

Indigenous Grants Expression of Interest



Name of the applicant organization:

Name of signatory:

Signatory's role in the organization:

Full mailing address:

Telephone:

Email:

Important

Please note that this is not a funding application.

The purpose of this optional Expression of Interest form is to help determine whether your project could be eligible for a Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (CMIF) Indigenous Grant. After you submit this form, someone from the CMIF program will be in touch with you to indicate whether you should consider applying to the CMIF for grant funding or provide more information.

This Expression of Interest form is not a required step. If you prefer to apply directly, please use the full application form to submit your proposal.

If you have any questions, please email cmif_ig-sa_fimc@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca.

Introduction

The 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 development and mining 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, represent their community's interests in project discussions, and engage with industry and government.



The CMIF Indigenous Grants will support 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.

Expression of interest questions

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 located in a northern or remote area (question **c** below) and/or a Representative Organization (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

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

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

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

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

4. Please briefly describe what your project will do and the expected outcomes.

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

For this call for proposals, projects must be complete by March 31, 2026.

Your project will start on:

Your project will end on:

6. Please describe where your project will take place.

7. Please provide the estimated cost of your project:

Please note that 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 form.

Applicant type	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