

Community Support Fund

2023-24 recipients

Stream: Increasing economic security				
Recipient	Location	Project name	Project description	Amount
Blood Tribe	Standoff	Blood Tribe Harm Reduction Project	This funding will support a program that will help employ Indigenous women with lived experience of substance use as peer support workers. Participants will receive training and skill development opportunities and use their own experiences to help their families and friends in the recovery process.	\$200,000 (one year)
Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement	Buffalo Lake	Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement Pathway Project	Funding will support preventative programs to empower, mentor, support, and help connect Indigenous and Métis women, girls and 2S+ people to learn and upgrade their skills and overcome barriers to employment in a safe and respectful environment.	\$150,990 (one-year)
Cold Lake First Nations	Cold Lake	Women - Levelling Up	This funding will go towards hosting evening classes in a new computer lab to support women in their educational journeys. The initiative will include the creation of a drop in space where women can work towards micro credits or complete upgrading with the help of an educational assistant, reliable technology and connections, and accredited onsite childcare.	\$53,280 (one year)
Community Futures Lesser Slave Lake Region	Slave Lake	Finding Financial Security and Economic Independence	Funding will go towards a comprehensive set of financial services and programs that will enhance the independence of Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ people. An Indigenous project manager will connect participants to educational institutions to support future growth.	\$512,050 (multi-year)
Elizabeth Metis Settlement	Elizabeth Metis Settlement	Bloom and Thrive – Skill Development and Healing	This funding will go towards helping Métis women, girls and 2S+ people develop specialized agricultural skills used in a greenhouse. Tailored training and workshops will promote economic security, independence and holistic wellbeing for participants.	\$400,000 (multi-year)
Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council Education Authority – Atikameg School	Atikameg	The Store-front	Funding will support the creation of a physical and virtual storefront where Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ people can sell items they have learned to make as part of cultural teachings. As part of the project, participants will learn traditional practices for creating art, preparing traditional foods for daily and ceremonial use, gardening, canning, and collecting medicinal plants.	\$200,000 (one year)
Rise Calgary Resource Centres Society	Calgary	Tax Filing as a Gateway to Financial Empowerment	This funding will support financial empowerment services for approximately 200 to 300 Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ people in the Calgary and Southern Alberta region. The goal is to build their economic security through regular tax filing, to support income and employment paperwork, including those for personal identification and social insurance numbers, and to provide personalized financial coaching opportunities.	\$199,960 (one year)
Saddle Lake Cree Nation	Saddle Lake	Saddle Lake Emergency Management	This funding will enable mentors, Elders, and support staff of Saddle Lake Cree Nation to work together with Saddle Lake Emergency Management to offer Indigenous women, girls and 2S people opportunities for leadership and meaningful employment.	\$200,000 (one year)

Stream: Increasing safety

Recipient	Location	Project name	Project description	Amount
Alexander First Nation	Alexander First Nation	MMP kiskinohamakewin kahkiyaw	Funding will help support a project that will improve the safety of the iskewsisak (girls), iskewew (women), kokums (grandmothers) and LGBTQ Two-Spirited (LGBTQ2S+). The project will also support 2S+ people and raise awareness of safety-related issues affecting them within Alexander First Nation through community engagement and Indigenous cultural practice.	\$200,000 (one year)
City of Lethbridge	Lethbridge	Sikóóhkotok Community Safe Reporting and Safe Space Expansion Strategy	Funding will go towards creating an online safe reporting system in the community, and create and promote safe spaces for Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ people. The goal of the project is to reduce barriers and broaden choices for survivors and institutions to take action on sexual violence.	\$200,000 (one year)
Goba NWT Ltd.	Edmonton and north	Increasing Safety Through Culturally Safe Medical Travel	Funding will support an initiative that will offer support and culturally relevant programming for Indigenous women, girls, and 2S+ people who are in Edmonton for medical travel and arrive with nothing. Clients will be able to receive in-person and virtual support for medical appointments, essential items, and cultural and community services.	\$131,810 (one year)
Loon River First Nation	Loon River	Supporting and Improving the Well-being of Loon River Women, Girls, 2SLGBTQ+	This funding will help support Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ people with programming that promotes physical and mental health, safe and healthy relationships, self-confidence, and self-identity in terms of culture and gender. Programming will include periodic regional trips, local activities and regular recreational drop-in times. Elders and role models will work with participants through team-building activities, webinars, workshops, sharing circles, community service projects and more.	\$198,000 (one year)
Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement	Paddle Prairie	Unity Uprise: Safeguarding Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2S+ Individuals	This funding commitment will help support a variety of services to help strengthen the safety and wellbeing of Indigenous women, girls, and 2S+ people in Northern Alberta as well as that of their community. The initiative will include Indigenous-led programming and the hiring of a coordinator to support healing and economic empowerment workshops, discussions and events.	\$600,000 (multi-year)
Paul First Nation	Paul First Nation	Data Collection and Program Design	Funding will support an initiative that aims to better understand the needs of Paul First Nation by collecting data, conducting data analysis and designing programs. Paul First Nation will use the project to increase the safety of Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ peoples and re-establish a safe and resilient community.	\$200,000 (one year)
Powwow Times	Sylvan Lake	Reclaiming Identity, Empowerment and Healing	Funding will go towards an initiative that will help support, heal and empower the families and loved ones of missing and murdered Indigenous women, raise awareness of the issues, and develop strategies to increase individual and community safety while addressing gendered factors related to economic security. This will all be accomplished through the preservation and promotion of Indigenous cultures, traditions and knowledge.	\$200,000 (one year)

