

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When will I receive a response to my application?

At the end of the selection process, all applicant organizations will be informed whether their project was selected. If the project is selected, a member of the Secrétariat à la condition féminine (SCF) will then contact the project representative to explain the next steps. A financial assistance agreement will have to be signed afterwards.

Selected organizations can start working on their project as soon as they receive the letter confirming financial assistance from the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. SCF expects to provide answers by early winter 2024 at the latest.

2. When can organizations begin implementing a project?

Organizations whose projects were selected during the call for proposals may begin implementing them upon receipt of the Minister's letter confirming the award of the funding. Project kickoff is scheduled for winter 2024. If necessary, organizations may readjust the schedule based on the date they receive the Minister's letter.

3. Can a project lasting less than two years be submitted?

No, the minimum duration of a project is two years. Please check "Three years" on the financial assistance request form if the project is expected to last two to three years.

4. Can an organization submit more than one project?

Yes, organizations may submit more than one project. To do so, they must complete one form per project.

5. Can non-Indigenous organizations submit projects?

Yes, as long as the organization can demonstrate that it provides services to the Indigenous population or works closely with an Indigenous community or organization.

6. The organization that will lead the project hasn't been created yet. Though it will be when the project is submitted, it doesn't have any past activities, audited financial statements, or annual reports. Is it eligible for this call for proposals?

No, the organization leading the project must exist and not be in the process of being created when the request is filed. The call for proposals is designed to provide financial support to partners that are firmly rooted in their communities and have expertise in gender equality in an Indigenous context.

7. Will I receive an acknowledgement of receipt after I submit my request for financial assistance?

All applicants who have submitted a project will receive an acknowledgement of receipt. However, this is not a promise of financial commitment.

Important! If you have not received an acknowledgement of receipt, you must resubmit the project, as this indicates that we have not received it. Acknowledgements of receipt are generated automatically when a project is submitted.

8. Do I need to have a partner to be eligible?

No, you are not required to have a partner to submit a project.

9. How does the project selection process work?

During the project selection process, the SCF:

1. Assesses applicant and project eligibility based on the requirements of the financial support program for gender equality initiatives in Indigenous communities;
2. Analyzes the content of eligible projects against the requirements of the financial support program. Where appropriate, this analysis may involve requesting second opinions from other ministries or agencies;

3. Recommends the projects, which are then examined and selected by the advisory committee;
4. Issues a final recommendation on project selection;
5. Submits the selected projects to the Minister for approval;
6. Informs applicants of the decision in an announcement/refusal letter;
7. Signs financial assistance agreements with accepted applicants.

10. Could the SCF reduce the requested funding?

Yes, if the submitted budget is not deemed realistic.

11. Can an organization submit a project that builds on a previous project?

Yes, as long as the new project is different, i.e. it meets different needs, includes different activities, and meets the general objectives of the call for proposals. However, the new project cannot simply be a continuation of the old one, because the SCF only funds one-time projects, not recurring projects.

12. Should files be sent by email or regular mail?

Organizations must send their request by email to autochtones@scf.gouv.qc.ca. The deadline for project submission is Friday, September 15, 2023, at 4 p.m.

13. Who can I contact if I have any questions about this call for proposals?

Any questions about the 2023–2024 Call for Proposals: Promoting Equality and Complementarity Between First Nations and Inuit Women and Men must be emailed to the SCF at autochtones@scf.gouv.qc.ca. The SCF will answer requests for information as soon as possible.