



Economic Development Funding

Resources

March 2025

The following list of resources is not exhaustive and is updated on an ongoing basis. Note that funding opportunities may have application windows that have changed or are not listed in this document. This document is to be considered a snapshot in time. “NEW” simply indicates a program being added to this document since the last update.

Funding Programs (Continuous)

Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program (AEP)

Intake: Open

Access to capital and access to business opportunities for Indigenous entrepreneurs and business owners in Canada.

AIIC Grant for Status Entrepreneurs

Intake: Open

This program provides equity assistance for the start-up or the expansion of small businesses for Status individuals.

Alberta Food Processors Association - Food Futures

Intake: Open

The Alberta Food Processors Association (AFPA) has received funding from the Alberta Government to support Work Integrated Learning placements in the food processing industry. This funding will support up to 90 student placements per year for the next 3 years. Wage subsidies of 50% (maximum subsidy \$5,000) are available to hire current post-secondary students and recent grads (within 6 months) for temporary work experience placements (minimum 200 hours), which can take place at any time during the year.

Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation

Intake: Ongoing

With up to \$1 billion in loan guarantees available, we enable access to capital, make financing more affordable and improve lending terms to create economic prosperity and social improvements in communities – not only for the short term but also for generations to come.

Alberta Innovates Funding Programs

Intake: Varies

Alberta Innovates provides a number of funding programs to support research, the growth of business, and help the start-up community to build new technology and drive new ideas.

Alberta Real Estate Foundation

Intake: Varies

Alberta Real Estate Foundation funds initiatives that support and advance education, research, law reform, and other activities related to real estate across our three Funding Priorities of Real Estate Leadership, Built Environment, and Land.

Apeetpgpsan Metis Entrepreneurs' Assistance (MEAP) Grant Program

Intake: Open

This program provides equity assistance for the start-up or the expansion of small businesses. The grant is for Métis, Inuit, or Non-Status individuals and is named The Métis Entrepreneurs' Assistance Program (MEAP).

Canada Food Innovation Network

Intake: Varies

CFIN is open to organizations across Canada's food ecosystem. Join more than 1500 members, including manufacturers, processors, distributors, retailers, funders, and innovators.

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) - Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Tax Incentives**Intake: Open**

The Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program uses tax incentives to encourage Canadian businesses of all sizes and in all sectors to conduct research and development (R&D) in Canada. These tax incentives come in three forms: an income tax deduction, an investment tax credit (ITC), and, in certain circumstances, a refund.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Funding Programs**Intake: Varies**

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is Canada's national housing agency. Explore options through the National Housing Strategy and other CMHC programs that are designed to build or renovate affordable housing. This includes initiatives for Indigenous communities. Funding is also available for housing innovation and research.

Co-op Community Spaces Fund**Intake: Closed**

Community Spaces was developed to support projects in the communities across Western Canada in which we live, work and operate. Projects can apply for between \$25,000 and \$150,000 in capital funding in three categories: recreation, environmental conservation, and urban agriculture.

Eco Canada - Wage Funding Eco Employment Programs**Intake: Varies**

Employment programs that stimulate environmental career pathways, skill development, career growth, workforce support, and workforce advancement through wage and training funding.

Emissions Reduction Alberta**Intake: Varies**

ERA is investing in a diverse portfolio of transformative, sustainable technologies that reduce GHG emissions and position Alberta for success in a lower emissions economy.

Enbridge-Safe Community First Responder Program**Intake: Open**

The program awards grants for safety equipment, professional training, or safety education programs to emergency response organizations including fire departments, emergency medical and rescue services, emergency management organizations, 9-1-1 centers, ambulance services and law enforcement organizations.

Government of Alberta- Aboriginal Business Investment Fund**Intake: Closed**

The Aboriginal Business Investment Fund (ABIF) can partially or completely fund capital costs for Indigenous community-owned economic development projects. Projects like these improve social and economic outcomes for Indigenous Peoples and their communities.

Government of Alberta- Active Communities Initiative**Intake: Closed (expected spring 2025, [Investing in a more active tomorrow](#))**

The Active Communities Initiative is open to eligible community groups, non-profit organizations, and societies, and First Nations and Métis Settlements, that wish to build or enhance active spaces that support sport and recreation in their communities. The grant is intended for small and mid-sized projects, including indoor and outdoor skating rinks, community pools, indoor turf centers, pickle ball courts, sports fields and courts, and other sport and recreational facilities.

