District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL
Request for Decision

Date: October 6, 2025	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: Chief Administrative Officer

Re: REDIP Grant Application – Capacity Building
Recommendation: THAT Council supports a grant funding application to the REDIP fund under the Capacity funding stream for up to $150,000 over a maximum 3-year span, to continue building the economic capacity of the District of Barriere and improve our ability to support economic diversification.

Purpose

For Council to consider supporting a Rural Economic Development and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) grant funding application spearheaded by the Chamber of Commerce.

Background

As part of the District's ongoing partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, especially as it involves community economic development, the team has been exploring various grant opportunities that could provide funding towards capacity building and exploring other economic development.

The Chamber is proposing to apply to the REDIP fund, under the Capacity category, which has an application deadline of October 30, 2025. The District would act as the applicant while the Chamber would ultimately be responsible for the program and submission of all reporting to the District. The project would be 100% grant funded, so, there would be no cost to the taxpayer besides in-kind staff support.

This initiative would aim at revitalizing the local economy, progressively enhancing economic development capacity while leveraging milestone-based funding opportunities.

The intent would be to have a sort of updated revitalization plan which would focus on:
- learning center and business training
- signage
- business frontage revitalization encouragement
- tourism
- marketing
- mentoring, job shadowing, targeted coaching and/or professional development
- fostering in-house economic development services and resource
- business support to reduce staff turnover, enhance stability, possibly increase staff positions, time and/or resources.

The funding for this project is anticipated to be $50,000/year for 3 years ($150,000 total). A budget is only required for the first year to start. Subsequent years budgets will be adjusted as needed each year. If the application is successful, $50,000 will be funded under the Capacity stream this year, and we would be eligible to access up to $100,000 in Milestone-Based Development stream funding in the following two years. The budgeting below is up for changing as needed throughout the years.

The following is a possible three-year strategy that was developed by the Chamber (some refinement to this is already underway, and this will not be the final high-level list):

Year #1 – Total Budget $50,000:
- Community Assessments - $15,000:
  - community economic development capacity,
  - assessing the need for infrastructure development to support the project,
  - assessing the need for job creation initiatives
  - assessing the policies to attract and retain businesses
  - identify environmental sustainability
  - identify the potential for innovation
  - identify measures to support equality and promote social inclusion; and
  - other community needs and/or opportunities.

- Community Consultation (in town, rurally, DOB, Simpcw, etc.) - $3000
- Consultation and Development of a Pilot Project of a Learning Center with Thompson Rivers University including marketing plan - $2000
- Establish a Mentoring and Job Shadowing Program: Develop a roster of those interested in mentoring and allowing job shadowing. Create minimum requirements for the program through consultation with the businesses, fire depts, municipalities, Simpcw, literacy program, Yellowhead Community Services, etc. - $8000
- Organize a coaching and professional development program - $8000
- Increased involvement with DestinationBC, TOTA, and SuperNatural BC and support/encouragement of business participation and initiatives through marketing etc. - $6000
- Tracking and Measurement - $2000
- Reporting – in-kind
- Contingency - $6000

Year #2 – Budget to be developed over time:
- Focus on marketing efforts to promote the initiative and it's benefits
- Design, locate and create signs.
- Implement business frontage revitalization through a project where businesses are eligbile to enter to win funds for for paint, siding or other business improvement/revitalization using local businesses.
- Enhance the usage of the Learning Center with TRU as well as workshops and training as needed from other trainers outside TRU facilitated by the Chamber
- The mentoring and Job shadowing could begin. Ages 16 and above to retain local skills and talent and help build our local economy
- Continue coaching and professional development activities
- Maintain engagement with tourism groups and explore new projects to increase participation.
- Tracking and Measurement
- Reporting
- Contingency

Year #3 – Budget to be developed over time:
- Sign placement occurs
- Sustain the momentum of the Learning Center and potential improvements
- Further marketing initiatives to attract visitors, businesses and workers to the town
- Continue Workshops and training ongoing.
- Improvement project for business improvement continues $1000 per business. Previous winners ineligible.
- Mentoring and Job shadowing could begin. Ages 16 to adults eligible. Develop high school focused shadowing project further. Begin to include more rural participants in a wider area.
- Maintain focus on coaching and professional development happening
- Continued increases in involvement with the tourism groups. Creation of a summer project to increase involvement in tourism activities paired with local businesses.
- Tracking and Measurement
- Reporting
- Contingency

The Chamber's intention was that the plan would include several key economic development components aimed at fostering growth and prosperity such as infrastructure development, investment in education and workforce development, support for small businesses and entrepreneurship, strategic industry development, job creation initiatives, and policies to attract and retain businesses. Additionally, the plan may also address environmental sustainability, innovation, and measures to reduce inequality and promote social inclusion if it is determined they are needed during the assessments.

