

Rural Business and Community Recovery Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is the RBCR Program?

The Rural Business and Community Recovery program provides funding to rural communities, with populations under 25,000, to support economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Communities may hire contract staff as Community/Business Recovery Advisors to support research, development, and implementation of community economic recovery plans, support local businesses with one-on-one support and create new opportunities for growth.

How many Community/Business Recovery Advisor positions are available?

Funding is available in the Southern Interior region to create up to 20 Community/Business Recovery Advisor positions.

Can a Recovery Advisor serve a hybrid role working with communities and businesses?

Yes, if it makes sense to blend the role. The required workplan should address the activities and time allotment for both community recovery and business recovery.

Who can apply to the RBCR program?

Eligible applicants to the RBCR program include local, municipal, regional and First Nation governments, and non-profit business support organizations serving the Southern Interior communities with populations under 25,000.

When can an applicant apply to the RBCR program?

The application intake for the RBCR program opened on February 22, 2021.

Is there an application deadline?

Completed applications are due no later than 4:00 pm March 19, 2021.

If I miss the first deadline, will there be another opportunity to apply?

Should program funding not be fully allocated after the first intake, a second application intake will open in Spring 2021.

How much funding can I get?

Eligible applicants may receive up to 100% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$75,000 per position.

Where can I find the RBCR application?

The application form will be emailed to you after contacting the SIDIT office and discussing your project with the Business and Economic Development consultant serving your area.

When and how will I know if my application was successful?

Approval decisions will be made by March 30, 2021. Successful applicants will be notified by email no later than March 31, 2021.

If my application is declined, will I be advised how to improve my application for the next intake?

Yes, feedback will be provided to support the applicant for future funding opportunities.

If approved, when do I get funding?

Once a contribution agreement is signed, 50% of approved funding will be disbursed. An additional 25% may be disbursed at the project midpoint. The final 25% funding will be disbursed upon project completion and receipt of a final report.

If approved, can I still apply to other SIDIT funding programs?

Yes, eligible applicants may apply to more than one funding program. However, given limited resources, we will make every effort to ensure that funding is distributed fairly across the Southern Interior service region. As such, projects which may meet the application criteria in communities who have received Trust funding may not be funded in favour of an eligible application from a community that has not received Trust funding.

Who can I call with questions?

Contact Mary Beadman, SIDIT Program Administrator by phone: (236) 420-3680 ext. 0 or by email: mbeadman@sidit-bc.ca