



Canada Community- Building Fund

Program guidelines

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Canada Community-Building Fund Program Guidelines | Municipal Affairs
© 2024 Government of Alberta | August 27, 2024

Glossary

This section provides definitions and explanations of key terms frequently used throughout the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) program guidelines. The glossary aims to provide clarity and understanding, ensuring local governments have a common understanding of the terminology used in the context of the CCBF program requirements, grant application and/or reporting. Glossary terms used in the guidelines are hyperlinked to this section (only the first usage of a glossary term in a section or sub-section will show the hyperlink in blue, but all uses are hyperlinked).

Affordable Housing: A dwelling unit where the cost of shelter, including rent and utilities, is a maximum of 30 per cent of before-tax household income. The household income is defined as 80 per cent or less of the Area Median Household Income (AMHI) for the metropolitan area or rural region of the local government.

Application: A formal request submitted by a local government to obtain acceptance from the Minister to apply CCBF funding to a specific project(s) within an eligible project Category (e.g., Local Roads and Bridges, Recreational Infrastructure). It includes a description of the proposed asset(s), activities(s) and scope of work, estimated project costs, CCBF funding committed, other funding sources, estimated start and end dates, and geo-location to enable program staff to determine project eligibility. A project application can include activities that fall into more than one eligible project category. For example, a project may include the replacement of deep services, such as water and wastewater mains, as well as reconstruction of the road surface and adjacent sidewalks upon completion of the underground work.

Asset Management: A principle/practice that includes planning processes, approaches, plans, or related documents that support an integrated lifecycle approach to the effective stewardship of infrastructure assets in order to maximize benefits and effectively manage risk.

Audited Financial Statement: The document(s) required under Section 276 of the [Municipal Government Act](#). Each municipality must prepare annual financial statements for the immediately preceding year in accordance with the Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for municipal governments. Annual financial statements are due by May 1 of the year following the year the financial statements have been prepared.

Capital Plan: A plan that outlines the local government's planned five-year capital property additions, and allocated or anticipated funding sources as required under section 283.1 of the [Municipal Government Act](#) (and further defined in the [Municipal Corporate Planning Regulation](#)).

Financial Information Returns (FIR): The document required under sections 277 and 278 of the [Municipal Government Act](#) which requires municipalities to annually prepare a financial information return and send it, together with an auditor's report, to the Minister by May 1 of the following year.

Housing Needs Assessment (HNA): A report informed by data and research describing the current and future housing needs of a Local Government or community according to guidance provided by Canada.

Local Government: As per section 1 of the [Local Government Fiscal Framework Act](#), a local government is a municipal authority, a Metis Settlement, or the Townsite of Redwood Meadows Administration Society.

Metis Settlements: The eight communities governed by the [Metis Settlements Act](#), which includes Buffalo Lake, East Prairie, Elizabeth, Fishing Lake, Gift Lake, Kikino, Paddle Prairie, and Peavine Metis Settlements.

Municipality: A local government that is governed by the [Municipal Government Act](#). This includes the Special Areas Board and Improvement Districts. The term "municipality" is not inclusive of the Metis Settlements.

Outcome Indicator: Measurable information used to determine if a program is being implemented as expected and achieving its outcomes.

Primary Outcome: An outcome is a change expected as the result of a project. While a CCBF project may have many outcomes, the primary outcome is the principal change expected, or the main reason a project is undertaken.

Program Year: For municipalities this means January 1 to December 31, for Metis Settlements this means April 1 to March 31.

Project: Projects considered eligible include investments in infrastructure for construction, renewal, or material enhancement in each of the categories described in Appendix 1.

Project Amendment: At any time, local governments can submit an amendment to update estimated project costs, including funding sources (e.g., CCBF amount, municipal sources) on an accepted project to ensure Municipal Affairs has the most up to date information on projects. Applications are accepted based on “estimated costs” and as projects are tendered and/or costs are realized, changes to the CCBF funding amount may occur. A cash flow amendment ensures financial transparency for the actual costs, and provides a proactive risk management approach to address any over-commitments and/or budget shortfalls.

Restructured Municipalities: Municipalities that have undergone dissolutions (ceasing to operate or exist as a municipality and being absorbed by another municipality) or amalgamations (merging of two or more municipalities).

Resulting Capital Asset: The physical asset acquired or rehabilitated as a direct outcome or consequence of the project (e.g., kilometres of new roads built, square meters of the building upgraded).

Statement of Expenditures and Program Outcomes (SEPO): Annual reporting of financial (e.g., total project costs, CCBF funding applied) and non-financial information (e.g., project status, project outcomes, updated start dates).

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Canada Community-Building Fund

Program Guidelines

1. Introduction

The federal Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) provides predictable, long-term, stable funding for Canadian [municipalities](#) to help build and revitalize public infrastructure while creating jobs and long-term prosperity.

Additional information and support are also available from the CCBF program Grant Advisors (refer to [Section 14](#)) and on the [website](#).

2. Program Objective and Outcomes

Through the CCBF program, Canada and Alberta are helping communities to build and revitalize their public infrastructure that supports national objectives of productivity and economic growth, a clean environment, and strong communities.

Program outcomes related to the objectives of productivity and economic growth, clean environment, and strong communities will be achieved by funding infrastructure [projects](#) and other key activities at the local level, including [asset management](#). To measure progress towards the outcomes, [local governments](#) are required to report on project results (refer to [Section 11](#) for further information on outcomes reporting).

Local governments determine projects and activities to be funded by the CCBF based on local priorities, within the general qualification criteria set out in these guidelines.

The funding provided under this program is in addition to provincial grant funding programs, such as the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF), and non-grant funding of local government infrastructure. CCBF funding is intended to cover capital costs only and may not be used for maintenance costs, operating costs, debt reduction, or replacement of existing local government infrastructure expenditures.