It has to be noted that the District would act as the responsible organization and applicant under the grant; however, the administration of the program would be with the Chamber who is better suited to oversee the project on a day-to-day level. That being said, if the Chamber fails to deliver key milestones under the project, the District is ultimately responsible to the funder. As such, if the grant application is successful, it is recommended for the District to enter into an agreement with the Chamber that clearly outlines their responsibilities and deliverables to receive the funding to deliver the program.

Summary

At this stage, Council needs to determine whether to apply to the REDIP Capacity funding stream, which, if successful, is intended to be managed by the Chamber, or not to apply. Council could also ask Staff to look into other opportunities under the grant instead of supporting this project.

Benefits or Impact

General

Finalizing an application to the REDIP grant fund, led by the Chamber of Commerce

Finances

As the grant would be 100% funded, there are no financial impacts to the District; however, the District would be providing some limited in-kind support in drafting the application, and if successful some project oversight.

Strategic Impact
Priority #4: General Governance and Community Engagement
Goal 3. – Enhanced Engagement with the Community and our Partners
Results: c. Support our local community partners and enable them to provide a benefit to the community on behalf of the District

Risk Assessment
Compliance: Community Charter, Funding application to REDIP, potential agreement with the Chamber.

Risk Impact: Low-Medium. As this is only the application, the risk is low. However, as the Chamber would be a 3rd party responsible for the ultimate delivery of the project, yet the District would be responsible to the funder, there is some medium risk that should be mitigated through an agreement between the District and the Chamber to clearly outline the responsibilities if funding is confirmed.

Internal Control Process:
Staff would continuously engage with the Chamber to finalize the application materials and to fine tune the deliverables as part of the application.

Next Steps / Communication

- If approved, Staff would work with the Chamber on the application as needed.
- An additional resolution from Council may be required at the October 27, 2025, meeting to finalize the application.

Attachments
- REDIP Program Guide

Recommendation
THAT Council supports a grant funding application to the REDIP fund under the Capacity funding stream for up to $150,000 over a maximum 3-year span, to continue building the economic capacity of the District of Barriere and improve our ability to support economic diversification.

Alternative Options
1. Council could instruct Staff not to support the application.

Prepared by:
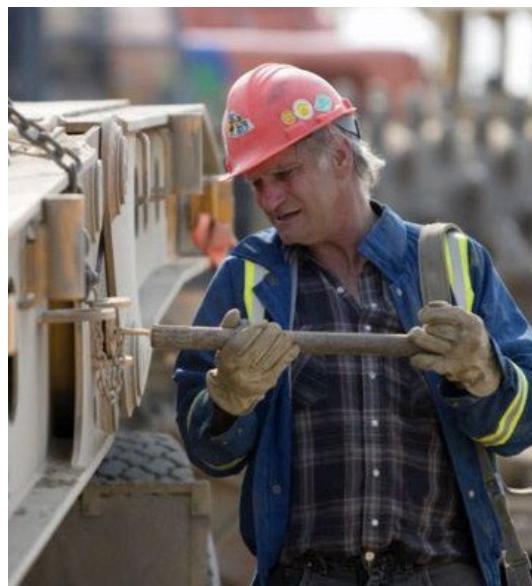D. Drexler, Chief Administrative Officer

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BRITISH COLUMBIA | Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth

Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program

REDIP

Contents

Program Overview |

The Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) supports rural economic development projects that promote economic capacity building, economic diversification, resilience, clean economy opportunities, and infrastructure development.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted through the online system at gov.bc.ca/REDIP.

An MS Word version of the application form is available to help with preparing an application.

In fiscal year (FY) 2025-26 the REDIP program is focused on strategic investments to support the most critical economic development opportunities in rural communities. The program team strongly recommends that all prospective applicants meet with program staff or a member of the Regional Economic Operations Branch to discuss their project prior to submitting an application. Please review page 5 for more information.

Intake Dates

The 2025-26 intake opens **July 24, 2025**. Complete application packages must be submitted through the online system by **11:59PM PST on October 31, 2025**.

Applications will not be accepted after this date. **Funding decisions will be announced Spring 2026.**

IMPORTANT: BCeID Requirement

A Business BCeID is required to apply online. Please ensure your organization has a registered Business BCeID and that your login credentials are up to date. A new Business BCeID can take several weeks to register.

More information on Business BCeIDs is available at gov.bc.ca/REDIP.

Program Support & Contacts |

Schedule a Review of The Project Idea
Prior to preparing an application, it is strongly recommended to connect with REDIP or regional economic development staff. Our team can ensure the project idea is eligible for funding and provide detailed information regarding the application process. A scoping-call checklist and a one-page summary are available on the REDIP website (link below) to help you prepare for your meeting.

REDIP Program Staff
Program staff can help determine whether the proposed project aligns with the program's scope and criteria. They can also provide clarification regarding requirements in the application form and budget template.

