Clean Energy Project” or the description could be “a project to construct a wind farm and to expand the neighbouring solar farm near Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.”

3. Please review the descriptions of activities below and check all that apply to your project.

Engagement, including with government, industry, and other natural resources stakeholders and partners (in-person or virtual).

Engagement also includes connecting with other Indigenous groups to discuss the feasibility of potential infrastructure deployment projects and natural resources development.

Attending meetings, dialogues or conferences hosted by others

Hosting meetings, dialogues or conferences

Hosting or participating in Indigenous ceremonies

Providing input for impact/environmental assessments, or accommodation measures

Capacity building for your organization.

These activities may help your organization learn about, engage in, negotiate, and advance discussions about the feasibility or deployment of a potential eligible infrastructure project and/or natural resources development and conservation proposals.

Education (e.g., webinars, courses, dialogues with experts)

Training and skills development (e.g., workshops, on-the-job training, practical courses)

Personnel (e.g., hiring consultants or additional staff that would be dedicated to supporting engagement)

Knowledge gathering and sharing other than through the engagement activities listed above.

These activities may be targeted (e.g., as an input to a study) or may be broad (e.g., publishing a report for community and public use).

Written reports, studies or other documents (e.g., a study)

In-person or virtual information sessions

Other knowledge gathering or sharing activities

About your project

4. Please briefly describe what your project will do and the expected outcomes (limit of 2400 characters).

5. Please provide your best estimate of when your project will begin and end.

For this call for proposals, please include activities up to March 31, 2026 as the latest completion date.

Your project will start on:

Your project will end on:

6. Please describe where your project will take place (limit of 500 characters).

A response could include the name of the venue, the city and the province (e.g., "our activities will take place at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, in Toronto, Ontario"). In cases where the name of a venue is not available, you may include the coordinates of the location in the format latitude and longitude (e.g., 45.424721, -75.695000).

7. Indicate the main objectives and outcomes that you expect to achieve through your project.

You may choose your **objectives** from the check box list, which has options from question 3 above, or you may select 'other' and enter your own response.

For **outcomes**, please briefly describe what you expect the results of your project activities to be. For example, knowledge sharing activities could have as an outcome: "Approximately 50 community members have increased awareness of proposed infrastructure and are better equipped to engage in consultation processes."

Please note that applicants may be required to report on objectives and outcomes at the end of the project, for example to support the CMIF performance measurement and reporting.

Objective 1:

Engagement, including with government, industry, and other natural resources stakeholders and partners

Other knowledge gathering and sharing

Capacity building for your organization

Other

If 'other', please specify (limit of 500 characters)

Outcome 1: (Please describe briefly – limit of 500 characters)

Objective 2:

Address gaps in clean energy infrastructure that limit the production and expansion of critical mineral resources in Canada

Address gaps in transportation infrastructure that limit the production and expansion of critical mineral resources in Canada

Reduce emissions in operations that produce critical minerals by increasing access to clean energy

Advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples by supporting Indigenous consultation from infrastructure projects that enable critical mineral development

Advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples by supporting Indigenous participation and benefits from infrastructure projects that enable critical mineral development

Other

If 'other', please specify (limit of 500 characters)

Outcome 2: (Please describe briefly – limit of 500 characters)

8. What activities will you do as part of your project?

The 'Project activity / Task' column should match your answers to question 3 above.
For example, if one of your planned activities is to attend a conference, then an output could be "three persons will travel to Ottawa to participate in the critical minerals mining three-day conference."

Project activity/Task	Description	Outputs/Results	Start by	Complete by

Application Form: CMIF Indigenous Grants

Project activity/Task	Description	Outputs/Results	Start by	Complete by

9. Please explain if there are any risks or challenges associated with your project that could keep it from fulfilling your objectives and outcomes (limit of 2400 characters).

10. Please explain how you will address or mitigate the challenges that may arise during your project (limit of 2400 characters).

Your project costs

11. Please provide a detailed budget for your project, with costs broken down by eligible categories.

The CMIF Indigenous Grants may cover **up to 100% of eligible costs, up to the maximum indicated in Annex A**, based on your organization type (between \$50,000 to \$150,000). For this application, all costs should be incurred before March 31, 2026. Please provide a breakdown of costs by fiscal year (April 1–March 31).

Some costs, such as capital expenditures, costs for construction, lost income, building renovations, legal fees and costs related to litigation, and similar actions are not eligible for grant funding. Please note that the CMIF Indigenous Grants will not cover expenses that another government organization (federal, provincial/territorial, municipal) is already funding. Approved applicants will need to provide banking information for the electronic transfer of payments, as the Government of Canada cannot issue funds by cheque.