3. Key Dates

Activity	Responsibility	Timeline
Project Application Submission	Local Government	Submit anytime throughout the year through the CCBF online portal.
Annual CCBF Allocation Commitment	Government of Alberta	After April 1 , following provincial budget approval.
Annual CCBF Allocation Payment	Government of Alberta	By approximately July 31 , following receipt of federal funding and after all payment conditions are met (refer to Section 10).
Statement of Expenditures and Project Outcomes (SEPO) Submission	Local Government	Due May 1 for municipalities . Due August 1 for Metis Settlements (refer to Section 11).
Project Recognition and Communication Requirements	Local Government	Ongoing . For media events and news releases, local governments must provide a minimum of 20 working days' notice (refer to Section 13).

4. Submission Method

CCBF [applications](#) and reporting must be submitted through the CCBF Online portal. The CCBF online portal is accessed by logging into www.maconnect.alberta.ca/MACConnect and clicking on the CCBF tile or by clicking on <https://www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund>, which will direct you to the login page.

CCBF training material and other resources are available on the CCBF Online resources page in the portal and on the program website at www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund.

Questions or requests to access CCBF can be directed to the contacts listed in [Section 14](#).

5. Funding Formula and Allocations

The annual program budget for the CCBF is subject to Canada advising Alberta of the yearly provincial funding.

[Local governments](#) will be advised of their annual CCBF funding allocations after Alberta's funding has been confirmed by Canada and individual funding allocations have been authorized by the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

CCBF funding is allocated to local governments annually on a per capita basis, according to the most recent Municipal Affairs Population List. Local governments receive a base allocation of \$50,000 per year, with the exception of summer villages which receive a base allocation of \$5,000 per year. All local governments will receive a per capita amount in addition to its base funding.

The annual allocations are available on the CCBF website at www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund.

5.a. Time Limit to Use Allocated Funds

To provide flexibility in scheduling capital [projects](#), and to accommodate larger projects requiring more than one year's grant allocation, funding allocated and not expended or committed in the year it was allocated may be carried forward to the next five subsequent years. Funds that are carried forward must be expended on an accepted project(s) before December 31 of the fifth subsequent year for [municipalities](#) (March 31 for [Metis Settlements](#)). This provides a total of six years in which to use allocated funding. For example, the 2024 allocation must be expended before December 31, 2029, for municipalities (March 31, 2030, for Metis Settlements). Time extensions will not be permitted.

Where a credit item has been recorded on an annual [SEPO](#), (see [Section 11](#)), the amount becomes part of the annual allocation for the year in which it is reported. Credit item amounts not expended or committed in the year they were reported may be carried forward to the next five subsequent years.

Where a local government intends to carry CCBF funding forward to a future dated project, [applications](#) for the eligible projects must be submitted to indicate how the funds will be utilized and to qualify for payment of future annual funding allocations (see [Section 8](#) and [Section 10](#)).

5.b. Restructured Municipalities

[Municipalities](#) that undergo restructuring will receive an allocation that is equivalent to the funding amount that would have been calculated for each individual municipality as if restructuring had not occurred. This calculation will apply in the year the restructuring occurred plus the five subsequent years.

If two or more municipalities amalgamate, the amalgamated municipality will receive CCBF funding equivalent to the amount that would have been allocated to the former municipalities as if the amalgamation had not taken place.

For example, if a municipality dissolved on July 1, 2025, the receiving municipality would receive the benefit of the CCBF allocation calculated as if the municipality had not dissolved for the next five years (i.e., 2026 through 2030). In addition, any unspent CCBF funding (based on the final 2025 [SEPO](#) reporting) from the dissolved municipality prior to July 1, 2025, would be transferred to the receiving municipality.

It is critical that the receiving municipality submits the dissolved municipality's [audited financial statements](#) to Municipal Affairs to ensure the correct unspent funding is transferred to the receiving municipality. In addition, all CCBF projects must be marked as completed/fully funded on the final SEPO for the dissolved municipality.

6. Eligible Applicants

An eligible applicant includes any city, town, village, summer village, specialized municipality, municipal district, [Metis Settlement](#), the Special Areas Board, the Townsite of Redwood Meadows Administration Society, and those Improvement Districts that have populations according to the latest Municipal Affairs Population List and report tangible capital assets.

Eligible applicants may contribute funds to other eligible entities for eligible CCBF [projects](#) that provide a municipal service or benefit and do not limit public access.

Eligible entities include:

- non-profit organizations, as defined in section 241 of the [Municipal Government Act](#), (e.g., a society);
- regional services commissions established under Part 15.1 of the [Municipal Government Act](#); and

- controlled corporations as defined in section 75.1 of the [Municipal Government Act](#).

When contributing CCBF funding to a non-profit organization and/or other eligible entities, the [local government](#) remains responsible for all CCBF conditions and obligations that would apply if the local government was completing the project, including the need to report on project expenditures and outcomes. It is recommended the local government enter into a binding legal agreement with the recipient to protect its interests. The local government remains responsible for all uses of the funding.

7. Asset Management

An [asset management](#) plan provides a structured and comprehensive approach to effectively manage the [local government's](#) assets, establishes longer term financing needs, optimizes asset lifecycles, and regularly schedules maintenance, rehabilitation and replacement work for the long-term sustainability of its assets. Asset management plans should include:

- a comprehensive description of asset portfolios;
- current level of service performance for each asset and desired level of performance;
- asset risk and strategic risks;
- anticipated capital [projects](#) required to deliver service and mitigate risks;
- asset valuation such as current and projected replacement costs and funding needs;
- consequences of not following the plan; and
- timelines for major projects.

When asset management practices are adhered to, residents and businesses in Alberta communities experience improved and more reliable municipal services. These asset management practices can offer various advantages to local governments, including:

- helping to decide what infrastructure needs to be replaced or renewed and the appropriate timing for doing so;
- determining the appropriate amount to save for future infrastructure renewal;
- improving economic sustainability by lowering service delivery costs;
- evaluating and communicating trade-offs between service, cost, and risk management;
- providing a defensible way of prioritizing projects and allocating resources;
- enhancing transparency with the public and fostering greater public confidence in municipal government; and
- maximizing the value of infrastructure investments over the long-term.

