The purpose of Aboriginal Relations’ (AR) First Nations Consultation Capacity Investment Program is to assist with building the capacity of First Nations in Alberta to participate in the consultation process.

**OBJECTIVES**

The primary objectives of the program are to:

1. Assist First Nation communities and organizations in building consultation structures (i.e. single-point of contact for resource development or land management).

2. Assist First Nation communities to participate in the Government of Alberta’s consultation initiative as required.

The secondary objectives of the program are to:

1. Assist in building relationships and partnerships between Aboriginal organizations/communities, industry and government.

**WHEN TO APPLY**

Any First Nation in Alberta that obtains the appropriate support (i.e. Band Council Resolution) from their respective First Nation and submits a letter of request may access consultation capacity core investment funding (a BCR is part of deliverable 1.2 of the agreement).

**WHO CAN APPLY?**

Upon receipt of a consultation capacity core investment funding allocation letter, First Nations can submit letters of request prior to the fall of that fiscal year. This allows AR to reallocated funding that would otherwise not be accessed. Consultation capacity funding may be pro-rated depending upon when the letter of request is submitted during the Government of Alberta’s financial fiscal year. AR requires a minimum of four to six weeks to for processing a contribution agreement.
WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

Consultation capacity core investment funding will only cover costs associated with:
- Consultation Office Staff - Salary, training and travel.
- Interim Consultants/Technicians

Ineligible costs under this program include:
- Honorariums
- Administration costs
- Hard asset costs (e.g., computer, printer, office furniture etc.)
- Litigation costs

HOW TO APPLY

Each Fiscal year all First Nations in Alberta will receive an allocation letter indicating the consultation capacity investment funding amount that has been allocated to their First Nation and that the First Nation will be contacted by an AR Consultation Manager to initiate the process for providing consultation core capacity investment funding. If a First Nation has not received an allocation letter by May 1 of each year, they should contact the Aboriginal Consultation unit at (780) 644-4945. A core investment funding letter of request template can be found on the AR website.

APPROVAL CONDITIONS

First Nations interested in receiving consultation capacity core investment funding must meet the following conditions:

1. Does the Aboriginal community support the project? Has a core investment funding letter of request been received and verified?

2. If the First Nation has received grants or funding in the past, has IIAR had difficulty receiving reports and financial statements?

For more information and for copies of our electronic templates, please visit our website at http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca/

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