REDIP Contact Information
Email: RuralDevelopment@gov.bc.ca

Phone: 250-356-7950

Website: gov.bc.ca/REDIP

Regional Managers
Regional Managers are located in every region of the province to assist communities in planning and implementing their economic development and diversification priorities. Regional Managers can support with project identification, linking project ideas with regional economic development, and provide information on the application process.

Additional information is available at: gov.bc.ca/RegionalEconomicOperations

Regional Manager Contact Information

Northern Region
- North Coast: Cheryl.Gilbert@gov.bc.ca
- Bulkley-Nechako/North Central: Dave.Christie@gov.bc.ca
- Northeast: Tamara.Danshin@gov.bc.ca
- Cariboo/Central Coast: Emily.Colombo@gov.bc.ca

Vancouver Island/Sunshine Coast Region
- Central South Vancouver Island/Gulf Islands: Cheryl.McLay@gov.bc.ca
- North Vancouver Island/Sunshine Coast: Geoff.Crawford@gov.bc.ca

Southern Interior Region
- Thompson/Central Okanagan/Shuswap: Myles.Bruns@gov.bc.ca
- Central Kootenay & Revelstoke: Jen.Comer@gov.bc.ca
- South Okanagan/Similkameen/Boundary: Larry.Olson@gov.bc.ca
- East Kootenay: Alex.Denis@gov.bc.ca
- Fraser Valley & Lower Mainland: Wendy.Koh@gov.bc.ca

Funding Categories |

Capacity

Supports small rural and Indigenous communities to increase economic capacity, identify new opportunities, and build economic momentum with funding support for three fiscal years.

Multi-Year Capacity Grant

Maximum Funding Per Project	$50,000 per year
Percentage of Project Costs Eligible for Funding	100%

Milestone-Based Development Stream Funding

Maximum Funding Per Project	$100,000
Percentage of Project Costs Eligible for Funding	100%

Development

Supports business planning, feasibility assessments, and other developmental steps for business and economic diversification opportunities in rural B.C.

Development Grant

Maximum Funding Per Project	$100,000
Percentage of Project Costs Eligible for Funding	80%

Implementation

Supports the construction of new economic infrastructure and implementation of economic services, programming, or operations directly related to diversification in rural communities.

Implementation Grant: Total Project Cost Under $500,000

Maximum Funding Per Project	$400,000
Percentage of Project Costs Eligible for Funding	80%

Implementation Grant: Total Project Cost $500,000 and Over

Maximum Funding Per Project	$1,000,000
Percentage of Project Costs Eligible for Funding	60%

Transition

Supports communities experiencing a major economic change resulting from the loss of a major employer or urgent need related to a major economic project with significance for the region and province. Eligible applicants must be actively participating in a current Community Transition event supported by JEG's Regional Economic Operations Branch or be able to demonstrate direct linkage to a major project and its economic significance. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the program directly to discuss eligibility.

Who Can Apply |

Eligibility Requirements:

- The proposed project must directly serve the applicant's community(ies).
- Where multiple communities collaborate and the project serves multiple communities, each applicant community must meet the eligibility requirements of the funding category.
- Eligible lead applicant types are listed on page 9. Detailed definitions of applicant types are available in Appendix A on page 23.
- Previous REDIP funding recipients are not eligible to apply for new funding unless all previous projects are complete, and final reporting has been accepted by the Program.

Application Limit:

- Lead applicants can submit an application for only one funding category per intake - i.e. **Capacity** OR **Development** OR **Implementation**.
- If multiple applications are received from the same applicant, program staff may choose to only review the first application received.
- Regional districts can submit one application for REDIP for each eligible Electoral Area.
- Regional districts must clearly identify which community(ies) or unincorporated area(s) they are applying on behalf of.
- First Nations with multiple reserves can submit one application for each individual reserve if project activities are directly linked to that specific reserve. Alternatively, First Nations can submit one application to for the entire Nation.
- Eligible partners can be partners on multiple projects.

Applicants Previously Funded Through REDIP

New funding applications will not be reviewed if the applicant organization has not completed previously funded projects and submitted all required reports by December 31, 2025.

Who Can Apply (Cont.): Eligibility Matrix |

To better represent the diversity of rural communities in B.C., eligibility for REDIP will now be guided by a new tool — the Eligibility Matrix. This matrix classifies communities into six categories: three rural and three urban, based on population size and remoteness scores from Statistics Canada.

