



Applications now being accepted for the Investment Readiness Program

Program provides funding for organizations to grow their positive impact through social enterprise.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HALIFAX, NS – Organizations working to do good in Nova Scotia can access up to \$75,000 in funding through the Investment Readiness Program (IRP) to increase their positive impact through social enterprise. Part of a \$50 million national initiative led by Community Foundations of Canada and partners, and funded by the Government of Canada, the program is designed to help social purpose organizations develop or expand their social enterprise to achieve sustainability and access investment.

IRP is being administered in the region by Community Foundation of Nova Scotia in collaboration with Ulnuoweg Indigenous Communities Foundation, Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia, and the Community Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Applications will be accepted until November 22, 2022. For more information and to apply visit cfns-fcne.ca/investmentreadinessprogram/

Quick Facts

- A social enterprise is an organization or program aiming to sell goods or services to earn revenue, while helping achieve positive social, cultural, or environmental results. For example, a charity running a catering service while providing culinary training for at-risk youth.
- IRP is open to a diverse range of organizations including charities, non-profits, co-ops and for-profit organizations with an existing project or social enterprise idea and are looking to grow and build capacity and take on future investment.



- IRP funding from \$10,000 to \$75,000 can be used to research, launch, design, measure or scale social enterprises, including developing business or marketing plans. The funds are not eligible for core operating costs.
- IRP-funded projects will support the [United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and its plan of action for people, planet and prosperity.

Quotes

“Social purpose organizations are key to our pandemic recovery efforts and creating vibrant, sustainable communities by helping advance some of the biggest social, economic, cultural and environmental challenges we face. The Investment Readiness Program is an opportunity for organizations to explore, grow and continue their impact by engaging with an earned-revenue model as a tool for change.”

--Daniel Holland, CEO, Community Foundation of Nova Scotia, IRP regional partner

“This is an opportunity for First Nations to participate in the growing social finance market by developing initiatives that will create capacity and self-sufficiency, while having positive social and economic impact in our communities.”

--Chris Googoo, Executive Director, Ulnooweg Indigenous Communities Foundation, IRP regional partner

“Social enterprise teams from coast to coast to coast are demonstrating how business can be done differently. They are daring to rethink business models to create a more sustainable, equitable and inclusive future. Community Foundations of Canada is in awe of the innovative projects we are funding. We look forward to seeing the positive impacts of this next round of projects through the Investment Readiness Program.”

--Andrea Dicks, President, Community Foundations of Canada, IRP national partner

Associated Links

cfns-fcne.ca

rcfofns.com

ulnoowegfoundation.ca

cfnl.ca

un.org/2030agenda



About Community Foundation of Nova Scotia

The [Community Foundation of Nova Scotia \(CFNS\)](#) is a charitable giving facilitator. Our purpose is to inspire giving and steward funds to help build Nova Scotia communities of respect, belonging and possibility. We help donors make sustainable philanthropic impact on causes they care about at the grassroots level. We do this by endowing funds for donors, managing donation programs and convening conversations that make a positive difference in our communities.

Established in 2008, CFNS has more than \$18 million in philanthropic investment under management, including 120 funds and 22 scholarship and award funds. We're part of Community Foundations of Canada (CFC), the national network for Canada's 200 community foundations that, combined, holds \$8 billion in assets and reaches 90 percent of the country's communities.

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