Indigenous Centre for
Cumulative Effects

Centre autochtone sur
les effets cumulatifs

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

May 2024

1. Program Overview and Objectives
The Indigenous Centre for Cumulative Effects (ICCE) is an independent Indigenous organization supporting Indigenous communities to manage cumulative effects through the collection, monitoring and analysis of Indigenous and non-Indigenous data and information.

The main objective of ICCE's Community Funding Program (CFP) is to support community-led projects to help build and enhance the capacity of Indigenous communities for cumulative effects assessment, monitoring and management in their territories, using a Two-Eyed Seeing approach.

What are Cumulative effects?
Cumulative effects are defined by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment as changes in the environment caused by multiple interactions among human activities and natural processes that accumulate across space and time.

In addition to environmental effects, cumulative effects from an Indigenous perspective, considers cultural, social, and health impacts from activities on land, water, and air.

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) defines cumulative effects as "the impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environment that results from the incremental effects of a development when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future developments, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other developments. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time."

For more information about cumulative effects projects, visit the "Initiatives" section of ICCE's website.

2. Who can apply?
- First Nations communities, associations, and organizations
- Inuit communities, associations, and organizations
- Métis communities, associations, and organizations
- Any other Indigenous organizations working on cumulative effects

Eligible applicants may partner with other Indigenous communities and with external partners such as:
- Federal, provincial, territorial, or regional governments
- Non-governmental and non-for-profit organizations
- Academic and research institutions
- Indigenous and non-Indigenous consulting groups

3. Eligible projects
Projects aiming to build and enhance the capacity of Indigenous communities for cumulative effects assessment, monitoring and management in their territories, using a Two-Eyed Seeing Approach are eligible.

To be eligible, an application must be Indigenous community-led. As such, an application must be confirmed by a letter of support from the Indigenous community or organization submitting the application on behalf of multiple communities. Communities' endorsement is to be explicitly stated.

We encourage applicants to contact us to determine eligibility.

Previously successful funding recipients are only eligible to apply for Stream 2: Enhancing Capacity.

4. Available Funding

The program is divided into two streams of funding for approximately **$2.0 Million** available for **up to three fiscal years of 2024/2025, 2025/2026, and 2026/2027**. ICCE's fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31. The level of funding for each application will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Funding may cover some or all an application based on the budget provided. Funding is available for an application up to **three fiscal years until March 31, 2027**. Funding cannot be retroactive, e.g. funding cannot cover costs of an activity that has already been completed. There are two streams of funding available, as displayed in the table below:

	Stream 1: Developing Capacity	**Stream 2: Enhancing Capacity**
Objectives	Support hiring or training in-house staff to better understand and develop a plan for cumulative effects and develop a cumulative effects plan for their community. The hired individual or the training activities **could** include: ● Understanding baseline studies and/or traditional land use studies ● Developing a GIS or management system ● Integration of Indigenous Knowledge into cumulative effects work ● Participating in regional engagements for cumulative effects	Lead regional engagements on cumulative effects, including one or several of these activities. ● Mentoring other Indigenous communities, ● Toolkit development, ● Training, ● Youth engagement, ● Promoting Indigenous methodologies for cumulative effects, including impact assessment ● Elder-youth knowledge sharing, ● Support digital literacy, basic information technology on how to collect, store and manage data ● Support data sharing and analysis for cumulative effects ● Build new relationships with Indigenous communities or organizations to develop cumulative effects capacity
Funding Amounts	$200,000.00 within 3 years	$400,000.00 within 3 - 4 years

4.1. Eligible Expenditures

Eligible costs are those that are incurred for the duration of the project as specified in the funding agreement. Project costs must be related to activities that are included in a proposed budget.

The following are eligible expenditures for project activities:
- Salaries and wages
  - Community staff (environmental technicians, youth positions, Elder positions, etc.)
  - Daily allowances
  - Internship (short term contracts)
  - Honorariums (for youths, Elders and activity participants)
- Travel, transportation, and accommodation for community staff, Elders, youth, external partners, event participants, etc.
- Staff training and workshops
- Professional services/fees (contractors or subcontractors)
- Facility rental
- Data collection, analysis, and reporting
- Audit and evaluation
- Office supplies and equipment dedicated to the project, such as:
  - Purchase of technical monitoring equipment
  - Rental of vehicles (trucks, ATVs, snowmobiles, boats, etc.) used to access areas for monitoring purposes
- Printing and communication materials
- Data purchase from a commercial provider
- Administrative costs, to a maximum of 10%

