



FIRST PEOPLES'
CULTURAL COUNCIL



Braided Infrastructure Program

2025 - 2026 Funding Guide

Application Deadline:
May 26, 2025 at 4:30 PM PT
Late proposals will not be considered.

[Apply on our Grant Portal](#)

Please retain this Funding Guide in your files. If your application is approved, the policies and information contained in this guide will be a useful resource.

The Braided Infrastructure Program is funded by the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation through the Province of British Columbia.



Ministry of
Indigenous Relations
and Reconciliation

Note:

This document is optimized for accessibility purposes.

How To Use The PDF Audio Reader?

To use an audio reader for a PDF on a PC, open the PDF in Adobe Acrobat Reader, navigate to the “View” menu, and select “Read Out Loud” to activate the text-to-speech feature, allowing the document to be read aloud to you; you can choose to read the entire document or just the current page depending on your preference.

Key steps:

- **Open the PDF:** Open your PDF file in Adobe Acrobat Reader
 - **Access the “Read Out Loud” option:** Go to the “View” menu at the top
 - **Activate Read Out Loud:** Select “Read Out Loud” and choose whether to read the entire document or just the current page
-

Table of Contents

A Note On Health And Wellness

FPCC General Funding Guidelines

Introduction

First Peoples' Cultural Council

Grant Overview

Braided Infrastructure Program

Planning for Your Application

Program Criteria

Eligible Requirements

Eligibility Documentation

Ineligible Applicants

Collaboration is Encouraged

Eligible Projects

Ineligible Projects

General Requirements

Grant Liability, Insurance and Certification

Application Deadline

Funding

Funding Amounts

Funding Term

Expenses

Eligible Expenses

Funding Installments

Funding Acknowledgements

Ineligible Expenses

Adjudication Process

Reporting Requirements

Appendix 1: Sample Budget

Appendix 2: Examples of Eligible Projects

A Note On Health And Wellness

Tcwemstwallhkálap (“you folks take care of one another” in Ucwalmícwts):

The health and safety of everyone involved in FPCC programs, especially Elders and those with health concerns, is of the utmost importance to us. As you plan your project, please take extra care during cold and flu season to minimize the spread of illness.

Following these guidelines will help us take care of one another and keep each other safe.

Please note:

- Please ensure your project proposal meets the requirements listed in this document
- FPCC staff are here to assist program participants with unexpected and unplanned changes as a result of COVID-19 impacts on programs
- We will do our best to share information and respond to changes together. If you have any questions, please contact program staff

FPCC General Funding Guidelines

Please see the [FPCC General Funding Guidelines](#) for information on the following:

Funding Criteria

- Eligibility
- Misrepresentation
- Ineligible Expenses
- Grant Liability, Insurance & Certification
- Criminal Record Checks

FPCC Grant Applications

- Grant Portal
- General Application Guidelines
- Reporting Requirements

Proposal Review Process, Notification of Awards and Payment of Awards

- Peer Review Committee (PRC)
 - Funding Decisions and Notification
 - Payment of Awards
-

Introduction

First Peoples' Cultural Council

The First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC) was established in 1990 through the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Act and is mandated to support the revitalization of First Nations' languages, arts and cultures in British Columbia. FPCC is a unique Crown Corporation governed by a Board of up to 13 B.C. First Nations representatives. FPCC administers three programs: the Heritage Program, the Language Program and the Arts Program. The Heritage Program was established in 2019 to support the safeguarding, transmission and revitalization of Indigenous cultures and heritage. It focuses on the following three goals:

1. **Capacity:** Indigenous communities have the tools, training, staff and spaces to be stewards of their cultural heritage
2. **Stewardship:** Indigenous communities have programs, funding and autonomy to be stewards of their cultural heritage
3. **Leadership:** The rights of Indigenous Peoples' to be stewards of their cultural heritage is recognized and affirmed, and Indigenous expertise is valued

