About the IRP

The IRP is designed to help social enterprises explore, grow and flourish across the country as they unlock solutions to pressing social, cultural, and environmental challenges.

Organizations can apply for funds to help launch, design, measure, and scale their social enterprise to get ready to access investment in Canada's growing social finance sector.

Who can apply?

Organizations that can apply include:

- Charities
- Non-profits
- Co-ops
- For Profits

... who have an idea or an existing project that fits the definition of a social enterprise, may be eligible.

What the IRP funds

IRP funds can be used to research, launch, design, measure, and scale up social enterprises to achieve an organization's sustainability plan to take on investment in the future.

Funds are intended to be used to access outside expert advice or services to:

- Explore a new business idea or develop a business plan to test an inspiring idea
- Create a marketing plan to reach new audiences
- Prepare the documentation needed to approach potential investors
- Plan new products or services to grow revenue

The funds are not eligible for use towards core operating costs. They should move social enterprises forward along the spectrum to investment readiness.

What is a social enterprise?

An organization or program that is mission-driven, aiming to sell goods or services to earn revenue, while also helping achieve positive social, cultural, or environmental results.

Where to apply and find more information

Community Foundations of Canada, alongside the Foundation for Black Communities and our network of community foundations, is allocating non-repayable funds to organizations preparing to successfully participate in the social finance market.