



Project Coordinator Indigenous Funder Environmental Scan Project

Location: Open to any location in BC with reliable high-speed internet connection

Job Terms: Short Term contract May 1st until September 1st, 2023

Salary: \$32-35/hour at 30 hours/week

Acknowledgement

This project is conducted in Indigenous traditional territories across Turtle Island, specifically within the colonial boundaries of British Columbia.

We acknowledge the vital need for increased investment and resources dedicated to Indigenous-led initiatives that align with and promote Indigenous culture, self-determination, laws and inherent sovereignty. Furthermore, we acknowledge the need for financial restructuring to ensure that community needs and interests are fully appreciated and realized. We recognize the need and role for current and future non-Indigenous funders to reconcile this colonial history and to ensure that Indigenous communities are centered in the discussions. This project aligns with those efforts.

Position Summary

Indigenous Nations and communities across what is colonially known as British Columbia (BC) and Canada are revitalizing language, culture, traditional practices and asserting Indigenous jurisdiction, self-government and self-determination, including their food sovereignty. For many Indigenous communities, “food as medicine” is central. Many communities are growing, preparing, harvesting, gathering, eating and sharing traditional foods. In recent years, funders have shifted their focus to support Indigenous community-led projects that foster food security and food sovereignty. This project encourages funders to examine ways to implement harm-reduction approaches to future funding processes.

The Project Coordinator is responsible for the overall coordination and development of the Indigenous Funder Environmental Scan project including (but not limited to) an environmental scan and other supporting work to ensure that the goals and objectives of the project are met. The Project Coordinator will work collaboratively with a Steering Committee (SC) and the Director of Community Engagement & Food Systems at the Public Health Association of BC (PHABC).

Project Overview

The Indigenous Funder Environmental Scan Project aims to build better awareness about how fund distribution and relationship management structures can be transformed to center around Indigenous communities, and their self-identified interests and needs. This project emerged in response to overwhelming concerns raised from Indigenous partners related to the need for an equitable and holistic approach to distribute funding and provide community support.

The Indigenous Funder Environmental Scan project offers an opportunity for governments and philanthropists to convene and learn from one another about the gaps and limitations in the dominant funding structure, while exploring other funding models which are more equitable, community-centered and/or Indigenous-led. This project will involve environmental scanning and engagement with funders and funding organizations on current funding and delivery structures that impact Indigenous community food development, agriculture and food-based work. The scan will look to identify community-centered funding models and recommend better ways of supporting Indigenous communities. As the lead organization, PHABC is conducting an environmental scan and will seek guidance from the SC members.

About the Public Health Association of BC

PHABC is a non-profit charity organization whose mission is to promote population health and support capacity building for public health professionals in the province. PHABC fulfills its mission through advocacy, collaboration and engagement activities, education and research throughout the spectrum of public health practice including prevention, promotion, protection and policy. Their priorities include eliminating poverty; reducing health/socio-economic inequities; addressing climate change & healthy environments; contributing to a sustainable, equitable economy; and preventing violence. PHABC champions a number of public health programs including Farm to School BC (F2SBC), a healthy eating program for K-12 students with an expanding provincial network, supporting 200+ school food and garden projects in urban, rural, remote, and Indigenous communities throughout the province.

PHABC is a culturally sensitive organization and has applied the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) principles to our programs. PHABC has Indigenous representation on their Board of Directors and has had an Elder-in-Residence for over a decade who supports their public health programming and Indigenous partnerships. PHABC celebrates the work accomplished in partnership with Indigenous communities, while acknowledging the need both organizationally and in their programming for deeper decolonizing and reconciliation work to address anti-Indigenous racism and to build Indigenous food sovereignty, and PHABC dedicates themselves to this purpose.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Coordinate, organize and facilitate the Steering Committee meetings (frequency TBD) to ensure that all partners are collectively working towards the desired outcomes of the project in a process-oriented manner;
- Manage project plan, schedules, budgets and expenditures;
- Work with Communications Director Develop and implement communications and stakeholder engagement strategy to ensure that the project's journey is reflected in community experiences, all while ensuring that all stakeholders are included;
- Conduct an environmental scan including SWOT analysis, literature review and focus groups/surveys which informs stakeholders about the current funding structures and opportunities while exploring other funding models and frameworks that reduce barriers to access in the funding process all while more meaningfully engaging and supporting Indigenous communities;
- Host a virtual gathering (details TBD).
- Complete a final report detailing the results of the environmental scan, literature review, current granting opportunities and challenges, recommendations and next steps;
- Other activities as assigned.

Requirements

- Preferred minimum of five (5) years of experience working in a community-based setting specifically related to Indigenous community development (e.g., food security, food sovereignty) that integrates multi-sectoral, holistic, and equitable approaches;
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience with grant and application procedures including monitoring metrics, report/evaluation writing and maintaining ongoing relationship with various funders;
- Understanding, awareness and sensitivity for the distinct Indigenous cultures, languages and ways of knowing across Turtle Island, and the social, economic, political and historical concerns facing Indigenous communities;
- Experience in conducting research and analysis, interpreting statistical data and developing reports and recommendations for decision makers;
- Leadership style and work ethic that promotes collaboration, inclusivity, creativity, open communication as well as independent decision-making;
- In-depth knowledge of Indigenous food sovereignty, food security, community food development, and various funding models;
- Excellent writing and documentation management skills, including strong communication and relationship-building skills;
- Ability to work effectively both independently, and as part of a team;
- Access to high-speed reliable internet and a computer with MS Office (including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook). Access to MS Project and Adobe Acrobat preferred but not required.

To Apply

Submit your resume, cover letter and three (3) references to Richard Han, Director of Community Engagement and Food Systems at Director.CEFS@phabc.org with the subject title: **'Project Coordinator – Indigenous Environmental Scan'** by the deadline of April 14th, 2023.

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Public Health Association of BC is an equal opportunity organization and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for this position without regard to race, colour, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, or age. Preference may be given to applicants of Indigenous Ancestry but we encourage all those with relevant experience to apply.