Grant Overview

Braided Infrastructure Program

The Braided Infrastructure Program (BIP) is led by the FPCC Heritage and Arts Programs. BIP supports B.C. First Nations' efforts to develop an infrastructure project that braids together arts, culture, heritage, and the values and teachings as understood through B.C. First Nations languages. BIP will fund projects that implement a broad range of infrastructure projects that conserve, repair or develop B.C. First Nations' cultural heritage, and arts infrastructure. This includes:

- Historical and cultural places, archives, and cultural heritage collections that are of collective value to B.C. First Nations
- Construction or renovation of a permanent designated space to connect heritage and art activities, such as weaving, drawing, painting, regalia making and other creative expressions
- Physical infrastructure such as buildings, trails, and structures that support public and community access to the:
 - Stories of historic places and the places themselves
 - Knowledge transfer of histories and cultural practices, crafts or trades
 - Cultural materials that support telling the stories of historic sites and the transmission of community memory and traditional practices, arts, and trades
 - Art, music, and cultural materials and forms

Please send all inquiries about the BIP to bip@fpcc.ca or call 672-910-4013.

ATTENTION:

The 2025-2026 Bridged Infrastructure Program differs from the Heritage Infrastructure Program in some ways. The BIP amount funded, and the timeline are shorter than previous years' intakes of the HIP. To account for the shorter timeline, the fund issuing and reporting processes have been adjusted accordingly. We will also prioritize applications that demonstrate projects that are ready to start and can be completed within the 10-month timeline.

Planning for Your Application

FPCC Heritage and Arts applications take time to complete, and we recommend starting as early as possible. Significant reading and writing are required throughout the application process along with seeking support letters.

In addition, applications are completed on FPCC's Grant Portal which is technology based and functions best when used on a laptop or desktop computer. For applicants that require assistance with technology, we recommend having a friend, family member or someone they trust to assist them with completing and submitting the application.

Please reach out to Heritage Program staff if you have any questions about the application process, would like to discuss project planning and/or if you need support in completing your application.

Applications and proposals will only be discussed with the contacts listed/identified in the application. Staff are available to support you with your application and answer questions. If you require assistance with your application or would like to request a review of your application with feedback from staff, please email bip@fpcc.ca or call 672-910-4013, at least two weeks before the May 26, 2025 deadline.

Program Criteria

Eligibility Requirements

Who is eligible to apply?

FPCC Programs support recognized [B.C. First Nations](#) communities and B.C.-based First Nations-led organizations that have a mandate or focus that includes the revitalization of First Nations' heritage and arts and the intrinsic values and teachings as expressed through their languages.

Eligible applicants include:

- Recognized B.C. First Nations bands or Tribal Councils¹
- Not-for-profit societies registered in B.C. in good standing and governed by B.C. First Nations individuals where at least 75% of directors are registered members of or have ancestral ties to a recognized B.C. First Nation.
- B.C. First Nations-led museums and cultural spaces where at least 75% are registered members of or have ancestral ties to a recognized B.C. First Nation
- Urban and off-reserve B.C. First Nations organizations where at least 75% are registered members of or have ancestral ties to a recognized B.C. First Nation
- B.C. First Nations schools or adult education centres operating in B.C. on First Nations lands² (Please note that applications from First Nations schools that serve one community must be submitted through their respective Nation/Band Office).

Eligibility Documentation

FPCC is committed to accountability and transparency in the delivery of funding to B.C. First Nation communities, as expressed in our mandate and vision. We welcome funding applications from organizations that are not recognized B.C. First Nations governments, provided they meet the eligibility guidelines outlined above.

FPCC Program staff may contact you to request some or all of the following information to accompany your application. This information will help us better understand your organization, its mandate, and how it operates, so that we can support you through the funding process. If requested, this information must be provided before a Funding Agreement can be issued.

