



INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP.
NATURAL SOLUTIONS.
SHARED PROSPERITY.

INDIGENOUS CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDING

Investing in Indigenous-led solutions
for a stronger, more resilient future.



SUPPORTING SOLUTIONS

Funding for conservation,
restoration, clean energy
and nature-based
solutions.



INDIGENOUS LED

Empowering First
Nations, Inuit and
Métis to lead climate
action in their territories.



BUILDING CAPACITY

Investing in knowledge,
infrastructure, skills and
stronger communities.



FOR PEOPLE. FOR NATURE. FOR THE FUTURE.

Working together for
a healthier environment
and a thriving Canada.

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BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP. NATURAL SOLUTIONS.
SHARED PROSPERITY.

BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM SUMMARY

KEY INSIGHTS. REAL IMPACT. STRONGER COMMUNITIES.

Birch Carbon Program Summaries provide Indigenous Nations with quick, easy-to-understand insights from important resources — highlighting what matters most and how it can support environmental stewardship, community priorities, and long-term prosperity.

WHAT YOU'LL FIND INSIDE



KEY TAKEAWAYS

The most important points from the original resource.



INDIGENOUS FOCUS

Why it matters to your Nation, your lands, and your future.



BIRCH CARBON PERSPECTIVE

Our insights on opportunities, benefits, and real-world impact.



COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

How this information can create value for your people and territory.



ORIGINAL SOURCE

Direct links to the full document and official resources.



OUR COMMITMENT

We are committed to making complex information accessible and relevant for Indigenous Nations so you can make informed decisions, protect your lands, and build prosperity for future generations.



PROTECT
OUR LANDS



SUPPORT
OUR PEOPLE



BUILD
PROSPERITY



SECURE OUR
FUTURE

[BIRCHCARBONPROGRAM.COM](https://www.birchcarbonprogram.com)

BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM SUMMARY

About This Summary

The Government of Canada publishes a central directory of federal funding programs that can support First Nations, Inuit and Métis climate and environmental initiatives.

Rather than representing a single program, the resource works as a **funding finder**. It lets Nations and organizations identify programs that may align with their environmental, economic and community priorities.

Original Publication

Indigenous climate and environmental funding

Environment and
Climate Change Canada

This Edition

An educational
companion prepared by
the Birch Carbon
Program for Indigenous
Nations.

THE STARTING POINT

Why This Matters

Climate action can also be an economic, capacity-building and Nation-building opportunity.

For Nations protecting forests, wetlands, waters and other natural landscapes, federal programs may help support different parts of the work: research and planning, conservation, monitoring, restoration and clean-energy development.

WHY IT MATTERS TO INDIGENOUS NATIONS

Canada states that since 2020 it has announced more than \$2 billion in funding for climate action by Indigenous Peoples across multiple initiatives.

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KEY CONCEPTS EXPLAINED



AT A GLANCE

What the Directory Covers

Funding opportunities span a remarkably broad range of areas:

- Conservation and nature-based solutions
- Clean energy and infrastructure
- Capacity building and Indigenous Knowledge
- Water, food systems and emergency management
- Economic development, research and youth initiatives

HOW IT CAN BE FILTERED

By Indigenous distinction, whether funding is dedicated specifically to Indigenous Peoples, ongoing intake, matching-fund requirements, and project topic.

KEY CONCEPT 01

Indigenous-Led Climate Action

Federal programs increasingly provide opportunities for Nations and organizations to lead projects on their own terms.

That means projects built from a Nation's own priorities, its own knowledge, and its own relationship with its territories, rather than from a program designed elsewhere.

KEY CONCEPT 02

Nature-Based Solutions

Funding may support activities that use natural systems to address climate change.

- Conservation
- Ecological restoration
- Improved land management
- Biodiversity

WHY IT MATTERS TO INDIGENOUS NATIONS

These are the same activities that sit at the heart of a carbon project. Stewardship work can often serve both purposes at once.

KEY CONCEPT 03

Capacity Building

Some programs are aimed squarely at the foundations rather than the field work.

People

Staff, training and the skills to run environmental initiatives.

Knowledge

Research, Indigenous Knowledge and the evidence base.

Planning

The work that happens before a project can begin.

Technical

The capacity to develop and manage the work over time.

KEY CONCEPT 04

Clean Energy & Infrastructure

Other opportunities focus on the transition toward lower-carbon community economies.

- Renewable energy generation
- Energy efficiency
- Community infrastructure

WHY IT MATTERS TO INDIGENOUS NATIONS

Energy costs and energy independence are Nation-building questions as much as climate ones, particularly for remote communities.



Birch Carbon INSIGHTS



IN PRACTICE

Examples of Funding

One particularly relevant program is **Indigenous-led Natural Climate Solutions**, supporting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nations, communities and organizations undertaking ecological restoration, improved land management and conservation.

