



Indigenous Services Canada BC Region Questions and Answers – ICSF Funding Webinars

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GENERAL QUESTIONS

Q1. Will recordings of webinars be made available?

Yes, recordings of webinars will be posted on the First Nations Public Service Secretariat YouTube website at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNua4CJeMFyMAH9kpySbrig>

Q2. Is there a PowerPoint presentation for webinars?

There is no PowerPoint presentation. The presenters shared the Indigenous Community Support Fund application form to illustrate what needs to be included in proposal submissions. You will find a copy of the application form, along with instructions and funding criteria below:

- Indigenous Community Support Fund: needs-based funding application
<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1603990521589/1603990645077>
- Indigenous Community Support Fund
<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585189335380/1585189357198>

Q3. When you say "community" do you mean a reserve or do you mean a First Nation?

Under *Who can apply*, the Indigenous Community Support Fund lists: First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities as well as a variety of Indigenous organizations. Community can mean many things, but for the purposes of the Indigenous Community Support Fund application, it refers to the status of different applicants that are eligible for different project activities. For more information, please review the Indigenous Community Support Fund guidelines at <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1603990521589/1603990645077>

Who can apply

- First Nations communities
- Inuit communities
- Métis communities
- National, regional and local Indigenous organizations supporting:
 - Indigenous peoples living in urban centres
 - members living away from their communities

All organizations must be incorporated.



Q4. How much funding is available for distribution?

On August 12, 2020, the Government of Canada announced an additional \$305 million for the Indigenous Community Support Fund. It is being distributed through a combination of:

- \$145,172,639 in allocations directly to First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities to provide leadership with the flexibility to address immediate needs for community members. Funding allocations have already been provided.
- \$159,827,361 in needs-based funding, which will be distributed to applicants across Canada through this application process. The funding is being allocated to regions based on the proposals that are being recommended for funding from each region.

Q5. If there are ICSF funds left over after the March 31, 2021 deadline are they returned to ISC? Does this funding affect our 10-year grant if we don't spend all of the funds?

It's important that your application demonstrate how the funds will be spent to meet the needs you are identifying. If circumstances prevent you from spending the funds as you intended, please let us know as soon as you can so we can work with you to find other eligible expenditures.

Any unspent Indigenous Community Support Funding will not affect your 10-year grant.

Q6. Will there be an ICSF application-based intake for Yukon and the Northwest Territories and is the November 30, 2020 application deadline the same?

The ICSF call for proposals is open to all provinces and territories and the deadline for application submission is November 30, 2020. More information about the ICSF application process including contact information for each region is available at <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585189335380/1585189357198>.



Q7. What dollar value or range of ICSF funding would most likely get approved?

There is no funding range or limit per se, but your application must demonstrate that costs are reasonable and are based on need. Additionally, your application should demonstrate how your project activities meet the need to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19.

Q8. Will an applicant receive a reply if their ICSF application is approved prior to December 31, 2020?

Yes. ISC is reviewing ICSF applications as soon as they are received and you will be notified as soon as your application is approved.

Q9. Is this funding over and above what has already been provided to First Nations in COVID support funding?

Yes, the recently launched call for proposals through the Indigenous Community Support Fund is over and above what has already been allocated to First Nations to address urgent and immediate COVID-19 needs. Every First Nation band administrator has received a summary of all COVID funding provided to date from ISC. Contact your Funding Services Officer for further information.

Q10. I applied for funding on the first round of ICSF urban and off reserve call for proposals and none of my applications were supported. Is there support available for this new proposal call to help me better prepare applications?

We would be happy to discuss your proposals with you, please contact the ISC BC Regional office at aadnc.isbccovid19.aandc@canada.ca.

Q11. There was October 30, 2020 announcement that the Government of Canada is helping Indigenous early learning and child care facilities safely operate. How do we apply for that early years funding?

