

# BC Rural Dividend

*Big opportunities for small communities.*



Ministry of  
Forest, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations

# BC Rural Dividend

*Big opportunities for small communities.*



Ministry of  
Forest, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations

## First Intake Funding

- Mostly completed by December 31

## Rural Dividend Second Intake

- Decisions and announcements immediately pending.

## Program Overview:

- \$25 million a year, for three years
- Provide benefits to rural communities -  
reinvigorate and diversify local  
economies, contribute to overall  
wellness and sustainability

## Eligible Applicants:

- Local Governments
  - Municipalities
  - Regional Districts
  - Unincorporated Areas
- First Nations
- Not-for-Profit Organizations

## Eligible Communities - NEW

- A community with a population of 25,000 or less
- Located outside of Metro Vancouver and the Capital Regional District
- An unincorporated area with a population of 25,000 people or less

## Source of Population Stats:

- BC Stats estimates for municipalities (2015)
- Stats Can for unincorporated areas (2011)

*Big opportunities for small communities.*

BC Rural  
Dividend

## Project Categories:

- Community Capacity Building
- Workforce Development
- Community and Economic Development
- Business Sector Development



## Funding Streams:

- **Project Development - Up to \$10,000**
  - Feasibility studies, business cases
  - Up to 100% of costs
- **Single Applicant - Up to \$100,000**
  - Up to 80% of costs
- **Partnerships - Up to \$500,000**
  - Up to 60% of costs

*Big opportunities for small communities.*

**BC Rural  
Dividend**

# Funding Formula Examples:

Funding Stream	Total Project Cost	Program Contribution	Applicant Contribution
Single Applicant	\$125,000	\$100,000 (80% total project cost and maximum amount)	\$25,000 (20% minimum; can include up to \$12,500 in-kind)
Partnership	\$833,333	\$500,000 (60% total project cost and maximum amount)	\$333,333 (40% minimum; can include up to \$83,333 in kind)



Ministry of  
Forest, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations

## Project Duration:

- Project limited to two years in duration
- Phased approach possible
- Preference for projects that are ready to start

## Infrastructure Projects - NEW

- Up to 25% of project costs
- Must directly link to economic development/diversification
- Not for traditional infrastructure

## Destination Trail Projects

- Special category due to high economic development potential
- Directly linked to economic development

## Online Application:

- Simple, easy to use interface
- Cannot submit unless complete, with mandatory attachments
- Cannot submit past deadline

## Resolution from Council/Board:

- Resolution supporting project is a requirement to apply
- Moved, seconded, date and phrasing of resolution

## Mandatory Documents:

- Financial Statements
- Articles of Incorporation (FN and Not-for-profit)
- Partner Letters
- Budget



## Financial Statements - NEW:

- Tiered depending upon funding request.
- Up to \$10,000 – internally prepared and signed by two board members
- \$10,000-100,000 – review engagement
- \$100,000-500,000 – audited financials

## Budget:

- Must use budget template provided
- Identify sources of applicant contribution
- Cannot use federal or provincial funds for applicant contribution
- Applicant contribution can include up to 10% in kind

## Eligible Costs:

- Reasonable estimates on costs are needed
- Reserve right to award a lower funding contribution
- List of eligible and ineligible costs in guide
- Costs incurred before application submission are ineligible

## Optional Supporting Documentation:

- Documents that strengthen your application
- Letters of Support – highly recommended
- Business plans, feasibility studies
- Community plans, economic development strategies

## Application Limit:

- Limit to one project development and one project application per intake
- No limitation on acting as a partner on other applicant's applications

## Selection Criteria:

- Listed in the Program Guide, including:
  - Strength of the project
  - Rural communities most in need
  - Capacity to deliver project
  - Anticipated benefit of project on community

## Phased Decision Making:

- Eligibility assessment
- Executive Review Committee
- Minister – final decision on project applications

## Second Intake:

- Project Development applications
  - Announcements Pending
- Project applications
  - Ministerial Review



*Big opportunities for small communities.*

BC Rural  
Dividend

## Program Office

- Telephone: 250-356-7950
- Email: [ruraldividend@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ruraldividend@gov.bc.ca)

## Program Website:

- [www.gov.bc.ca/ruraldividend](http://www.gov.bc.ca/ruraldividend)



Ministry of  
Forest, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations





*Big opportunities for small communities.*

**BC Rural  
Dividend**

SUPPORT  
GROWTH  
STRATEGIES  
SKILLS

M  
E  
N  
T  
O  
R  
S  
H  
I  
P



# Conclusion

# Questions?



Ministry of  
Forest, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations