



# Expression of Interest



## Introduction

The following serves as an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund (HRIF). The fund provides one-time grants for innovative projects aimed at achieving measurable reductions in homelessness.

CAEH will share learnings and successes from funded projects with other communities across the country. Funded communities must commit to sharing their learnings, outcomes, and project data with CAEH. Communities must be able and willing to share Quality By-Name Data (QBND) with CAEH monthly (at minimum).

**This form will be used to assess your eligibility and project suitability for HRIF. You may be invited to complete an application based on your responses.** Your responses may be shared with the National Indigenous Homelessness Council (NIHC) for review and additional support.

**The last day to submit an Expression of Interest for this round is March 13, 2026 at 4:00pm ET.**

The CAEH team is committed to continuously improving the accessibility of the HRIF process, materials, and selected projects, and is working closely with the NIHC on these improvements. CAEH recognizes, as a non-Indigenous organization, that we alone cannot assess the HRIF process through an Indigenous lens. CAEH is committed to equity, dignity, justice and belonging. We are dedicated to serving equity-seeking communities as anti-racist, anti-oppressive, and inclusive allies. We encourage applicants to consider how they might respectfully collaborate with and build on existing capacity within local Indigenous service providers and organizations.

For more information and a glossary of acronyms, please see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

## Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible for the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund (HRIF), applicants (outside Quebec<sup>1</sup>) must be:

- the Reaching Home [Community Entity \(CE\)](#) for
  - the Designated Community (DC) stream, or
  - the Indigenous Homelessness (IH) stream, or
  - the Territorial Homelessness (TH) stream,
- or the community lead organization participating in Built for Zero – Canada (BFZ-C).

If your organization is not a Community Entity or community lead for BFZ-C in your community, please connect with one of them to collaborate on a project. They are required to serve as the lead organization for an HRIF project.

If your community has both a CE for the Designated Community stream and a community lead for BFZ-C, and these are different organizations, we encourage them to collaborate on one project, with one organization taking the lead.

If you are an Indigenous-led organization but are not your community's Indigenous Homelessness Community Entity (IH CE), please reach out to them, or the Designated Community if no IH CE exists.

## Project Eligibility

In addition to the eligibility criteria above, applicants must also be able to demonstrate:

- An improvement project aimed at reducing homelessness by increasing move-ins to housing or decreasing inflow to homelessness for the chosen target population
- Quality By-Name Data (QBND), confirmed by CAEH. See the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information on QBND and confirmation processes
  - [QBND v 4.0](#) if your project's target population is unsheltered or all homelessness
  - QBND v 3.0 if your project's target population is chronic or veteran homelessness
- Priority populations for HRIF projects are:
  - Unsheltered Homelessness (strongly encouraged)
  - Chronic Homelessness
  - Veteran Homelessness

*Note: You can choose to target any population for which you have QBND. However, HRIF projects that target the above priority populations are strongly encouraged and will be prioritized for funding.*

### Not eligible yet? We still want to hear from you!

The HRIF is intended to help communities make measurable progress in reducing homelessness. Communities that don't currently meet all the eligibility criteria are still invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI). Use the space provided in the EOI to share additional context about your efforts and plans. While eligibility is required for funding, projects that aren't ready may receive guidance and support to strengthen future applications. Your EOI may also be shared with the NIHC for review and additional support.

*Note: If you are an IH CE that does not have QBND confirmed by CAEH, but are interested in applying, please indicate this in your EOI. NIHC may follow up with you to learn more and explore how they can support your community and application.*

HRIF does not fund capital projects such as buying property, constructing new buildings, or major renovations. Small capital expenses (up to \$50,000 and in alignment with eligible expenses under Reaching Home Directives) may be considered, and only if they clearly support a system-level improvement that decreases inflow or increases outflow. These are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Please refer to the [FAQs](#) or [Reaching Home directives](#) for further details on in/eligible expenses.

### Footnote 1:

<sup>[1]</sup> Organizations in Quebec are not eligible to apply for the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund. Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada will collaborate with the Government of Quebec to put in place this funding in recognition of the jurisdictions and priorities of both governments in the prevention and reduction of homelessness. Questions can be directed to Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada at: [reachinghomeinfo@infoversunchezsoi@infoc.gc.ca](mailto:reachinghomeinfo@infoversunchezsoi@infoc.gc.ca).

