

NOHFC Program Renewal Overview

Who We Serve

For the NOHFC, **Northern Ontario is defined as** “all areas North of, and including, the districts of Parry Sound and Nipissing.”

NOHFC provides economic development funding toward approved projects in the territorial districts of Northern Ontario, namely Algoma, Cochrane, Kenora, Manitoulin, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Rainy River, Sudbury, Thunder Bay and Timiskaming.



Our Programs

Four main programs targeting business support, community enhancement, workforce development, and cultural support, with eight funding streams:

1. Invest North Program

- Innovation Funding Stream
- Investment Funding Stream

2. People and Talent Program

- Indigenous Workforce Development Funding Stream
- Workforce Development Funding Stream

3. Community Enhancement Program

- Rural Enhancing Funding Stream
- Enhance Your Community Funding Stream

4. Cultural Supports Program

- Community Events Funding Stream
- Film and Television Funding Stream



INVEST North

The Invest North Program is designed to boost economic growth in Northern Ontario by encouraging businesses to invest in transformative, strategic and complementary business development opportunities in Northern communities.



INVEST North

The program will support:

- productivity,
- innovation,
- business competitiveness,
- revenue growth,
- export capacity development,
- job creation and retention.





INVEST North - Innovation

Supporting R&D, and commercialization of new and innovative technologies.

Who is eligible?

Private-sector businesses alone, or in partnership with a public sector academic or research institution.

What is eligible?

Applied R&D projects, and demonstration & commercialization of new and innovative technologies.

NOHFC defines innovative technology projects as: "the development or implementation of ideas to produce new or improved strategies, capabilities, products, services, or processes with a strong focus on ensuring to satisfy a market need or desire".



INVEST North - Innovation

Supporting R&D, and commercialization of new and innovative technologies.

Funding

Activity	Funding Type	Available Funding
Applied Research and Development Projects	Conditional Contribution	50% of eligible costs, up to \$500,000
Applied Research & Development <u>and</u> Demonstration & Commercialization Combined	Conditional Contribution	50% of eligible costs, up to \$2 million
Demonstration & Commercialization-only Projects	Conditional Contribution	50% of eligible costs, up to \$2 million



INVEST North - Investment

Assisting with the **launch** of new businesses, **growth** and expansion of existing businesses, or the **location** of new business operations to Northern Ontario.

The **Invest North – Investment Program** is comprised of three funding streams:

Invest North -
Launch



Invest North -
Grow



Invest North -
Locate





INVEST North - Investment

Who is eligible?

Businesses starting-up, expanding existing operations or locating new business operations in or to Northern Ontario.

What is eligible?

Capital construction, leasehold improvements, new or used equipment including capital leases, land servicing costs, information & communications technology (ICT) investments, marketing for new products and business initiatives, Training costs incurred with third parties.

Funding

Funding Stream	Funding Type	Available Funding
Launching a new business	Conditional Contribution	50% of eligible costs, up to \$200,000
Growing an existing business	Conditional Contribution/Loan or both	\$400,000 in conditional contribution, \$400,000 in conditional contribution or \$600,000 in term loan, or \$1 million in term loan-only.
Locating new business operations to Northern Ontario	Conditional Contribution	50% of eligible costs, up to \$5 million



INVEST North – Strategic Initiative

Innovation – Industrial Research Chair

Supporting the establishment and enhancement of research capacity at Northern Ontario universities, colleges, and research institutions.

Who is eligible?

Northern Ontario universities, colleges, and research institutions

What is eligible?

- Salary and mandatory benefits of the chair holder
- construction or renovation of laboratories or supporting facilities
- Acquiring, operating and maintaining research equipment
- Materials used directly in carrying out the research
- Costs associated with publishing research findings

Funding

Financial assistance is limited to 50% of eligible costs (max of \$1 million) as a conditional contribution for the duration of the project.



INVEST North – Strategic Initiatives

Grow – Regional Tile Drainage

Who is eligible?

Not-for-profit, agricultural or community organizations that would, on behalf of an identified consortium of producers, develop and administer a project to install tile drainage within a specific region

What is eligible?

Tile drainage contractor costs (materials and labour), project management/administration fees of the service provider, and land to be tiled can be in production or new acreage

Funding

The maximum investment from the NOHFC will not exceed the lesser of 50% or \$1 million towards eligible project costs.

Activity	Funding Type	Available Funding
Contractor costs	Conditional Contribution	\$500/acre maximum
Service provider project management/administration fees	Conditional Contribution	\$100/acre maximum



People and Talent

The People & Talent Program is designed to attract, retain and develop Northern Ontario's workforce.



People and Talent

The people and talent program is comprised of two funding streams:

- **Indigenous Workforce Development Program**
 - Strengthening and developing Northern Ontario's Indigenous workforce through business partnerships by offering internships to Indigenous persons.
- **Workforce Development Program**
 - Strengthening and developing Northern Ontario's workforce through business partnerships by offering internships.





People and Talent

Who is eligible?