Government of Alberta – Affordable Housing Partnership Program

Intake: Closed

Public, non-profit, and private-sector housing providers can apply for funding for innovative and sustainable affordable housing projects.

Government of Alberta- Agricultural Societies Program**Intake: Opens Spring 2025**

The Agricultural Societies Infrastructure Revitalization Program provides annual capital funding to help agricultural societies make major repairs to existing infrastructure. This is a new program.

Government of Alberta- Alberta Broadband Fund**Intake: Stream 2 Open, Stream 3 is expected in 2025**

The Governments of Alberta and Canada are inviting eligible applicants under the UBF to express their interest in developing a proposal to connect underserved households in the province in areas which remain without access to Internet speeds of 50/10 Mbps. Funding is currently available until March 31, 2027, and projects must be completed by this date.

Government of Alberta - Alberta Export and Expansion Program**Intake: Open**

Funding to help export-ready companies and non-profit organizations enhance access to international markets and attract global buyers.

Government of Alberta - Alberta Media Fund**Intake: Varies**

The Alberta Media Fund (AMF) offers a variety of grants to help support the growth, sustainability, competitiveness and business attraction of our province's cultural industries.

Government of Alberta - Alberta Agri-Processing Investment Tax Credit**Intake: Open**

The Agri-Processing Investment Tax Credit (APITC) provides a 12% non-refundable tax credit against eligible capital expenditures for corporations investing \$10 million or more to build or expand Agri-Processing facilities in Alberta.

Government of Alberta - Alberta Community Partnership (ACP)**Intake: Varies**

Projects that directly support new or enhanced regional approaches to municipal service delivery are eligible under the IC component. Provincial priorities **include investment attraction, job creation**, efficient public service delivery, and emergency management and disaster mitigation. As such, regional partners may choose to explore regional development and planning, shared service delivery, **economic development and growth**, emergency preparedness and planning, emergency response, disaster mitigation, or other related projects.

Government of Alberta- Alberta Municipal Water/wastewater Partnership**Intake: Open until November 30 for funding in the following year.**

The Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership (AMWWP), which launched in 1991, provides cost-shared funding to eligible municipalities to help build municipal facilities for water supply and treatment, and wastewater treatment and disposal.

Government of Alberta - Art, Culture, and Sports Grants**Intake: Varies**

Funding opportunities for projects in the areas of arts, culture, community, heritage, recreation, sport, and diversity and inclusion.

Government of Alberta – Building Blocks Capital Grant Program**Intake: Closed**

A grant for new, accessible, high-quality and inclusive licensed child care spaces in facility-based child care programs.

Government of Alberta - Community Initiatives Program (CIP)

Intake: Deadlines January 15, May 15, September 15, 2025

This program provides funding to new community-based programs, initiatives, events and publications.

Government of Alberta - Community Revitalization Levy

Intake: Open

Allows municipalities to borrow against future property tax revenues to help pay for infrastructure development required in a specific area. The levy is typically in place for 20 years, and no longer than 40 years.

Government of Alberta - Driving Back to work Grant Program

Intake: Closed

Supports unemployed Albertans pursuing careers in the trucking industry.

Government of Alberta - Economic Development Funding and Grants

Intake: Varies

Tax credits, grants and other funding programs to stimulate regional economic development.

Government of Alberta - Film and Television Tax Credit

Intake: Open

Tax credit to support medium and large-scale productions filming in Alberta.

Government of Alberta - First Nations Development Fund

Intake: Applications must be received and approved by the FNDF office prior to March 31, 2025

Provincial lottery grant program designed specifically for First Nations in Alberta to fund economic, social and community projects.

Government of Alberta - Indigenous Employment Training Partnerships Program

Intake: Open

Indigenous Employment Training Partnerships provides grant funding to Indigenous communities and organizations to deliver group-training projects designed in partnership with employers and other partners. These partnerships will assist unemployed or under-employed Indigenous individuals to gain the necessary skills training and work experience to obtain and maintain long-term employment.

Government of Alberta - Indigenous Reconciliation Initiative

Intake: Closed (Information about the 2025-26 grant intake will be available in spring 2025)

The Indigenous Reconciliation Initiative provides funding up to \$100,000 for cultural or economic projects through two streams.

Government of Alberta- Innovation Employment Grant

Intake: Open

Companies can receive a grant of up to 20% toward qualifying research and development expenditures.