4.2. Ineligible Expenditures

The following are ineligible expenditures for project activities:
- Capitalization costs including the establishment or expansion of financial instruments
- Bad debt expenses and expenses associated with collections
- Payments for services that would normally be provided without charge
- The operation, repair and maintenance of economic or municipal infrastructure
- Economic infrastructure which has a reasonable expectation of capturing capital and operating costs through user fees and other means and can function as a commercial enterprise
- Capital assets (purchasing of assets costing more than $10,000 with a useful lifespan of more than one year and incurring maintenance fees or prolonged and foreseeable expenses over more than the project's length, i.e., you can't buy a truck, but you can expense lab equipment).

5. How to Apply

To apply for the Community Funding Program, please follow the application process outlined below:
1. Review this document.
2. Choose which stream of funding you are applying for.
3. Seek and confirm support for your proposed project with a letter from your organization indicating support for your project from the participating Indigenous communities.

4. Create an online profile at https://community.icce-caec.ca. Begin completing your application with the requested information in Appendix A: Application Requirements.
5. You will receive an email confirming the receipt of your application within 1–5 business days after submission; if you do not, please contact us.

Please direct all questions to cfp@icce-caec.ca. The deadline is **Monday July 8, 2024 at 5:00pm PST.**

6. Review Process and Evaluation
The following section outlines the process in which applications are reviewed for eligibility and evaluated to select successful funding recipients.

Step 1: Application Period
Upon the application period closing, ICCE will collect all completed applications to enter review according to the schedule established in Section **7.**

Step 2: Eligibility Review
ICCE will assess applicationeligibility based on the CFP's objectives, its funding capacity and the criteria listed in Sections 3, 4.1 and 4.2 of these guidelines. Applications that are not complete or not deemed to be relevant or eligible will be withdrawn from further review.

Step 3: Technical Advisory Committee Assessment
Eligible applications are reviewed by ICCE Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) composed of Indigenous and non-Indigenous practitioners from across the country on cumulative effects. The TAC assesses applications based on the objectives of the ICCE funding program and the ICCE assessment criteria (see Appendix B: Weighted Criteria). The TAC recommends successful project recipients to the ICCE Board.

Step 4: ICCE Board Decision
ICCE Executive Director and ICCE Board of Directors will review applications based on ICCE policies, including strategic priorities, and available budget and approve funding following the eligibility *review* and the *Technical Advisory Committee assessment*. Each application is subject to separate approval based on specific obligations or restrictions relating to the ICCE funding agreement.

ICCE Funding Policies and Strategic Priorities

Geographic representation: approval of the applications takes into account the geographic distribution of Indigenous communities across Canada.

First Nation, Inuit, and Métis representation: The approval of projects aims to fund projects from First Nation, Inuit, and Métis groups.

Minimum assessment score to be eligible for funding: All projects must meet a minimum score threshold to be eligible for funding which is established as the statistical median of all scores of assessed applications.

7. Timeline

Wednesday May 8, 2024	Applications open
Monday July 8, 2024	Application closes at 5:00pm PST.
Monday July 8 - Monday July 15, 2024	Eligibility review
Monday July 15 to Monday July 29, 2024	TAC reviews applications
September 2024	Board decision
October 2024	Funding agreements and signatures
October 2024	Projects may start

APPENDIX A: Application Requirements

STREAM 1: Developing Capacity
Cumulative Effects Need (300 to 450 words) Explain your community's needs pertaining to cumulative effects
Skills and Capacity (200 -300 words) What skills or knowledge does the community need to build capacity to benefit?
Project Description: (300-400 words) Provide a brief plan with a tentative timeline for meeting your community's needs in developing capacity.
Project Objectives and Deliverables: (200 to 350 words) What will be a successful outcome for this project? Please provide specific deliverables needed in order to achieve the project objectives .
Job Descriptions [500 words if needed] Submit up to two Job Descriptions (500 words each max) that explains how existing or new personnel will build knowledge and skills to understand and engage in activities on cumulative effects in their community.

Budget
Submit an estimated budget that describes:
    A) Salary—per fiscal year
    B) Training—if the hired staff requires training
    C) Equipment
    D) Proposed activities
    E) Administrative costs (Overhead) no more than 10% of the total application cost.

