

# **\$5M Aboriginal ECD Reinvestment – Public FAQs**

**November, 2010**

## **1. What will the \$5 M in funding target?**

Over the next few months, the host agency will be issuing request for applications, on behalf of the First Nations, Urban Aboriginal and Métis ECD Steering Committee, that will seek to enhance existing ECD and Early Years programs; address service gaps, long-term planning and evaluation; and development of specific cultural and language programs.

As identified within the BC *First Nations ECD Framework* and *Creating Pathways: A Five Year Early Years Strategic Plan* through community consultation and engagement sessions, 3 priority areas will be considered for support under the larger initiative. These priority areas are, in order of focus:

- Increased Support to Existing Aboriginal ECD Programs to offset costs not currently covered, with a focus on health and safety, integration of services, staff professional development, and improved access and services for Aboriginal children, including those with additional support needs;
- Support for Culture and Language for Aboriginal ECD Programs, including new or existing programs that enhance knowledge, learning and understanding of the role of culture and language in Aboriginal early childhood development; and,
- Aboriginal ECD Community Building and Service Planning to support initiatives and activities related to capacity development and planning for communities wishing to establish new ECD programs and services, including in northern and remote and under-served regions of the province.

## **2. What will this Call for Applications target?**

The first call will address Minor Capital needs for existing Aboriginal ECD programs up to \$10,000.

## **3. What is the First Nations, Urban Aboriginal and Métis Steering ECD Committee?**

The First Nations, Urban Aboriginal and Métis ECD Steering Committee is comprised of representatives from the First Nations Early Childhood Development Council and the Aboriginal Early Years Advisory Circle.

## **4. What is the role of the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres?**

The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres is acting as the host agency for this process. It was the decision of the Nations, Urban Aboriginal and Métis ECD Steering Committee to utilize a host agency to assist in the administration of this funding. The Steering Committee will direct how the funds are expended.

## **5. How can my organization or community apply for funding?**

A number of different calls for funding will be made to eligible communities/organizations within the next few months. The calls will contain application templates – no proposals or letters of interest will be required. If you have any questions, please contact the Steering Committee Coordinator, at:

First Nations, Urban Aboriginal, and Métis Early Childhood Development Steering Committee  
c/o BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres  
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