\$76.9 million

Maximum funding listed per project in the federal directory.

2021 to 2031

Program duration as listed.

The directory also identifies programs supporting Indigenous Guardians, climate monitoring, climate adaptation, renewable energy, environmental research and Indigenous participation in environmental assessments.

BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM PERSPECTIVE

A Complementary Pathway

We see this resource as a **complementary funding pathway**, not a replacement for carbon-credit revenues.

A Nation exploring carbon opportunities often has broader needs at the same time: environmental monitoring, conservation, capacity development, Indigenous Knowledge, research or climate planning. Government programs may help advance those while the long-term carbon strategy develops.

READ EACH ONE ON ITS OWN TERMS

Eligibility, available funding, application periods and program requirements vary considerably. Every opportunity needs to be reviewed independently before assuming a Nation or project qualifies.

THE KEY TAKEAWAY

Indigenous climate leadership is creating opportunities that extend beyond carbon credits.

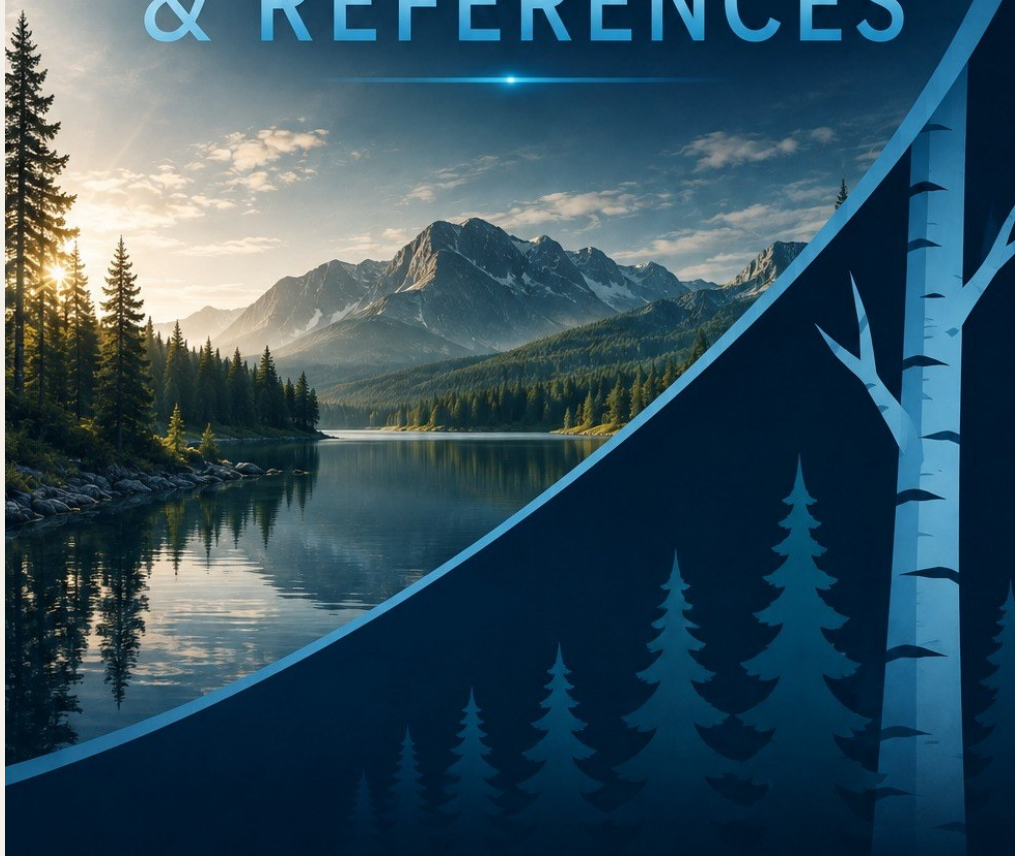
Canada's federal funding landscape includes programs that can support conservation, climate resilience, clean energy, environmental stewardship and Indigenous-led natural climate solutions.

WHERE THE OPPORTUNITY SITS

In looking at these programs strategically: identifying where government funding, Indigenous stewardship and long-term environmental economic development can work together.



RESOURCES & REFERENCES



ORIGINAL SOURCE

Resources & References



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
CANADA

Indigenous climate and environmental funding

[Read the original publication ↗](#)

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About this summary. This Birch Carbon Program Summary has been prepared as an educational companion to the original publication. It is intended to improve accessibility and understanding while encouraging readers to consult the complete Government of Canada resource for full detail. It is not legal, financial, or technical advice.



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Part of the Indigenous Carbon Knowledge
Centre. Plain-language summaries of the
publications that matter most to Nations.

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