Government of Alberta - On-Farm Efficiency Program

Intake: Opens April 1, 2025

Support producers in achieving environmental benefits by improving the efficient use of agricultural inputs.

Government of Alberta - Resiliency and Public Trust Program

Intake: Open

The Resiliency and Public Trust Program enables stakeholders to gain resiliency and build public trust in Alberta's agriculture and agri-food sectors. This includes opportunities for better awareness and education about industry best practices and the development, adoption and enhancement of assurance systems that will help to build trust and resiliency in the industry.

Government of Alberta - Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program

Intake: Open until November 30 for funding in the following year

The Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) provides financial assistance to rural and

smaller urban municipalities for developing and maintaining key transportation infrastructure. STIP supports municipalities as they complete projects that improve accessibility and the movement of goods to market, increase opportunities for economic growth and enhance safety and efficiency while extending the life of key transportation infrastructure.

Government of Alberta - Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP)

Intake: Varies

The new \$3.5-billion, 5-year agreement (April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2028), between the federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen the competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector.

Government of Alberta - Water for Life program

Intake: Open until November 30 for funding in the following year

Municipalities can apply for funding for new regional water supply and treatment facilities, and wastewater treatment facilities.

Government of Alberta- Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program

Intake: Check back in spring/summer 2025 for a new posted application form for the 2025-26 intake.

The Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program increases the natural ability of the province's watersheds to reduce the intensity, magnitude, duration, and effects of flooding and drought through watershed mitigation measures. Municipalities and non-profit organizations can apply for funding for projects that will enhance communities' ability to withstand future flooding or droughts and promotes the ongoing stewardship and preservation of Alberta's watersheds.

Government of Alberta - Workforce Partnerships Grants

Intake: Closed

Eligible organizations with common labour market needs can get funding to support workforce initiatives.

Government of Alberta - Workforce Strategies Grant

Intake: Closed

As part of Alberta at Work, Workforce Strategies grants support organizations with innovative solutions that will help Albertans develop new skills and assist employers and industry to grow their workforce.

Government of Canada/PrairiesCan Funding Programs

Intake: Varies

Funding for businesses and not-for-profit organizations with projects that advance economic growth and diversity in the Prairie provinces: Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

- **PrairiesCan Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative (RAII) in the Prairie Provinces: Open**
To stay at the forefront of this technology, the Government of Canada announced \$200 million for AI-powered businesses. This funding, delivered by Canada's regional development agencies (RDAs) is available in all regions to help bring new AI technologies to market and speed-up AI adoption in critical sectors such as agriculture, clean technology, healthcare and manufacturing.
- **PrairiesCan Regional Homebuilding Innovation Initiative (RHII) in the Prairie Provinces: Open**
The RHII aims to change the way houses are built and provide more Canadians with a place to call home faster. It provides repayable contributions directly to businesses to help enhance local and regional housing supply chain and advance innovation in the residential construction sector.

NEW Government of Canada- Active Transportation Fund

Intake: April 9, 2025 for eligible Indigenous applicants (all other streams, closed)

The Government of Canada has allocated \$3 billion annually on average beginning in 2026-27 for permanent public transit programming under the Canada Public Transit Fund, a historic investment that will support transit in communities of all sizes across Canada. This also includes targeted funding for specific types of public transit and active transportation projects ranging from capital to planning. Targeted Funding intakes will vary and will provide flexible, call-specific funding to address federal priorities that meet local needs.

Government of Canada - Business Scale-up and Productivity

Intake: Ongoing (Expression of Interest)

It supports high-growth businesses that are seeking to improve productivity, scale-up and commercialize technology. It offers interest-free, repayable funding to incorporated businesses.

Government of Canada - Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage**Intake: January 31, April 30, October 15**

Provides funding to local groups for recurring festivals that present the work of local artists, artisans or heritage performers. This includes the celebration of LGBTQ2+ communities and Indigenous cultural celebrations.

Government of Canada - Canada Cultural Spaces Fund**Intake: Continuous**

The Canada Cultural Spaces Fund (CCSF) supports the improvement of physical conditions for arts, heritage culture and creative innovation. The Fund supports renovation and construction projects, the acquisition of specialized equipment and feasibility studies related to cultural spaces.

