



BRIEFING NOTE TO THE CHIEFS COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FOR DECISION

SUBJECT: Indigenous Services Canada's (ISC) Research and Innovations Proposal-Based Funding in Education Update

DATE: March 3, 2019

REQUESTED BY: Janice Ciavaglia, Director of Education

DRAFTED BY: Dakota Edwards, Policy Analyst, Education

SUMMARY:

- The National Indian Education Council (NIEC) has recommended that the funding for Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)'s Research and Innovations Proposal-Based Funding in Education be allocated to First Nations regionally, on a per capita student basis.

PURPOSE:

- To update the Chiefs Committee on Education (CCOE) on the chosen funding approach recommended by the NIEC on the Research and Innovation proposal-based programs beginning in 2019-2020 fiscal year.

CURRENT STATUS:

- **March 2016:** The 2016 Federal Budget announced:
 - \$1.5 million in 2018-2019 to support First Nations Research in education.
 - \$6 million in 2018-2019 to support the application of the latest education innovations to First Nations education.
 - These two proposal-based programs had previously been funded by ISC through a national call for proposals and selection process.
- **December 2018:** The CCOE passed a motion supporting the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the NIEC to work with ISC to finalize the Research and Innovations in Education Program Guidelines, in a manner that provides each region with the flexibility and opportunity to implement the programs regionally.
- **January 2019:** The AFN and the NIEC have been asked to develop options for regional implementation methodologies for ISC's Research and Innovations in Education programs (see attachment 1):
 - Out of the options that were developed, many regions chose to manage the two programs themselves.
- **February 2019:** ISC provided the NIEC with two funding allocation methods broken down by region (see attachment 2).

- The majority of regions chose option two – for both Research and Innovation programs to be distributed regionally, on a per capita student basis.

REGIONAL VOTES:

- NS/NFLD – Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- NB/PEI – Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- QC – Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- ON - Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- MB - Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- SK – Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- AB - Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- BC - Option 2 (Per-capita distribution)
- YK – Option 1 (equal for research; per-capita for innovations)

BACKGROUND:

- **December 2017:** Co-developed K-12 Transformation Policy Proposal was passed by the Chiefs-in-Assembly via AFN Resolution 65/2017, *New Interim Funding Approach for First Nations Education*, and moved through Cabinet in a Memorandum to Cabinet.
- The policy proposal sought changes to First Nations K-12 education policy including changes to the delivery of proposal-based programs, such as Research and Innovation.
- Previously, the Research and Innovation programs funding allocation was determined through a national call for proposals and selection process at ISC headquarters.
- Upon the NIEC request, ISC agreed to implement a different funding approach for 2019-2020, for programs to be administered in a way that is consistent with First Nations Control of First Nations Education.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The NIEC recommends that the CCOE make a motion to support the regions in receiving per capita student funding for both Research and Innovations in Education programs.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) CCOE Motion Research and Innovation v2
- 2) Research and Innovation Notional Options For Proposed Funding Models (regional breakdown)