



Department of Environment

GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF HARVESTERS POLICY

PREAMBLE

The Government of Nunavut will provide support to individuals and recognized organizations which direct their efforts to enhancing the wise use of the harvestable resources in Nunavut.

PRINCIPLES

This policy is based on the following principles:

1. Renewable resource development is an important aspect of a balanced Nunavut economy.
2. Representative organizations make an important contribution to renewable resource management and development and the Government of Nunavut will support their activities within specified guidelines.
3. Support to individuals for renewable resource use activities will assist in maintaining traditional lifestyle options.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to those individuals and organizations eligible to receive financial assistance through grant and contribution programs of the Department of Environment.

DEFINITIONS

1. Hunters and Trappers Organization
Means the duly recognized and registered local organization representing the interests of hunters and trappers in an area, as described by the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement

2. Regional Wildlife Organization

Means the duly recognized and registered local organization representing the combined interests of Hunters and Trappers Organizations in a region, as described by the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

3. Grant

Means an unconditional transfer payment, made to a recipient, for which the Government will not receive any goods or services.

4. Contribution

Means a conditional transfer payment, made to a recipient, subject to audit, and for which the Government will not receive any goods or services.

5. Audit

Means the examination and verification of records and reporting thereon.

PROVISIONS

1. Authority and Accountability

(a) Minister

The Minister of Environment shall approve program provisions including, where applicable, the variation of accountability requirements for specific contributions.

(b) Financial Management Board

- (i) Approves an annual budget for the grants and contributions contained within this policy.
- (ii) May approve expenditures additional to those appropriated in the Main Estimates required to meet unplanned expenditure requirements.

(c) Deputy Minister

- (i) Responsible for the administration of this policy and related programs
- (ii) May approve financial adjustments between grants and contributions contained in Schedules A and B.
- (iii) Conducts periodic evaluations of the effectiveness of the policy in meeting stated objectives.

2. Eligibility

Eligibility is restricted to individuals or organizations as detailed in Schedules A and B.

a) Financial Conditions

The financial conditions as detailed in Schedules A and B shall apply.

b) General Conditions

The general conditions as detailed in Schedules A and B shall apply.

c) Prerogative of Executive Council

Nothing in this Directive shall in any way be construed to limit the prerogative of the Executive Council to make decisions or take action respecting grants and contributions outside the provisions of this Directive.

Schedule A-1 FUR PRICING PROGRAM

Eligibility

Residents of Nunavut who are land claim beneficiaries or holders of valid General Hunting or Trapping Licences are eligible for a minimum guaranteed price for prime fur according to the prime fur price schedule.

Review

The Department will review the price schedule for prime furs each year, subject to approval from the Financial Management Board.

Supporting Data

- 1) The Department will monitor the average price per prime pelt for selected furbearer species, as well as annual abundance of furbearer species and sustainable harvest limits.
- 2) Conservation Officers will collect supporting data on fur harvest from three sources:
 - a. Fur Dealers Records;
 - b. Returns from Fur Auction Houses; and
 - c. Receipts from private sales.

These data are forwarded to the Regional offices for final compiling.

Amount of Grant

Fur harvesters who market prime fur through the Department's Fur Marketing Service will receive a grant based on a minimum price per prime pelt for selected furbearer species. The minimum prime fur price schedule will be reviewed each fall. The fur price schedule will be determined by the Department of Environment taking into consideration the market value of prime pelts of each species, the abundance of each species, the harvest levels of each species, and fur harvester operating costs.

Fur harvesters who market their fur through private fur vendors will receive, upon proof of sale of a prime pelt, a fall payment based on the second installment of the prime fur price schedule.

Fur harvesters who market their non prime fur through private fur vendors will receive, upon proof of sale, a fall payment based on the fall subsidy identified for non prime fur in the price schedule.