Stream: Increasing safety - cont'd

Recipient	Location	Project name	Project description	Amount
Sandy Beach Kimamow Atoskanow Foundation	Onoway	Returning Home	Funding will help provide a supportive environment for people to share information and experiences that promote a healthy response to sexually transmitted and bloodborne infections, addictions and mental health. This project aims to shift responses to addictions and mental health towards reconciliation and justice. The initiative will also support the wellbeing of Indigenous people by promoting connections to the land, relationships, and culture and language.	\$147,250 (one year)
Siksika Family Services Corporation	Siksika Nation	Soo Poo Yapi (Doing What is Right)	This funding will support a program that focuses on the prevention of domestic violence by teaching the Siksika way of Being and Knowing. Parents will be supported in recognizing the impacts of residential schools, intergenerational trauma and colonization through a trauma-informed approach.	\$200,000 (one year)
Skydancer Indigenous Cultural Centre	Spruce Grove	Mistatim Journey 2024-2025	Funding will support an initiative that help will address historic and intergenerational trauma for Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ peoples. Skydancer Indigenous Cultural Centre will achieve this through guided sessions and counselling supports that centre on Indigenous cultural practices. Participants will be connected with traditional women's teachings and opportunities for creative expression, deep self-exploration and empowerment.	\$136,180 (one year)

Stream: Addressing violence

Recipient	Location	Project name	Project description	Amount
Bonnyville Canadian Native Friendship Centre	Bonnyville	Honouring Our Sisters - MMIW Awareness and Healing Initiative	This funding commitment will help raise awareness about the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG), honour those affected, and provide a healing space for families and communities. A community wellness worker will facilitate healing activities, including circles and vigils for survivors and loved ones of MMIWG, while also raising awareness through educational events and community advocacy and engagement.	\$196,596 (one year)
Centre for Sexuality Society	Calgary	Restoring Girls' Right to Be Safe & Free from Violence	This funding commitment will go towards providing educational supports to young girls and boys on sexuality, health and healthy relationships within Indigenous communities in southern Alberta. The program is evidence-informed and designed to build foundational knowledge, social-emotional skills and capacities particularly necessary for girls to overcome girl-specific challenges related to achieving healthy bodies, relationships and development as they progress through the developmental stages of middle childhood and adolescence.	\$98,200 (one year)
Miskanawah Community Services Association	Calgary	Honouring our Lost Spirits	Funding will go towards providing culturally based community supports for the survivors, families, and loved ones of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, men, boys and 2S+ people. The initiative includes creating a circle of social supports and a space for story-sharing to promote healing. Participants and Elders will shape and facilitate the program, which focuses on using lived experiences in the healing process while drawing on traditional teachings, medicines and ceremony within the context of the circle protocols.	\$195,000 (one year)

Stream: Addressing violence - cont'd

Recipient	Location	Project name	Project description	Amount
Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association	Rocky Mountain House	The Indigenous Wellness Support Project	This funding will go towards a pilot project that will provide a culturally relevant, harm-reducing and client-driven model of support to Indigenous clients of Mountain Rose Women's Shelter. The project includes hiring an Indigenous worker and Elder to support Indigenous women, children, families and 2S+ people. Project activities will address violence while focusing on Indigenous teachings, creating social and community connections, increasing awareness, and improving health and wellness.	\$110,160 (one year)
Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth (USAY)	Calgary	Sky Sisters Documentary Series	Funding will support 10 Indigenous youth in the research and production of two mini documentaries that highlight systemic issues that Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ people experience. The project will help increase awareness of the issues and combat violence in Indigenous communities, empower Indigenous youth, and increase economic security by teaching media and production skills.	\$190,342 (one year)

Multiple streams:

Recipient	Location	Project name	Project description	Amount
Chard Métis Community Association	Janvier	Healing Circle: Empowering Indigenous Women and Girls	Funding for this project will go towards providing mental health resources and substance use care programs and services for the communities of Chard Métis Nation and Chipewyan Prairie First Nation. The funding will support the organization in creating a community environment that celebrates diversity and promotes inclusivity by facilitating educational programs, workshops, and support services, and developing programs and services that reflect unique cultural needs and contexts.	\$200,000 (one year)
Samson Cree Nation	Maskwacis	Safety in Samson: Co-development- Shared Responsibility - "Mamawokamatowin":	Funding will support a variety of programming for Samson Cree Nation community members. The funding will allow the organization to increase their capacity for cultural events, safety training and economic empowerment events for nation members.	\$192,600 (one year)