



## **FIRST NATIONS CONFEDERACY OF CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTRES 2025-2026 CALL FOR FIRST NATION LANGUAGES PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program<sup>1</sup>**

The Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program is a Canadian Heritage funding program. The First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres (FNCCEC) is working in collaboration with Canadian Heritage on Indigenous languages. The FNCCEC is the Regionally Designated Organization (FNRDO) for First Nation languages in Ontario.

### **FUNDING GUIDELINES**

#### **SECTION 1: Funding Program**

The First Nation Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres is accepting proposal funding applications for the Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program from First Nation communities or First Nation organizations in Ontario. The 2025-2026 Call for Applications to the Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program is a **Single Year Call** specific to language plan development.

The **ONLY ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY** for this Single Year Call is the **Development of a Language Plan**. A language plan is a necessary requirement for the possibility of accessing long term language funding. Canadian Heritage's ILC Language Funding Model encourages First Nation communities and organizations to develop a long term language plan for the benefit of immediate and ongoing language revitalization protection to increase and maintain language speakers, to strengthen their languages to fluency.

#### **CALL FOR APPLICATION**

The FNCCEC ILC is specifically for First Nation languages for First Nations in Ontario.

ILC Call 2025-2026 is to support First Nation communities and First Nation organizations to develop a language plan.

Eligible applicants in Ontario who wish to submit a proposal application for single year 2025-2026, **please read the following vital application information.**

#### **SECTION 2: WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY**

For the purpose the FNCCEC-ILC Funding Program, First Nations are defined as those who are legally and federally recognized in Canada under the *Indian Act*, and/or Treaties recognized and affirm by section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

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<sup>1</sup> The Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program is Canadian Heritage's Indigenous Languages Component (ILC). The FNCCEC is working in collaboration with Canadian Heritage on Indigenous Languages, whereas FNCCEC is the delivery agent specifically for First Nations languages in Ontario. First Nation is one of the three distinct peoples who fall under the term "Indigenous".

## 2.1: WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY (specific to Ontario)

- a. First Nations Communities / Governments / Bands / Tribal Councils
- b. First Nation cultural, language and education centres
- c. First Nation Band or Tribal Council operated education institutions
- d. First Nation led institution including their accredited programs
- e. First Nation community based Ad-hoc committee/group and must provide a *Letter of Support* OR a *Band Council Resolution* from the First Nation community's Band Council or Tribal Council
- f. First Nation not for profit organizations (incorporated and unincorporated) includes community based or urban organization and must provide:
  - i) Letter of Support from a federally recognized First Nation Band Council OR First Nation Tribal Council; and,
  - ii) The organization must demonstrate how the **First Nation** urban community members will be involved with the project activity and how the **First Nation** members will benefit from the project activity; and,
  - iii) The organization's budget must demonstrate the project funding will not result in income generation for the sole benefit of the organization, ie: offsetting overall operational costs of the organization or to supplement loss revenue from other funding source; or to hire new core or program staff.

## 2.2: One Application Per Eligible Applicant

Only one proposal application per applicant. More than one application will not be accepted. Should an eligible applicant submit more than one application, the first application received by FNCCEC will be accepted. The subsequent application(s) will be returned to the applicant.

## 2.3: Who is not eligible to apply:

- Individual applicants
- Public institutions (includes provincial schools and post secondary)
- For profit organizations
- Provincial / Territorial / Municipal / Federal government and their agencies
- Previous applicants funded by FNCCEC ILC or Canadian Heritage ILC are not in good standing with completion of activities
- Non-Indigenous and Indigenous Not for Profit organizations and agencies
- Non-Indigenous agencies
- Any organization outside of Canada

## SECTION 3: Funding Objectives and Expected Results

The objectives of the Program are to:

- Support the efforts of First Nation communities and First Nation organizations to reclaim, revitalize, maintain and strengthen First Nation languages
- Support First Nation communities to create new First Nation language speakers, increase fluency, immersion opportunities, increase use of First Nation languages, and the documentation of First Nation languages.
- Support long term planning and opportunities to access long term funding for language development, language and cultural revitalization.

Expected results:

- First Nation communities to conduct / develop long term language planning
- First Nation communities to have opportunity to access on going language funding

#### **SECTION 4: ELIGIBILITIES & Ineligibility**

**4.1:** Eligible activity for the 2025-2026 ILC funding is Language Plan Development.

**4.2:** Language Plan Development must be community-based and community led.

**4.3:** An eligible applicant's proposal and planned activity is specific to Nation/Community respective ancestral language of the Nation / Community; it can also include a combination of different First Nation languages.