Asset management planning and implementation is essential to supporting local municipal infrastructure, and the long-term outcomes of the CCBF program. While an asset management plan is not required to receive CCBF funding, the adoption of asset management strategies, plans, and activities by local governments of every size and type is encouraged to ensure their infrastructure investments are made in the best way possible. This proactive approach ensures optimal utilization of local infrastructure and maximizes the effectiveness of CCBF expenditures. Local governments are also encouraged to participate in various asset management initiatives conducted and/or supported by Alberta to ensure that CCBF funds are supporting full lifespan infrastructure. This includes items such as the annual Asset Management Survey and the development of individual Local Government Asset Management plans and strategies.

To ensure [municipalities](#) have basic asset management practices in place, the [Municipal Government Act](#) requires local governments to prepare a [Capital Plan](#) identifying their anticipated capital property additions and funding sources for a minimum of five years. Although this requirement does not specify how each local government will determine the projects to be included in this plan, it does imply that appropriate asset management processes will be used to ensure that the resulting plan adequately reflects local infrastructure pressures and needs.

The Government of Alberta's approach to asset management is available at www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund. Additional information about asset management is available on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities asset management [web page](#), including the Asset Management Toolkit and Handbook, which provides technical resources for asset management at various levels of complexity.

8. Applications

CCBF [applications](#) must include sufficient information to determine [project](#) eligibility, including a description of the proposed asset(s); activities; scope of work; location; estimated project costs and funding source; and estimated start and end date.

8.a. Project Eligibility

Eligible [projects](#) must fall into a project category listed and defined in Appendix 1.

Eligible projects are those associated with: the acquiring, planning, designing, constructing, or renovating of a tangible capital asset, or completing work to extend the life of an asset; the strengthening of the ability of [local governments](#) to improve local and regional planning and [asset management](#). Additional information on eligible and ineligible project costs is provided in Appendices 2 and 3.

In addition, projects submitted should have an end-date of no more than five years after the [application](#) is submitted, meaning the local government would have up to five years to complete the project. Larger projects that are not planned to be completed within five years should be submitted in phases.

8.b. Project Applications

[Local governments](#) must submit an [application](#) for each [project](#) proposed under the program. Applications can be submitted at any time through the CCBF online system. The application must be certified by the Chief Administrative Officer or a delegated authority. This certification confirms that the provided information is accurate and adheres to the program guidelines and funding agreements.

The objective of the application is to provide information regarding the proposed project such as location, project functions, primary accomplishments, an estimate of the total project cost, estimate of CCBF funding to be used, and anticipated project start and end dates.

The estimated total project costs should reflect the total value of the project. Where other sources of funding (local government, provincial, or other federal) will be used, in addition to the CCBF funding, estimates of this additional funding should be included in the total project cost estimate.

Where an accepted project includes proposed expenditures in more than one year, the subsequent years' expenditures are also accepted.

Where a project changes materially (change in cash flow, timing etc.), the local government will be required to submit a [project amendment](#) identifying the changes that are being requested for further approval. Where a local government decides to add a new project or re-direct funding from an accepted project to a new project, it must submit a new project application for review.

A local government may proceed with a project, to be funded wholly or partially from its CCBF allocation(s), prior to receiving notification of acceptance if it believes that the project will be eligible under these guidelines. However, should the project be deemed ineligible, the local government will be responsible for bearing the cost of the project and must apply the CCBF funding to a different eligible project.

A CCBF Online user guide is available on the Municipal Affairs CCBF [website](#) to assist local governments in entering project information.

8.c. Withdrawal

[Local governments](#) can exercise the option to withdraw an accepted [project](#), provided that no CCBF funds have been claimed against the project. If this condition has been met, the project can be withdrawn on the [SEPO](#).

8.d. Maximum Project Commitment Limit

A [local government](#) has the flexibility to commit its future CCBF allocations, including credit items, to eligible [projects](#) prior to receiving its annual allocation.

Should these commitments notably surpass the local government's projected future anticipated annual allocations, a Grant Advisor may contact the local government for a more in-depth evaluation of those applications to mitigate the risk of over-

committing grant funding and resource misallocation. Local governments may be required to reduce their CCBF commitments prior to the department recommending them for acceptance by the Minister.

8.e. Joint Projects

[Projects](#) that involve funding from more than one [local government](#) should identify all contributing parties in the project description of the [application](#). Each local government must submit a project application for its own portion of the project costs being funded through the CCBF. The local government that is directly responsible for the project should include the total project costs, listing the contributions of the other local government(s) in the “Municipal Sources” project section. The other contributing local government(s) should include only its portion/contribution of these costs.

9. Project Management

9.a. Provincial Standards

CCBF-funded [projects](#) undertaken by [local governments](#) must comply with provincially regulated standards. For example, CCBF-funded projects involving regional water and wastewater systems should appropriately align with the [Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act](#).

Where a CCBF project impacts a highway under provincial jurisdiction, the local government must enter into a separate agreement with Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors to carry out the work and/or receive permission to access the highway right-of-way. Grant Advisors may request confirmation from the local government of the agreement with Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors.

9.b. Requirements for Awards of Contracts

All calls for proposals or tenders for [projects](#) to be funded under the CCBF must be carried out in accordance with the rules, regulations, and laws governing such activities and in accordance with the best current practices. They must also be advertised in accordance with the guidelines of the [Canadian Free Trade Agreement](#) (CFTA) and the [New West Partnership Trade Agreement](#) (NWPTA).

The [local government](#) may award contracts for planning, design, engineering, and architectural services for a municipal capital project based on best overall value consistent with the local government’s policies. The local government may award contracts for the construction or purchase of a municipal capital project by public tender based on either unit prices or lump sum amounts. The CCBF program does not require local governments to award projects to the lowest tender and does not prohibit them from using a process that qualifies suppliers prior to the close of call for tenders where the process is consistent with the CFTA and NWPTA, as long as the tender selected is the best value.

9.c. Use of Municipal Forces

Where a [local government](#) has been unable to secure an appropriate or cost-effective private sector response to a proposal or tender for a capital [project](#), or anticipates that it will be able to carry out the project in a more efficient or cost-effective basis, project costs can include the cost of municipal forces (staff and equipment) used to carry it out. Costs can include all labour costs, including benefits, attributable to work carried out on and off-site. Labour costs associated with general municipal administration are excluded.