Method of Payment

1) First Installment

Eligible harvesters who market prime fur through the Department of Environment Fur Marketing Service will be paid the first installment upon receipt of prime fur pelts.

2) Second Installment

Harvesters eligible for the second installment will receive payment during the fall following the sale of the fur.

Term

This is a continuing program.

Schedule A-2 HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS DISASTER COMPENSATION

Eligibility

Residents of Nunavut who hold General Hunting Licences or are land claim beneficiaries, and who are dependant on the harvesting of renewable resources for a significant portion of their income, may be eligible for compensation under this program.

Review

The Regional Manager of Environment will review and approve payments to harvesters. In the case of a disagreement with the assessment of a claim, the applicant may appeal to the Deputy Minister of Environment, whose decision shall be final.

Supporting Data

Affidavit of Loss and a completed application form.

Eligible Items

For damage or loss from natural disasters, maximum compensation to individual harvesters including their dependents shall not exceed \$10,000 per occurrence.

Method of Payment

A lump sum payment in accordance with the amount of compensation approved.

Term

This is a continuing program for losses or damage due to natural disasters.

Schedule A-3 HUMANE TRAP DEVELOPMENT

Eligibility

Residents of Nunavut who have developed a prototype of an acceptable humane trapping device, or who have developed improvements to existing trapping devices to make them more efficient and humane, may be eligible for financial support.

Review

Prototypes, diagrams, and new humane trapping devices or improvements to existing trapping devices will be submitted to the Trap Review Committee of the Fur Institute of Canada. If acceptable, a cash incentive will be paid to the inventor.

Supporting Data

Prototypes, diagrams, drawings plus a notarized statement confirming ownership of ideas and submitted materials.

Amount of Grant

To be established at the discretion of the Minister of Environment for each separate acceptable submission.

Method of Payment

Lump sum in the amount stipulated by the Minister of Environment.

Term

This will be a continuing program until efficient acceptable humane traps are developed.

Schedule B-1 HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ORGANIZATIONS (HTO'S)

Eligibility

All active Hunters and Trappers Organizations that are recognized by the Minister of Environment as representing the interests of hunters and trappers within Nunavut

Review

Where HTO funding is being administered by a board responsible for wildlife management through a land claim agreement, the board will review the activities of each association and recommend payment in accordance with the schedule below.

Where HTO funding is being administered by the Department of Environment, the Regional Manager of Environment will review the activities of each association and recommend payment in accordance with the schedule below.

Supporting Data

Each association shall make an annual application and provide sufficient information to determine eligibility for differing amounts as set out in the schedule below.

Amount of Contribution

The amount contributed to each association shall be in accordance with the following schedule:

Schedule

1. Each organization shall receive \$5000 in basic funding for administrative support.
2. Additional funds shall be contributed when the number of General Hunting Licenses in a community.
 - a. is between 50 and 100, \$2,000
 - b. is between 101 and 400, \$3,000
 - c. is greater than 400, \$4,000
3. Additional funds shall be contributed when the number of persons recorded as selling fur in the past fur year
 - a. is between 25 and 50 \$2,000
 - b. is between 51 and 125 \$3,000
 - c. is greater than 125 \$4,000
4. Additional funds may be contributed on the recommendation of the appropriate regional organization after review of a proposed work plan for the upcoming year to the maximum of \$7,000.

5. In the absence of a recognized regional organization, and where funds are being administered by a board responsible for wildlife management through a land claim agreement, the board will review proposed work plans.
6. In the absence of a recognized regional organization, and where funds are being administered by the Department of Environment, the Regional Manager of Environment will review proposed work plans.

Accountability Requirements

Each association must submit an annual report providing the names of the Board of Directors, a financial statement, and details of services provided to its members. Where a board or council is responsible for wildlife management through a land claim agreement, the report will be submitted to the board/council. Where the funds are being administered by the Department of Environment, the report will be submitted to the Regional Manager of Environment.

Method of Payment

Lump sum payment.

