

## **Announcing the Launch of Natural Resources Canada's Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities (CERRC) Program**

This program is seeking proposals to reduce the reliance of diesel fuel for heat and power in rural and remote communities. The program will provide \$220 million in funding over the next six years starting April 1, 2018.

### **PROGRAM DEFINITIONS:**

**Remote Communities** refers to communities that are connected to neither the North American electrical grid nor the natural gas pipeline network. They must be a long-term settlement (five years or more) with at least 10 dwellings.

**Rural Communities** refers to communities that are connected to the North American electrical grid but not to the natural gas pipeline network. They have a population of fewer than 5000 people and a population density of fewer than 400 people per square kilometre. Rural communities are only eligible to apply under the BioHeat and Capacity Building components of CERRC.

The Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities Program has 2 streams:

### **Stream 1: Clean Energy Projects**

This stream may support projects related to one or more of the following components:

- **Deployment of renewable energy technologies for electricity** including hydro, wind, solar, geothermal, and bioenergy. Heat may also be produced, but the primary purpose of the project must be electricity production.
- **Innovative demonstrations to reduce diesel use** through the validation of novel renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy storage, and smart-grid technologies and applications.
- **BioHeat to reduce fossil fuel use** through the installation or investigation into the feasibility of biomass heating or combined heat and power systems for community and/or industrial applications.

### **Stream 2: Capacity Building**

The capacity building stream is looking for projects related to knowledge and skill development that will support the reduction of diesel in rural and remote communities. Proposals for this stream are intended to go beyond a specific project and can include:

- scaling up or modifying existing curriculum and technical training, or creating new training
- renewable Energy Network Development or Support
- youth and Clean Energy
- women and Clean Energy
- community Energy Planning or Resource Assessments
- other ideas?

Given the Government of Canada's commitment to a renewed relationship with Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous led proposals, as well as those that reflect a strong partnership with the community are welcomed and encouraged.

**To learn more about the CERRC Program and how to apply please visit:**  
<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/science/programs-funding/19791>

**For the Capacity Building Application Process please see:**

<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/science/programs-funding/20477>

**If you have any questions, please contact the program team at:**  
[nrcan.remoteenergy-energieadistance.nrcan@canada.ca](mailto:nrcan.remoteenergy-energieadistance.nrcan@canada.ca)

**Dates to Remember:**

**Stream 1: Deployment/Demonstration/Bioheating projects**

- The program is now accepting proposals on a continuous basis until all funding is allocated for the six years of the program. To be considered for the second round of program funding you are invited to submit your proposal by:
  - **Thursday, December 4, 2018** (23:59ET) to be eligible for a 30 minute discussion of your submission with program officers before the final submission date.
  - **Tuesday, February 26, 2019** (23:59ET) is the final deadline to be eligible for the second round evaluation review.

**Stream 2: Capacity Building**

- The first phase of funding closed on **April 10, 2018**. The second round of calls for proposals is anticipated to begin in winter 2019. Information on subsequent calls for proposals will be provided on our website:

<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/science/programs-funding/20477>