Questions & Answers | SEED Policy – Operational Support Available Due to Evacuation Orders

Q What is the maximum funding available under this initiative?

A The maximum funding available under this initiative is set out in the table below. Funding will be provided to assist with costs incurred:

a. directly preparing for the wildfire crisis and/or
b. those costs incurred during the evacuation order period, plus the 14 days directly following the end of the evacuation order (such costs will be pro-rated to the appropriate number of days)

Community *	Available
Yellowknife, Dettah, N'Dilo, Jean Marie River, Kakisa, Rae, Edzo, and Wekweètì	$ 10,000
Fort Smith and Sambaa K'e	15,000
Hay River, Enterprise, and K'atl'odeeche	20,000
Non-evacuated communities **	3,000

*   Should be understood to include the immediate surrounding area of each community
** Where the impact of an evacuation order in one community causes a business in another community to absorb new costs

For clarity: the dates of the evacuation orders (both issuance and termination) by community:

- Hay River: May 14 to May 30, 2023
- K'atl'odeeche First Nation: May 14 to June 6, 2023
- Sambaa K'e: May 31 to June 29, 2023
- Wekweètì : June 29 to July 3, 2023
- Edzo: July 25 to July 31, 2023
- Rae: July 24 to August 3, 2023
- Ft Smith: August 12 to September 18, 2023
- K'atl'odeeche First Nation: August 13 to September 17, 2023
- Enterprise: August 13 to September 22, 2023
- Jean Marie River: August 13- August 24, 2023
- Hay River: August 13- September 17, 2023
- Yellowknife: August 17 to September 6, 2023
- Kakisa: August 17 – September 9, 2023

Q When can I apply?

A Applications are currently being accepted and will be until March 31, 2024 or until the budget has been exhausted. Funding will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Q What costs are eligible?

A Eligible costs can include but are not limited to:

- Bush clearing and other similar fire smarting initiatives
- Hoses, sprinklers and other similar infrastructure
- Commercial Rent
- Commercial Mortgage (interest only) and Business Mortgage (principal and interest)
- Financing or lease payments for equipment
- Insurance deductibles (if a claim was made)
- Insurance premiums
- Fixed professional fees (ex. accounting and bank)
- Subscriptions (ex. financial and/or booking systems)
- Utilities (heat, power, water and sewer, phone and internet)
- Property tax
- Food spoilage
- Marketing and promotion
- Other NWT fixed costs as deemed reasonable at the sole discretion of ITI.

Note: if a business is homebased, CRA limitations will apply to home expenses

Q What costs are ineligible?

A The following costs are ineligible for funding:

- Salaries and wages
- Costs covered by business continuity insurance
- Mortgage for property other than the primary business location

Q Are there equity requirements?

A There are no equity requirements for this program.

Q Do the requirements of the existing SEED policy still apply?

A Yes, applicants must still meet the remaining SEED program criteria, such as being a business that complies with the legal requirements to operate a business in the NWT.

Q How do you apply?

A To apply, eligible businesses must:

- Complete a SEED application form. Application forms can be found here:
  https://www.iti.gov.nt.ca/sites/iti/files/SEED_Application_Form.pdf
- Submit the following supporting documents:
  - A copy of their valid business license.
  - Documentation to demonstrate that eligible costs were, or will be, incurred during the period in which an evacuation order was in place

for the community which their business operates in. Documentation can include: invoices, bills, receipts, and leases.

- Be in compliance with Corporate Registries. No documentation is required. ITI staff will inform applicants who are not in compliance.
- Submit the completed application form to your regional office. ITI Regional office contact information can be found here: https://www.iti.gov.nt.ca/en/regional-offices