Letter of Support This document may be a formal resolution from the proponent governing body or a letter from an individual having the authority to request funding (e.g., head of department, director, or manager). The letter of support must explicitly demonstrate that the Indigenous organization or community has approved and is leading the submitted application.

STREAM 2: Enhancing Capacity - Promoting Regional Relationships

Title
Provide a descriptive title that outlines the main idea of your project.

Executive Summary [500 - 600 words]
Provide a brief summary of the project (1–2 paragraphs) covering the various elements of how you plan to build regional relationships that will promote relationships pertaining to regional Indigenous cumulative effects needs.

Participating Communities
List active staff from each participating community to be included in the regional initiative. Please indicate communities you have an existing or potential relationship with such as a:
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Resolution
- communities that plan to engage with this initiative

Example: First Name + Last Name, Name of Participating Community, Relationship (Memorandum, Resolution or New)

IMPORTANT We will need letters of support or cooperation from communities who plan to participate in the initiative will strengthen your application. This will help us understand the strength of your application.

Project Objectives (300 - 400 words)
Describe the anticipated high-level goals and outcomes that will be accomplished through the proposed project. The objectives must be relevant to work addressing cumulative effects issues and demonstrate how Indigenous knowledge and Intergenerational learning is shared. Please list SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely) goals.

Project Description (300 - 400 words)
Describe a tentative timeline, engagement strategy and reflect on previous projects that have built relationships across Indigenous communities or Indigenous groups. Outline specific training or capacity building initiatives you plan to develop.

Deliverables (300 - 400 words)
Describe the deliverables that will allow the project activities to be assessed and how activities will be monitored and measured.

Budget
Provide a budget for the proposal including the estimated expenditures and their concurrent deliverables**.** See list of eligible expenses **4.1. Eligible Expenditures.**

Work Plan
Please list the activities this project plans to undertake as it is related to Budget items.

Letter of Support This document may be a formal resolution from the proponent governing body or a letter from an individual having the authority to request funding (e.g., head of department, director, or manager). The letter of support must explicitly demonstrate that an Indigenous organization or an Indigenous community has approved and is leading the submitted application. Letters of support must come from the organization or community hosting the regional engagement AND include letters of support from participating communities where possible.

APPENDIX B: Weighted Criteria Developing Stream

To support the objectives of this funding opportunity, applications will be assessed against the following criteria in relation to each stream.

Criteria	Criteria description	Subcriteria	Weight
Explicit relevance to cumulative effects issues	The application relates to cumulative effects issues as being changes to the environment or human well-being from past, present, and future development projects and human activities. Indigenous knowledge and perspectives related to cumulative effects are presented. Note: A project receiving a score below 12/20 for this criterion will be deemed not relevant for this program and will be disqualified.	• Considers more than one biophysical, social, economic, and cultural stressors, components or elements that shows the interaction or accumulation of effects or impacts (i.e. not just about fisheries, but also may include water quality, air, transportation, economic values…etc) • Considers a timeline sufficient to consider Cumulative Effects within Indigenous perspectives related to new projects or a decision-point. • Considers relevant land, water, cultural, or territorial state of reference (i.e. baseline) to consider Cumulative Effects within Indigenous perspectives • Considers relevant cultural geographical scope to consider Cumulative Effects within Indigenous perspectives • Identifies a value component • Proposes a mitigation plan, activity or measure (https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/practitioners-guide-impact-assessment-act/policy-framework-assessing-cumulative-effects-under-impact-assessment-act.html)	25

Building capacity to manage the assessment, monitoring and management of activities addressing cumulative effects issues	The application shows capacity is being built in-house through training or activities proposed in the Project Description. Goals laid out in the Project Description demonstrate how capacity for cumulative effects is being gained by the Indigenous community.	● Builds in-house capacity ● Activities proposed will build capacity to manage, monitor, or assess cumulative effects ● Goals or objectives of the project follow the SMART framework (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timeline) ● Provides training	25
Indigenous knowledge sharing and intergenerational learning	Indigenous knowledge is integrated in the activities of the application. Considering the Two-Eyed Seeing approach, (involving both Indigenous knowledge and Western science, the two eyes), the project promotes the co-development of knowledge. This application has activities that actively share Indigenous Knowledge across youth, Elders, Indigenous departments, knowledge holders, and people working in cumulative effects.	● Activities incorporate Indigenous knowledge in CE ● Knowledge holders involved ● Elders involved ● Youth involved ● Indigenous knowledge is shared across generations or departments	25