Population	Very Remote >0.5532	Remote 0.3899 - 0.5532	Less Accessible 0.2889 - 0.3898	Accessible 0.1500 - 0.2888	Easily Accessible <0.1500
150,000 +				Urban 1	Urban 1
50,000 - 149,999		Urban 2	Urban 2	Urban 2	Urban 1
25,000 - 49,999		Urban 2	Urban 2	Urban 2	Urban 1
10,000 - 24,999	Rural 3	Rural 3	Rural 3	Rural 3	Urban 1
5,000 - 9,999	Rural 2	Rural 2	Rural 3	Rural 3	Urban 3
1,000 - 4,999	Rural 1	Rural 2	Rural 2	Rural 3	Urban 3
0 - 999 + Electoral Areas	Rural 1	Rural 1	Rural 2	Rural 3	Urban 3

Rural Definition Matrix — Index of Remoteness

Click here to see the full-sized matrix

Please note **Indigenous communities** are currently not included in the matrix in recognition of First Nations data sovereignty, the lack of available and accurate data, and the commitment to the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. All Indigenous communities in B.C. are therefore eligible for REDIP funding.

Please use the Eligibility Matrix Look-up Tool to determine your eligibility for REDIP.

If you have any questions about REDIP's eligibility requirements, support is available from program staff at RuralDevelopment@gov.bc.ca or by calling 250-356-7950.

Who Can Apply (Cont.) |

	Capacity	Development	Implementation
Eligible Lead Applicants	• Municipal governments designated as a Rural 1 or Rural 2 in the Eligibility Matrix • Regional districts applying on behalf of an Electoral Area designated as a Rural 1 or Rural 2 in the Eligibility Matrix • First Nation governments and First Nation Economic Development Corporations, as defined in Appendix A on page 23	• Non-Indigenous communities (including municipal governments and regional districts) located in areas categorized as Rural 1, Rural 2, or Rural 3 in the Eligibility Matrix • All Indigenous governments and Indigenous economic development corporations located in British Columbia • Indigenous and non-Indigenous not-for-profit organizations* located in areas categorized as Rural 1, Rural 2, or Rural 3 in the Eligibility Matrix	
Ineligible Lead Applicants	• Not-for-profit organizations • For-profit organizations and businesses • Communities designated Rural 3, Urban 1, Urban 2, or Urban 3 in the Eligibility Matrix • Registered charities *NOTE: Any applications received from ineligible applicants, including Limited Partnerships, will not be reviewed.*	• For-profit businesses, including Limited Partnership organizations • Communities designated Urban 1, Urban 2, or Urban 3 in the Eligibility Matrix • Registered charities *NOTE: Any applications received from ineligible applicants, including Limited Partnerships, will not be reviewed.*	
Eligible Partners (Optional; maximum 2 partners/project)	• All types of eligible lead applicants • Not-for-profit organizations* • Non-Indigenous Development Corporations • Industry organizations • Businesses**, including Limited Partnerships • Community Foundations • Post-secondary institutions	• All types of eligible lead applicants • Non-Indigenous Development Corporations • Industry organizations • Businesses**, including Limited Partnerships • Community Foundations • Post-secondary institutions	

Organizations registered under the Societies Act.

**For-profit entities can serve as partners with an eligible applicant as long as the proposed project identifies broad community benefits and does not negatively impact other businesses.*

Partners must:

- Have an active role in the project but are not required to contribute financially.
- Provide proof of partnership confirming their role and commitment to the project (such as an email or letter).

What Types of Projects are Eligible? |

Projects must meet all applicable federal and provincial environmental legislation and standards, including consultation with Indigenous nations.

It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain any required approvals and permits.

Capacity:

The **Capacity** grant aims to build the economic capacity of small rural communities and provide or improve their ability to support economic diversification (max funding $50,000 over three fiscal years).

Funded applicants will also be eligible to access up to $100,000 in milestone-based development stream funding, based on the submission and approval of required reporting.

Eligible capacity project types include:

- Community assessment projects such as identifying community economic development capacity, community needs and/or opportunities.
- Capacity building projects such as strengthening local economic development capacity through targeted coaching, job shadowing, mentorship, and/or professional development.
- Engagement projects such as community consultation, project identification and/or fostering in-house economic development services and resources.
- Staff recruitment and retention projects such as ones that reduce staff turnover, enhance stability, or temporarily increase staff positions, time and/or resources.

Please note: Capacity funding applications only need to include a budget for Year 1 of capacity funding. Subsequent years of funding and milestone-based development stream funding will be addressed through reporting and follow-up documentation.

What Types of Projects are Eligible? (Cont.) |

Development

The **Development** grant aims to support the planning of programs, services and infrastructure projects (max funding $100,000).

Eligible Development projects include:
- Feasibility studies
- Business plans
- Program design
- Service planning
- Infrastructure planning
- Planning activities related to workforce housing*

Workforce housing is defined as housing developed to support critical economic opportunities (e.g., natural resource projects) or sectors (i.e., seasonal tourism operators) that are unable to fill workforce demands due to a lack of housing.