- Societies and organizations may be asked to provide documentation confirming legal name and a list of the organization's current Board of Directors and/or governance structure. Please note that FPCC requires that at least 75% of directors are members of or have ancestral ties to a recognized B.C. First Nation to be eligible for funding through FPCC grant programs.
- Registered societies may be asked to provide their certificate of good standing; certificate of registration; a copy of the organization's bylaws and constitution; and proof of insurance

¹ For a list of recognized B.C. First Nations, please see [here](#)

² FPCC is unable to fund K-12 classroom activities or post-secondary accredited courses or tuition

Applicants may be asked to provide proof of support from a B.C. First Nation in the territory where the project is proposed and that shares the same language as the proposed project. This may be in the form of a Band Council Resolution, OR letter of support from a Chief or Council member, OR a letter of support from an established First Nations organization that has received an FPCC grant.

For projects in which oral history, intellectual properties, and cultural properties are gathered and/or shared, applicants may be asked to provide information that will demonstrate how the information or item will be gathered or obtained, and how ownership, copyright and intellectual and cultural properties rights will be recognized and upheld now and into the future.

Ineligible Applicants

- Organizations or individuals who are not from a recognized B.C. First Nation
- Individuals and family groups who are not registered societies
- Organizations or societies where fewer than 75% of directors are registered members of or have ancestral ties to a recognized B.C. First Nation
- Collectives or non-registered groups (this grant only accepts applications from registered societies)
- For-profit organizations and businesses, entities, individuals and commercial ventures
- Organizations or previous grant recipients with incomplete or outstanding reporting with FPCC or FPCF. These applicants are ineligible until all required documentation is complete.
- Government organizations, including municipalities
- Universities, colleges and non-B.C. First Nations schools
- Private clubs, groups and organizations with exclusive memberships
- Religious organizations
- Corporations

Collaboration is Encouraged

FPCC strongly encourages collaboration. Only one application (per grant program) per Band Office, Tribal Council or Society/Organization will be eligible for funding. If more than one application from the same Band Office, Tribal Council or Society/Organization is submitted, the Peer Review Committee will decide which proposal will receive funding, so it is strongly advised that applicants collaborate and submit one unified proposal. This demonstrates that there is support and consensus for the proposed project, as well as being inclusive and designed with long-term goals in mind.

If an infrastructure project is located on shared or co-managed territory with a B.C. First Nation, or other organizations/agencies, such as federal and provincial protected areas, projects must provide letters of support from the associated First Nation or organizations/agencies.

Eligible Projects

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Repairs and upgrades to museum, archive, and community collections storage and environmental quality management
- Upgrades to collections shelving and storage
- Upgrades to building infrastructure including doors, windows, and lighting
- Construction of repository and archival spaces
- Installation of accessibility aids, such as ramps and docks
- Development and maintenance of culturally significant trails
- Construction and upgrades to longhouses, bighouses, carving sheds, community meat freezers, and meat processing stations
- Training, skilled and expertise mentorship, job shadowing, offering employment opportunities, etc.

Ineligible Projects

- Digital infrastructure
- Projects that are dependent on unconfirmed funding from other sources

General Requirements

Applications will not be reviewed unless all necessary information is provided. Applicants must submit completed applications that include the following:

- A balanced project **budget** with detailed descriptions and cost breakdowns for each category (please see the Appendix for a budget example)
- A thorough **workplan** with dates for key activities
- A full consideration of the potential **risks and mitigation** strategies for the project
- A project **timeline** that fits within the BIP funding term
- Proof of additional confirmed funding, if applicable. Examples include funding agreements and letters from donors/sponsors
- Two **letters of support**: one demonstrating governance approval from within the organization and the second indicating support from the community. Letters of support examples:

Demonstrating Governance Approval

- **For Bands:** a dated and signed Band Council Resolution OR a letter of approval dated and signed by a B.C. First Nation Chief, Band Manager, and/or a member of Council
 - **For Societies/Organizations:** a dated and signed letter of approval from the Executive Director or General Manager
-

