



CREE NATION YOUTH COUNCIL

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MICRO-GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FUND

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

In collaboration with



Department of Commerce and Industry (DCI)

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Cree Nation Government

Cree Nation Youth Council Micro-Grant Opportunities Fund

The Cree Nation Youth Council (CNYC), with the support of the Department of Commerce and Industry (DCI) is proud to introduce the CNYC Micro-Grant Opportunities Fund. The CNYC Micro-Grant Opportunities Fund will allow Cree youth entrepreneurs of Eeyou Istchee the opportunity to realize and test their business ventures with access to micro-grants of up to \$5,000.00 to launch their projects, build skill sets and have a hands-on approach.

The CNYC Micro Grant Opportunities Fund Program helps Cree youth by supporting, promoting and supporting economic activities in Eeyou Istchee which:

- Create new markets and business opportunities;
- Build entrepreneurial diversity and capacity;
- Explore and launch innovative business initiatives;
- Foster entrepreneurial spirit and culture;
- Provide rewarding and meaningful employment to Cree Youth

Who is eligible for the CNYC Micro-Grant Opportunities Fund?

Applicants must meet the following criteria

- Applicants must be Cree beneficiaries of the JBNQA residing on a Cree community of Eeyou Istchee.
- Must be between the ages of 18 – 35 Years old
- Have not withdrawn from the CNYC Opportunities Fund program in the last year; otherwise the applicant(s) may have to wait up to 12 months before being eligible
- Present a Project Proposal
- Provide a detailed budget breakdown and demonstrate the market / viability of their project
- Agree to the terms and conditions of the CNYC Funding agreement
- Applicants may be required to participate in an interview with CNYC/DCI personnel

To be eligible, projects should meet the following criteria:

- Total project costs should NOT exceed \$5,000.00
- Take place within Eeyou Istchee
- Be innovative and creative and have a positive impact in their community.
- Must be youth-led and have a positive impact on community youth.
- Explore new innovative business opportunities

What are the eligible expenses?

The Fund covers costs for:

- Capital expenditures
- Equipment purchases
- Inventory / Materials

The Fund does not cover costs for:

- Financing of existing debts
- Personal expenses or purchases
- Costs incurred prior to the approved project's start date
- Projects which do not conform with guidelines of the CNYC

The CNYC/DCI will only process complete applications. Incomplete applications will be not be processed.

- All project submissions will be assessed internally by the CNYC/DCI staff. All submissions will then be presented to the Executive Committee of the Cree Nation Youth Council (CNYC), which will issue a decision based on the recommendations from the CNYC Executive and DCI Staff.
- A decision will be communicated directly to the applicant or their authorized agent within 60 days of the submission. All decisions are final.
- Incomplete applications will be closed after 30 days of inactivity.

The following information MUST be attached for a file to be processed:

- Application Form
- Résumé of each promoter(s) involved in the project
- Project Proposal, including quotations from suppliers (to validate the project costs)
- Budget breakdown (Templates to be provided)

Approved Projects:

- will be required to sign an agreement that outlines the terms and conditions and also agree that the CNYC may publicly share their success stories
- must begin their project within 30 days following approval / disbursement
- cannot transfer the grant received to other individuals or companies, and

If a project is not carried out as described in the application, all monies awarded must be returned to the CNYC for the benefit of other applicants. The applicant(s) will be required to reimburse the CNYC should the applicant sell assets acquired with CNYC program funds within 24 months following their acquisition.

Payments will be issued in two instalments

- First payment (90%) following the signing of the funding agreement
- Third payment (10%) upon completion of the project and receipt of a final report

Deadlines

Applications will be ratified on a quarterly basis or at the discretion of the CNYC Executive Committee.

Address / Submission

All applications must be submitted to the CNYC/DCI in both an electronic and hard copy format, with the original signature.

Paper copies must be sent to:

Cree Nation Youth Council / Micro-Grant Opportunities Fund
Department of Commerce and Industry
Cree Nation Government
277 Duke Street, Suite 102
Montreal, Québec, H3C 2M2

Electronic copies must be sent to:

Nellie Wapachee nwapachee@cngov.ca / Eli Moore emoore@cngov.ca

Department Contacts:

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