The Government of Canada is providing \$120.7 million to help Indigenous early learning and child care facilities safely operate during the pandemic. The investment is expected to support over 35,000 First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation children who access culturally relevant Indigenous early learning and child care programs. This funding will be co-managed through existing early learning and child care partnerships. It will assist Indigenous communities in addressing



their most critical needs, including implementing enhanced cleaning protocols, hiring additional staff, and offering training.

Canadian not-for-profit organizations, provincial and territorial entities, municipalities and Indigenous organizations are encouraged to submit a proposal by December 3, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time (2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.)

Application form and supporting information is below

[Apply for funding for Early Learning and Child Care Innovation Early Learning and Child Care Innovation Program](#)

APPLICATION, ELIGIBILITY, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Submitting an application

Q12. Is there another format to access the application form as I can't open it?

If you are having technical difficulties accessing the application form, please contact the ISC BC Regional office at aadnc.iscbccovid19.aandc@canada.ca and we will provide you with a copy.

Q13. Where can we find out if our Band administration has applied for this funding in the past?

Every First Nation band administrator has received a summary of all COVID funding provided to date from ISC. Contact your Funding Services Officer for further information.



Q14. When you refer to funding already received, does that include the "top up" we have received for members receiving Income Assistance?

Yes. The ICSF application-based funding is intended to support additional needs that funding received to date has been insufficient to cover. So, if your proposed project is to support Income Assistance recipients, we need to understand what the additional need is and how it meets the assessment criteria (COVID-19 risk, readiness, human impact, prior funding).

Q15. Our Band is under a BLOCK funding agreement with a Tribal Council. Can our Band submit this application directly or does the Tribal Council have to apply on our behalf?

We encourage First Nations and Tribal Councils to collaborate on proposals, however, all First Nations are eligible applicants and can submit independently.

Q16. Do we need to include a Band Council Resolution (BCR) with our Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF) application?

No. A BCR is not required for your ICSF application.

Q17. Can multiple activities be amalgamated as a single project or does ISC want them included separately? If we submit multiple proposals should they be submitted in order of priority?

Multiple project activities can be included in one application or submitted separately. If you are including multiple activities in one application form, you will want to ensure that the details of each activity are clearly presented, including a budget breakdown by activity and a description of how each activity meets the assessment criteria.

If your organization or community is submitting multiple proposals, it would be helpful if you identify your requests in order of priority but it is not mandatory.



Q18. If we have already prepared our Budget Summary in a separate Excel document, is that acceptable for the application submission or do we have to complete this section in the application form?

It is acceptable to submit a separate budget document as an attachment to the application. Ensure that all of the required budget information is included in your document and that you enter the total requested amount in the application form.

Q19. We are the Prince Rupert Indigenous Housing Society serving off-reserve members of Gitxaala. Do we qualify as a non-profit as an applicant?

As a legally incorporated Indigenous organization, your organization would be eligible to apply under the Indigenous Community Support Fund needs-based application process.

Q20. What level of detail are you looking for in the proposals? Do you only require the application form and supporting documents?

In an effort to streamline this application process, a simple, fillable application form has been developed and we are available to assist applicants in determining what level of detail to provide. Generally, your proposal should describe how your proposed activities address urgent and immediate COVID-19 needs in your community or population being served. Applications will be assessed against selection criteria which include:

- COVID-19 risk: how will the proposed activities address urgent, immediate community needs to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and containment efforts?
- Readiness: are there any obstacles to starting your project?
- Human impact: does the project directly address the impacts of COVID-19 on Indigenous populations (such as isolation, transportation, food security, safe places, health and safety) while preventing, protecting, mitigating, responding to, or recovering from the pandemic?
- Prior funding: has your community already received governmental funding for the identified COVID-19 need? (For example, did your community receive funding as part of the FNHA's public health response, Emergency Management BC (EMBC) reimbursements, or prior ICSF funding? If so, please indicate how your community has identified needs over and above what was previously received.)



The information contained in the application form should explain how your project meets the assessment criteria outlined above.

For further information about the selection criteria please visit www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1603990521589/1603990645077.