Demonstrating Community Support:

- **For Bands:** The letter of support can be from a project participant (who will not receive financial benefit from the project), a collaborating community/organization or a person of high standing in the community. It should not be from the Chief, a member of Council, the Band Manager, or a signing authority of the applicant organization, as they will be indicating their support through the letter of governance approval
- **For societies and non-profits:** Two letters of support: 1- from a project participant (who will not receive financial benefit from the project), a collaborating community/organization or a person of high standing in the community. 2- One letter of support from a B.C. First Nation in the territory where the project is proposed and that shares the same language as the proposed project. This letter of support may be in the form of a Band Council Resolution, OR a letter from a Chief or Council member OR a letter from an established B.C. First Nations organization operating in the location(s) where the project is proposed and who is currently an FPCC grant recipient

All letters of support must be dated and signed

Please note, the Governance Approval letter and the Community Support letter cannot be from the same person.

Grant Liability, Insurance and Certification

For projects with a hazard of potential personal injury or bodily harm due to high-risk project related activities, please provide FPCC with copies of the following:

- Comprehensive insurance for at least \$2 million
- Adequate certification and licencing if operating a motorcycle, Off Road Vehicle, large truck or bus, trailer, snowmobile, boat, or other equipment
- Valid driver's licence(s) of operators of a motorcycle, Off Road Vehicle, large truck or bus, trailer, or boat
- Necessary WorkSafe BC compliance documents and, before starting work on certain types of construction projects, e.g., a project over \$100,000, submit a Notice of Project to WSBC
- Any other information reasonably requested by FPCC related to safety and/or liability issues

If your project is approved, FPCC will follow up to request these documents on conditional acceptance of the project. We will need these documents for the final approval of the project and before the funding agreement is sent.

Projects using vehicles are expected to carry and maintain Third Party Liability insurance on all vehicles owned, operated or licensed in the name of the project/grant recipient in an amount not less than \$1,000,000.00. This documentation should be available to FPCC, if requested.

It is recommended that anyone operating an ATV receive ATV Rider Training by Canadian Safety Council (CSC) certified instructors.

Probable high-risk project activities may include, but are not limited to, using ATVs, horses, trailers, boats, helicopters, heavy equipment, or activities that involve camping in remote areas, risks of large mammal encounters, excavation, scaffolding and ladders, or construction. If you are unsure if your project is high risk and would require additional insurances, certification and licensing, please contact the assigned funding program staff person to discuss further.

Application Deadline

When is the application deadline? May 26, 2025, at 4:30 PM PST

You can find information about the Program here: fpcc.ca/BIP

Applications must be completed and submitted by the deadline on [FPCC's Grant Portal](#). We do not accept faxed or emailed applications.

If you are having challenges with the FPCC Grant Portal please email bip@fpcc.ca or call 672-910-4013.

Applications and proposals will only be discussed with the contacts listed/identified in the application. Staff are available to support you with your application and answer questions. If you require assistance with your application or would like to request a review of your application with feedback from staff, please email bip@fpcc.ca at least two weeks before the May 26, 2025.

Funding

Funding Amounts

Applicants can apply for up to \$70,000 for their proposed project. Any project costs that exceed the maximum grant amount will be the responsibility of the applicant, and all additional funding required to complete the project must be confirmed by the application deadline.

Funding Term

The funding term for the BIP is as follows:

- Period for BIP applications is from **April 28 to May 26, 2025**
 - Successful applicants notified by **June 09, 2025**
 - Project activities to begin on or after **June 09, 2025**
 - Grant recipients will be required to meet with FPCC staff once per month to discuss the project's progress. They will also be required to submit photos of the project to demonstrate progression.
 - Projects completed by **March 10, 2026**
 - Final report due **April 30, 2026**
-

Grants are taxable income and must be reported as such. Individuals receiving grants on their own behalf or on behalf of a group are issued T4As for the year in which the grant payment is processed.

