Delivering First Nations Infrastructure Together

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ABOUT US

• Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) works closely with First Nation governments to support:
  • affordable and adequate housing;
  • clean drinking water;
  • school facilities; and
  • other community infrastructure (solid waste management, roads, bridges, connectivity etc).

• 636 First Nation communities across Canada.

• Between 2002 and 2012, the Aboriginal population has grown 22%, compared to 10% in the non-Indigenous population*.

First Nations Across Canada
Community Infrastructure Program

• Approximately $1 billion annually is directed to assist First Nations in:
  
  • Planning, acquiring, constructing, operating and maintaining water and wastewater systems, schools, roads and bridges, electrification, community buildings, and housing.

  • Capacity building, including water and wastewater system operator training and firefighter training.

  • This funding goes towards assisting First Nations in planning, constructing, operating and maintaining assets as well as for capacity development.
Asset Classes

1) Solid Waste Management
2) Water and Waste Water
3) Roads and Bridges
4) Disaster Mitigation
5) Schools
6) Housing
7) Fire Protection
8) Fuel Tanks
9) General Infrastructure:
   • band offices
   • community recreational facilities
   • community vehicles
10) Energy Systems and Electrification
11) Connectivity
First Nations Community Well Being in comparison to Non-Indigenous Communities

Based on 4 key factors: housing, education, labor force, and income

Figure 6: Regional CWB Scores for First Nations, Inuit and Non-Aboriginal Communities, 2011
Future Spending

Way Forward:

• Canadian Government has committed to improving community infrastructure for First Nations.

• Right Hon. Justin Trudeau:
  
  • “...this government has pledged to renew a new relationship, putting real money forward to build support on infrastructure, health, on a broad range of things, and creating a true nation-to-nation relationship*.”

• Infrastructure Program: $1.1 billion annually plus $3.9 billion in additional funding, for the next five years.

• Adopted new project implementation strategy to improve engagement and leverage industry capacity.

*House of commons debate Feb 24th 2016, 42nd Parliament, 1st session
Budget 2016 Highlights

Over Two Years

• $416.6 million for immediate social housing infrastructure needs on reserve.

• $255 million for complementary infrastructure such as roads and bridges, energy systems, and fire protection services.

• $76.9 million for the construction of cultural and recreational social infrastructure.

Over Five Years

• $409 million solid waste management - green infrastructure

• $1.8 billion for clean drinking water and the treatment of wastewater – green infrastructure.

• $969.4 million for education infrastructure.

• $3.92 billion in total
Partnership

FIRST NATIONS
• Define the needs on their respective reserve
• Exercise the rights of ownership over infrastructure built on reserve

INAC
• Provides financial support:
  • New infrastructure and major renovations
  • Operations & Maintenance
  • Enables the delivery of infrastructure

INDUSTRY
• Capacity
• Efficient delivery
• Transformative implementation
• Modern solutions
• Construction expertise
• Design ingenuity

Working collaboratively to innovate and deliver affordable sustainable solutions
Challenges in delivering infrastructure to First Nations communities

• Shortened construction season (climate change).

• Geographic isolation of the communities:
  • Limited direct access;
  • Ice roads - shorter period of accessibility;
  • Increased cost of materials;
  • Challenges with skilled labour mobilization.

• Increasing need for community infrastructure.
  • As of 2011, 23% of on-reserve households were crowded, and almost 41% lived in dwellings in need of major repair.
  • The housing shortage on reserve sits at approximately 15,000 units (2006) and is expected to rise to approximately 115,000 units by 2031.

• Limited capacity to deliver.

• Governance.
Geographic Realities

Dispersed Communities

- 66% of First Nations on reserve lived in rural, special access, or remote zones;
- 34% lived in urban zones.

**Zones:**

**Urban (Zone 1):** Within 50 km of the nearest service centre with a year-round road access.

**Rural (Zone 2):** Between 50 and 350 km from the nearest service centre with a year-round road access.

**Remote (Zone 3):** Over 350 km from the nearest service centre with year-round road access.

**Special Access (Zone 4):** No year-round road access to a service centre.

Source: Indian Register Population by Geographic Zone, 2010
Past Project Complications

Shamattawa

Kashechewan
Success Projects:

New School - Eel Ground First Nation, NB

Water & Wastewater: Norway House Cree Nation, MB

Bridge Replacement and Road Upgrade - Tootinaowaziibeeng Treaty Reserve, MB
INAC’s New Approach

• Joint decision making and collaboration with First Nations are the cornerstones for developing projects in partnership.

• Some projects will be bundled together to find cost efficiencies and improve the success of the projects.

• New procurement approaches:
  • Management Consultant procurement approach.
  • Design Build procurement approach.
  • Centralized project delivery.

• All in an effort to ensure efficient and effective controls for the delivery of a complex and financially significant project.
Example:

Manitoba and Northern Ontario Schools Bundles

• Delivering three separate initiatives across ten communities:
  • Manitoba Schools Initiative (MSI):
    six educational facilities in four communities;
  • Lake Winnipeg Bundle:
    across four communities;
  • Northern Ontario Schools:
    across two communities.
What Industry Can Offer

• Industry best practices in:
  • Delivering transformative cost effective and efficient solutions to remote communities;
  • Expedient design and construction;
  • Project management and construction excellence.

• Innovative approaches

• Additional Capacity

• Timely delivery

• Efficiency
What Do We Need From Industry?

• Taking part in the Request for Proposal process on BuyandSell.gc.ca.

• Industry best practices in the construction of housing.

• Insights and expertise in INAC’s new approach.

• Industry’s participation to accomplish INAC’s goal of improving living conditions on-reserve.
QUESTIONS/COMMENTS