If the local government chooses to use local government forces, it must declare the intent to use local government forces on the project [application](#).

9.d. Use of Other Provincial and Federal Grants

Under the CCBF, use of multiple grant funding sources for a CCBF [project](#) is permitted; the [local government](#) is responsible to understand and ensure compliance with the separate requirements of each grant program.

CCBF funds may be used to fund the local government portion of provincial grant programs that require a local government contribution, unless doing so is prohibited by that program. For example, if a local government is supporting construction of a water infrastructure project for \$1,000,000 and is receiving Water for Life funding of \$750,000, CCBF funding may be used to fund the remaining \$250,000.

CCBF funds are treated as federal funds with respect to other federal infrastructure programs. As such, CCBF funds may not be used to fund the local government or provincial contribution of federal grant programs that require a local government and/or provincial contribution, unless doing so is explicitly permitted by that program.

More information about the requirements of other provincial grant programs can be found on the [Municipal Affairs Grants Portal](#).

10. Payments

CCBF payments are based on annual allocation amounts. Payment of [local government](#) CCBF allocations is contingent on confirmation from Canada of Alberta's total CCBF allocation and legislative approval of the provincial budget. Local government CCBF payments are conditional on meeting the following requirements:

- Execution of the CCBF Memorandum of Agreement (MOA): the local government has submitted the executed MOA.
- [Application](#) Commitment(s): Submission of sufficient applications that commit all CCBF funding allocated to date including credit items.
- Certification of the [SEPO](#): Certification of the previous year's financial and outcomes reporting.

For payments after 2024, local governments with a 2021 federal census population of 30,000 or more must also meet the following conditions:

- submission of a [Housing Needs Assessment](#) (HNA);
- submission of the previous [program year](#) Housing Outcomes Report; and
- certification of all previous program year Housing Outcomes Reports.

HNAs must be resubmitted every five years.

11. Reporting

All [local governments](#) are required to annually submit a Statement of Expenditures and Project Outcomes that reports on the previous year's expenditures and outcomes. Local governments with populations over 30,000 will also have to provide reporting on housing outcomes.

11.a. Statement of Expenditures and Project Outcomes (SEPO)

All [local governments](#) are required to annually submit a [SEPO](#) that reports on the previous year's expenditures and outcomes.

[Municipalities](#) are required to submit a SEPO by May 1 of each year to align with their financial year end of December 31 (e.g., the 2024 SEPO is due by May 1, 2025). [Metis Settlements](#) are required to submit their SEPO by August 1 of each year, to align with their financial year end of March 31 (e.g., the 2024 SEPO is due by August 1, 2025).

In instances where a municipality dissolves in the middle of the [program year](#) (e.g., a municipality dissolves into another municipality on July 1), the receiving municipality must submit a SEPO for both itself and the dissolved municipality by May 1 of the following year.

The SEPO consists of two parts: financial reporting and outcomes reporting.

The financial report captures the following information:

- the CCBF carry-forward amount from the previous year (which includes any unpaid allocations);
- grant allocation for the reporting year, whether or not it was received;
- credit items earned in reporting year;
- all active [projects](#), and those projects completed in the reporting year, including the project name, status, reporting year expenditure, and funding sources;
- the total CCBF expended in the reporting year; and
- CCBF funds to be carried forward to the opening balance in the next program year.

On an annual basis, Municipal Affairs will compare the SEPOs against the [municipality's audited financial statements](#) to ensure financial alignment with their CCBF reporting. [Metis Settlements](#) are also required to submit audited financial statements under the CCBF for the same purpose. If discrepancies are noted, Grant Advisors will work with the local government to determine the nature of the discrepancy and/or determine next steps (if applicable).

The outcome report captures the following information for completed projects only:

- the project's eligible project category and name;

- the project output(s), consisting of the [resulting capital asset\(s\)](#) (e.g., roads) and the actual quantity upgraded and/or constructed (e.g., # of lane km);
- the project's [primary outcome](#) (e.g., increased service life of a road) and [outcome indicator](#) (e.g., number of years the road service life has been increased); and
- the asset condition after upgrades.

Examples of CCBF outcomes and indicators can be found in Appendix 4. Outcome information is collected on completed projects to satisfy several requirements, including but not limited to program accountability and reporting to the federal government.

SEPOs are generated in the CCBF Online system, in which the local government will report project expenditures and outcomes and submit them electronically (no hard copy is required to be submitted).

All supporting documentation such as reports, drawings, and invoices for each project must be retained by the local government for a minimum of six years following completion of the project. The SEPO may be subject to a review by the provincial Auditor General.

11.b. Reset of Certified SEPO

[SEPO](#) resets (reversing a SEPO from *Certified* status) will be permitted in order to make corrections to individual [project](#) status indicators or to CCBF expenditures, to ensure SEPO reporting aligns with the [local government's audited financial statements](#). SEPO resets will not be permitted to reverse a CCBF expenditure for the purpose of replacing the CCBF funding for the expenditure to an alternative funding source, including other provincial or federal grant programs, local funding, or grant programs available through non-government organizations (i.e., Federation of Canadian Municipalities, etc.). It is strongly recommended that the audited financial statements break down the deferred revenue by specific grants to reduce any unforeseen administrative burden on the local government. If the financial statements are submitted late, the SEPO certification and allocation payment will be delayed.

11.c. Credit Items

Funds available under the CCBF program are not provided for the purpose of generating investment income. However, recognizing that any CCBF funds held in a financial institution may earn some investment income, that income must be reported on the [SEPO](#) and will become part of the total CCBF funding available. These funds must be used towards eligible costs on CCBF approved [projects](#).

In addition to investment income earned, other credit items must be reported on the SEPO, if these credit items were realized within five years of completion of the CCBF-funded project. Examples of credit items include:

- net proceeds or market value (whatever is greater) to a maximum of the grant applied, from the sale or trade-in of capital assets purchased with CCBF funds; and
- net proceeds from an insurance claim on capital assets purchased, constructed, or improved with CCBF funds.