Funding Installments

- Eighty percent (80%) of the requested amount will be provided upfront upon application approval
- The remaining twenty percent (20%) of the grant budget will be provided upon completion of the project and approval (acceptance) of the final report and budget

Funding Acknowledgements

Successful applicants must acknowledge the support of the FPCC and the Province of B.C. in all materials produced in relation to the funded project. Approved logos are available at <https://fpcc.ca/logos-guidelines/>

Expenses

Eligible Expenses

Project costs must be direct and essential to the project. Costs will be reviewed to determine if they are reasonable and have been accurately estimated.

- Construction costs, including the cost of materials
 - Environmental reviews
 - Archaeological assessments
 - Concept planning, feasibility studies, and business plans that will be used for the proposed infrastructure project
 - Leasing of equipment related to the construction of the project
 - Fees paid to professionals, project managers, technical personnel, consultants, and contractors, up to a maximum of 25% of the total funding requested through the BIP
 - Salaries and other employment benefits to employees, up to a maximum of 15% of the total funding requested through the BIP
 - Insurance related to construction
 - Administration costs, up to 15% of the funding requested
 - Furniture and/or equipment essential for operation of the project
 - Utility, electrical, and other set-up connection services to the site
 - Honoraria, up to \$150 to \$250/half day and up to \$300 to \$500/full day, depending on the activities and protocols. Rates above these amounts must be covered by the applicant organization
 - Food and hospitality up to 2% of the total funding requested through the BIP. This eligible expense is intended for events, including engagement sessions and project completion ceremonies
-

During the BIP review process, FPCC may ask applicants to present a contractor quote for the proposed project implementation. If requested, applicants will have 10 workdays to present it.

Ineligible Expenses

- Any expenses for goods or services which are or will be received through donations or in-kind contributions, for example, donated building materials or volunteer labour.
- Expenses that occur before the BIP funding term begins
- Stand-alone concept plans, feasibility studies, and business plans
- Overhead costs, salaries, and other employment benefits that amount to more than 15% of the total funding requested
- Land acquisition and real estate fees, leasing land, leasing buildings, and other facilities
- General, routine, and cyclical repairs and maintenance
- Board members, if applicable, may not receive any payment from grant funding.
- Accumulated deficits, annual operating losses or debt Liability insurance for directors
- Costs for political events, rallies and demonstrations
- Expenses exceeding maximum allowable percentages or caps, as described above, or expenses that are not necessary to project activities
- For-profit business development costs
- Capital purchases such as vehicles
- Furnishing and non-fixed assets which are not essential for the project
- Activities or gatherings unrelated to the proposed project
- Activities that take place in or involve public schools or public institutions
- Activities that do not comply with current provincial COVID-19 guidelines
- Legal fees

Adjudication Process

- Submitting a proposal does not guarantee funding
 - FPCC staff are available to support you with your application and answer any questions you may have. Please reach out to bip@fpcc.ca
 - Applications will be reviewed for completeness and clarity
 - Funds available to this program are limited; therefore, projects that demonstrate urgency to safeguard B.C. First Nation heritage, related arts practices and the worldview held within their language will receive priority
 - FPCC strives to distribute funding across all regions of B.C., and equitable distribution is considered during application review and decision-making
-

- In-kind contributions are not required for this grant. However, any project costs that exceed the maximum grant amount will be the responsibility of the applicant, and all additional funding required to complete the project must be confirmed by the application deadline
- Due to the short timeline for this funding term, projects that demonstrate they are ready to start immediately will receive priority
- A Review Committee (RC) will review and assess eligible proposals according to the program objectives, the feasibility of the timeline and the budget presented
- After the submission deadline, please do not contact staff regarding the status of your application. All applicants will be advised of RC decisions by June 9

Reporting Requirements

If the project is approved, the applicant will receive a **funding agreement** that sets out the terms of the funding and the reporting requirements. This agreement must be signed by the signing authority outlined in your application.