# Applicant Information

## Name of Primary Applicant Contact \*

First Name

Last Name

## Email of Primary Applicant Contact \*

## Organization \*

## Community \*

City/Municipality/Region

## Province \*

## If you have received support from CAEH in preparing this EOI, please enter their name:

Note: this DOES NOT impact the eligibility of your EOI/project; this information is used only for CAEH's internal process improvement

## Is your organization an Indigenous-led organization? \*

- Yes  
 No

## Please indicate your eligibility by selecting the Reaching Home funding stream(s) for which your organization is the Community Entity (CE). Select all that apply: \*

- Designated Community  
 Indigenous Homelessness  
 Territorial Homelessness  
 Not applicable – My organization is not a Community Entity for any of the above Reaching Home funding streams

## Is your community currently participating in Built for Zero Canada (BFZ-C) under a formal agreement with CAEH, with your organization as the community lead? \*

- No
- Not sure (please explain)

**Has your community been confirmed for Quality By-Name Data (QBND) through the CAEH? Select all that apply. \***

- Confirmed for Quality By-Name Data on Version 3.0 or 4.0 for chronic homelessness
- Confirmed for Quality By-Name Data on Version 3.0 or 4.0 for veteran homelessness
- Confirmed for Quality By-Name Data on Version 4.0 for all homelessness
- Confirmed for Quality By-Name Data on Version 4.0 for unsheltered homelessness
- Not yet (please explain)
- Not sure (please explain)

**Are you able to pull monthly actively homeless, inflow, and outflow data for your project's target population? For example, if your project's target population is unsheltered homelessness, can you pull disaggregated data on unsheltered actively homeless, inflow, and outflow from your larger By-Name Data each month? \***

- Yes – and we provide target population data to CAEH
- Yes – but we do not currently provide any target population data to CAEH
- Not yet (please explain):
- Not sure (please explain):

**Please select the option that best describes your community's current Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS): \***

- COTS
- HIFIS
- Microsoft Excel
- Salesforce
- Other

**Which report(s) do you use to track inflow, outflow, and actively homeless data for QBND purposes? \***

- HIFIS Community Outcomes Report (COR)
- CAEH and ACRE's BFZ-C Inflow/Outflow Report
- Custom SQL or Crystal report
- Other

## Project Information

**What population are you planning to target with your project? \***

- All homelessness
- A smaller target population within all homelessness (please specify):
- Chronic Homelessness
- A smaller target population within chronic homelessness (please specify):
- Veteran homelessness
- Unsheltered homelessness

**Which inflow or outflow data point does your project aim to address? Only pick one data point per project. If your project aims to address more than one data point, pick the data point that it primarily aims to address. \***

- Decrease new inflows into homelessness
- Decrease returns from housing
- Decrease age-ins to chronicity
- Increase move-ins
- Not sure (please explain):

**Will your project include collaboration with any Indigenous-led organizations? Note: Be prepared to provide names and roles of Indigenous partners in the full application if you are invited to apply. All organizations that are named should be informed prior to submitting the application. \***

- Yes
- No

*Note: You are strongly encouraged to begin exploring potential partnerships and holding meaningful conversations as soon as possible, as you'll be asked about them if you are invited to complete an application.*

**Aim: What is your SMART reduction aim (Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Realistic, Time-Bound)? Include the specified inflow or outflow data point and the projected impact on the project's target population. (Example: Maplevue will reduce chronic homelessness by 20% by July 31, 2027 by increasing chronic move-ins by 50.) \***

0/200

**Briefly describe your project, and the problem or opportunity it aims to address, including a brief summary of any supporting data. \***

0/200

**Measure: How will you know if your project is successful? \***

0/200

**Change(s): What is innovative about your project in your local community context? How will it improve how your community addresses homelessness? If your project will likely test multiple changes, what will you start with? \***

0/400

**Please describe your budget. Include anticipated project length and total estimated cost of your project, any other financial contributions toward the project, and how your project fits in with other relevant funding mandates. You will have an opportunity to provide additional details if you are invited to complete an application. \***

0/500

**How might you sustain this project or its impact beyond the maximum 12- month HRIF funding period? \***

0/500

Submit