HELPING NUNAVUT INUIT ACCESS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES GUIDE 2 OF 3





**Qikiqtaaluk Business** Development Corporation Qikiqtaaluk Business Development Corporation (QBDC) was created to stimulate local, regional and territorial economic development opportunities. Creating partnerships and collaborating with communities, QBDC works to build prosperous, more self-sufficient communities by creating work and capacity building opportunities.

QBDC has developed two informational series to help Inuit businesses access government work and funding opportunities.

The first series is called *Helping Nunavut Inuit Access* Procurement Opportunities. This series answers questions and provides information and resources to help Inuit businesses find work opportunities with the government.

The second series is called Helping Nunavut Inuit Access Funding Opportunities. This series provides information to help Inuit access funding to help start or grow your business and to implement your projects.

The first series has four guides and the second series has three guides. All guides are available in Inuktitut and English.

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Indigenous Services Services aux Autochtones Canada



# **BUSINESS FUNDING**



Federal, territorial and Indigenous governments have many financial assistance programs for Indigenous and small businesses. These include support for things such as:



Starting up a new business



Wage subsidies for employees



Expanding a business



Training and capacity building

# TYPES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR BUSINESSES



#### FINANCING OR LOAN.

Money provided to a business that must be paid back over an established time period. It may be interest-free or may have interest.

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### **CONTRIBUTION OR FUNDING.**

Money provided to businesses that does not have to be paid back. Typically a contribution is a larger amount of money that has reporting requirements.

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#### GRANT.

Money provided to businesses that does not have to be paid back. Typically grants are a smaller dollar value.



### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Many financial assistance programs require a **business plan** as part of your application.

A **business plan** describes your business activities and objectives, and how business goals will be achieved. It is a roadmap for the business' marketing, financial, and operational activities.

# **HOW TO FIND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**



#### **BUSINESS BENEFITS FINDER**

Check the <u>Business Benefits Finder</u> website to search for financial assistance by filtering specific to your business needs.



#### INUIT ORGANIZATION FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Find information about business loan, grant and funding opportunities on Nunavut's Inuit Organizations' websites.

- NTI Makigiaqta
- Kakivak Association
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- <u>Kivalliq Inuit Association</u>



### GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Check Government of Nunavut departmental websites:

- Economic Development and Transportation
- Family Services
- Human Resources



### INUIT NUNANGAT PROCUREMENT PLATFORM

Sign up for the <u>Inuit Nunangat Procurement Platform</u> notifications of funding opportunities in Nunavut.



### NUNAVUT BUSINESS LENDERS

- <u>Nunavut Business Credit Corporation</u>
- First Nations Bank
- Atuqtuarvik Corporation
- Nunavut Business Services Centres Community Futures Organizations

# TIPS FOR APPLYING FOR FUNDING

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Be sure to read all program guidelines carefully and thoroughly. Read it multiple times and take note of important requirements. Triple check eligibility requirements to make sure you are eligible to apply for funding. Obey word count requirements when responding to application questions.

Be careful of word count versus character count.



If you have questions or need clarification on something, call or email the funder to ask questions well in advance of application deadlines.

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Be sure to submit your application on time.

If it is an online application it is good to submit a few days before the deadline in case you have technical issues.



Ensure you provide all the mandatory information and additional documentation required in the application.

Triple check you have submitted everything.

## **RESOURCES TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS**



There are many organizations in Nunavut that offer business support. They can guide you through preparing business plans and how to apply for funding assistance.

Some organizations that provide business support in Nunavut include:

- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Kivalliq Inuit Association
- Kakivak Association
- Government of Nunavut Department of Economic Development and Transportation
- <u>Nunavut Business Service Centre Community</u> <u>Futures Organizations</u>
  - <u>Baffin Business Development Corporation</u>
  - <u>Kitikmeot Community Futures Incorporation</u>
  - Kivalliq Business Development Centre



Regional Inuit Associations or their subsidiary companies have employees and programs dedicated to assisting Inuit business owners. Their staff are available to provide advice and assistance to start or expand your business.

Examples of assistance they can provide are:

- Finding funding programs tailored to your business
- Navigating the funding application process
- Developing a business plan
- General business advice



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