Grant recipients will be required to **meet** with FPCC staff once per month to discuss the project's progress. They will also be required to submit photos of the project to demonstrate progression. Due at the conclusion of the grant cycle, grant recipients are required to complete a final report, which includes questions about project activities, deliverables, reflections on what worked well, and challenges encountered. The report also requests numerical data about the project team (jobs created), participants and skills development activities supported through the grant, as well as a final accounting of funds spent throughout the project. The questions include:

- Total number of individuals employed for the project duration, including number of Indigenous peoples, women, and young adults
- Number of skills development and mentorship opportunities
- Average pay scale of individuals employed for the project
- Number of project participants
- The types and number of resources created by the grant funded project
- The types and amount of Indigenous Cultural practices documented throughout the project
- The grant recipient's satisfaction with the grant program, Grant Portal user friendliness, staff helpfulness and knowledge and general satisfaction with FPCC

The project's final report is due **April 30, 2026**, and will be available for applicants to fill out on FPCC's [Grant Portal](#).

Appendix 1: Sample Budget

Braided Infrastructure Program Project

Expenses		
Expense Description (Provide detailed breakdowns for each category)	Funds Requested from FPCC	Funds from Other Sources
Construction costs (including costs of materials)		
Historical Trail Restoration: 4 km at \$15,000 per km = \$60,000 Interpretive signage boards = \$3,000 Materials and equipment include wood preservation treatment, tin roof, nails/stakes, propane stove, oven, fridges, stand-up freezer, sink	\$ 63,000	\$0
Environmental Review		
Internal environment review will be conducted by the nation's Land Department.	\$0	\$5,000
Archeological Review/ Assessment		
Preliminary assessment and cultural care work in the event of findings	\$0	\$6,000
Costs for Concept Planning, Feasibility Studies, Business Plans		
Concept Planning, construction drawings, engineering, and geo-technical engineering	\$0	\$4,000
Equipment Leasing		
Excavator lease required for small portion of project		\$7,500
Professional Fees (Project Managers, Technical Personnel, Consultants, Contractors), up to 30% of FPCC Funding request		

Carpentry contractor: 3 months @ \$4,000 = \$12,000 Artists rates for signage design	\$7,000	\$12,500
Salaries and Employment Costs - Up to 15% of FPCC funding request		
	\$0	\$0
Insurance Costs (Related to Construction)		
Existing liability insurance and existing WCB coverage	\$0	\$0
Furniture and/or equipment essential for operation of the project		
n/a	\$0	\$0
Community Engagement Fees		
Two community surveys, one before project start and one halfway through the project to gauge engagement, success, milestones, areas to improve.	\$	\$3,500
Communication Costs		
Media releases to share project success stories with general public.	\$	
Honoraria		
Knowledge Keepers consultation. Honoraria (\$250/ half day, 6 half days, 5 Elders)	\$	\$7,500
Food and hospitality, up to 2% of funding requested (Describe)		
Grand Opening Event, including venue and refreshments	\$0	\$2,500
Subtotals	\$70,000	\$ 48,500
Total Costs	\$ 118,500	

Revenues (Please provide a summary of all sources of funds for the proposed project. All additional funding must be confirmed by application date)		
Summary of Funds	Confirmed	Amount
In-Kind Contributions (Funding You Contributed to the Project)		
Nation's Land Department will cover part of the wages	Yes	\$28,500
In-Kind Contributions (Time, resources, materials, meeting spaces, etc. that are provided for free)		
Nation's Land Department will cover the team meetings, concept visioning and project design in-house; and the Grand Opening Event, including venue and refreshments; Internal environment review will be conducted by the nation's Land Department.	Yes	\$20,000
Provincial Funding		
N/A	N/A	\$0
Federal Funding		
N/A	N/A	\$0
Corporate Contributions (Sponsorship or Donation)		
N/A	N/A	\$0
Other Grants/Funding (Non-FPCC Sources)		
N/A	N/A	\$0
Total Revenues		\$48,500
Budget Summary		
Total Costs	Total Revenues	FPCC Grant Request
\$ 118,500	\$ 48,500	\$70,000