Government of Canada - Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program**Intake: Continuous**

The Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program (CASPP) supports the Canadian agricultural sector's participation in the Government of Canada's growth and policy objectives, by investing in the sector's design, development and implementation of tools and strategies to respond to and seize opportunities created by these objectives.

Government of Canada - Clean Economy Investment Tax Credits**Intake: Continuous**

Businesses may be eligible for tax credits for investments in Canada that support the transition to net zero emissions.

- Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS)
- Clean Technology (CT)
- Clean Hydrogen (CH)
- Clean Technology Manufacturing (CTM)

Government of Canada - Canadian Housing Infrastructure Fund**Intake: Closes March 31, 2025**

The Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund is currently accepting applications under the Direct delivery stream. CHIF aims to accelerate the construction and upgrading of housing-enabling drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid-waste infrastructure, directly supporting the creation of new homes, and increasing densification. This investment is part of the Government of Canada's commitment to address the impacts of the housing crisis on communities of all sizes across Canada.

Government of Canada- Canada Retraining and Opportunities Initiative**Intake: Open until March 31, 2025, or until funding has been fully committed**

The Canada Retraining and Opportunities Initiative supports workforce planning and skills training in communities significantly impacted by a mass layoff. It provides funding for community-based projects that help workers develop the skills they need to transition to new jobs.

NEW Government of Canada - EcoAction**Intake: Stream 1 closes March 25, Stream 2 closes April 10**

EcoAction enables freshwater sustainability and actions across Canada.

- **Stream 1- Community led freshwater action across Canada: Closes March 25**
Community-led Freshwater Action across Canada helps Canadians become involved in creating more sustainable communities by taking actions that improve freshwater quality and ecosystem health.
- **Stream 2 - Freshwater Sustainability and Innovation: Closes April 10**
Funding for projects related to the following objectives: Pilot innovative and/or clean technology solutions to improve freshwater quality and/or freshwater ecosystem health; Enable circular

economy opportunities; Address freshwater data challenges to ensure that Canadians and decision-makers have access to and can use freshwater-related data and/or Indigenous knowledges.

Government of Canada - Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEas)

Intake: Varies

Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEaS) is the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) access to innovation program. Help solve a challenge faced by the Canadian Armed Forces and get funding to advance your research. Get feedback on your technology from military experts and build your network.

Government of Canada – Jobs, Skills Training and Social Development

Intakes and Programs: Varies

Explore funding opportunities (also known as [grants and contributions](#)) to help fund projects that support jobs, training, or social development in Canada.

Government of Canada - Local Food Infrastructure Fund – Large Scale Projects

Intake: Closed

This program supports projects that help improve community food security through the purchase and installation of infrastructure / equipment that increase access to local, nutritious and culturally appropriate food.

Government of Canada – Rural Transit Solutions Fund

Intake: Indigenous applicants can submit their application by Tuesday, April 8, 2025. All other applicants, closed

The Rural Transit Solutions Fund, under the [Canada Public Transit Fund](#), supports the development and expansion of locally driven transit solutions, by helping residents of rural, remote, Indigenous and Northern communities conduct their day-to-day activities, like access services, go to work, school, medical appointments, and visit loved ones.

Government of Canada - Strategic Innovation Fund

Intake: Ongoing

Making sure that Canada is a top destination for businesses to invest, grow and create jobs and prosperity for Canadians is one of the Government's top priorities. The Strategic Innovation Fund's (SIF) objective is to spur innovation for a better Canada by providing funding for large projects and national innovation ecosystems.

Government of Canada- Wah-ila-toos: Clean Energy Initiatives in Indigenous, Rural and Remote Communities

Intake: Various

The transition to clean energy continues to be an important topic to Indigenous communities and the Government of Canada as we work together toward reconciliation. In 2021, the Government of Canada announced an investment of \$300 million over six years to support clean energy projects that can advance Indigenous-led climate action, support local economic development and create skilled jobs while reducing pollution and improving air quality.

Government of Canada - Zero Emission Transit Fund

Intake: Open

Through the Zero Emission Transit Fund, the Government of Canada is investing \$2.75 billion over five years, starting in 2021, to support public transit and school bus operators plan for electrification, support the purchase of 5,000 zero emission buses and build supporting infrastructure, including charging infrastructure and facility upgrades.

MEE Cluster Manufacturing Finance Program

Intake: Open

The Manufacturing and Export Enhancement (MEE) Cluster has partnered with Servus Credit Union to explore opportunities to further our joint goals of helping businesses grow and increase productivity through

process improvement and technology adoption. Servus is offering customized financing options to MEE Cluster clients.