[Local governments](#) must maintain a distinct bank account for CCBF funding received in advance of paying eligible project expenditures and maintain separate accounting records for the grant funds.

The amount of income earned on grant funds may be calculated by one of two methods:

- actual income earned on the funds being held; or
- notional income earned on the funds. This can be calculated by multiplying the average CCBF funding balance by the number of months the grant funds were held in an account, by the average annual interest rate for those months.
 - For example: If a local government has a carry forward amount of \$100,000 held in an interest-bearing account for a period of eight months with an annual interest rate of five per cent, the credit item amount reported should be \$3,333 (e.g., \$100,000 X 8/12 X 5 per cent).

11.d. Housing Reports

All communities with a 2021 federal census population of 30,000 or more must complete a [Housing Needs Assessment](#) (HNA), publish the HNA on its website, and email the link to ma.ccbfgrants@gov.ab.ca by March 15, 2025. Templates and instructions for completing an HNA are available at <https://housing-infrastructure.canada.ca/housing-logement/hna-ebml/index-eng.html>. [Municipalities](#) required to complete an HNA are encouraged to request a pre-populated template from hna.secretariat-secretariat.ebml@inf.gc.ca.

[Local governments](#) that have completed HNAs after April 1, 2019, can submit their existing HNA. However, any gaps between the existing HNA and the federal template are expected to be addressed. If the existing HNA does not meet the requirements, the local government must prepare and submit the additional information to ma.ccbfgrants@gov.ab.ca by March 15, 2025.

Local governments meeting the above criteria are required to submit [project](#)-level data on housing outcomes by May 1 annually. The housing outcomes report will include the following core indicators, as relevant to each investment category:

- # of housing units enabled; and
- # of [affordable housing](#) units enabled or preserved.

12. Project Eligibility Restrictions

12.a. Purpose

In exceptional instances, [local governments](#) experiencing viability and infrastructure challenges may be subject to CCBF [project](#) eligibility restrictions. These restrictions aim to prioritize the resolution of critical infrastructure needs over less pressing projects. Specifically, in these cases, project eligibility in these communities will be restricted to core infrastructure only. This will ensure that provincial grant funding targets critical infrastructure first, while maintaining local autonomy to determine which specific core assets to support through the CCBF.

For this purpose, core infrastructure is defined as capital assets related to:

- local roads and bridges;
- drinking water;
- wastewater;
- resilience;
- capacity building; and
- fire halls.

Local governments under these restrictions can seek permission from the Minister to spend CCBF allocations on non-core infrastructure in only exceptional circumstances.

If local governments under these restrictions need to make [amendments](#) to accepted project(s), those amendments will be subject to a higher degree of scrutiny to ensure the local government continues to focus on core infrastructure.

12.b. Measures Used

Annually, [local governments](#) submit data on a variety of infrastructure and financial matters to Municipal Affairs through their [audited financial statements](#) and [Financial Information Returns](#). Utilizing this data, Municipal Affairs has established two measures for assessing when [project](#) eligibility restrictions would be applied.

Local governments will be recognized as having viability and infrastructure management challenges if both of the following measures are triggered in three consecutive prior years:

1. Investment in Infrastructure Ratio – triggered when the indicator falls below 1.0; and
2. Capital Grants as Percentage of Investment in Infrastructure – triggered when the indicator is above 0.8.

1. Investment in Infrastructure Ratio

The total cost of annual additions to tangible capital assets relative to the annual amortization on all tangible capital assets, measured as a five-year average. A ratio of 1.0 means that replacement of existing tangible capital assets and investment in new assets occurs at the same rate as the estimated wear or obsolescence of existing capital assets. The indicator is calculated based on data submitted annually through audited financial statements and/or Financial Information Returns. More information on the Investment in Infrastructure indicator can be found on Alberta's [municipal indicators webpage](#).

2. Capital Grants as Percentage of Investment in Infrastructure Ratio

Amount of annual capital funding allocated under the Municipal Sustainability Initiative/LGFF and CCBF relative to total cost of annual additions to tangible capital assets, measured as a five-year average. A ratio of more than 0.8 means that the local government relies heavily on provincial and federal allocation-based grants to fund its infrastructure investments. The indicator is calculated based on data submitted annually through the audited financial statements and/or Financial Information Returns.

12.c. Warning Process

Starting in 2024, Municipal Affairs began assessing each [local government's](#) Investment in Infrastructure ratio and Capital Grants as Percentage of Investment in Infrastructure ratio for the period of three prior years. Those with an investment ratio less than 1.0 and Capital Grants ratio higher than 0.8 in each of the three years were advised by the Minister that they are at risk of having eligibility restrictions placed on their LGFF expenditures if both indicators are also triggered in the subsequent year, and the local government is not able to demonstrate to the Minister that its core infrastructure is in good condition.

Beginning in 2025, this process will be implemented for CCBF funding and will occur on an annual basis, and will take place in late summer/early fall.

After a warning is issued, the local government will have the opportunity to demonstrate the state of its core infrastructure through submission of an asset condition assessment. The warning will be revoked if the assessment indicates that core infrastructure is in good condition. If the core infrastructure condition is not known at that time, the local government can make the decision to evaluate its infrastructure as part of an [asset management](#) plan, an activity that is eligible under the CCBF.

There may be exceptional or extenuating circumstances for the local government that result in a warning not being necessary.

12.d. Placing and Removing Restrictions

[Local governments](#) that receive a warning indicating that they are at risk of having eligibility restrictions placed, whose assets are in poor or unknown condition, and whose Investment in Infrastructure ratio continues to be less than 1.0 and Capital Grants ratio continues to exceed 0.8 in the following year, will be subject to [project](#) eligibility restrictions.

This means that once the restrictions are in effect, new projects will be accepted only if they pertain to core infrastructure.

Project eligibility restrictions will be in place until at least one of the two ratios is at the required level for a minimum of three consecutive years following the year the restrictions were imposed, or until the local government is able to demonstrate that its core infrastructure is in good condition, whichever is earlier.