Implementation

The **Implementation** grant aims to fund the implementation of programs or services, or the construction of infrastructure resulting in new, upgraded or preserved local economic asset(s) (max funding $1,000,000).

Planning should already be complete, and projects should be implementation or shovel-ready. If you require funding for additional planning or design components, please apply to the Development stream.

Eligible Implementation projects include:
- Construction of a new economic asset or the upgrading of an existing asset to support the development, stability, and scaling up of businesses
- Assets to support sector development and investment attraction
- Economic programming, services, or operations

What Types of Projects Are Eligible? Cont. |

Please note: Due to the more targeted nature of the REDIP Program, a limited number of large ($500,000 and over) projects will be funded in FY25/26. Focusing on small and medium size projects (<$500,000) will ensure the program can fund as many high value projects as possible and distribute funding between the economic and geographic regions of the Province.

As a result, all applicants with a total project cost of $500,000 or higher are requested to meet with REDIP Program Staff or a Regional Manager prior to submitting the application. This step will ensure that projects are aligned with the Program's scope, criteria, and areas of focus prior to the drafting of the application and required documents.

In addition, applicants with a total project cost of $500,000 or higher will be required to provide a higher applicant contribution (40%) than those below $500,000 (20%). Funding from federal, non-profit (economic trusts), and lending organizations can be included in the contribution.

The program reserves the right to award partial contributions of the total funding request. Applicants will be asked in the application form to identify if they would like to be considered for partial funding if their application is not successful in receiving full funding. Applicants are also encouraged to identify opportunities for partial funding in the information provided throughout the application form and budget.

Sector-Specific Considerations – Implementation Projects |

Sector	Considerations
Manufacturing	Applicants will be required to provide detailed information in response to questions related to (1) long-term financial sustainability, (2) potential increases in value-added products from B.C.'s natural resources sector, and (3) provide data on how the project will improve revenue in your community or region.
Natural Resources	Applicants will be required to provide detailed information in response to questions related to (1) long-term financial sustainability, (2) linkage to local or regional natural resources planning or the development of a regionally significant natural resources project, and (3) provide data on how the project will improve revenue in your community and region.
Clean Growth/Circular Economy	Applicants will be required to provide detailed information in response to questions related to (1) long-term financial sustainability, (2) potential increases in value added products being produced in B.C., and (3) provide data on how the project will improve revenue generation for your proposed project/business or others in the sector.

Sector-Specific Considerations – Implementation Projects (Cont.)|

Sector	Considerations
Tourism	Tourism focused projects will be asked to identify (1) how the proposed project is linked to, and supportive of, the destination development plan for their region, and (2) provide data regarding expected tourist visitation.
Destination Trail Infrastructure	Similar to tourism projects, REDIP trail project applicants must link their projects to a destination development plan to show alignment with regional and provincial tourism objectives. Trail project applicants will also need to provide details/data regarding (1) expected tourist visitation, (2) potential for economic impact for the local business community, and (3) an appropriate owner/source of ongoing maintenance. Additionally, construction and maintenance of trails on crown lands requires authorization. Applications for funding for construction of trails or other recreation facilities on crown lands requires submission of the authorization for that construction activity. Applications which lack the required authorization may be rejected. Applications for funding of major improvements or maintenance activities to existing trails and recreation infrastructure must also include the authorization for such works if located on crown lands.
Agricultural and Aquaculture	Agriculture and food sector applicants will be required to provide detailed information in response to questions related to (1) long-term financial sustainability, (2) current/proposed tenants, and (3) provide data on how the project will improve the agriculture, aquaculture, and/or food processing sector revenue in the region.
Services, Technology and Commercial/Retail	Applicants will be required to provide detailed information in response to questions related to (1) long-term financial sustainability, (2) the market gap or economic opportunity behind the proposed project, and (3) provide data on how the project will improve revenue in your community or region.
Training & Workforce Development	Applicants will be required to provide detailed information in response to questions related to (1) linkage to a local/regional workforce development plan, (2) potential financial stability for participants or associated businesses, and (3) potential increases in accreditation or certification for participants or associated businesses.

What Types of Projects are Not Eligible? |

Projects funded through REDIP must have clear ties to economic development and diversification outcomes. Ineligible projects include but are not limited to the examples provided in the list below.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to connect with program staff to review their project ideas prior to preparing their application. Information about staff support can be found on page 5.

Common Ineligible Projects

Community Recreation

- Recreation centre upgrades
- Playgrounds
- Splash pads/spray parks
- Libraries
- Gymnasiums
- Pickleball/tennis courts

Mental Health Assets

- Mental health facilities
- Wellness facilities
- Rehabilitation centres

Municipal Utility Improvements not directly linked to a specific economic development opportunity

- Residential water lines
- Sewage systems
- Garbage/recycling services
- Transportation planning

Community Emergency Response Assets

- Fire hall and/or ambulance station improvements/replacements
- Fire trucks and/or ambulance repairs/purchases

Residential Housing Construction

- Construction of housing assets
- Planning activities related to housing that is not directly related to workforce development (definition of workforce development available on page 11)
- Rezoning initiatives for residential areas
- Site preparation for residential housing

Creating a Project Budget |

To be eligible, project costs must:

- Directly benefit and be essential to the project.
- Be reasonable and accurately estimated.

