

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND of KAHNAWÀ:KE (CIF)

Iakoienawá:se nonkwe'shón:'a / Here for the needs of the People

Application Package 2020-2021

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- A. Description of Community Initiatives Fund (CIF)
 - 1. Background
 - 2. Purpose
 - 3. Funding Principles
 - 4. Criteria
 - 5. Restrictions
 - 6. Focus areas

- B. Application for Funding 2020

- C. Application Guide 2020

- D. Application Checklist

- E. Arbitration Agreement

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CIF

1. Background

The Community Initiatives Fund of Kahnawà:ke (CIF) contains a \$3 million initial allocation provided by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK). It is administered by the MCK and Tawatohni'saktha (TEWA), (hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Sponsors"). The creation of the CIF is based on the notion of improving socio-economic conditions within Kahnawà:ke, through the development of positive and sustainable initiatives. The CIF, under the administration of the Oversight and Review Committee, will operate for as long as it is financially sustainable and at the discretion of the Sponsors.

The funding process is proposal-based, in which community members, organizations and/or other eligible entities will submit an application for a new initiative that will increase the quality of life for community members, as a collective, and promote sustainability. All other sources of private, community, and government funding must be explored before applying to the CIF. CIF funding may only be provided where no other source of funding is available.

The CIF will be structured in such a way that monetary contributions, solicited from various sources, will be injected allowing the fund to function indefinitely.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the CIF is to stimulate Kahnawà:ke's social economy and improve the quality of life for Kahnawa'kehró:non collectively, by investing in the community through engagement, motivation, empowerment and support.

Inspiration is drawn from the principles and values defined in the Kahnawà:ke Shared Vision Statement in pursuit of creating a strong, healthy Kanien'kehá:ka identity and prosperous community.

The CIF is intended to support initiatives that have a socio-economic focus specifically in areas that have been identified as important¹ by Kahnawa'kehró:non. Initiatives must benefit community as a collective and demonstrate how they will address one or more of the following areas:

- ◆ **EDUCATION & LEARNING**
- ◆ **LANGUAGE & CULTURE**
- ◆ **HEALTH & WELLNESS**
- ◆ **SOCIAL ECONOMY**

¹ *Identified through community consultation reports and strategic plans.*

3. Funding Principles

- To implement ideas with potential to support, encourage, engage and empower individuals and organizations in taking responsibility to improve the quality of life in Kahnawà:ke;
- To stimulate the social economy and promote financial sustainability;
- To benefit people, the environment, the social economy, and culture;
- To address community needs;
- To support merit-based initiatives that demonstrates investment in our community; and
- To offer a user-friendly and simplified manner in which to access funds.

4. Funding Criteria

Eligible Recipients

Those who may apply for project funding are:

- Kanien'kehá:ka of Kahnawà:ke registered on the Kahnawà:ke Kanien'kehá:ka Registry; or
- Community organizations and groups with an established governance structure.

Eligible beneficiaries include but are not limited to:

- Grassroots organizations;
- Community organizations;
- Non-profit organizations; and
- Causes/mobilizations.

A member, or members, of an eligible group or organization, may be required to sign the Funding Agreement on behalf of their entire group or organization and will be personally liable for all of the obligations undertaken.

5. Restrictions

The following items will NOT be entitled to funding under the CIF:

- Recurring operational costs of an existing organizational service or initiative, unless the funds will assist the operations/services/initiatives in becoming financially self-sustaining;
- Community operations/services that already receive core funding from federal and provincial governments;
- Donations and/or fundraising event requests;
- Individual social needs;
- Debts;
- Retroactive funding for project expenses that have already been incurred;
- Private for-profit businesses; and
- Per Diem.

This list is not exhaustive and the final decision rests with the Oversight and Review Committee.

6. Focus Areas

EDUCATION & LEARNING

The objective is to improve educational outcomes through curriculum and co-curricular enhancements, student support services and increased literacy.

With emphasis on initiatives that promote:

- Languages and science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics (STEAM) studies;
- Traditional teaching;
- Healthy behaviours and life skills;
- Collaboration, mentorship and parental involvement;
- Strategies for student perseverance and retention in school; and
- Higher-level learning.

LANGUAGE & CULTURE

The Fund's objective is to work toward fulfilling the community's Shared Vision, which states that in 2029, Kanien'kéha is the main language in our community and Kaianere'kó:wa is our guiding principle.

With emphasis on initiatives that promote:

- Increased proficiency in Kanien'kéha;
- Kanien'kehá:ka traditions, individual identity and collective unity;
- Reducing the impacts of residential school and multigenerational trauma;
- The preservation of history, culture and language; and
- Environmental protection & enhancement.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

The objective is to increase the potential for people to be healthy in mind, body and spirit and to assist with healing and rehabilitation.

With emphasis on initiatives that promote:

- Reduction of and abstinence from alcohol and substance abuse;
- Self-esteem and personal/familial core values;
- Healthy relationships and behaviours;
- Fitness and recreation; and
- Food security.

SOCIAL ECONOMY

The objective is to increase the socio-economic success of our community for an improved quality of life in terms of better infrastructure, services, jobs and security.

With emphasis on initiatives that promote:

- Workforce development & income security;
- Social enterprise;
- Financial literacy; and
- Community planning.

Further consideration will be given to proposals that:

- **Are new and innovative;**
- **Promote and foster self-sufficiency;**
- **Address current community issues;**
- **Have measurable and successful outcomes and positive impacts;**
- **Are collaborative in nature;**
- **Target elders and youth;**
- **Incorporate respect for the environment;**
- **Provide apprenticeships or training opportunities;**
- **Promote volunteerism; and**
- **Incorporate more than one focus area.**