Q21. How much funding can you apply for under ICSF?

There is no funding limit per se, but your application must demonstrate that costs are reasonable and are based on need, and that ICSF or other COVID-related funding is insufficient to meet these needs. The funds available (\$159,827,361) under the application based stream of ICSF are for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation communities as well as Indigenous organizations serving Indigenous peoples, including in those living in urban centres and First Nations community members living off reserve.

Additionally, your application should demonstrate how your project activities meet the need to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19. Funding applications should cover the period till March 31, 2021 and costs should be incremental to the allocations provided directly to First Nations in the first and second rounds of ICSF. Please call us if you are considering a large request to help us understand community need.

Q22. Is this the same as the funding that was given for the Urban/Off Reserve funding that was distributed around May/June ? If yes, can it be applied for again?

This application process will include both on and off reserve supports and yes, is a second round that can provide additional resources for First Nations and organizations that received funding in the first round.

Please note we are not carrying forward applications that weren't funded previously, and we are not automatically extending projects that were funded. First Nations and organizations are welcome to submit a new application using the current ICSF needs-based [application form](#). Be sure to explain how your proposal is reducing COVID-19 and how it covers activities going forward for the period from October 2020 to March 2021.



Eligible costs

Q23. If the project/funding requires project administration time, can we add 15% to the total cost of the project (e.g. infrastructure)?

Administration of up to 15% of total project costs is eligible under the Indigenous Community Support Fund. Eligible administration costs may include items such general administrative support; administration of the project claims or payments; reporting and audit costs; office supplies; overtime for administrative employees directly linked to the delivery or implementation of the funded project or activity, etc. Ineligible administration fees include, but are not limited to property taxes; rent paid; interest fees; regular (not incremental) employees' salaries and benefits, etc.

Q24. What about on-reserve perimeter security costs? If some portion of checkpoint monitors' wages are being covered by FNHA, could any uncovered portion be covered in this funding?

Under public health response funding, the First Nations Health Authority was able to support eligible on-reserve perimeter security costs between April 1, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Applications for costs after September 30, 2020 should be submitted under the Indigenous Community Support Fund needs-based funding process. Please note that ISC has adopted the same approach that the First Nations Health Authority developed for perimeter security. Further information is available in the First Nations Health Authority's [COVID-19 Community Support Guide](#).

Q25. The BC Government has provided Temporary Pandemic Pay for front line and essential workers. Is the Federal Government going to do the same? Can we use the funding for wage top-up for staff? COVID is taking up a lot of extra work hours by our staff.

The Government of Canada has provided funding to provinces and territories to increase wages to low income essential workers to ensure workers risking their health to provide essential care and services, were being paid properly for their everyday work.

In British Columbia, through the Temporary Pandemic Pay program, funding support was provided to health, social services and corrections employees delivering in-person, front-line care during the COVID-19 pandemic in positions where physical distancing would be difficult or impossible. This included Delegated



Aboriginal Agencies, Friendship Centres and Healing and Wellness facilities and shelters. The Temporary Pandemic Pay program ended on July 4, 2020. Further information about BC's Temporary Pandemic Pay program can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/temporary-pandemic-pay>

The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) also provided temporary pandemic pay increases for frontline health care positions funded by FNHA in First Nations communities. This funding support was available from April 1 to July 22, 2020. For more information, please review the First Nations Health Authority's [COVID-19 Community Support Guide](#).

Wage top ups are not be eligible under either the core allocation or the Indigenous Community Support Fund needs-based process; however, this funding can be used to cover incremental costs to manage the pandemic, including hiring additional staff, backfilling staff who have been reassigned, or overtime for non-health positions involved in the COVID-19 response. The Indigenous Community Support Fund is intended to provide flexibility in COVID-19 response, and is not intended for core/band administration.

Q26. Is the purchase of plexi-glass an eligible cost under FNHA or the Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF)?

Depending on the use, plexi-glass is an eligible cost under both FNHA and ICSF.

