

## **First Nations Education Steering Committee**

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# **BC First Nations Innovations in Education Program 2019-2020 Call for Proposals**

## **1. Introduction**

The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) is pleased to manage Indigenous Services Canada's 2019-2020 Innovations in Education Program for the BC region.

The total funding available for this program is \$ 957,362.

The 2019-2020 Innovations in Education Program funding must be expended and all activities completed and reported on by May 30, 2020.

## **2. Objectives**

The Innovations in Education Program aims to enhance educational outcomes of First Nation Students (K-12), consistent with the purpose and principles of the BC Tripartite Education Agreement (BCTEA).

This program is intended to support BC First Nations to implement new education programs, strategies, and technologies, and develop evidence-based solutions to improve educational outcomes that can be shared widely.

The funding available for this program can be used to support First Nations to improve educational outcomes by:

- piloting new innovative programs
- piloting adaptations of existing programs for new purposes or new audiences
- assessing and measuring the impact of pilot programs

## **3. Program Activities**

Programs and program activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Exploring attendance promotion activities, such as: working with a school/school(s) (public or First Nation school) to develop appropriate attendance tracking mechanisms – accessing expertise as needed to support this work; establishing a joint attendance committee with a school/school(s) (public or First Nation school) to identify and implement attendance incentive initiatives; working with a First Nations Parent Club to promote the importance of attendance, including perhaps hosting meetings, sponsoring guest speakers, and/or distributing relevant materials; etc.

- Trying new or adapted parental and/or community engagement strategies and approaches, such as: establishing a joint First Nation parent / school committee; hosting gatherings to provide parents with training and information about relevant home learning activities / school involvement opportunities; accessing expertise to inform parents about critical issues like student mental health, safe and healthy internet use by children, healthy lifestyles, graduation requirements, career and education planning or other priority topics; etc.
- Implementing new transitional supports for students (grade-to-grade and/or school-to-school transitions)
- Implementing initiatives to enhance the effectiveness of First Nation student supports and collaborative approaches with school districts, including, but not limited to, piloting strategies for shared services, such as: school bus maintenance; First Nations language efforts; technology supports; etc.
- Piloting approaches to expand locally developed opportunities to earn graduation credits (e.g. through authorized courses, independent directed studies), such as accessing expertise for curriculum development or related materials development.
- Piloting a new or adapted technology-related initiative, such as: piloting a new technology-based learning program; using a new technology-based data collection / analysis system; etc.
- Designing and implementing diverse learning methodologies, including: land-based learning opportunities; working with the school community to consider new school schedule options to better incorporate language and culture learning; etc.
- Piloting a new or adapting an existing anti-racism program
- Piloting a new anti-bullying or mental health approach for students

#### **4. Eligible Recipients**

All First Nations in BC are eligible to submit a proposal for funding through this new program.

- Only one proposal per community can be submitted. For example, we cannot accept a proposal from a Tribal Council as well as a community represented by that Tribal Council.
- Other community agencies, including First Nations schools, are welcome to apply in partnership with the First Nation.

## 5. Proposal Process

Eligible proposals must:

- be in accordance with the program guidelines
- outline the activities that will be undertaken and how they will meet the program's objectives
- outline the new or innovative element of the program
- provide an estimate of eligible costs to be incurred

The maximum requested amount per proposal is \$40,000.

### 5.1 Submission of Proposal

Only proposals submitted using the electronic proposal form will be considered. Please refer to the proposal form and the attached instructions for application details. Incomplete proposals will be returned to applicants.

2019-20 Innovations in Education Program proposals are due by 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 4:30 pm. Please submit proposals by email to [reception@fnesc.ca](mailto:reception@fnesc.ca), or fax to 604-925-6097.

### 5.2 Assessment Criteria

Submitted proposals will be reviewed by a committee constituted for this purpose. This committee will review proposals based on the objectives of the program and the criteria described below. Every effort will be made to ensure a regional distribution of funds.

- **Objectives:** the extent to which the proposal meets the program's objectives i.e. piloting new or adapted programs, measuring the impact, and sharing the project outcomes. Proposals need to clearly state why this is a new or adapted program in the particular situation and provide a rationale for its need.
- **Implementation Activities:** the extent to which the proposal aligns with eligible activities and how these contribute to the program's objectives. The proposal review will consider timeliness, cost-effectiveness and the degree to which the activities will result in the expected outcomes.
- **Monitoring & Evaluation:** how the project outcomes will be measured.
- **Project Management:** how the initiative/project will be managed, including project governance, human resources, and project monitoring.
- **Project Costs:** realistic estimated total costs and a clear justification of the funding requested.

**Note:** Meeting these criteria does not guarantee funding. A written response will be sent to all applicants to confirm whether, or not, their proposal has been approved for funding.

## **6. Expenditures**

### **6.1 Eligible Expenditures**

Eligible expenditures include, but are not limited to:

- Salaries, professional fees or honoraria for people needed to implement the program (not already covered by existing programs, such as the ISC elementary/secondary education or band support/tribal council funding)
- Costs for hosting workshops or meetings (such as facility rental, catering, materials, etc.)
- Travel costs, room and board
- Costs for documentation of program successes and experiences (e.g. video recordings, publications)

*Note for recipients: Travel expenses are to be claimed at actual cost, but cannot exceed Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat's guidelines.*

### **6.2 Ineligible Expenditures**

Ineligible expenditures include, but are not limited to:

- Costs that are already covered by other funding, including BCTEA core funding, elementary/secondary education or band support, tribal council funding
- Office infrastructure or equipment purchases
- Capital costs such as construction of a building

### **6.3 Administrative Costs**

Administration costs must not exceed 5% of the sub-total amount requested before administration costs. Eligible administration costs include (but are not limited to):

- office/general expenses
- materials and supplies
- advertising, communication and printing costs

## **7. Monitoring and Accountability**

Funding recipients must deliver the program in accordance with the provisions of their Contribution Agreement and the program delivery requirements outlined in these Program Guidelines.

## **8. Reporting Requirements**

Innovations in Education Program Final Reports will be due no later than Friday, May 30, 2020. Reporting requirements will be listed in each recipient's funding arrangement. All funds must be expended and all activities completed by May 30, 2020.

## 9. Contact Information

For further program information, please visit the FNEESC website at: [www.fnesc.ca](http://www.fnesc.ca). If you have any questions, feel free to contact Tino Laemmle, Program Coordinator Mentor and Skills Programs by email, [tinol@fnesc.ca](mailto:tinol@fnesc.ca) or by phone at (604) 925-6087.

**Proposal Deadline:**

**4:30 pm on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

Please submit complete proposals to:

Fax: 604-925-6097 Email: [reception@fnesc.ca](mailto:reception@fnesc.ca)

**Final Report Deadline:**

**4:30 pm on Sunday, May 30, 2020**