Community Need	How will this funding meet the community need in cumulative effects?	● Knowledge gathered or created by this project can be shared with other Indigenous communities in such ways as meetings, workshops, fish camps, on-the-land training, committees, or councils ● Adequate resources or activities dedicated to making information available through different format such as a database, platform, website, reports…etc ● Incorporates Knowledge Holders ● Involves Youth ● Trains or transfers knowledge between in-house staff	25

Enhancing Capacity Stream – Promoting Regional Relationships

Criteria	Criteria description	Subcriteria	Weight
Explicit relevance to cumulative effects issues	The application relates to cumulative effects issues as being changes to the environment or human well-being from past, present, and future development projects and human activities. Indigenous knowledge and perspectives related to cumulative effects are presented. Note: A project receiving a score below 12/20 for this criterion will be deemed not relevant for this program and will be disqualified.	● Considers more than one biophysical, social, economic, and cultural stressors, components or elements that shows the interaction or accumulation of effects or impacts (i.e. not just about fisheries, but also may include water quality, air, transportation, economic values…etc) ● Considers a timeline sufficient to consider Cumulative Effects within Indigenous perspectives related to new projects or a decision-point. ● Considers relevant land, water, cultural, or territorial state of reference (i.e. baseline) to consider Cumulative Effects within Indigenous perspectives ● Considers relevant cultural geographical scope to consider Cumulative Effects within Indigenous perspectives ● Identifies a value component ● Proposes a mitigation plan, activity or measure (https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/practitioners-guide-impact-assessment-act/policy-framework-assessing-cumulative-effects-under-impact-assessment-act.html)	20

| Regional relationships and engagement | The application shows the capacity of the applicant to establish or extend its relationships in cumulative effects work on a regional level. The application demonstrates activities that will include Indigenous communities and Indigenous groups in working together to solve common cumulative effect issues.

The applicant provides a clear description of the relationship of the regional actors and how they work together on solving common cumulative effects issues.

The application shows deliverables that include the participation of community members and Indigenous governance (decision-making among or within Indigenous communities). | Has one or more more of the following project activities included in the project proposal:

1. Mentoring other Indigenous communities
2. Toolkit development
3. Training
4. Youth engagement
5. Promoting Indigenous methodologies for cumulative effects, including impact assessment
6. Elder-youth knowledge sharing
7. Support digital literacy, basic information technology on how to collect, store, share, and manage data
8. Build new relationships with Indigenous communities or organizations to develop cumulative effects capacity
9. Other cumulative effect initiatives that builds shared Indigenous community needs

● The Applicant has prior experience in regional initiatives through the inclusion of Indigenous groups and communities.
● The initiative meets a common needs identified in previous work
● Has elements of participating communities making decisions together such as Memorandums of Understanding, shared workshops on Indigenous Knowledge, shared services, data - sharing agreement..etc | 30 |

		• Helps decision-making for Indigenous communities on cumulative effects	
The role of Indigenous Knowledge	Indigenous knowledge is integrated in the activities of the application. Considering the Two-Eyed Seeing approach, (involving both Indigenous knowledge and Western science, the two eyes), the project promotes the co-development of knowledge.	• Indigenous knowledge is the focus of the activities proposed by the organization • Promotes Indigenous methodologies • Indigenous Knowledge is the main source of information or data to address cumulative effects The Application shows cultural protocols or respect to Indigenous Knowledge	15

Intergenerational Learning and Knowledge Sharing	This application has activities that actively share Indigenous Knowledge across youth, Elders, Indigenous departments, knowledge holders, and people working in cumulative effects.	● Knowledge gathered or created by this project will be shared with other Indigenous communities ● Application proposes structures for sharing such as meetings, workshops, fish camps, on-the-land training, committees, or councils ● Adequate resources or activities dedicated to making information available through different format such as a database, platform, website, reports…etc ● Incorporates Knowledge Holders ● Involves Youth ● Trains or transfers local Indigenous knowledge between in-house staff	15
Demonstration of a realistic assessment of estimated total costs and a justification of the level of funding required	The submitted budget of the application is viable and plausible in order to complete the suggested activities. The budget demonstrates an efficient and relevant use of the requested funds based on the suggested activities. Please show how other Indigenous community team members are involved through your budget submission if applicable.	● Goals or objectives of the project SMART? (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timeline) ● There is room in their budget for unexpected expenses or changes to the project ● Ratio of funds for consultants is lower than internal staff ● Project team members include participating communities or organizations in the budget	20