If your First Nation requires plexi-glass to address a health-related need, contact the FNHA to discuss your needs further. Further information is also available in FNHA's COVID-19 Community Support Guide at <https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-COVID-19-Community-Support-Guide.pdf>.

For plexi-glass retrofits for community buildings located on-reserve, your First Nation can apply through the ICSF process if the minor capital amounts that were recently provided are unable to meet the full extent of your COVID-19 needs.

Organizations located off-reserve can apply for plexi-glass and similar minor improvements for COVID-19 safety under the urban funding stream of the ICSF. Applications should demonstrate need and account for any other funding that may have been provided for this purpose.



Q27. Are perimeter security costs eligible under ICSF in off-reserve areas?

No. Perimeter security costs are eligible under ICSF, but are limited to First Nation reserves.

Q28. Can a community school vehicle be purchased under ICSF to transport students to and from school? Given the current COVID-19 regulations, the school bus can only hold so many students at a time, so not all students are getting to school. The school is on-reserve and run by the semi-remote community.

The purchase of a community school vehicle would be viewed as a major capital cost and would not be eligible under ICSF. There may be other options to support this need, such as incremental costs associated with vehicle rental or a non-capital lease or, where feasible, increasing usage and cleaning of existing vehicles. Applications need to demonstrate how the proposed measures would address COVID-19 related needs and risks.

First Nations with schools have the flexibility to adjust school budgets to ensure current priorities for students are addressed and to enable the delivery of continued learning opportunities as effectively and equitably as possible. This includes prioritizing spending for additional funding received under the *Safe Return to School* investments.

Q29. We're looking at purchasing used RVS to self-isolate members. Will purchase of RVs be an acceptable option under the ICSF eligibility guidelines? What about help purchasing a medical vehicle?

RVs would be viewed as major capital and would not be eligible under ICSF. We recommend you contact the regional First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) team to see what might be available through their funding for self-isolation infrastructure. Specific information drawn from their FNHA COVID-19 Community Support Guide regarding community self-isolation states:

- Adaptation and addition of community space for self-isolation, quarantine and/or other COVID-19 related purposes. Items for consideration may include the following:
 - Retrofits of appropriate existing community infrastructure. Quotes may be required depending on the scope of proposed retrofits.



- Rental or purchase (if cost-effective), of travel trailer, ATCO trailer, and/or modular trailers (including costs for transport and set-up).
- Purchase/rental of supplies required to activate community spaces for self- isolation and surge capacity (e.g. beds, linens, cleaning).
- Infection prevention and control items (e.g. soap, sanitizers, disinfectant, masks).

With regard to medical transportation, that again would be viewed as major capital and our partners at the FNHA look to BC Ambulance to provide this service. Further information is also available in the FNHA COVID-19 Community Support Guide at <https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-COVID-19-Community-Support-Guide.pdf>. The FNHA does consider support for the retrofit of vehicles, like adding plexi-glass barriers to vehicles used to transport peoples for non-urgent medical care and COVID-19 testing. Again we recommend you contact them to see what support might be available.

For plexi-glass retrofits for community buildings, you CAN apply through this process if the minor capital amounts that were just recently provided are unable to meet the full extent of your COVID-19 needs.

Q30. The type of proposal depends on how long term we're planning. If ISC will provide more funding within a year, I would only put forward a one-year proposal. If we don't know if there is further funding, my proposal may be much more substantial. For example, responding to food security needs in an isolated First Nation may be a 4-5 year proposal.

The Government of Canada is committed to supporting the health, safety and well-being of Indigenous people. We recognize that the needs to address COVID-19 in communities are ongoing, and that is why this application-based call for proposals has been launched. Funding has been provided for activities up until now and this call is an opportunity to identify your community's needs from now until March 31, 2021. Some shorter-term project activities could fall within the window of eligibility and also have an ongoing legacy, such as community gardens.

Currently, there is no determination on future funding.

