

2011-2012

NEW PATHS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Community Program Information Package

FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY

General Introduction

The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the First Nations Schools Association (FNSA) are responsible for the management of the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) 2011-2012 New Paths for Education Program (NPEP).

The NPEP provides funding to strengthen First Nations education and improve the quality of education in First Nations communities.

As of 2011-2012, New Paths is consolidated to include First Nations SchoolNet, Parental and Community Engagement, and Teacher Recruitment and Retention.

1. PROGRAM SUMMARY

Overall NPEP First Nation community funding available:

New Paths for Education: **\$2,156,111**

Funding Accessed Through: FNESC On-line Application and Reporting or,
Fillable Proposal and Final Reporting Forms

Deadline for Work Plans: September 24, 2011

Deadline for Final Reports: May 26, 2012

2. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program supports the following priority areas:

- Strengthening First Nations education management and governance capacity through local capacity and educational institutional development;
- Improving the effectiveness of classroom instruction through curriculum and language development, pedagogical improvements, Information and Communication Technology (ICT);
- Supporting community and parental involvement in the education of children and youth

- which is conducive to a supportive learning environment;
- Assisting band-operated schools to recruit and retain qualified teachers and educators and provide them with professional development opportunities; and
- Enhancing Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in the school.

3. **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

The objectives listed above provide a flexible and adaptable framework for program support, which aims to improve the quality of education in First Nations schools, and which aims to contribute to the following specific outcomes:

- Enabling First Nations schools, education authorities, and Regional Education/Management Organizations to strengthen their First Nations education management and governance capacity so they may be able to make strategic decisions addressing their education issues in order to help students progress;
- Reducing teacher turnover;
- Enhancing the coordination and the support of First Nations education programs and services;
- Maintaining and increasing the use of First Nations languages;
- Increasing the availability and use of culturally appropriate and relevant curriculum;
- Increasing the level of computer literacy;
- Enhancing the quality and quantity of data that would allow better monitoring and improvement of academic progress;
- Increasing involvement of parents and the community at large in the education system; and
- Increasing the validation of education through enhanced awareness of potential career paths.

4. **NEW PATHS ACTIVITIES**

The key activities supported by the program include the following:

a. **Strengthening First Nations Education Management and Governance Capacity**

- ***To strengthen First Nations education management and governance capacity through local capacity and educational institutional development:***

- Maintain a Regional Management Organization infrastructure;
- Provide education school board type services;
- Develop local school governance;
- Develop school improvement plans; and
- Manage proposal-based activities.

b. **Improving School Effectiveness**

- ***To improve the effectiveness of classroom instruction through curriculum and language development; pedagogical improvements; school activities; and IT hardware and software purchases;***

- Develop educational programming, including extra-curricular and environmental, programming and activities such as sports or arts;
- Develop/modify curriculum, and/or conduct activities related to language and culture;
- Develop/modify, and/or purchase instructional materials;
- Conduct other activities to improve the effectiveness of classroom instruction;
- Purchase IT hardware and software;
- Undertake school evaluations;
- School to work transition; and
- Manage proposal-based program activities.

c. Parental and Community Engagement

- ***To develop and implement strategies that support community and parental involvement in the education of their children and youth which is conducive to a supportive learning environment:***

- Organize and hold parent/community meetings;
- Organize and hold workshops or conferences that support community and parental involvement in the education of children and youth;
- Support parental involvement in the educational development of children;
- Support activities promote the integration of traditional knowledge in school and home learning environments; and
- Manage proposal-based activities.

d. Assisting Band-operated Schools to Recruit & Retain Qualified Teachers and Educators

- ***To assist band-operated schools to recruit and retain qualified teachers and educators and provide them with professional development opportunities:***

- Develop and implement local and regional recruitment and retention strategies and/or activities to support teachers;
- Conduct professional development leading to professional accreditations for education staff; and
- Manage proposal-based activities.

5. ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

Eligible expenditures may include the following:

- Learning materials (purchase and/or development of books, guides, etc.);
- Fees for professional advisors;
- Salaries for educational professionals and para-professionals for New Paths activities only;
- Transportation costs for eligible participants incurred as a direct results of participating in an eligible activity not already covered by elementary/secondary program funding;
- Support for educational institutions or instructional materials, and
- Administrative costs up to 10% of the total cost of the contribution.

In the category of School Board Type Services, eligible expenditures may include the following:

- Program modification or adaptation;
- Instructional materials;
- Diagnostic testing and evaluation (not covered under targeted Education programs);
- Professional services and support activities, and professional development;
- Development of curriculum and teaching materials;
- Costs for providing advice to band administrations consultations with communities;
- Management of education boards (including operational costs);
- Advice and support to First Nations for agreements with provincial education authorities;
- Honoraria for school board members;
- Monitoring and evaluating, and supporting implementation of responses to recommendations; and
- Maintaining a regional organization infrastructure.

6. INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

- Construction, operation and maintenance of federal and band operated school facilities such as those covered by the Capital Program, and
- Salaries for teachers and educational paraprofessionals that are already covered under the Terms and Conditions of the Education Program.

7. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The **NPEP** funding for distribution to First Nations communities is to support key activities related to strengthening First Nations education management and governance capacity, improving school effectiveness, parental and community engagement, assisting band-operated schools to recruit and retain qualified teachers and educators and enhancing Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Funding for this program will be distributed directly to First Nations communities using a formula that provides a "base" plus a "per capita amount." The exact amount of funding available for each First Nation community is outlined in the school-specific letter, which is included with this funding information package.

8. ACCESSING NPEP FUNDING

Since this funding allocation is based on a pre-determined formula, the FNEC/FNSA requires that requests for funding be submitted in the form of a "Proposal" and using your community allocation letter containing your community's funding allocation. Your proposal should total to your funding allocation, any amount above your community allocation would have to be listed in your proposal as coming from other project partners. Your proposal must include all of the elements outlined in the Proposal application (sample template included in this package). We have also included a sample final report for your reference.

9. FUNDING PROCESS

For the 2011-2012 school year NPEP, the following funding process will be used for the allocation of the funding (100%):

- For the 2011-2012 fiscal year First Nations communities will be provided with 70% of their allocated funds for NPEP (July-March) based upon the FNEC/FNSA's receipt and approval of a proposal (work plan). These funds must be spent prior to **March 31st 2012**.
- In the 2011-2012 fiscal year assuming FNEC/FNSA will be funded for NPEP, First Nations communities will receive the final 30% of their allocated funds (May 2012) based upon the FNEC/FNSA's receipt and approval of a final report. These funds must be spent prior to June 30th 2012 and will be subject to FNEC/FNSA receiving AANDC NPEP funding for 2012-2013 fiscal year.

FNEC and FNSA have two options to apply for the 2011-2012 NPEP as follows:

1. On-line Application and Reporting templates where you input your proposal and/or or Final Report directly into the FNEC-NPEP database (It may require completion and submission of a NPEP Authorization form to the FNEC office). If you are already signed-up in the 2010-2011 year, you will not be required to re-apply as you will have login and password to access.
2. Proposal and Final Report Fillable Form templates to assist in the compilation of a NPEP proposal (work plans) and final report are available to download from FNEC's website at www.fnesc.ca. Click on "Programs" and search for New Paths for Education Program.

All projects have to take place from **September 2011 to June 30th, 2012**.

10. PROPOSAL DEADLINE

Please submit your proposal by **September 24, 2011** at the latest, to ensure a timely distribution of the program funding.

11. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

First Nations communities that receive funds under this program are required to provide a final report that indicates the activities completed as outlined in the approved proposal, the project outcomes and a financial summary.

Deadline for Final Reports: May 26, 2012.

While the NPEP final report is due on May 26, 2012, the final report must describe any activities or initiatives that will not conclude until June 30th 2012.

New fiscal year funding (2012-2013) will be provided for the three months of April, May and June 2012. Further details about this process are provided in your community-specific letter.

Please ensure that your reports are submitted by the deadlines shown above. Information provided through final reports is used to support submissions for future funding.

12. PROGRAM APPLICATIONS AND REPORTING

The 2011-2012 NPEP initiative has new program application and reporting guidelines. This year, the FNESC/FNSA has two options for submitting a NPEP community proposal and program report as follows:

- FNESC's On-line Program Database for NPEP Program Application and Reporting; or
- INAC's NPEP Proposal Template and Program Report Template (Fillable forms only)

The 2011-2012 NPEP application and reporting guidelines are available at the FNESC website: www.fnesc.ca, click on "Programs" and search for New Paths for Education Program.

FNESC's On-line NPEP database for New Paths on-line application and reporting can be accessed by the completion and submission of a NPEP authorization form to the FNESC office. If you have an existing **New Paths Login Name and Password**, you don't have to re-apply unless you wish to change the designated school representative for your school.

The NPEP Proposal and Program Report template (fillable forms) are also available on the FNESC website, click on "Programs."

13. DEADLINE DATES

- NPEP Community Proposal Application due no later than September 24, 2011

- NPEP Final Report due no later than May 26, 2012

14. PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

Further information or questions about the 2011-2012 NPEP in general, or about the specific distribution of funding outlined in this package, feel free to contact:

Derek Payne, Coordinator, Programs at the FNEESC/FNSA office as follows:

Telephone #1-877-422-3672 or (604) 925-6087

E-mail: derekp@fnesc.ca,

Visit the FNEESC website at www.fnesc.ca and click on “Programs”

