



# Accessing FNCFS Capital Funding per the Draft Final Settlement Agreement on the Long-term Reform of FNCFS Program

July 29, 2024

## Funding

**In the initial five-year funding period (April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2029)**, ISC shall provide \$1.92 billion to First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Service Providers (First Nation, FNCFS Agency, or an entity authorized by a First Nation to deliver services and receive funding under the Reformed FNCFS Program) for capital assets that support the Reformed FNCFS Program's funded services and activities.

This funding will include needs assessments and feasibility studies, the purchase and construction of capital assets, the repair and renovation of existing buildings, and the lifecycle costs of owned assets.

**In the Second Five-Year Funding Period (April 1, 2029 to March 31, 2034)**, Canada shall provide up to \$1.017 billion to FNCFS Service Providers for capital projects to support the delivery of First Nations child and family services on reserve and in Yukon. In addition to this amount, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) may make available for capital projects any remaining uncommitted capital funding from the Initial Five-Year Funding Period, **subject to Parliamentary appropriation and relevant authorities**.

## Process and Timeline

**After April 1, 2024 and prior to September 1, 2024**, the Parties will develop an implementation plan for the capital funding that leverages existing or new community capital planning processes. ISC, with the guidance of the Reform Implementation Committee (RIC), will develop guidance documents to support FNCFS Service Providers in seeking capital funding.

Pursuant to [2021 CHRT 41](#),<sup>1</sup> Canada was ordered to fund the actual cost of capital assets to support the delivery of FNCFS. As of April 1, 2025, ISC will no longer accept funding requests under the 2021 CHRT 41 process. Instead, per the draft FSA, ISC will instead provide capital funding according to the plan developed by the Parties as described above. As of July 29, 2024, this plan is not in place, and it is not clear the extent to which it will depart from the 2021 CHRT 41 process.

ISC shall continue to process capital funding requests that are received **on or before March 31, 2025**, and fund those requests that are approved, pursuant to 2021 CHRT 41. Requests received shall include requests that are paused or pending approval from ISC as of March 31, 2025. In fiscal year 2024-2025, ISC shall continue to reimburse FNCFS Service Providers for the actual costs of capital projects that are approved by ISC under the 2021 CHRT 41 process.

## Authority

**Assembly of First Nations, Chiefs of Ontario, and Nishnawbe Aski Nation will develop the capital implementation plan.**

Capital funding requests are made to ISC, who has the authority to approve or deny the request. The RIC advises ISC on the development of guidance documents for FNCFS Service Providers but, per the FSA, does not determine capital requests.

At the time of writing, it is not clear how the division of authority across ISC divisions will look.

<sup>1</sup> <https://fncaringsociety.com/publications/capital-funding-information-sheets>