



Circular No. 20:18
October 1, 2020

To: First Nation and Indigenous Governments and Organizations
All Local Government Chief Administrative Officers
(cc: Chief Financial Officer and Clerks and Corporate Officers)
First Peoples Cultural Council
Heritage Leaders
Tourism Organizations
Not for Profit Organizations

Re: Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP)

As announced on September 17, 2020 the Province of British Columbia has allocated up to \$90 million to support community economic resilience, tourism, heritage, and urban and rural economic development projects.

CERIP funded projects will help communities impacted by COVID-19 and support B.C.'s post-pandemic economic recovery through investment in **four key application-based streams**:

Community Economic Resilience supports initiatives through investment in short term, small scale public infrastructure meeting the economic recovery objectives of initial job creation in the community and ancillary job creation in other areas hard hit with COVID -19 such as local retail and services.

Destination Development invests in the development, conservation, repair, or rehabilitation of new or existing tourism infrastructure and amenities to assist in the re-emergence and resiliency of the tourism sector, creating jobs that will provide long term benefits for the tourism sector and local communities.

Unique Heritage Infrastructure supports projects focused on the conservation, repair, rehabilitation and development of cultural heritage infrastructure to help communities safeguard and enjoy their heritage places while creating employment through the stewardship of cultural heritage.

Rural Economic Recovery improves the prosperity and quality of life in rural communities through projects that create jobs, develop economic infrastructure, support a vibrant local business sector, and accelerate economic recovery.

The CERIP provides an opportunity for Indigenous applicants, local governments, tourism organizations, heritage leaders and not-for-profit organizations to apply for infrastructure funding that supports projects and initiatives for public use and that benefit and create jobs, support economic development and recovery from the impacts of COVID-19. We encourage indigenous and local government applicants to consider partnering with and ask that you reach out to not-for-profit applicants in your communities wherever possible for their consideration and applicability to CERIP. CERIP is designed to support projects that are construction ready in 2021 and can be completed by March 31, 2023. Every grant application is assessed in the context of the program eligibility guidelines.

The final approval of projects and funds will not occur until a new cabinet is sworn in.

The online Local Government Information System (LGIS) portal will be open for applications on October 1, 2020 and will close application intake on October 29, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. All applications must be submitted through LGIS with the exception of Indigenous applicants applying through the Unique Heritage Infrastructure Stream who will be directed to apply via the First Peoples Cultural Council's web portal.

In order to access LGIS, the online application, applicants require a business BCeID. All applicants' business BCeIDs must be linked to the LGIS online application by ministry program staff. It is recommended that new BCeIDs are obtained as soon as possible to allow enough time to link the BCeID to the online application system. Program information such as application instructions and links to resource documents are available at www.gov.bc.ca/CERIP.

The ministries and their delivery partner contacts are available to provide advice as you prepare your application. For information on the four streams, please see specific contacts in the table below:

CERIP Stream	Ministry	Contact
Rural Economic Recovery	Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development	Rural Policy and Programs Branch Email: ruraldevelopment@gov.bc.ca Phone: 250 356-7950
Destination Development	Tourism, Arts and Culture	Tourism Sector Strategy Division Dawn Rueckl Email: tourismpolicy@gov.bc.ca Phone: (778) 698-1802
Unique Heritage Infrastructure	Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development	Indigenous applicants: First Peoples' Cultural Council Karen Aird (karen@fpcc.ca) All other applicants by region: Nechako, Vancouver Island, North Coast Laura Saretsky (lsaretsky@heritagebc.ca) Kootenay, Cariboo, Northeast Jennifer Dunkerson (jdunkerson@heritagebc.ca)

		Mainland/Southwest, Thompson/Okanagan Paul Gravett (pgravett@heritagebc.ca)
Community Economic Resilience	Municipal Affairs and Housing	Local Government Infrastructure & Finance Email: infra@gov.bc.ca Phone: 250 387-4060



Kaye Krishna
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