Q31. Can we distribute funds to off-reserve members? What is the criteria for that?



Supports under the ICSF should be based on needs, and ideally should not duplicate other supports that may be available (e.g. temporary top up to Income Assistance rates both on and off-reserve).

Yes, absolutely, you can apply to support off-reserve members. Keep in mind that the intent of these funds is not to provide benefits to individuals and rather to support issues like food security for their members no matter where they live.

Q32. Is this funding only available for members who are on income assistance?

Under ICSF, there is no requirement that those who benefit from services or supports be receiving income assistance. Income assistance rate increases have been provided since March in order to ensure that individuals on income assistance have additional resources to address pandemic-related costs. This call for applications is to support COVID-19 response measures, both on and off reserve. Measures, such as initiatives to address food insecurity, should be based on need and should not duplicate support that is available through other programs. For example, separate allocations to provide top ups for income assistance have been sent previously and will continue as long as the Province provides rate increases.

Q33. Would the implementation of a safety plan qualify as an eligible ICSF activity? For example, if a Nation wants to continue to deliver employment and training in a blended fashion (online and hands on). A clear safety plan for the hands-on-work is urgent.

The implementation of a community safety plan may be an eligible activity under ICSF. Your proposal should describe how your proposed activity addresses urgent and immediate COVID-19 needs in your community.

Reporting

Q34. What are the reporting requirements? Will we need proof of purchase and payment receipts?

With respect to reporting requirements for the Indigenous Community Support Fund, you will need to complete the Data Collection Instrument (DCI) report 4548549 which is due on July 29, 2021. Supporting documentation such as proof of payment receipts are not required under the Indigenous Community Support



Fund, however you will want to retain financial records as required by your First Nation.

Q35. How should the reporting requirement be met? Would one schedule be enough for the COVID funding and expenses including Income Assistance or do they have to be reported separately?

The requirement is for separate reporting schedules for each funding stream in your 2020-2021 audit (i.e. Indigenous Community Support Fund, Income Assistance, Post-Secondary Education, etc.). Additionally, the generic Data Collection Instrument (DCI) from the Emergency Management program will need to be submitted by the reporting deadline. These requirements are outlined in the documentation that accompanies your funding amendment.

Q36. Will outstanding reports be taken into consideration in the decision-making process when selecting successful applicants under ICSF?

Outstanding reports will not be considered in the decision-making process for ICSF applications. We encourage you to submit an application if your community requires support to address immediate and urgent COVID-19 needs.

FOOD SECURITY

Q37. With respect to urban members and food security, could funding be distributed in terms of Per Diem (cash payment) since food security on reserve would pertain to traditional food or hampers.

In general, the Indigenous Community Support Fund is not designed to provide benefits to individuals, who are likely eligible for Federal and Provincial COVID19 support measures. As well, enhanced funding has been provided to urban service providers such as food banks and other emergency food programs to support people in urban centres and link them to available programs and services.

If you are considering addressing the food security needs of your urban members, please ensure your proposal explains the gaps in existing supports and how your project will bridge these. Questions you might consider are: How will you determine need? What programs and services are currently available? How will your proposal target the vulnerable population? How will your project activities address urgent and immediate COVID-19 needs?



For more information on the various programs available under the Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan please visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#individuals>

If you have questions, contact the ISC BC Regional office at aadnc.iscbccovid19.aandc@canada.ca

Q38. Witset First Nation has a food bank, running many years pre-COVID, but actually got run dry and due to food shortage, we have built up food bank slowly, is there other options available, or can this be in the COVID application? We have expanded though with traditional foods. This is a food security clarity question.