Term

This is a continuing program.

Year end Surpluses

The agency responsible for administering HTO funds may allow the recipient organization to retain unexpended contribution funding resulting from an increased efficiency or effectiveness, an inability to complete the project within the expected timeframe; or incompatibility between government and recipient fiscal years. Unexpended funding may only be used for the specific purposes or programs approved by the agency responsible for administering HTO funds.

Schedule B-2 COMMUNITY HARVESTERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Purpose

This program provides financial assistance to Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) for the purpose of assisting land claim beneficiaries or holders of General Hunting Licences who reside within the HTO's recognized area of jurisdiction in their endeavors to harvest.

Eligibility

All active Hunters and Trappers Organizations that are recognized by the Minister of Environment as representing the interest of hunters and trappers within Nunavut. In the absence of a recognized HTO the Minister may allocate assistance directly to land claim beneficiaries or holders of General Hunting Licences.

Review

The Regional Manager of Environment will review and recommend the application from a HTO.

Supporting Data

For initial applications, the following information must be presented:

- 1) community and area involved;
- 2) proof of consultation or acceptance of the application by the group involved; and
- 3) the number of resource harvesters involved.

Subsequent applications must include a statement of the disposition of previous funding and sufficient information to determine the basis for changed funding requirements.

Amount of Contribution

To be calculated based on the number of resource harvesters involved and demonstrated need.

Eligible Items

- 1) Fuel and Supplies
 - a. fuel for transportation of harvesters, supplies and equipment to harvesting areas or camps;
 - b. fuel for use during harvesting;
 - c. heating fuel during the winter heating period; and
 - d. supplies.

2) Capital Items

- a. dog teams of ten dogs: 100%
- b. long-track snow machines: 75%
- c. 4-wheeler ATV: *75%
- d. boat (includes aluminium or fiber glass yawl up to 20 feet) or canoe: *75%
- e. outboard motor, if it meets safety standards for boat/canoe: *75%
- f. lighting system, based on review of site location and area of operation (up to 2KVA if fuel operated motor; solar and wind systems OK): 75%
- g. traps up to \$1000 (approved traps only): 100%
- h. fish nets up to \$800 (maximum three per applicant): 100%
- i. seal nets up to \$1000 (maximum one per applicant): 100%
- j. transceiver radios with one channel and antenna, up to \$2200, if requested by and issued under control of HTO: 100%
- k. auxiliary equipment essential for proper harvesting operations (tents, toboggans, qamutik, stoves, chainsaws, remote controls, dog harnesses, axes, etc.): 100%
- l. mobile equipment repairs - parts and materials up to 25% of cost of new unit (no labour): 100%
- m. shelters above tree line up to \$10,000 (256 square feet material package): 100%
- n. freight where not limited above: 100%
- o. replacement of auxiliary equipment, with proof that it is no longer serviceable and requires replacement: 100%
- p. fifty percent of replacement cost of mobile equipment in third full season of use, up to \$2000 and where cost of repair exceeds \$2000 based on invoice price of unit purchased from local supplier

Accountability Requirements

Compliance with any previous Contribution Agreement is necessary for continued funding.

Method of Payment

A lump sum payment on approval of the application.

Term

This is a continuing program.

Year End Surpluses

The Department of Environment may allow the recipient to retain unexpended contribution funding.

Schedule B-3 REGIONAL WILDLIFE ORGANIZATIONS (RWOs)

Eligibility

All active Regional Wildlife Organizations that are recognized by the Minister of Environment as representing the interests of HTOs in their region.

Review

Where Regional Wildlife Organization funding is being administered by a board responsible for wildlife management through a land claim agreement, the board/council will review the organization's activities on an annual basis and recommend approval for payment of all or a portion of the organization's budget request.

Where RWO funding is being administered by the Department of Environment, the Regional Manager of Environment reviews the organization's activities on an annual basis and recommends approval for payment of, all or a portion of the organization's budget request.

