

Call for Proposals: Improving Access to Autism and/or Intellectual Disability Resources for Remote Indigenous Communities in Canada

The **Improving Access to Autism and/or Intellectual Disability Resources for Rural and/or Remote Indigenous Communities in Canada** program is put forward by the Autism and Intellectual Disability Resource Exchange (AIDE Canada). AIDE Canada is a national network that develops tools and resources about Autism Spectrum Disorder, and/or Intellectual Disability. Our goal is to address regional, linguistic, ableist and racial disparities when it comes to access to information and resources about autism and/or intellectual disability.

AIDE Canada is requesting proposals that focus on increasing access to autism and/or intellectual disability information and resources in rural and/or remote Indigenous communities. This call aims to support a sustainable development approach to increasing access and reducing barriers to accurate, up-to-date, and useful information and resources to the autism and/or intellectual disability community in Canada. The total amount of funding available under this call for proposals is up to \$100,000 over 1 year. AIDE Canada may fund any number of proposals or none, up to the maximum funding available. However, we expect to fund only one or two projects with a duration of maximum 1 year.

Please submit your proposal to Info@aidecanada.ca with the subject: **Rural and/or Remote Indigenous Communities Project**. Please submit proposals by no later than September 15th, 2020. If you have any questions about this call for proposals and wish to speak to someone over the phone, please do not hesitate to reach out to Joanna Nefs at 604-928-2433.

Objectives

This call will support AIDE Canada's mandate to decrease regional and racial disparities in access to autism and/or intellectual disability (ASD/ID) information and resources across Canada. Projects must clearly demonstrate how they will use technology to increase access to existing ASD/ID resources in rural or remote Indigenous communities. Project proposals must also describe how they will accomplish one or more of the following:

- Create new ASD/ID resources specifically tailored to rural or remote Indigenous communities
- Reduce or remove existing barriers to accessing ASD/ID resources in rural or remote Indigenous communities
- Address linguistic barriers by providing access to information and/or resources in different languages

Your proposal must:

- Be heavily informed by the lived experiences of persons with disability and their families
- Examine how the intersection of various social identities (e.g. persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples, women, LGBTQ2S+ populations, and other vulnerable groups) impacts access for and inclusion of those most at risk of being left behind by utilizing a human rights-based and culturally relevant approach.”.
- Demonstrate existing organizational capacity to readily implement the project in the proposed community or communities
- Demonstrate the transferability of efforts and/or learning to potentially extend the impact of this initiative to other remote or rural communities across Canada.

Organization Eligibility

To be eligible for this call your Organization must:

- Be an organization that is legally incorporated in Canada
- Provide financial statements for the 2 most recent fiscal years
- Be an Indigenous-led organization or be entering the proposal in partnership with an Indigenous-led organization

Required Project Parameters

You must be able to answer “yes” to all of the following statements in order for your application to be considered.

- This project creates or increases access to relevant information and/or resources that are specifically tailored to the needs of persons with intellectual disability and/or autism who reside in rural or remote Indigenous communities
- This project incorporates the use of technology to increase its reach and availability
- At least 5% of the total eligible direct project costs over the life of the project in cash and/or in-kind contributions will be borne by the applicant(s)
- The application is complete and is presented in either French or English

Required Documents

Please provide the following:

- 1) Background information outlining the need for this project in the proposed community, including description of any consultations done with people with lived experience of disability and Indigenous community members.
- 2) Proposal information outlining the deliverables that will be produced, the number of people reached and the impact that this project will have on the community (and potentially other communities).
- 3) A Timeline outlining the completion dates of the deliverables as well as major intermediary steps.
- 4) A budget containing only eligible expenditures and outlining the source and nature of the cost share funds.
- 5) 2 years of financial statements from the submitting organization(s), preferably audited and signed.

Eligible and Ineligible Expenditures

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

Eligible expenditures are costs directly related to the approved project such as personnel, travel and accommodation, material and supplies, equipment, rent, utilities, performance measurement/evaluation. Reimbursement will be based on actual expenditures incurred.

Personnel

- Project staff salaries and benefits
- Contractor fees (trainers, consultants, translation services etc.)

Travel and Accommodation

- Expenses for project activities such as private vehicle mileage, air, train or bus fares, project-related meals, and accommodation costs are all eligible
Note: Kilometer rates, meals and living expenses must not exceed those allowed under National Joint Council Travel Directive. See link for rates: <http://www.njc-cnm.gc.ca/directive/d10/v238/en>

Materials and Supplies

- Office supplies
- Printing
- Postage

Equipment

- Office/Project equipment such as computers, equipment for children, adults with special needs, etc. Note: Cost effectiveness should be considered when deciding whether to purchase or rent

Rent

- Cost incurred to rent space for off-site meetings, conferences, training (if space not available at project location)

Utilities (if not included in the rental agreement)

- Telephone, electricity, heating, etc.
- Property maintenance costs based on the square footage or other acceptable methods used for the project

INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

Personnel

- Statutory and extended benefits exceeding the 20% ceiling not included in employee group benefits plans by virtue of employment/labour (dental, medical, pension benefits, RRSPs) agreement or equivalent
- Statutory and extended benefits exceeding the 20% ceiling
- Performance pay (bonus)
- Severance/separation/termination payments
- Maternity leave (including top up – portion not covered under EI)
- Compensation during extended absence

Travel and Accommodation

- Travel and hospitality expenses that exceed the National Joint Council rates

Materials

- Rental charges for use of recipient owned equipment (i.e., computers)

Rent

- Rental costs claimed for property/space owned by or donated to the recipient

Other

- Capital costs such as the purchase of land, buildings, or vehicles; with the exception of AHS where such Capital costs are permitted
- Direct services which are part of the jurisdiction of other governments, (e.g., medical treatment and services)
- Provision of services that are the responsibility of other levels of government
 - Overhead/administrative fees expressed as a percentage of ongoing operational support of an organization
- Costs of ongoing activities for the organization (not directly related to the funded project)
- Profit-making activities
- Pure research in any discipline (Pure research is original investigation undertaken to gain new scientific or technical knowledge and understanding, but without specific applications).