All project related costs must be included in the project budget. Eligible costs refers to project costs eligible for funding through REDIP. Ineligible costs must be included but funded through the applicant contribution or other funding sources.

Eligible Funding Costs

General Costs

Eligible

- Costs incurred after approval and on or before the project completion date
- Capital purchases essential to project implementation: **up to 50% of REDIP funding**
- Staff salaries in the lead or partner organization(s) working directly on project activities:
  - **Capacity**: up to 100% of REDIP funding
  - **Development**/**Implementation**: up to 25% of REDIP funding

Ineligible

- Any unpaid costs including invoices or holdbacks
- Accrued costs
- Goods or services costs which are received through donations or in kind
- Costs incurred prior to approval date and after project completion date
- Land acquisition
- GST and PST
- Financing costs and interest charges

Construction/Materials Costs

Eligible

- Equipment and/or furnishings essential to project operations
- Utility, electrical, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer set-up/connection services to project site

Ineligible

- Liability insurance for directors
- General routine, cyclical repairs and maintenance
- Traditional municipal infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, etc.)

Note: Capacity projects only

Capacity funding applications only need to include a budget for Year 1 of capacity funding. Subsequent years of funding and milestone-based development stream funding will be addressed through reporting and follow-up documentation.

Creating a Project Budget (Cont.)|

Professional Costs

Eligible

- Consulting services
- Project management
- Design/engineering costs
- Environmental reviews
- Archaeological assessments

Ineligible

- Cost associated with necessary permits and building approvals
- Legal costs
- Project-related professional fees payable to the eligible applicant
- Academic research that does not deliver concrete actions or tangible benefits

Communication Activities Costs

Eligible

- Indigenous consultation
- Culturally relevant hospitality costs as part of the consultation process
- Communications, marketing or promotion-related costs
- Travel, accommodation and meals related to the project based on government per diem rates (rates listed in budget template)

Ineligible

- Gifts
- Direct meeting and/or lobbying of any level of government
- Expenses relating to hosting conferences or large community events
- Remuneration and travel of elected officials
- International travel requires a special review to determine eligibility
- Alcohol

Applicant Contribution

Applicants to the **Capacity** stream do not need to provide an applicant contribution.

Applicants to the **Development** and **Implementation** streams must provide an applicant contribution based on the total cost of the project they are applying for.

- **Applications with a total project cost of less than $500,000**: must contribute 20% of the total project budget up to $100,000. For example, for a project with a total cost of $400,000, applicants must contribute at least $80,000 as the applicant and/or partner contribution.
- **Applications with a total project cost of $500,000 or more**: must contribute 40% of the total project budget up to $400,000. For example, for a project with a total cost of $900,000, applicants must contribute at least $360,000 as the applicant and/or partner contribution.
- The application will not be assessed if it does not meet the financial contribution requirement. Confirmation of applicant funding commitment may be requested upon review of applications.

Source of Applicant Financial Contribution

The applicant financial contribution may come from:

- Applicants' own funds, including funds obtained through financing
- Funds from not-for-profit organizations, such as development trusts
- Federal government funding
- Funds from project partners
- In-kind contributions (see below)

Funding for the applicant financial contribution cannot come from:

- Other provincial government sources

Funding from other provincial government programs can contribute to the overall project funding if it is not part of the applicant financial contribution.

In-kind Contributions

The applicant in-kind contribution:

- May be up to 10% of the total project budget – can be included in the applicant contribution.
- May include goods and services donated to a project by the eligible applicant and/or partners (e.g., staff time, use of space or equipment).
- Must be clearly identified in the budget form.
- Must be valued at fair market value.

Other Sources of Funding

- Applicants must clearly outline the amount, status, and source of project funding.
- Confirmation of approved funding (letter/email/etc.) must be uploaded as part of the online application form for all confirmed funding.

Funding Breakdown Examples

Examples	Total Project Budget	REDIP Funding	Applicant Contribution*	Other Sources of Funding
Development Grant Example 1	$100,000	$80,000 (80%)	$20,000 minimum (Can include up to $10,000 in-kind)	$0
Implementation Grant Example 1	$200,000	$160,000 (80%)	$40,000 minimum (Can include up to $20,000 in-kind)	$0
Implementation Grant Example 2	$500,000	$300,000 (60%)	$200,000 minimum (Can include up to $50,000 in-kind)	$0
Implementation Grant Example 3	$2,000,000	$1,000,000 (maximum amount)	$400,000 (Can include up to $200,000 in-kind)	$600,000

Minimum confirmed contribution direct from applicant required. Please review Page 18 for details. Up to 10% of the project budget can be provided in-kind. Project costs not covered by REDIP funding and direct applicant contribution can be covered by other sources of funding.

