

1. STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations provides financial assistance to Métis Locals in the Northwest Territories in the form of annual core funding to assist with office operating costs.

2. SCOPE

This policy guides the allocation of core funding to eligible Métis Locals in the Northwest Territories to assist with office operating costs.

3. DEFINITIONS

The following terms apply to this policy:

<u>Grant</u> – A grant is an essentially unconditional transfer of appropriated funds to another party, made on the sole condition that the party will continue to meet the Government's eligibility criteria during the entire time period to which the transfer applies. The recipient is not accountable to the Government for its use of grant funds, but the Government may demand the return of all or part of the funds if the recipient becomes ineligible during the applicable time period.

<u>Core Funding</u> – transfers of money from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to Métis Locals in the Northwest Territories to offset the operating expenses of Métis Locals.

<u>Métis Local</u> – a community-based Métis organization representing the local interests of Métis residents in the Northwest Territories along the Mackenzie Valley and around Great Slave Lake. A Métis Local does not have to use the term "Local" and may wish to use another term such as "Council" or "Corporation".

4. AUTHORITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

(1) General

This policy is issued in accordance with Financial Management Board (FMB) direction to delegate to Ministers authority to establish grants and contribution programs. Authority and accountability is further defined in Financial Administration Manual directives 1901, 1902, 1903 and 1904 and as follows:



(a) Minister

The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (the Minister) is accountable to the FMB for the implementation of this policy.

(b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (the Deputy Minister) is accountable to the Minister and responsible to the Minister for the administration of this policy.

(2) Specific

(a) Minister

The Minister may:

- (i) Approve changes to this policy;
- (ii) Approve grants or contributions according to the terms and conditions outlined in this policy; and
- (iii) Delegate the authority to approve grants and contributions to the Deputy Minister.

(b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister has the following authority and accountability:

- (i) Approve grants and contributions according to the terms and conditions outlined in this policy;
- (ii) Approve the calculations performed under this policy;
- (iii) Approve any further adjustments in accordance with this policy as stated in 5(2) and 5(3); and
- (iv) Monitors compliance with the provisions of this policy.



5. PROVISIONS

1) Eligibility

Eligibility is restricted to community-based Métis Locals that are recognized as representing the local interests of Métis residents in the Northwest Territories along the Mackenzie Valley and around Great Slave Lake. Eligible Métis Locals are listed in Schedule 1.

In order to receive funding each year, the Métis Local must be duly registered under the *NWT Societies Act* and be in good standing.

2) Funding Allocation

Each eligible Métis Local is entitled to an annual base amount for core funding plus an annual adjustment factor at the end of each fiscal year.

Annual Base Amount

Each eligible Métis Local is entitled to \$20,454.55 in annual core funding each year.

Annual Adjustment Factor

Each Métis Local that qualifies for the annual base amount is entitled to a proportionate share of any under subscribed funding remaining in the program at the end of each fiscal year based on the following formula:

Métis Local Balance of Under Subscribed Funding
Proportionate = Number of Eligible Métis Locals During the Year
Share

The level of under subscribed core funding each year will vary depending on the number of eligible Métis Locals in any given year. As a result, the amount payable as an annual adjustment factor is subject to fluctuation and, in some years, could be zero.

3) Method of Payment

All funding is provided by way of a Grant. Upon completion of a funding application, multi-year funding agreements covering a period of 5 years are provided.



Annual Base Amount

Upon approval of a multi-year Grant agreement, the annual base amount for year one of the agreement term shall be made in one instalment.

Subsequent annual payments shall be made in one instalment upon receiving confirmation of the Métis Local being in good standing under the *NWT Societies Act*.

Annual Adjustment Factor

The proportionate share of any under subscribed funding remaining in the program at the end of each fiscal year shall be paid on or before the end of March of each year.

6. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Financial resources required under this policy are conditional on approval of funds in the Main Estimates by the Legislative Assembly and there being sufficient unencumbered balance in the appropriate activity for the fiscal year for which the funds would be required.

7. PREROGATIVE OF THE MINISTER

Nothing in this policy shall, in any way, be construed to limit the prerogative of the Minister to make decisions or take actions respecting grants or contributions. In this regard, the Minister may make an exception to the rules set out in this policy. Any exception will require substantiation in writing and must be recorded with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations.

Honourable Robert R. McLeod Minister, Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations

Date



SCHEDULE 1

ELIGIBLE MÉTIS LOCALS

The annual base core funding provided by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations will be provided to the 11 Métis Locals listed below, or in the event of names changes, their successors.

1)	Aklavik	Northwest	Métis	Council
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- 2) Hay River Métis Gov't Council
- 3) Fort Good Hope Métis Local #54
- 4) Inuvik Métis Council
- 5) Tulita Land Corporation
- 6) Fort Smith Métis Council
- 7) Fort Providence Métis Council
- 8) Norman Wells Land Corporation
- 9) Fort Resolution Métis Council
- 10) Yellowknife Métis Council
- 11)Métis Nation Local #52 (Fort Simpson)

In order to receive funding each year, the Métis Local must be duly registered under the *NWT Societies Act* and be in good standing.

The aforementioned list of eligible Métis Locals does not preclude other Métis Locals from qualifying for core funding. Applications for core funding received from Métis Locals not listed above will be reviewed to ensure that the applications meet the purpose and eligibility criteria described in the policy. The Minister or Deputy Minister reserves the right to approve or reject all applications for core funding.



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