**4.4: INELIGIBLE: Multi-Distinction Groups / Indigenous Languages**

If an eligible applicant's proposed project is a combination of a First Nation language and the Inuit language and/or Michif, please submit your application directly to Canadian Heritage, the department is responsible for multi-distinction applications. FNCCEC-ILC is specific only to First Nation Languages.

#### **SECTION 5: ACTIVITY EXPENSES**

##### **5.1: Eligible Expenses**

- Wages specifically related to project activity such as coordinator or project lead.
- Professional Fees (honoraria) for elders, knowledge keepers, language speakers
- Contractors / Consultants Fees: A maximum of 10% of the total budget / request in funding (consultants fees cannot be the only expense for the project).
- Equipment purchases such as computers, cameras required for project activity: purchases cannot exceed 15% of the total budget / request in funding.
- Rent and utilities related to the project activity.
- Supplies and resource materials related to project activity.
- Photocopying and printing related to project activity.
- Communication and translation services.
- General liability insurance.
- Costs associated with information technology internet, website fees, including purchases and update of hardware and software.
- Travel expenses – must not exceed the rates set by Treasury Board (refer to treasury board site for rates).
- Administrative cost cannot exceed 15% of the total budget / request in funding and must be related to the coordination of the project such as bookkeeping service, office supplies, telephone, fax, utilities, postage fees, photocopying, printing, rent for office space, audit, legal, translation.

##### **5.2: Time Period for Expenses:**

- i) Eligible expenses for Single Year funding must be incurred between April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.
- ii) FNCCEC is not responsible for any expenses incurred prior to April 1, 2025.

- iii) FNCCEC is not responsible for any expenses incurred for your project before you receive written confirmation from FNCCEC of funding approved for the funding year, any expenses incurred is at your own risk.
- iv) Applicants who are not successful in receiving ILC funding but decide to engage in activities - this is at the discretion of the applicant to do so, importantly, the FNCCEC is not responsible for the work or any of the expenses incurred by non-funded applicants.

### **5.3: Ineligible Expenses are:**

- Capital purchases such as vehicles, boats, bikes, etc., construction and renovations or repairs
- Salaries and honoraria for board members in the delivery of regular operations
- Travel outside of Canada
- Start up and/or operational costs for business ventures or development of cultural and professional industries
- Support for development of cultural and professional industries or institutions
- Research fees, operational and administrative costs of an organization and institution existing or newly created programs and studies
- Attendance in post secondary academic courses offering language lessons
- In school K-12 programs (includes First Nation and non First Nation schools and public programs)
- Teacher certification
- Conferences or conference fees or travel to conferences
- Awards or bursaries
- Contingency and miscellaneous fees
- Deficit recovery
- Volunteer hours
- Charitable donations

## **SECTION 6: PROJECT FUNDING**

### **6.1: PROJECT TIME**

FNCCEC strives to deliver funds as early as possible. Delay in funding results by various factors such as when Canadian Heritage releases the funds to FNCCEC; and / or the delay of the applicant in signing and returning the Funding Agreement to FNCCEC. Funds will not be released without a duly signed funding agreement by both parties and when FNCCEC receives the funding from Canadian Heritage. *Please Note: It is advisable to wait for written confirmation of funding before commencing your project activity. Eligible expenses can be incurred even if project activities have commenced after April 1, 2025 (retro of incurred expenses to April 1, 2025 is acceptable).*

## **SECTION 7: FUNDING**

### **7.1: Single Year 2025-2026:**

- The project funding is up to **\$100,000.00 for the development of a language plan.** Budget request exceeding the amounts specified above will not be accepted.
- Applicant is to submit a budget identifying the proposed expenses associated with the work activities of the language plan development project.

## **SECTION 8: HOW TO APPLY AND APPLICATION DEADLINE**

### **8.1: Proposal Application Package:**

Please use Application Checklist to ensure your application contains all mandatory forms and supporting documentation (identified in the checklist; and in these Guidelines).

Applicant must submit a complete proposal application package which consists of the **mandatory** forms:

APPENDIX 1:	General Application Form
APPENDIX 2:	Organization Information Form
APPENDIX 3:	Proposal Application Form
APPENDIX 4:	Declaration Form (must be signed)
APPENDIX 5:	Budget Template Form
APPENDIX 6:	Applicant Acceptance of Liability Form (if applicable, fill in & sign the form)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Applicant must provide in the General Information Form, the official/legal name of the applicant community /organization /ad-hoc group. The FNCCEC requires the legal name to issue funding agreements and cheques. All correspondence and cheques will be mailed via Canada Post, therefore, the **most current and correct address** including a P.O. Box number (if applicable) and postal code is required, please ensure the complete address is identified in the application form(s).