Supporting Data

A financial report detailing the use of previous year funding and a detailed budget proposal is required. New organizations need to submit the budget proposal only.

Amount of Contribution

To be negotiated and determined based upon need and available budgets.

Accountability Requirements

- 1) Each RWO must submit an annual report providing the names of the Board of Directors, a financial statement, and details of services provided to its members.
- 2) Where Regional Wildlife Organization funding is being administered by a board responsible for wildlife management through a land claim agreement, the report will be submitted to the board.
- 3) Where the funds are being administered by the Department of Environment, the report will be submitted to the Regional Manager of Environment.
- 4) Where previous year contributions exceeded \$50,000 an audited financial statement is required.

Method of Payment

- 1) Where Regional Wildlife Organization funding is being administered by a board responsible for wildlife management through a land claim agreement, lump sum payments will be made upon execution of an agreement between the board and the Regional Organization.

- 2) Where the funds are being administered by the Department of Environment, lump sum payments will be made upon execution of an agreement between the Minister of Environment and the Regional Organization.

Term

This is a continuing program.

Year End Surpluses

The agency responsible for administering Regional Wildlife Organization funds may allow the recipient organization to retain unexpended contribution funding resulting from increased efficiency or effectiveness, an inability to complete the project within the expected time frame; or incompatibility between government and recipient fiscal years. Unexpended funding may only be used for the specific purposes or programs approved by the agency responsible for administering Regional Wildlife Organization funds.

Schedule B-4 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARDS

Eligibility

Boards which may be established by negotiation between the Minister of Environment and interested parties including neighboring jurisdictions, Canada and native organizations.

Review

Annual requests for funding will be reviewed by the Deputy Minister of Environment.

Supporting Data

Annual requests must be accompanied by a financial report for the previous year and a proposed budget for the next year. Compliance with appropriate contracts must be demonstrated.

Amount of Contribution

Each contribution will be negotiated separately and take into account factors such as the number of communities involved, distance between communities, frequency of meetings and size of the Board.

Accountability Requirements

Supporting data for continuing funding will include an audited financial statement of previous year funding.

Method of Payment

A contract will be negotiated with the Board and will stipulate terms of payment.

Schedule B-5 COMMUNITY ORGANIZED HUNTS

Eligibility

Hunters & Trappers Organizations on behalf of community residents of Nunavut who are land claim beneficiaries or holders of General Hunting Licences and are dependent upon caribou and who are incapable of gaining access to big game without financial assistance for transportation because of distances to herds, and/or adverse travel conditions are eligible.

Review

Conservation Officers accept applications from eligible organizations and make recommendations to the Regional Manager of Environment. The Regional Manager reviews the application and recommends payment of contributions.

Supporting Data

A project proposal describing the requested support.

Amount of Contribution

The level of financial assistance to communities who wish to participate in a community organized hunt will be based on the following:

- Availability of funds in regional budgets.
- Distances from the community to the big game populations.
- Methods of transportation available.
- Funds or services provided by the community.

Accountability Requirements

Recipients must agree to provide the following information:

- Distribution of funds
- Location of hunt
- Number of animals harvested
- Distribution of meat in the community
- Any other information requested

Method of Payment

Lump sum based on an approved application and consideration of previous history in this program.

Term

This is a continuing program.

Schedule B-6 SUPPORT TO THE FUR INDUSTRY

Eligibility

Organizations recognized by the Minister of Environment as having an interest in promotion of the fur industry.

Review

Annual requests for funding will be reviewed by the Deputy Minister.

Supporting Data

Annual solicitation of funds in letter from applicants; outlining the programs which the funding will support.

Amount of Contribution

A maximum of \$20,000 per organization.

Accountability Requirements

Supporting data for continuing funding will include a detailed accounting of the use of previous funding.

Method of Payment

Lump sum payment.

Term

This is a continuing program.