Businesses, municipalities, Indigenous communities, and not-for-profit organizations located in Northern Ontario that have been in operation for at least one year and have minimum of one full-time employee.

What is eligible?

Salaries/wages and employer portion of Mandatory Employment Related Costs (MERCs) for a limited-term internship position of 52 weeks at 35 hours/week.

Funding

Funding Stream	Funding Type	Available Funding
Workforce Development Stream	Conditional Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Municipalities, Indigenous Communities, Non-profits</u>: 90% of intern's salary to a maximum of \$35,000<u>Businesses</u>: 50% of intern's salary to a maximum of \$35,000
Indigenous Workforce Development Stream (*Internship candidate identifies as an Indigenous person, including First Nation, Metis, or Inuit)	Conditional Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Municipalities, Indigenous Communities, Non-profits</u>: 90% of indigenous intern's salary to a maximum of \$35,000<u>Businesses</u>: 75% of Indigenous intern's salary to a maximum of \$52,500



Community Enhancement

The Community Enhancement Program is designed to help build strong and resilient Northern communities through infrastructure investments, to upgrade / repair existing assets to improve community quality of life, economic development infrastructure and strategic economic development initiatives.



Community Enhancement – Rural Enhancement

Support priorities of rural communities to contribute to healthy and strong communities.

Who is eligible?

Municipalities, Indigenous communities, not-for-profit organizations, and Local Services Boards located in Northern Ontario.

What is eligible?

Incremental improvements, repairs, and/or renovations to improve and extend the useful life of capital assets including; social and recreational facilities, municipal assets and community halls, that contribute to a healthy and vibrant community.

Funding

Funding Stream	Funding Type	Available Funding
Rural Enhancement Project For Indigenous communities or communities with a population <u>under</u> 1,500.	Conditional Contribution	90% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$200,000
Rural Enhancement Project For communities with a population <u>over</u> 1,500.	Conditional Contribution	75% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$500,000



Community Enhancement – Enhance Your Community

Supporting priorities of northern communities and organizations that contribute to a healthy and strong community.

Who is eligible?

Municipalities, Indigenous communities, not-for-profit organizations, and Local Services Boards located in Northern Ontario.

What is eligible?

Incremental improvements, repairs, and/or renovations to improve and extend the useful life of capital assets including; social and recreational facilities, municipal assets and community halls, that contribute to a healthy and vibrant community.

Funding

Funding Stream	Funding Type	Available Funding
Enhance Your Community	Conditional Contribution	The less of 50% of eligible costs <u>or</u> \$2 million



Community Enhancement – Strategic Initiative

Broadband and Cellular Expansion Projects

Addressing broadband gaps in northern Ontario by increasing connectivity for unserved or underserved areas.

Who is eligible?

Municipalities, municipal organizations, Indigenous Communities, and Community- based-networks or ICT community champions in Northern Ontario

What is eligible?

Projects that improve broadband and cellular coverage to areas with broadband download speeds of less than 25 megabits per second (mbps) and projects that expand cellular coverage along the Trans-Canada and King's Highways.

Funding

Funding Stream	Funding Type	Available Funding
Broadband and Cellular Expansion Projects	Conditional Contribution	50% of eligible costs up to a maximum of \$1 million dollars with a targeted funding of \$500 per dwelling (average) within the coverage area.

(1) Projects that deliver 50 mbps or greater will be considered up to \$1,500 per dwelling.

(2) To be eligible, have applied to and have been declined funding under other Ontario infrastructure programs, including the Improving Connectivity in Ontario (ICON) program administered by the Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI) and/or do not meet the eligibility requirements.



Cultural Supports

The Cultural Supports Program is designed to help showcase Northern Ontario culture, geography and talent through event partnerships and the production of films and television series.



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Who is eligible?

Municipalities, Indigenous communities, not-for-profit organizations, and Local Services Boards located in Northern Ontario for events and Canadian production companies for film and television.

What is eligible?

- New and recurring in-person or virtual community-based and/or tourism events that attract tourists (Event Partnership).
- Annual and/or recurring events that include new programming or activities and are anticipated to improve the quality and/or sustainability of the event (Event Partnership).
- Theatrical feature films, scripted television series, made-for-television movies and documentaries (Film and Television)

Funding Stream	Funding Type	Available Funding
Community Events	Conditional Contribution	Max \$15,000
Film & Television For communities with a population <u>over</u> 1,500.	Conditional Contribution	Tiered funding based on total production cost, up to \$2 million

Need Help? Get Help!



Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines Regional Economic Development Branch (REDB)

REDB works with northern communities, businesses and other stakeholders to identify economic development opportunities and to access government funding programs.

REDB is available to provide assistance to all NOHFC clients during the application process, and beyond. Call the area team closest to you to get help!

Area Team	Phone Number
Kenora Area Team	807-468-2937
North Bay - Sudbury Area Team	705-494-4045
Sault Ste. Marie Area Team	705-945-6698
Thunder Bay Area Team	807-475-1210
Timmins Area Team	705-235-1664