Supporting Documentation |

Depending on the project type, there are different requirements for supporting documentation. Please review the following table (ctd. Page 21) for an overview of required and recommended documentation.

Project Type	Required documentation	Recommended documentation
Capacity	• Detailed Project Budget (must use the template found on the REDIP Program website) • Direct Deposit Application Form and void cheque • Partnership letter from each project partner (if applicable)	• Letters of support from organizations or groups who would be actively involved in or impacted by the project (within past 12 months) • Relevant community plans that you directly reference in your application form • Project quotes/plans • Workplans • Confirmation of third-party funding • [Band] Council resolutions in support of the project
Development	• Detailed Project Budget (must use the template found on the REDIP Program website) • Direct Deposit Application Form and void cheque • Partnership letter from each project partner (if applicable)	• Up-to-date quotes and estimates for services • Project plans • Letters of support from organizations and groups who would be actively involved in or impacted by the project (within past 12 months) • Relevant community plans that you directly reference in your application form • Confirmation of third-party funding • [Band] Council resolutions in support of the project
Business/ Social Enterprise: Creation or Expansion	• Detailed Project Budget (must use the template found on the REDIP Program website) • Direct Deposit Application Form and void cheque • Partnership letter from each project partner (if applicable) • Confirmation of third-party funding (if applicable) • Completed Business Case or Feasibility Study	• Up-to-date quotes and estimates for services • Project plans • Letters of support from organizations and groups who would be actively involved in or impacted by the project (within past 12 months) • Relevant community plans that you directly reference in your application form • [Band] Council resolutions in support of the project • Cost Benefit Analysis or Other Study
New or enhanced program OR service delivery	• Detailed Project Budget (must use the template found on the REDIP Program website) • Direct Deposit Application Form and void cheque • Partnership letter from each project partner (if applicable) • Confirmation of third-party funding (if applicable)	• Up-to-date quotes and estimates for services • Project plans • Letters of support from organizations and groups who would be actively involved in or impacted by the project (within past 12 months) • Relevant community plans that you directly reference in your application form • [Band] Council resolutions in support of the project • Cost Benefit Analysis or Other Study

Supporting Documentation (Cont.) |

Project Type	Required documentation	Recommended documentation
Construction of a new asset OR Preservation of an existing asset	**Project Details** • Project Location: .KML file (see instructions on Program website) • Partnership letter from each project partner (if applicable) **Financial Details** • Detailed Project Budget (must use the template found on the REDIP Program website) • A Project Quote provided by a Consultant, Engineer, or other Relevant Qualification /Professional Designation clearly identifying the Classification of the Cost Estimate • Direct Deposit Application form and void cheque • Confirmation of third-party funding (if applicable)	• Environmental or Archaeological Assessment • Project Feasibility Study or Plan • Cost Benefit Analysis or Other Study • Design Drawings or Details • Asset Management Plan • Site Plan/Map • Letters of support from communities directly impacted by the project (within past 12 months) • Relevant community plans that you directly reference in your application form • [Band] Council resolutions in support of the project

Project Timelines |

Project timelines must meet the following timeframes:

	Capacity	**Development/ Implementation**
Project Start	• Project activities must start within six months of approval and acceptance of funds.	• Project activities must start within one year of approval and acceptance of funds.
Project Completion	• Year 1 activities must be completed within one year of project start. • Year 2 activities must be completed within a year of approval and acceptance of Year 2 funding. • Year 3 activities must be completed within a year of approval and acceptance of Year 3 funding.	• Project activities must be completed within two years of project start (i.e., one construction season)

• When applying for a single phase of a larger infrastructure project, the phase must independently result in outcomes which align with REDIP objectives and be useable infrastructure even if subsequent phases do not proceed.

• Project timelines should consider relevant supply chain delays, permit approval timelines and availability of contractors and consultants.

Receiving REDIP Funding |

Grant Agreements

Awarding of funding to successful applicants is conditional upon finalization of a grant agreement that sets out the terms and conditions of the funding. The program reserves the right to award partial contributions of the total funding request.

The total amount of the grant payable will not exceed the amount noted in the grant agreement. The recipient is responsible for all costs over and above the grant amount, including cost overruns, ineligible/eligible costs, ongoing maintenance and operating costs associated with the operations of the completed project.

Reporting

As per the grant agreements, funding recipients are required to submit project progress reports and a final report that outlines the project's performance and outcomes. Further details on reporting requirements will be provided to successful applicants.