Example

In fall 2024, the [municipality](#) of Sampleford receives a warning that it is at risk of having project eligibility restrictions imposed because its Investment in Infrastructure ratio was below 1.0 and its Capital Grants ratio was over 0.8 in three prior consecutive years. Sampleford does not have an up-to-date asset condition assessment report and is unable to demonstrate that its core infrastructure is in good condition.

In fall 2025, Municipal Affairs confirms that both ratios are outside of the required levels and Sampleford is advised that no new projects requesting CCBF funding will be accepted, unless they support core infrastructure defined in [Section 12.a](#). These restrictions do not impact Sampleford's ongoing public works building project that has been previously accepted for CCBF funding.

Sampleford remains subject to project eligibility restrictions until 2029, at which time three consecutive years have passed when one or both of the ratios have met or exceeded the required thresholds. Once the restrictions are lifted in fall 2029, Sampleford regains flexibility to apply CCBF funding to non-core infrastructure projects, subject to all other program conditions.

Municipality of Sampleford					
Program Year	FIR Data Year	Investment in Infrastructure	Capital Grants as % of Infrastructure Investment		
--	2021	0.95	0.85	Fall 2024: Warning is issued	
--	2022	0.90	0.90		
				Fall 2025: Eligibility restrictions placed	

2024	2023	0.85	0.95
2025	2024	0.90	0.85
Project Eligibility Restricted to Core Infrastructure for a Minimum of 3 Years			
2026	2025	0.95	0.95
2027	2026	1.05	0.90
2028	2027	1.00	0.80
2029	2028	0.95	0.75

13. Project Recognition and Communication Requirements

[Local governments](#) are required to recognize the CCBF through installation of federal signs and/or hosting of events according to the guidelines below and all communications activities must follow a joint Alberta-Canada communications approach.

The federal government may select specific [projects](#) that merit public recognition through installation of signs, media events, or other communication activities. Local governments with such selected projects will be contacted by Alberta Municipal Affairs.

13.a. Signs

Placing signs at construction sites is a long-standing practice to communicate key project details to the public. Albertans can easily recognize where infrastructure investments are being made in their communities and the benefits of those investments through [project](#) signage.

Government of Canada and Government of Alberta (if provincial funding sources are being used) signage for high visibility projects is generally required on CCBF-funded capital projects. In some instances, an interior sign placed in a lobby or a sign installed in a community gathering place may be a good alternative to an exterior sign.

There may be some instances in which a sign is not required, such as for a project of short duration (i.e., under seven days), if it represents a modest investment in relation to the total CCBF received or is located in a remote area where signage would not be visible to the public. The [local government](#) should seek guidance from a Grant Advisor if unsure whether a sign should be erected in relation to its proposed project.

For questions related to whether local governments are to use unilingual or bilingual signs, please refer to the table on the last page of the Infrastructure Project Sign Design and Installation Guidelines on the CCBF website at <https://www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund>.

Canada has also provided specifications for digital sign options. The cost of the sign is an eligible expense under CCBF.

If you have any questions on signage requirements for your project or require additional technical information or other guidance, please contact a Grant Advisor at 780-422-7125 or email ma.ccbfgrants@gov.ab.ca. The Infrastructure Project Sign Design and Installation Guidelines can be accessed on the CCBF website at <https://www.alberta.ca/canada-community-building-fund>.

13.b. Media Events and Other Communications Activities

[Local governments](#) may choose to highlight CCBF-funded [projects](#) by publicizing the projects (e.g., council minutes, annual reports, local media) and by celebrating key project milestones through media events, including news conferences, news releases, public announcements, and official ceremonies.

Local governments should provide the federal and provincial governments opportunities to be represented at any media events, including news conferences, public announcements, and official ceremonies, that celebrate the key milestones for CCBF funded projects.

Media events for CCBF-funded projects may not occur without prior knowledge and agreement of the federal and provincial governments. If the local government decides to hold a media event, it must provide a minimum of 20 working days' notice to Alberta Municipal Affairs by emailing ma.ccbfgrants@gov.ab.ca. Alberta Municipal Affairs Communications will then make arrangements with the federal government.

If communication is proposed through the issuing of a news release with no supporting event, local governments must provide at least 20 working days' notice of their intent to issue a news release, and five working days with the draft news release to secure approvals and confirm the federal and provincial representatives' quotes.

To discuss project recognition options or communications requirements, please call Municipal Affairs at 780-422-7125, toll free by first dialing 310-0000, or email ma.ccbfgrants@gov.ab.ca.

If the notice of the media event is not provided within the specified timeframes, the province may require the media event to be rescheduled.

13.c. Digital Communications, Websites, and Webpages

Where a website or webpage is created to promote or communicate progress on an eligible [project\(s\)](#), it must recognize federal funding through the use of a digital sign or through the use of the Canada wordmark and the following wording, "This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada" or "This project is funded by the Government of Canada," as applicable. The Canada wordmark or digital sign must link to Canada's website, at www.infrastructure.gc.ca. The guidelines for how this recognition is to appear and language requirements are published on Canada's website, at <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/pub/signage-panneaux/intro-eng.html>

Where a [local government](#) produces social media content to provide visibility to CCBF projects, it must @mention the relevant Infrastructure Canada official social media account and Government of Alberta social media account(s), as applicable.

13.d. Other Communications Activities

[Local governments](#) may carry out, at their own cost, advertising and public information campaigns related to the CCBF program and CCBF funded [projects](#). Where such a campaign is to be carried out, the local government must inform Alberta Municipal Affairs at minimum 30 working days prior to the campaign launch.

Local governments may also install, at their own cost, permanent plaques for projects that are partially or fully funded through CCBF. If the local government decides to install a permanent plaque, the plaque must recognize the federal contribution and be approved by Canada. The local government must contact Alberta Municipal Affairs, which will work directly with the federal government to obtain plaque approval.

To discuss project recognition options or communications requirements, please call Municipal Affairs at 780-422-7125, toll free by first dialing 310-0000, or email ma.ccbfgrants@gov.ab.ca.