Appendix 2: Examples of Eligible Projects

The 2025-2026 Braided Infrastructure Program funds projects implementing a variety of infrastructure projects that conserve, repair or develop B.C. First Nations' cultural heritage and arts infrastructure. To support you in preparing your application, we provide examples of eligible projects below.

Please reach out to Heritage Program staff (bip@fpcc.ca) if you would like to discuss project planning and/or if you need support in completing your application.

Example 1: Developing an Arts and Crafts area

An organization aims to construct an arts and crafts space with a prefab modular unit. This area will benefit all community members, particularly artists of various mediums (professional, recreational, and novice). An organization will also use this space to develop knowledge transfer workshops and to host demonstrations and art shows for the general public.



Photo: Julie Elizabeth

Additionally, the space could be used for various artistic expressions, such as beading, painting and drawing, carving small objects, culinary arts, and weaving. An organization chose a modular or prefabricated unit because of the cost-benefit. Knowledge Keepers will create a committee to create criteria and define the unit site, following community needs and protocols.

Project Team

- **Project Manager** – Hiring consultant, contact Knowledge Keepers, and guarantee project completion.
- **Engineer** – Creating engineering design and implementing construction.
- **Knowledge Keepers** – Create criteria for site selection, select site, monitoring FN protocols.

Workplan Activities

- Establish steering committee – Month 1
- Site criteria – Month 1
- Select site – Months 1-2
- Engineering design – Months 3-5
- Landscape architecture – Months 5-9

Budget Spreadsheet

Type of Expense	Expense Description	Requested from FPCC	Funds from Other Sources
Construction Costs	Modular unit acquisition	45,000	
Professional Fees	Engineering design	10,000	
Salaries and Employment Costs - Up to 15%	Project Manager		10,000
Honoraria	Knowledge Keepers Committee	5,000	
Insurance			500
Total		70,000	10,500

Example 2: Carving shed

In First Nation X, artists have been in a relationship with wood for thousands of years as an integral part of their culture. Wood is the preferred material for creating totems, longhouses, canoes, masks, carvings, and bowls, which are used in artistic practices, celebrations, rituals, and everyday work activities. However, during the last few years, they have faced challenges maintaining their activities because of issues related to their workplace conditions.



Photo: IISAAK OLAM Foundation

The carving shed project will involve a ceiling renovation of an existing space since the existing one is more than 20 years old, deteriorating. This poses risks for the work created and artists safety. The renovation will use traditional constructive technology and a community workforce. This renovation is necessary to create a safe space for the carved pieces and a comfortable place that supports the transmission of knowledge related to wood carving, enhancing the value of artists' work and improving their living conditions.

Project Team

- **Project Manager** – Hiring carpenters, organize carvers’ participation, guarantee project completion.
- **Carpenters** – Implement construction.
- **Carvers** – Orienting the identification of carving shed needs and solutions, protecting carved pieces, orienting about FN protocols.

Workplan Activities

- Identifying and hiring local carpenters – Months 1 and 2
- Involving carvers in the decision process – Months 1 and 2
- Ordering logs and material – Month 2
- Ceiling renovation – Months 4 to 9
- Opening ceremony – Month 9

Budget Spreadsheet

Type of Expense	Expense Description	Requested from FPCC	Funds from Other Sources
Construction Costs	Materials and logs for the ceiling.	40,000	0
Professional Fees	Carpenters	15,000	0
Salaries and Employment Costs - Up to 15%	Project Manager	8,000	0
Honoraria	Carvers	2,000	5,000
Food and Hospitality	Opening ceremony	1,000	1,500
Insurance		1,000	0
Total		67,000	6,500