We encourage you to submit an Indigenous Community Support Fund application. Your proposal should describe how your proposed activities address urgent and immediate COVID-19 needs in your community. Be sure to fully explain how your project meets the assessment criteria outlined in the call for proposals, including:

- how it addresses the urgent COVID-19 risk in your community
- a description of the resources and experience you have to successfully complete the project
- identification of the benefits and beneficiaries of the project
- confirmation as to whether you have already requested or received government funding to address this COVID-19 need

Below is additional supporting information that will help you complete your application. If you have questions, contact the ISC BC Regional office at aadnc.iscbccovid19.aandc@canada.ca

[Indigenous Community Support Fund: needs-based funding application](#)
[Indigenous Community Support Fund](#)

Q39. Access to traditional foods are difficult for vulnerable populations. Would harvesting and distributing food be eligible? We also would like to provide care packages to the homeless and community members off reserve.

We recognize food security is a high priority and food security, harvesting and the distribution of food can be eligible for on/off reserve supports. The application would need to demonstrate how the proposed activity meets a need not already



addressed in community. Proposed activities should complement existing services in the community, not duplicate them.

Eligible food security activities include:

- direct financial and material support for vulnerable community members, including support for the procurement of food, provisions, and other necessities of life
- measures to address food insecurity, including the procurement, transport, and distribution of foodstuffs, of prepaid cards and cash disbursements, and provisions to enable community members to participate in local harvest activities.

Q40. If our community provides a food distribution service to members, including traditional foods, can we use ICSF to help cover the wages for individuals to do the distribution?

Incremental wage costs may be eligible under the ICSF as long as individuals doing the distribution work are not already employees or otherwise receiving financial compensation for their work from the First Nation or organization. Your application should demonstrate how the proposed activities respond to an urgent or immediate COVID-19 need that has not already been addressed in the community. Additionally, your application should address how the proposed activities address a gap as opposed to duplicating any existing programs or services.

Q41. Our community is proposing to purchase food and set-up a grocery store in efforts to ensure food security for members. Is this activity eligible under ICSF?

The purchase of food and other minor capital, such as a freezer or fridge to support the set-up of a community grocery store may be eligible if the intent is to support food security. Please note that the ICSF is not intended to subsidize for-profit enterprises, and a variety of other programs and supports have been made available for businesses (e.g., Indigenous Community Business Fund, for example). In situations where food will be resold at a grocery store for profit, only incremental costs resulting from COVID-19 would be eligible (e.g. the extra costs associated with shipping food so that goods continue to be accessible and affordable).



Your application should demonstrate how these proposed activities address an immediate need and help to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 in your community. You may, for example, want to include information about how food will be safely distributed to members. Proposed activities should complement existing services, not duplicate them.

Q42. For a remote community, would an activity such as the purchase of heavy staples (i.e. rice, canned goods, flour) to disburse to community members via a barge be an eligible activity under ICSF? This saves community members from leaving the community to acquire their own supplies (thereby reducing COVID-19 risks) and allows the community to have access to dry goods in large quantities over the winter.

The purchase and transportation of food may be eligible activities under ICSF. Your proposal should describe how your proposed activities prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 in your community. Proposed activities should be incremental, needs-based (i.e. directed to those who require support) and not duplicate existing services that are already provided through other programs and services, including income benefit programs (e.g. Income Assistance). Incremental transportation costs for food may also be eligible under ISC's service agreement with Emergency Management BC under their Policy 5.13 (see https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/policies/513_pandemic_response_task_eligibility_first_nations_local_governments.pdf and https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/policies/eligibility_assessment_supplement_policy_513.pdf).

INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Q43. Can prior infrastructure due to COVID be included such as last week's expenditures?

We will review all applications for COVID-related infrastructure retrofits. In all cases, work will need to be completed by March 31, 2021. If possible, please indicate in your application whether you are considering the minor capital allocations that were provided to you for school retrofits, or those that are in the



process of being transferred for other building retrofits in your community. Information on the amounts provided under those funding transfers have been sent to you by your Funding Services Officer.

Q44. Can we make capital purchases to rebuild our community garden? We want to develop a large garden area, but we need tools.