14. Contacting the CCBF Program

To contact the Canada Community-Building Fund program Grant Advisors, please contact:

Phone: [780-422-7125](tel:780-422-7125)

Toll free: [310-0000](tel:310-0000) before the phone number (in Alberta)

Email: ma.ccbfgrants@gov.ab.ca

Hours: 8:15 am to 4:30 pm (open Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays)

For a pre-populated HNA ([local governments](#) with populations over 30,000 only): hna.secretariat-secretariat.ebml@inf.gc.ca

For information on accessing the CCBF online portal, please contact:

Phone: [780-644-2413](tel:780-644-2413)

Toll free: [310-0000](tel:310-0000) before the phone number (in Alberta)

Email: ma.ccbfonlineaccess@gov.ab.ca

Hours: 8:15 am to 4:30 pm (open Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays)

Appendix 1: Eligible Project Categories

The following section categorizes the general types of capital [projects](#) that are eligible for CCBF funding. Eligible expenditures related to these categories are defined in Appendix 2.

1.a) Local Roads and Bridges

- Roadways, bridges, and related structures
- Railway or Light Rail Transit (LRT) grade separations and roadway crossings
- Other ancillary works such as sidewalks, commuter bikeways, lighting and energy efficient retrofitting, traffic control signals, pedestrian signals, storm drainage, and utility relocations (utility relocation costs are eligible only as part of a qualifying project)
- Traffic management projects such as major intersection improvements, major traffic signal coordination, etc.
- Noise attenuation devices as a part of a qualifying project, and rehabilitation of existing noise attenuation devices on qualifying roadways or transit ways, consistent with the [local government's](#) noise attenuation policy
- Pedestrian trail systems along roadways

1.b) Highways

- Highway infrastructure
- Railway crossings
- Other ancillary works such as lighting, traffic control signals, pedestrian signals

1.c) Short-sea Shipping

- Shipping terminals or other related infrastructure

1.d) Short-line Rail

- Railway construction or rehabilitation
- Buildings or other related infrastructure

1.e) Regional and Local Airports

- Primary runway, cross-wind runways, secondary runways and taxiways, and runway extensions
- Aprons
- Primary taxiway from main/terminal apron to runway
- Airport buildings, including terminals and storage areas/sheds
- Development areas, access roads, fencing, and drainage
- Lighting and navigation equipment

Note: category excludes infrastructure that is part of the National Airport System

1.f) Broadband Connectivity

- Network connectivity infrastructure, including high-speed backbone networks, fiber optic cables, and transmitting towers
- Servers and server applications
- Data storage infrastructure
- Local distribution networks
- Satellite capacity infrastructure

1.g) Public Transit

- LRT lines, station structures, park and ride facilities, and LRT maintenance facilities. LRT lines must be designated in the [local government's](#) transportation system bylaw.

- Major public transit terminals and transit garages
- Public transit vehicles, LRT vehicles, "low-floor" standard buses, "low-floor" articulated buses, and accessible community public transit vehicles as well as specialized transit vehicles for seniors and/or persons with disabilities
- Comprehensive transit-stop retrofit programs to achieve a "barrier free path of travel" to accessible transit services
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) in support of public transit services

1.h) Drinking Water

- Water treatment facilities
- Water quality management and monitoring systems (e.g., SCADA system)
- Water pumping facilities
- Treated-water supply lines, storage facilities, and related works
- Water distribution system extensions (including to and within new subdivisions), betterment, and replacements, including individual services to the property line and locally owned water meters

1.i) Wastewater

- Wastewater collection system extensions (including to and within new subdivisions), betterment, and replacements, including service mains to the property line
- Wastewater pumping facilities and lift stations
- Wastewater lines from the collection system to the wastewater treatment facilities
- Wastewater treatment facilities
- Wastewater outfalls from the wastewater treatment facilities to the point of discharge or disposal and related works

1.j) Solid Waste

- Waste collection depots
- Solid waste and recycling collection container systems (only eligible if part of the construction of a waste collection depot)
- Recycling and material recovery facilities
- Organics management systems
- Thermal treatment systems
- Waste disposal landfills

1.k) Community Energy Systems

- Building retrofits that serve to improve the energy efficiency of current operations, for example:
 - Architectural retrofits that reduce heat transfer (gain or loss) through building components (e.g., walls, roofs, doors, and windows)
 - Modifying or upgrading Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning systems (HVAC) to newer, more energy efficient models (e.g., Energy Star qualified furnaces, air conditioners, and programmable thermostats)
 - Upgrading insulation, weather-stripping and/or replacing windows with modern sealed-glass windows
 - Upgrading to an energy efficient furnace/hot water heater
 - Upgrading or retrofitting the interior and/or exterior lighting to energy saving alternatives
 - Green power generation (e.g., solar pool, geothermal pool, or ground-source heat pump)
- Reinforcement, expansion of existing and construction of new transmission grids to transmit clean electricity, including smart grid technologies
- Renewable electricity generation facilities (e.g., wind energy, solar energy, small scale hydro)
- Thermal heat/cooling delivery system (i.e., district energy systems) using renewable or combined heat/power plants
- [Projects](#) for new or material rehabilitation or expansion of carbon transmission and storage infrastructure
- Electric vehicle infrastructure

1.l) Brownfield Redevelopment

- Remediation or decontamination and redevelopment of a brownfield site within [local government](#) boundaries, where the redevelopment includes:
 - the construction of public infrastructure as identified in the context of any other category under the CCBF
 - the construction of municipal use public parks and publicly-owned social housing

1.m) Sport Infrastructure

- Amateur sports facilities, for example: hockey rinks and arenas, baseball diamonds, swimming pools, ski areas, etc.
Note: excludes facilities, including arenas, which would be used as the home of professional sports teams or major junior hockey teams (e.g., Western Hockey League)

1.n) Recreational Infrastructure

- Playgrounds and equipment
- Permanent park facilities
- Public wharves, docks, and piers
- Trail systems

1.o) Cultural Infrastructure

- Cultural or community centers
- Performing arts facilities
- Museums and art galleries
- Designated local heritage sites

1.p) Tourism Infrastructure

- Campground facilities
- Convention or trade centers
- Exhibition buildings
- Tourist facilities
- Zoo facilities

1.q) Resilience

- Infrastructure and assets that increase a community's capacity to withstand, respond to, and rapidly recover from damage and disruptions caused by extreme weather events, for example:
 - infrastructure to manage and control flood water movement, including floodwalls and flood gates
 - river stabilization infrastructure, including spurs, berms, and ripraps
 - restoring wetlands and other natural infrastructure to redirect and capture rainwater
 - constructing firebreaks to limit the spread of wildfires

Note: excludes normal routine, maintenance, and operational work (e.g., dredging of sediment, gravel removal, debris traps, etc.)

