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Ontario First Nations Reaching Home Funding Initiative Reaching Home Funding FAQ

Who is eligible to submit a proposal?

Reaching Home Funding is focused on First Nation communities in Ontario and First Nations Organizations that have the support of the First Nation they are representing. Applicants must be able to demonstrate the need, capacity, and alignment to the Reaching Home Funding objectives along with measurable outcomes. Proposals from individuals are not eligible.

Is there a limit on the dollar amount for the proposal?

Proposals will be evaluated on their own merit. Funding for each proposal will be determined based on the funding available, geographic distribution of proposals, need demonstrated in the proposal and the alignment with the Reaching Home Funding objectives. Keep in mind that this funding is available for all First Nations in Ontario.

What is the process to apply for funding?

Proposals must demonstrate the project's needs, the capacity to deliver it and alignment with the Reaching Home Funding objectives. Proposals should include your First Nation/Organization, Project Location, Project, Description, Project Budget, Reporting Requirements including description of the measurable outcomes, and Project Lead's Contact. Support letter from a First Nation is required if the applicant is a First Nation organization. If you would like an example, please email reachinghome@ofntsc.org.

What is the timeline for submission? Is there a deadline to have the proposals submitted? When can we expect to hear a response on proposals submitted?

Proposals are being accepted immediately and the deadline for submissions is currently on a quarterly basis in Months – June, September, December, and March.

Are we able to submit more than 1 proposals per First Nations?

Yes, you may. Funds are to be distributed as fairly as possible to all First Nations across Ontario. Some First Nations may not choose to apply so there may be funds to support additional projects as long as the proposals meet the criteria. Proposals should identify projects or initiatives with measurable outcomes and the proposal should include a summary of measurable outcomes that the project or initiative will be able to deliver, whether it is to reduce homelessness or diversion. If the First Nation has already been approved for OFNTSC's Reaching Home project, they are able to submit an additional proposal, however the reporting requirements must have been met for the previous approval.

Are First Nations able to use funding dollars to purchase/renovate a building for safe and healthy transitional housing and create culturally supportive space within the building?

Yes, this is an eligible expense under the Capital dollars. There is a \$50,000 capital limit. In this case, if the amount of the building is over \$50,000 then the proposal must list the total cost to purchase as well as the other source of funding to cover the entire cost. Capital costs for renovations would also include the materials, supplies, and construction contractors, if needed.

What types of expenses are eligible for funding?

Eligible expenses include overhead costs, wages, training and professional development, professional fees, capital costs, materials and supplies costs, housing set-up, emergency housing funding, and more. For a full list, refer to Appendix A of the proposal guide.

Does this funding allow for building or renovations to be completed for individual homes?

No, this funding does not allow for the building or renovations on an individual home. Renovations on already existing homeless shelters, transitional homes,



supportive housing or non-residential facilities are eligible. Please keep in mind that renovations would fall under the capital costs limitation of \$50,000.

If we are already receiving Reaching Home funds, are we still eligible to apply for funds through the Ontario First Nations Reaching Home Funding Initiative?

No, this is the same funding. It is distinctions-based but still funded by Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (formally known as Housing and Infrastructure Canada). If are your already in receipt of Reaching Home funding in any other stream you are not eligible to apply for funding from OFNTSC.

Is there potential for funds to be available after March 31, 2025? Into the next fiscal year.

Yes, this is a multi-year program. As with all government programs, should budget priorities change they can adjust the level of funding.

Can this funding be used to create a position that coordinates services with other agencies to administer homelessness assistance?

Yes, salaries and benefits are an eligible expense if the role aligns with the objectives of the project, to reduce and prevent homelessness, or to complete outreach to reduce and prevent homelessness it is eligible.

Will there be an agreement associated with this funding?

Yes, an agreement will be established between OFNTSC and the First Nation or First Nation organization that outlines the funding, project or initiative objectives and reporting requirements for the approved proposal.

Are there reporting requirements associated with this funding?

Reporting requirements related to the measurable outcomes and alignment with Reaching Home Funding objectives will be outlined in the agreement. Meeting the reporting will be a condition to receiving future funding allocations for the approved proposal.



Please reach out to reachinghome@ofntsc.org with any additional questions you may have.