Example 3: Display and Storage Travel Cases for Regalia

This project aims to create a Safe Storage Room and specialized travel cases to protect traditional regalia, ensuring their use in cultural ceremonies as well as for artists studying purposes for artists revitalizing the practice. It involves three main actions:

- **Safe Storage Room and Display:** Establish a secure space for traditional regalia and historical treasures, recognizing them as Living Treasures. This will ensure their safe use and allow them to share their stories
- **Specialized Travel Cases:** Research and commission travel cases to safely transport Living Treasures to cultural events. Community members will carry these treasures through the village, onto boats, and into vehicles, preserving heritage during traditional potlatch ceremonies
- **Guidelines and Protocols:** Collaborate with each family's Regalia Caretaker to develop sustainable guide-lines and protocols for any future engagements with the treasures. This will ensure the preservation of history, physical, spiritual, and cultural structures after the project's completion



Photos: Language Keepers Society

Project Team

- **Project Manager** – Hiring carpenters, orienting regalia caretakers' participation and guaranteeing project completion.
- **Carpenters** – Creating and installing a display system. Constructing the travel boxes.
- **Carvers** – participating in community sessions, treasure assessment, and protocol's guideline development.

Workplan Activities

- Consultation with elders, knowledge keepers and regalia caretakers to assess needs – Month 1
- Inventory of cultural treasures – Months 1 and 2
- Ordering displays and travel boxes – Month 3
- Regalia Caretakers meet with elders to gather best practices on the care of cultural treasures – Months 4 to 5
- Development of policy and procedures for the treasures – Months 6 to 8
- Presentation to the council – Month 9
- Community Celebration – Month 9

Budget Spreadsheet

Type of Expense	Expense Description	Requested from FPCC	Funds from Other Sources
Construction Costs	Construction of displays and travel boxes	45,000	0
Professional Fees	Carpenters	5,000	10,000
Salaries and Employment Costs - Up to 15%	Project Manager	10,000	10,000
Honoraria	Regalia caretakers and Elders	10,000	0
Food and Hospitality	Opening ceremony	0	1,500
Insurance		0	0
Total		70,000	21,500

Example 4: Trails

In the old days, there were trails all over B.C. First Nation's traditional territories to connect all of the important sites, whether those were cultural sites, trails to access fishing and hunting grounds, or trails between villages. A trail can also provide or improve access to natural resources and elements necessary for artistic expression. They also can offer safeguarding for the land because it generates an appreciation for how special these areas are.

This trail project aims to build a 4 Kilometer trail in a traditional pathway that connects important sites in the community, featuring trail signs that tell stories of community history, families, and heritage. The project can be considered as a living story through the forest and traditional territory.



Photo: FPCC

Project Team

- **Carpentry Contractor** – Construct the trail.
- **Artist** – Create signage design.
- **Elders** – Defining signage content, create texts.
- **Environmental and Archeological Specialists** - Conduct previous assessment in the site.

Workplan Activities

- Consultation with elders, and knowledge keepers – Month 1
- Defining signage content and texts – Months 2 and 5
- Archaeological and environmental assessment - Months 2 to 4
- Ordering materials – Month 3
- Trail Construction – Months 5 to 9
- Trail Signs construction – Months 5 to 8
- Community Celebration – Month 9

Budget Spreadsheet

Type of Expense	Expense Description	Requested from FPCC	Funds from Other Sources
Construction Costs	Historical Trail Restoration.	63,000	0
Professional Fees	Artists rates for signage design	0	2,500
	Company contractor	7,000	10,000
Salaries and Employment Costs - Up to 15%			
Honoraria	Elder honoraria		7,500
Grand opening			2,500
Community Engagement			3,500
Feasibility studies			4,000
Equipment Leasing			7,500
Archaeological Review	Archaeological and environmental assessment		11,000
Insurance			
Total		70,000	48,500