



**REACHING HOME:
CANADA'S HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY FOR
COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED AS "OTHER URBAN AREAS"
IN B.C.**

**2024-2026 Call for Proposals (CFP)
For
Services Projects & Capital Investments**

APPLICATION GUIDE

**APPLICATIONS DEADLINE:
Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 11:59 pm**

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We would like to begin by acknowledging that the traditional and ancestral unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, Kwikwetlem, Tsawwassen, Katzie, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, and Semiahmoo Nations have been custodians of this land for thousands of years and we would like to pay our respect to the elders and knowledge keepers both past and present.

The Community Entity (CE), Lu'ma Native BCH Housing Society (LU'MA BCH) invites submissions in response to this Call for Proposals (CFP) for Reaching Home (RH) funding to meet the priorities set out in the 2019-2024 Indigenous Community Plan approved by the Provincial Indigenous Homelessness Committee (PIHC) in October 2019 and deliberated in December 2023.

Reaching Home Overview

Reaching Home is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness. The program provides direct support and funding to Designated Communities (urban centers), Indigenous communities, territorial communities and rural and remote communities across Canada. Homelessness is caused by a range of social, economic, and individual factors that extend beyond the mandate of any one department, and so Reaching Home is designed to complement other federal programs.

Reaching Home supports the goals of the National Housing Strategy, in particular, to support the most vulnerable Canadians in maintaining safe, stable and affordable housing and to reduce chronic homelessness nationally by 50 percent by 2027-2028.

Reaching Home's Indigenous Homelessness stream provides funding to organizations that provide supports to meet the unique needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The intent is that the funding be provided to Indigenous communities located in "other urban areas".

The program promotes social inclusion and cultural connections within communities and aims to ensure that culturally appropriate supports are available for Indigenous Peoples who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness in urban areas.

Indigenous Peoples are not limited to accessing only the services that are funded by the Indigenous homelessness stream; they may also access services and supports from organizations that are funded by the program's other regional streams.

2024 – 2026 Funding Overview

The Government of Canada remains committed to supporting communities as they address the challenges faced by individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness. In line with this commitment, the government has extended its support for a period of four years, from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2028.

This initiative aims to enable communities to continue their response efforts using the existing investment plan. These efforts are geared towards addressing local needs and priorities and ensuring continuity of services at the community level. The activities areas include:

- A: Housing services/ Prevention and shelter diversion/ Client support services
- B: Capital investments

2024 – 2026 Call For Proposals (CFP) Application Process and Timeline

Eligible Project Period:

April 1, 2024- March 31, 2026. The projects must **be completed by March 31, 2026.**

Maximum Funding Available:

The total amount available under this CFP is **approximately \$5.5 million.**

Eligible Activities	Annual Maximum Funding Available		Total
	Year 2024-2025	Year 2025-2026	
A. Housing Services			
Prevention and Shelter diversion	\$2,335,000	\$2,335,000	\$4,670,000
Support Services			
B. Capital Investments	\$415,000	\$415,000	\$830,000

Eligible projects

Projects must meet a demonstrated need, and applicants must show that investments will be targeted toward helping address Indigenous homelessness.

This funding is used for projects delivered by Indigenous organizations to address the specific needs of the off-reserve homeless Indigenous population. **An Indigenous organization requires 51% Indigenous members who are directly involved with the decision-making process.**

Indigenous not-for-profit organizations are eligible to receive RH Funding. Indigenous for-profit enterprises are eligible for funding provided that the nature and intent of the activity is non-commercial and fits within the RH Terms and Conditions. If you are representing a coalition, letters from your partners describing and confirming their involvement must be attached. Note only an Indigenous organization can submit on behalf of a coalition group.

Eligible Geographic Area

To be eligible for funding through the RH, the project must occur off-reserve in one or all of the following communities in referred as “Other Urban Areas”, outside of Greater Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, Cowichan Valley, Duncan, Nelson, Prince Rupert, Prince George, Kamloops, Kelowna, Chilliwack, and Abbotsford or also addresses the needs of Indigenous Homelessness in communities.

Comprehensive Summary of Eligible Activities and Expenses Under Reaching Home

Reaching Home is a comprehensive program addressing the multifaceted issue of homelessness. This summary provides an overview of the eligible activities and expenses. For further details, guidelines, and specifics on eligibility criteria, visit the [Reaching Home website](#).

1. Housing Services

This category focuses on transitioning homeless individuals or families into stable, safe, and appropriate housing. It encompasses various forms of housing, from transitional to permanent supportive, and includes options that align with Indigenous values and practices.

- **Transitional Housing:** These facilities offer a supportive living environment, designed as an intermediate step before moving into more independent living. The stay duration typically ranges from 3 months to 3 years, focusing on social and skill development.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** This includes both place-based housing, where units are located in a single building, and scattered-site housing, where services are delivered through home visits or community-based agencies. This housing type is particularly for people with high needs related to health, disabilities, or substance use.
- **General Housing:** Encompasses long-term housing solutions like rented apartments or homes, including social housing. It may also involve living arrangements with friends or family.
- **Indigenous Housing:** Reflects Indigenous cultural practices and is often managed by Indigenous organizations.