Capital purchases are typically more geared towards building retrofits or physical distancing measures. It may be better to categorize tools needed for a garden under a food security request in your application rather than infrastructure. Tools or materials for this purpose would likely be eligible under the Emergency Management/food security stream of the ICSF needs-based process. Your application would need to link capital purchase requests in your project to reducing the risk of COVID-19 transmission. This is separate from capital under infrastructure, which is more geared towards buildings. Please contact the ISC Regional office at aadnc.iscbccovid19.aandc@canada.ca if you would like to discuss your request further.

Q45. If we had a housing unit that requires a septic field due to the current one being deemed too saturated by a service provider would this be considered an eligible activity project under Infrastructure? No application has been put in for the ISC capital renovation fund or CMHC RRAP funds. Capacity resources were not available to submit such applications.

We would encourage you to submit an application for a housing subsidy through the capital program.

Q46. For the isolation house, that is a very quick timeframe for it to be complete by March 31, 2021 is there some "give" on that date for that type of project?

Under the Indigenous Community Support Fund, infrastructure is intended to be minor in nature, such as modifications to existing buildings in order to support COVID protocols. This funding is not intended to support major capital, such as the construction of isolation facilities. While minor renovations to prepare an isolation space may be eligible, projects need to be completed by March 31, 2021. Additionally, please keep in mind that the First Nations Health Authority is the lead for approaches for isolation in BC, and we recommend reviewing their Community



Support Guide for further information at www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-COVID-19-Community-Support-Guide.pdf.

Q47. Would a COVID-19 isolation house meet the infrastructure criteria?

The funding is intended for minor capital and infrastructure adaptations that are needed, not for the acquisition of major capital. Minor capital allocations for buildings are also available through ISC's Capital Facilities and Maintenance Program. It includes buildings and facilities such as band offices, community centres, daycares, and fire halls. FNHA may be able to support enhancements to community isolation spaces such as retrofitting spaces, looking at temporary spaces or how the FNHA can connect with community cohorts for the regional health authorities.

Q48. What is the difference between the ICSF funding for infrastructure and the Capital Facilities and Maintenance Program?

As you may be aware, on October 30, the Government of Canada announced an investment of \$59.5M for the adaptation of community infrastructure in First Nation communities, in response to COVID-19, through the Capital Facilities Maintenance Program.

Community infrastructure assets included in this investment will be daycare centers, band offices/community buildings, fire halls, women's shelters, Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve (AHSOR) sites, health facilities, long term care facilities and National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Centers. (As outlined in Update 61, ISC previously provided \$1.6 million nationally in minor capital funding to First Nations with schools on reserve to support school adaptation. The funding aimed to address immediate public health and safety measures, including those related to minor capital investments to support physical distancing and enhanced health and safety practices.)

A funding application is NOT required for these funds. On November 5, your Funding Services Officer sent out a list of COVID-19 funding for your community, including the list of buildings for which we are providing this minor capital funding. (Please note that if your band office or other community building has not been included in this list, or if the funding you are receiving for these facilities is not sufficient to cover the adaptation costs, you can apply under ICSF for these costs.)



First Nations community leadership have the flexibility to determine what health and safety expenses are incurred, but the intended use of this funding is to support the adaptation of community infrastructure through investments in:

- plexiglass and safe space separators;
- marking floors with physical distance indicators, placing signs;
- hand washing/cleaning stations;
- hand sanitizer dispensers;
- redesigning of workstations to allow for social distancing (e.g. rearrangement of desks);
- flushing water lines;
- safety checks of existing HVAC systems;
- additional cleaning supplies for frequent cleaning & disinfection of common surfaces;
- appropriate personal protection equipment (i.e. masks, gloves) Again, if your band office or other public buildings are in ISC's asset system, no application is necessary.

Again, if your band office or other public buildings are in ISC's asset system, no application is necessary.

Q49. We are having to patrol our waters and our docks need solar lights to make them more secure, also need to install gates. Can we apply to ICSF for that?

We encourage communities to put forward an application. Minor capital is eligible. In the application, be clear to link the role the solar lights and gate would play in preventing COVID-19.