Recognition of Provincial Funders

Recognition of funding support from the Province of British Columbia should be acknowledged in all promotional events and materials, both print and online. The approved provincial logo and graphics standards are available online in a variety of ready-to-use digital formats.

The grant agreement for successful applicants has further information on requirements.

Confidentiality and Support |

Freedom of Information

Applications submitted under the program are subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information being collected is for the purpose of administering the program and evaluating eligibility under the program. The names and locations of successful award recipients may be published, along with the amount of the award, in various communications and promotional vehicles in the Province of British Columbia. Applications, in whole or in part, may be shared with other provincial ministries as part of the due diligence process.

Conflict of Interest/Confidentiality

All documents received by the program are treated as confidential. Program staff uphold the standards for conflict of interest and confidentiality required by all B.C. public service employees.

Contact Information and Application Support

If you have a question that is not addressed in this program guide or the website (gov.bc.ca/REDIP), support is available from program staff at RuralDevelopment@gov.bc.ca or by calling 250-356-7950.

Appendix A: Definitions |

- Indigenous communities and First Nations governments:
    - A band council within the meaning of Section 2 of the Indian Act;
    - An Indigenous development corporation;
    - A First Nation, Inuit or Métis government or authority established pursuant to a self-government agreement or a comprehensive land claim agreement between His Majesty the King in Right of Canada and an Indigenous people of Canada, that has been approved, given effect and declared valid by federal legislation; or
    - A First Nation, Inuit or Métis government that is established by or under legislation whether federal or provincial that incorporates a governance structure.

- Local government:
    - An incorporated municipality; or
    - A Regional District applying for an electoral area or unincorporated community.

- Not-for-profit:
    - An organization incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation or society formed under an Act of Canada or the Province of British Columbia and in good standing under the relevant Act;
    - Not-for-profit co-operatives incorporated as community service co-ops under the B.C. Co-operative Association Act are considered eligible as a not-for-profit organization;
    - Operating primarily for community benefit, and a provider of programs that benefit the community and not solely its members' interest.

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Appendix B: How Applications Will be Assessed |

The following process is used to evaluate applications:

- The REDIP application is received online and is reviewed for eligibility.
- The assessment panel evaluates eligible applications using the assessment criteria below and determines the level of funding and/or conditions on payment of awards.
- Program staff may conduct due diligence with other ministries to gather expert feedback regarding the feasibility and/or funding of proposed projects. Experts may review project-specific information provided in the application form.
- The program area informs each applicant of the assessment panel's decision. Decisions will be announced Spring 2026.
- To ensure a wide distribution of program funding, applicants who did not receive funding in the previous REDIP intake may be prioritized in the assessment process. In addition, funding may not be provided in instances where interim/final reports are outstanding for previously funded projects.

Component	Criteria	Scoring		
		C	D	I
Project Need	• Describes the details of the project clearly and demonstrates why the project is needed. • Preference will be given to Indigenous, small and remote communities; communities that have experienced recent economic disruptions; and communities that identify/exhibit the strongest need for support with economic development capacity.	46	20	14
Project Benefits	**ALL FUNDING CATEGORIES** • Identifies and clearly demonstrates how the project will bring economic benefits to the community. • Clearly describes how/why project activities will achieve intended outcomes. • Identifies how project advances StrongerBC priorities of inclusive and clean growth. • Details how the project will help create good, sustainable jobs in the community. • If project includes infrastructure costs, describes why it is needed to support community economic development. **IMPLEMENTATION** • Provides detailed answers to sector-specific questions.	20	30	35

Project Timeline	• Demonstrates that the project is thoroughly planned and ready for implementation. • Provides clear project milestones, with appropriate timelines, and describes how they will be completed successfully.	5	15	15
Project Budget	• Contains detailed descriptions and accurate estimates of project costs. • Demonstrates costs are direct and essential to project implementation and are clearly linked to project activities described in the application.	5	15	15
Project Risk & Feasibility	**ALL FUNDING CATEGORIES** • Identifies potential risk factors (e.g. cost overruns, timelines delays) and sufficient mitigation strategies. **DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION** • Includes information on any permits, permissions or other steps that are required for the project to be implemented and completed. • Demonstrates that the organization has the resources and skills to complete the project. • Demonstrates clear consideration for environmental impacts and presents mitigation strategies.	6	10	11
Community Support/ Planning	• Provides strong linkages between project activities and community planning. • Demonstrates that the project has the support of the community.	10	5	5
Diversity, Inclusion and Reconciliation	**ALL FUNDING CATEGORIES** • Demonstrates organizational commitment to diversity, inclusion and Indigenous reconciliation. **DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION** • Demonstrates that the project has the support of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. • Considers the potential impacts of the project on all community members.	8	5	5
Total		100	100	100