Technology Alberta First Jobs

Intake: Varies

Technology Alberta's FIRST Jobs programs connect Alberta Tech Companies (SMEs - Small-to-Medium Enterprises) developing innovative technology with talent from post-secondary institutions across Alberta.

Telus Pollinator Fund for Good

Intake: Open

The TELUS Pollinator Fund, launched with an initial \$100M, is one of the world's largest corporate social impact funds. We deliver on TELUS' commitment to social capitalism by investing in early stage, for-profit companies that have the potential to change the world for the better.

Travel Alberta Tourism Investment Programs

Intake: Closed

- **Product Development Fund (EOI Process):** Develop or diversify a new or existing tourism product, experience or service. Alberta-based tourism operators (including startups), Indigenous organizations, not-for-profit organizations, and municipalities can apply to receive between \$75,000 and \$500,000 from Travel Alberta.
- **Rural Development & Promotion Fund:** Grow tourism in your community through development and promotion initiatives. Alberta-based destination organizations, not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, chambers of commerce, and industry associations can apply for between \$50,000 and \$150,000 from Travel Alberta
- **Events & Festivals Fund:** Activate events that drive overnight visitations. Alberta-based businesses, associations, and communities can receive between \$25,000 and \$150,000 from Travel Alberta.

Youth Employment & Skills Program:

Intake: Closed

This fund aims to help young Canadians access employment opportunities and gain valuable work experience in the agricultural sector, while contributing to the growth of the agricultural community in Canada. Eligible applicants include producers, agri-businesses, industry associations, Indigenous organizations and research facilities.

Youth Internship Incentive Program (YIIP)

Intake: Open

The Youth Internship Incentive Program is designed to increase the number of employers supporting work-integrated learning internships in trades, technologies, and in-demand occupations. By providing a financial incentive for employers, this program will expand an employer's ability to achieve their goals and enhance youth opportunities aligning with Alberta's skilled worker needs.

Funding Programs (Non-continuous)

Alberta Construction Association- Construction New Talent Grant Program

Intake: Closed

Wage subsidies of 50% (maximum subsidy \$5,000) are available to hire current post-secondary students and recent grads (up to 6 months) for temporary work experience placements at least 3 weeks in length which can take place at any time during the year. Placements can be engineers, technologists, accounting and finance, human resources, IT, logistics, procurement, safety, marketing, etc.

Alberta Hospitality Association WIL Grant

Intake: Open

AHA has been granted funds for an industry-specific campaign that will allow Alberta restaurateurs to receive \$5,000 worth of government funding to help alleviate labour costs, in an effort to introduce passionate individuals to the hospitality sector.

Alberta Municipalities EV Charging Program:

Intake: Open for EOI

Financial rebates for applicants to purchase and install electric vehicle charging stations in Alberta as part of the Electric Vehicle Charging Program (EVCP), funded by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) & Alberta Municipalities.

EMC Canada Funded Programs

Intake: Varies

EMC offers realized value to its members and is passionate about finding ways to innovate, collaborate, achieve and offer more to the Canadian manufacturing sector. Funded programs include:

FCM Green Municipal Fund

Intake: Varies

Grants are available for planning, studies, and pilot projects. Loans are available for capital projects, and most recipients receive an additional grant of up to 15% of their loan amount. Some of the program include:

Municipal Action Centre

Intake: Varies

The Municipal Climate Change Action Centre is a partnership of Alberta Municipalities, Rural Municipalities of Alberta and the Government of Alberta. They provide technical assistance, and education to municipalities and community-related organizations, helping them lower energy costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve climate resilience.

Science Horizons Youth Internship Program

Intake: Open

The Science Horizons Youth Internship Program (Science Horizons) provides wage subsidies to eligible employers across Canada to hire recent university, college and polytechnic graduates for 6 to 12 month internships in the environmental science, technology, engineering and mathematics sectors.

Student Work Placement Program (SWPP)

Intake: Open

ESDC works with Employer Delivery Partners. Employer Delivery Partners are a group of recognized associations and organizations that represent the interests of employers in industries. They work with businesses and post-secondary education institutions to:

- provide wage subsidies to employers that offer quality student work placements, and
- create partnerships with colleges, universities, polytechnics and CEGEPs to recruit students for these placements.