Eligible costs	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	Total
Salaries and benefits				
Professional, legal and contracting services				
Travel including meals and accommodations (based on National Joint Council rates)				
Printing and translation services				
Data collection services				
Laboratory, scientific, field, and personal safety equipment and supplies				
Costs for training or other forms of financial transfers to non-salaried trainees and students				
Communications and media services				
Rental of facilities, transportation and equipment				
Costs associated with an Indigenous ceremony, including honoraria (as long as the recipient is not already in receipt of salary or other form of stipend to attend the event)				
Provincial Sales Tax (PST), the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) costs, net of any tax rebate to which the recipient is entitled				
Overhead expenses directly related to your project up to 15% maximum of eligible total costs (e.g., internet, phone)				
Total				

12. Contributors: Please provide a list of all contributors for your project.

The list should also include your organization’s contribution. Please spell out the name of contributors in full and be sure to list each of them.

Contributors	Total
Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (i.e., grant amount requested)	
Your organization	
Other government 1	
Other government 2	
Other government 3	
Other government 4	
Other contributor 1	
Other contributor 2	
Other contributor 3	
Other contributor 4	
Total	

Your project team

13. Using the space below, please identify the members of your project management team, including current and planned members.

For each team member, describe their level of expertise and their experience with similar projects, as applicable.

Conflict of interest attestation

Definition: A person is in a conflict of interest when they exercise an official power, duty or function that provides an opportunity to further their private interests or those of their relatives or friends or to improperly influence another person’s private interests.

The following questions will help you assess if a real, potential or perceived conflict of interest exists. Answering ‘yes’ to the questions below will not immediately disqualify you from CMIF grant funding. If you identify a potential conflict of interest, NRCan may ask for additional information and would use that information to determine whether a funding agreement would be possible in light of the requirements of the [Conflict of Interest Act](#) and the [Conflict of Interest and Post-employment Code for Public Office Holders](#).

To the best of your knowledge:

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. Are any current or former Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) employees working on or associated with the development of this application or your project? | Yes | No |
| 2. Is anyone in your organization either a friend or a business acquaintance of any NRCan employee that could result in you or your organization receiving a preferential treatment? | Yes | No |
| 3. Will a current or former public servant or any of their relatives or friends be receiving any personal or financial benefit of any kind as a result of NRCan entering into an agreement with your organization? | Yes | No |
| 4. Have you, any individual working in your organization, your partners’ organizations or any individual working in their organization, formerly provided consultancy services to the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources that are related to your project, particularly any services associated with the development of the application? | Yes | No |

Declarations

The applicant organization:

1. Attests that, before receiving funding, the organization will be legally registered, established or incorporated in Canada.
2. Attests that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge.
3. Certifies that they have the management, financial and technical resources to fulfill the undertaking, and that they will provide the information on results.
4. Understands that any costs incurred for the submission of this application are at the applicant's own risk.
5. Attests that it is the owner of all application information – proprietary, confidential or otherwise – or, if the information belongs to another party, that it has obtained written consent to disclose the information to NRCan.
6. Understands that project funding decisions will be made following receipt and review of the project application, and provides consent for the CMIF program to use the submitted information and share it with program employees, external consultants, review committee members, and/or officials in other government organizations (federal, provincial, territorial and municipal organizations, Crown corporations, etc.) for the purposes of assessing the proposal's eligibility for funding under the CMIF or other funding programs and for audit and evaluation.
7. Understands and acknowledges that no liability, commitment nor obligation exists on the part of NRCan to make a financial contribution to the project until a written grant agreement is signed by both parties.
8. Understands that NRCan reserves the right to alter the current process, funding amounts and deadlines, or to cancel the entire process at its sole discretion.
9. Understands that federal reviewers are bound by the requirements of the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act* regarding the treatment of confidential information.
10. Attests that if lobbyists are used, they will ensure that the lobbyists are registered in accordance with the *Lobbying Act*, that no potential conflict of interest exists, and that they do not pay lobbyists on a contingency fee basis. If they contract with lobbyists to assist in seeking a financial contribution from federal government entities, fees paid to lobbyists are not related to the value of the grant.

The signatory attests that they are authorized by the applicant organization to submit this application on its behalf.

Duly authorized officer (Signature)

Date

Print name

Role in organization

Annex A: Applicant types and maximum funding amounts

The maximum amount of grant funding available varies depending on the type of applicant. The following table provides the maximum amount of funding that you could request, based on your answers to questions 1.c. and 1.d. of this application.

Applicant type	A northern or remote area This would apply to you if your answer to question 1.c. is yes	Not a northern or remote area This would apply to you if your answer to question 1.c. is no
Representative Organization This would apply to you if your answer to question 1.d. is yes	\$150,000	\$100,000
Not a Representative Organization This would apply to you if your answer to question 1.d. is no	\$75,000	\$50,000