

STRUCTURAL PROJECTS POLICY

To improve the quality of living of the MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent

Territorial Development Fund

OBJECTIVE OF THE POLICY

In compliance with the objectives of the Territory Development Fund Agreement, the MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent has put in place a Structural Projects Policy.

This policy is aimed towards community mobilization and the support of structuring projects. The MRC will oversee the implementation, ensure the update and promotion.

1. Territorial application

The Structural Projects Policy applies to the entire territory of the MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent.

2. Intervention priorities

The following fields of intervention are prioritized:

- Fishery;
- Aquaculture;
- Agrofood;
- Tourism;
- Leisure;
- Economic diversification;
- Labour training;
- Transportation;
- Telecommunication;
- Environment;
- Fire safety¹.

The following clientele is also prioritized:

- Youth;
- Families;
- Elderly.

¹ Fire safety equipment (ex.: fire truck) can be admissible under the Structural Projects Fund. However, the MRC and the municipality concerned cannot be the sole funders of the project. The municipality applying must have other sources of funding and cannot re-apply under this intervention priority for a period of 24 months. The MRC also reserves the right to only accept 2 projects per year under the “Fire safety” intervention priority.

3. Admissible organizations/businesses

- Municipal organizations;
- Band council of Innu communities;
- Cooperatives;
- Non-profit organizations;
- Organizations from the education sector;
- Businesses: private or social economy, with the exception of businesses from the financial sector;
- Person(s) wishing to start-up a business.

4. Admissible expenses

- Salaries and wages for the realization of the project including the Mandatory-Employment Related Costs (MERC's) and social benefits. **However**, these expenses cannot make up the entire request for funding unless it can be proven that **after** the financial support of the MRC, the candidate hired will remain in the same position with the same benefits for at least 12 months. Otherwise, salaries including MERCs and social benefits are only admissible to 50% of the project cost up a maximum amount of \$17,500 per project.
- Professional fees;
- Capital expenditures such as land, buildings, equipment, machinery, rolling stock, incorporation fees, transportation and installation costs and other similar expenses;
- The acquisition of technologies, software packages, patents and any other similar expenses;
- Other costs inherent to the development and realization of the project.

5. Inadmissible expenses

- Expenses related to projects already completed and expenses incurred prior to the signing of the financial assistance agreement are not eligible;
- The financing of debt, the repayment of loans or the financing of a completed project;
- Infrastructure, services, works or current operations normally financed by municipal budgets or government programs which include:
 - Construction or renovation of municipal buildings not related to a community project;
 - Infrastructure;
 - Services and landfill sites, work or current operations related to waterworks and sewers;
 - Works or current operations related to road works, buildings, roads, power supplies and day-to-day operations of fire and security services;

- Maintenance of recreational and cultural facilities.
- Projects in direct competition with an existing enterprise.

6. Nature of financial assistance

Financial assistance is in the form of a non-reimbursable contribution that cannot exceed the amount of \$35,000 per project.

Financial assistance is determined as follows:

- 90% for non-profit organizations and other;
- 50% for private businesses.

7. Project application procedures

Applications can be deposited continuously. Upon completion of the file, it is presented to the council of the MRC which meets on a monthly basis. The decisions are made by council of the MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent. All applications must be accompanied by the following documents:

- Inscription form completed and signed;
- Resolution from the organization or the business;
- Copy of most recent financial statements;
- Copy of quotes;
- Confirmation of financial partners;
- Supporting documents.

8. Project analysis criteria

Projects will be analyzed based on the following factors:

- Structuring aspect of the project;
- Projects supporting devitalized territories;
- Sustainability of the project;
- Job creation/maintenance;
- Community mobilization;
- Valorization of new niche market.