**8.2:** Applications will not be accepted if any **mandatory forms and supporting documents** are not included or not completed in the application submission. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all mandatory information is completed and included in the application, and you have signed the Declaration Form.

### **8.3: Multi-Distinction Groups / Indigenous Languages WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY FNCCEC**

If an eligible applicant's proposal / work activity is a combination of a First Nation language and the Inuit language and/or Michif, please submit your application directly to Canadian Heritage, the department is responsible for multi-distinction applications.

## **SECTION 9: RELEVANT INFORMATION: Limits / Decisions / Responsibilities**

1. Submission of an application by an eligible applicant does not guarantee funding.
2. Submission of an application by an ineligible applicant will not be returned to the applicant, an ineligible applicant includes applicants who do not meet application requirements, deadline submission date and time.
3. Only one application per applicant. Should an eligible applicant submit more than one application, the first application received by FNCCEC will be the one accepted for review (provided it is a complete application with all mandatory requirements). Any subsequent application(s) will not be assessed and will be returned to the applicant.
4. **FNCCEC reserves the right to target funding to specific priorities, the priority for Call 2025-2026 is Language Plan Development**
5. The decisions regarding eligibility and funding amounts are final.
6. FNCCEC is not responsible for any expenses incurred for your project before you receive written confirmation from FNCCEC of funding approved for the funding year, any expenses incurred is at your own risk.

7. Applicants who are not successful in receiving ILC funding but decide to engage in activities - this is at the discretion of the applicant to do so, the FNCCEC is not responsible for the work or any of the expenses incurred by non-funded applicants.
8. FNCCEC is not responsible for any application sent directly to Canadian Heritage by the applicant and is then not provided by Canadian Heritage to the FNCCEC by the FNCCEC specified application deadline date and time. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that FNCCEC receives its application by the deadline date and time specified by FNCCEC regardless of where to and how the applicant sent its application.
9. Should FNCCEC receive a multi-distinction application, FNCCEC is not responsible to send or notify of the application to Canadian Heritage.

## **SECTION 10: APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE & TIME**

The deadline to submit a proposal application for the 2025-2026 Call is **FRIDAY MARCH 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:00 P.M. (EST, Ottawa, Ontario local time).**

Proposal Applications can be sent by EMAIL or by MAIL (Canada Post).

Late applications submitted by email or by mail are ineligible and will not be accepted.

### **BY EMAIL**

Email application to: [ILCProgram@fnccec.ca](mailto:ILCProgram@fnccec.ca)

**Deadline Date and Time: FRIDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 at 5:00 P.M. EST Ottawa, Ontario time zone.**

Please ensure proposal application is emailed **NO LATER than FRIDY MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 AT 5:00 P.M. EST Ottawa time**

**No applications will be accepted after this date and time. Late applications will be returned to the applicant.**

**If the applicant's local time zone is different from Ottawa time zone, it is the applicant's responsibility to take note of difference in time zone and ensure application is submitted by 5:00 P.M. EST Ottawa time.**

FNCCEC email system will confirm the date and time the email was sent by applicant and received by FNCCEC.

### **BY MAIL : Canada Post**

Mail application to:

FNCCEC Language Secretariat  
666 Kirkwood Avenue, Suite 302  
Ottawa, Ontario K1Z5X9

**APPLICATIONS BY MAIL MUST BE POSTMARK STAMPED BY CANADA POST ON OR BEFORE 5:00 P.M. (EST Ottawa time) FRIDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2025.**

**AN APPLICATION POST MARK STAMPED AFTER 5:00 P.M. EST FRIDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED and will be returned to the applicant.** *It is advisable to email or call FNCCEC to inform the office your application was mailed.*

**IMPORTANT:**

FNCCEC is not responsible for any application sent directly to Canadian Heritage by the applicant and not provided by Canadian Heritage to the FNCCEC by the FNCCEC specified application deadline date and time. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure your application is received by FNCCEC by the specified date and time set by FNCCEC.

**INQUIRIES OR ASSISTANCE**

Should you have any questions or require assistance with the application forms, please contact Frankie Cote, Director of Languages, either by email to [ILCProgram@fnccec.ca](mailto:ILCProgram@fnccec.ca) or by phone 613-728-5999 (office) or 819-230-6432 (cell).

We look forward to receiving your application to the FNCCEC 2025-2026 ILC Call for Proposals  
Kitchi Megwetch / Thank you