1.r) Capacity Building

- Investments related to strengthening the ability of [local governments](#) to develop long-term planning practices including: capital investment plans, integrated community sustainability plans, integrated regional plans, [housing needs assessment](#), and/or [asset management](#) plans, related to strengthening the ability of recipients to develop long-term planning practices.

- Infrastructure management systems capable of recording and retrieving information on various types of infrastructure, including key infrastructure characteristics and condition, on a consistent basis to assist systematic infrastructure planning and management, for example:
 - purchase of computer hardware and software to facilitate the Municipal Infrastructure Management System (MIMS) or other infrastructure management systems
 - collection and input of local infrastructure asset data

1.s) Fire Halls

- New fire hall (building) for housing fire-fighting apparatus and staff (may include attached dorms, basic training facilities, and administration areas)
- Retro-fit and modernization of existing fire halls and attached building space
- Acquisition of a firetruck as a capital asset when associated to a new infrastructure [project](#) or retro-fit

Appendix 2: Eligible Expenditures

Eligible expenditures are limited to the following:

- Expenditures associated with acquiring, planning, designing, constructing, or renovating a tangible capital asset.
- For capacity building category only, the expenditures related to strengthening the ability of [local governments](#) to improve local and regional planning including capital investment plans, integrated community sustainability plans, integrated regional plans, [housing needs assessment](#), and/or [asset management](#) plans. The expenditures could include developing and implementing:
 - studies, strategies, or systems related to asset management, which may include software acquisition and implementation;
 - studies, strategies, or systems related to housing or land use, including housing needs assessment; and
 - training directly related to asset management planning.
- Expenditures directly associated with joint federal communication activities and with federal [project](#) signage.
- The incremental costs of the employees or leasing of equipment under the following conditions:
 - the local government must declare that it is not economically feasible to tender a contract;
 - the employee or equipment is engaged directly in respect of the work that would have been the subject of the contract; and
 - the arrangement is approved through the project submission process.

Appendix 3: Ineligible Expenditures

The following expenditures are deemed ineligible:

- [Project](#) expenditures incurred before April 1, 2005.
- Project expenditures incurred before April 1, 2014, for the following categories:
 - highways;
 - regional and local airports;
 - short-line rail;
 - short-sea shipping;
 - broadband connectivity;
 - brownfield redevelopment;
 - cultural infrastructure;
 - tourism infrastructure;
 - sport infrastructure; and
 - recreational infrastructure.
- Project expenditures incurred before April 1, 2021, for the following project category:
 - fire halls.
- The cost of leasing of equipment by the [local government](#), any overhead costs, including salaries and other employment benefits of any employees of the local government, direct or indirect operating or administrative costs of the local government, and more specifically its costs related to planning, engineering, architecture, supervision, management and other activities normally carried out by its staff, except in accordance with eligible expenditures above.
- Borrowing costs (exception for the cities of Calgary and Edmonton only, for whom such costs are eligible – representatives from these two cities should contact a Grant Advisor for information on how to apply CCBF toward borrowing costs).
- Taxes for which the local government is eligible for a tax rebate and all other costs eligible for rebates.
- Purchase of land or any interest therein, and related costs.
- Legal fees.
- Routine repair and maintenance costs.
- Costs associated with health infrastructure or assets (hospitals, convalescent and senior centers).

Appendix 4: Example Outcomes and Indicators

National Objective	Project Category	Outcome	Outcome Indicator
Productivity and Economic Growth	Local roads and bridges	Increase in estimated service life of infrastructure	Time (years)
	Highways	Increase in estimated service life of infrastructure	Time (years)
	Short-sea shipping	Increase in estimated service life of infrastructure	Time (years)
	Short-line rail	Increase in estimated service life of infrastructure	Time (years)
	Regional and local airports	Increase in estimated service life of infrastructure	Time (years)
	Broadband connectivity	Number of households experiencing increased or improved service	Count (# households)
	Public transit	Decrease in average age of fleet	Time (years)
Clean Environment	Drinking water	Change in total drinking water treatment capacity	Volume (m ³ water processed daily)
		Number of households experiencing increased or improved drinking water service	Count (# households)
	Wastewater	Change in total wastewater treatment capacity	Volume (m ³ water processed daily)
		Number of households experiencing increased or improved wastewater service	Count (# households)
	Solid waste	Additional solid waste management capacity built or expanded in tonnes	Volume (m ³ waste processed daily)
		Number of households experiencing increased or improved solid waste service	Count (# households)
	Community energy systems	Tonnes of greenhouse gas reduced	Average annual energy consumption or production before and after project completion (KWh)
	Brownfield remediation	Estimated land value of redeveloped site	Value (\$ per m ²)
Strong Cities and Communities	Sport infrastructure	Number of increased or improved public events or days open to the public	Area (m ² impacted)
	Recreation infrastructure	Number of increased or improved public events or days open to the public	Count (# events or # days open annually)

National Objective	Project Category	Outcome	Outcome Indicator
	Cultural infrastructure	Number of increased or improved public events or days open to the public	Count (# events or # days open annually)
	Tourism infrastructure	Number of increased or improved public events or days open to the public	Count (# events or # days open annually)
	Resilience	Infrastructure equipped for climate change impacts	Count (# assets)
	Fire halls	Number of increased or improved emergency responses	Count (# responses annually)