Eligible Activities for Housing Services:

- **Housing placement** involves assessing housing preferences and needs, securing housing units, and offering landlord-tenant services.
- **Rental assistance** for rapid rehousing projects, usually ranging from 3 to 6 months.
- **Emergency Housing Funding:** Provides short-term financial support while awaiting access to longer-term housing supports, such as the Canadian Housing Benefit or benefits from provincial, territorial or municipal programs.
- **Housing set-up costs:** Includes expenses like insurance, deposits, moving costs, and initial groceries.

2. Prevention and Shelter Diversion

Aimed at those at imminent risk of homelessness, this category includes interventions to prevent homelessness and divert individuals away from emergency shelters.

- **Prevention:** Activities include discharge planning for those leaving public systems (like health or corrections), housing retention assistance, and eviction prevention through legal support and financial aid.
- **Shelter Diversion:** Focuses on providing alternate housing options and connecting individuals with services at the point they seek shelter entry.

3. Client Support Services

These services are geared towards improving integration into communities and support structures, covering both basic needs and more comprehensive treatment services.

- **Basic Needs Services:** Include emergency kits such as tents and sleeping bags, food assistance, life skills development, culturally relevant supports, clothing, and transportation related to integration activities.
- **Clinical and Treatment Services:** Encompass a range of health and well-being services, including mental health support, harm reduction activities, and access to traditional healing services.

4. Capital Investments

This category includes investments in facilities and infrastructure that address homelessness. It covers renovations, new constructions, and purchases of supportive housing and non-residential facilities.

- Activities range from upgrading existing facilities to meet standards, repurposing properties for housing, and purchasing new equipment.

5. Administration Expenditures

These are indirect costs that support the delivery of the Reaching Home programming. Limited to 15% of the annual allocation, they include staff expenses, administrative costs, professional fees, and travel costs.

Ineligible Activities and Expenditures: activities that do not qualify for funding, such as international travel, the purchase of alcoholic beverages, and payments for time spent attending Community Advisory Board meetings.

There may be cases where activities eligible under Reaching Home may also be funded by the provincial or territorial government or the municipality. If these activities are already being supported through another source of funding, list the information in the budget. Reaching Home funds will be used to complement these investments and avoid duplication of existing programming to the extent possible.

What to Submit?

Ensure that your email submission package includes one (1) signed scanned original of the following:

For Service project application

- ✓ Completed RH 2024-2026 Service CFP Application form; The Application Form must be fully completed and signed by the legal signatory(ies).
- ✓ BudgetDetails- Service Budget and other Contributor's information.

For Capital project application

- ✓ Completed RH 2024-2026 Capital CFP Application form; The Application Form must be fully completed and signed by the legal signatory(ies).
- ✓ BudgetDetails- Capital budget and five-year operating budget
- ✓ Additional Supporting Partnership Documents, if applicable

Closing Date for CFP Submission

A complete application package must be received **via email at CFP@lnhs.ca on or before the due date of Thursday, February 22, 2024, not later than 11:59 pm timestamped by LU'MA BCH server.**

Complete the application as requested. **Handwritten submissions will not be accepted.** Elaborate artwork, corporate brochures and lengthy narratives are discouraged.

An email receipt will be sent upon receipt of submission. It is the applicant's sole responsibility to ensure that its CFP submission is received as indicated by the stipulated time. CFP submissions will not be accepted after the specified time and will not be considered.

Application Evaluation Criteria

How will applications be evaluated?

Application for Canada's Homelessness Strategy- Reaching Home Project will be reviewed, evaluated and recommended by the Provincial Indigenous Homelessness Committee (PIHC) Review Committee.

The application will be assessed, at a minimum, based on each of the following areas;

- ✓ The degree to which proposed activities support program objectives to reduce and prevent homelessness and program priorities;
- ✓ The need for proposed activities;
- ✓ The qualifications and track record of the applicant;
- ✓ Demonstration of support required for success;
- ✓ Demonstration of sustainability or provision of an exit strategy and,
- ✓ Value for money.

Application Review Process

The CAB Review Committee will review each application. This review will take into account available Reaching Home funding. Application may be subject to negotiation. In direct consultation with LU'MA BCH, applicants will be requested to verify all application information and determine the eligible project or activity, eligible project costs, performance measurements, and funding mechanisms needed to complete a Funding Agreement. In all cases, applicants will be advised by the CE whether their application was recommended for funding or not.

It is anticipated that proposal applicants will be advised of funding decisions by the end of February 2024 or first week of March 2024. Applications recommended by the CAB Review Committee will be forwarded to the CE, LU'MA BCH for due diligence review and contracting.

No Guarantee of Funding

The total number of projects funded and the amount of funding per project will be determined based on the proposals received and reviewed by the CE, Review Committee and CAB, and any subsequent due diligence. The CE is under no obligation to approve any application through this process.

For any questions, please contact cfp@lnhs.ca.

This email is monitored by the Community Entity staff during business hours Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays; we will strive to reply within one business day.