



Indigenous Services Canada

Community Initiatives Unit

What is Comprehensive Community Planning?

Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP) is a planning process that is driven, designed and implemented *by the community for the community*. It is an ongoing process that enables a community to plan its development (both present and future) in a way that meets its needs and aspirations. It is comprehensive because it addresses all aspects of community life, including governance, land and resources, health, infrastructure development, culture, social issues and economy. CCP is becoming a priority for many First Nations who see it as an effective tool to build healthy and sustainable communities that improve the quality of life for their members.

What is the role of the Community Initiatives Unit at ISC BC Region?

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) is supportive of long-term community-based planning by First Nations. This commitment is reflected in ISC's Indigenous Community Development National Strategy and departmental plans. Supporting CCP in First Nations communities will enable ISC to be more responsive to community needs and priorities.

In 2004, the Community Initiatives Unit in ISC BC Region began working with five First Nations on Comprehensive Community Planning pilot projects to test approaches and to develop planning tools and resources to facilitate community-based planning. As of 2020, ISC BC Region has worked with over 160 First Nations who have engaged in the CCP process.

ISC sponsors annual CCP workshops that are designed and driven by First Nations – over 90% of the presenters are First Nations individuals with direct experience in community planning. The success of the CCP workshops led to the creation of the Mentorship Initiative, which pairs experienced First Nations planning champions with First Nations in the early stages of planning.

Our work also includes the publication of the *CCP Handbook: Comprehensive Community Planning for First Nations*, developed in partnership with BC First Nations as a resource and reference tool to support First Nations on their CCP journey. For more information on this and other planning tools and resources, visit the [ISC CCP website](#) or the [Comprehensive Community Planning website](#).

Does ISC oversee the development and implementation of CCPs?

A Comprehensive Community Plan is driven and developed by the community and, therefore, owned by the community. It is not something that the government initiates or undertakes. Our role is to support and act as a resource for First Nations to develop and implement CCPs so that they can achieve the results they have identified in their plans.

Comprehensive Community Planning is not a program, but rather a new approach or philosophy. The CCP process allows communities to define their priorities so that ISC can better align support to allow communities to meet those priorities. It is an approach that will fundamentally change the relationship and how ISC interacts with and supports First Nations to develop sustainable communities.

Why Comprehensive Community Planning?

Community development that is driven by a community plan strengthens governance, focuses decision-making, aligns priorities with resources and ensures a more cost effective use of resources. It gives communities the framework and process to examine its core values, create a vision for the future and work towards achieving that vision through strategies, objectives and implementation plans. Like all forms of planning, CCP enhances the probability and capacity for success.



What funding is available for CCP?

Since 2007-2008, ISC has been able to fund CCP directly through the First Nations Infrastructure Fund, the BC Capacity Initiative and the Professional and Institutional Development program. Through the Mentorship Initiative, ISC BC Region supports communities in their initial planning stages by reimbursing mentors' time and travel costs. In addition, economic aspects of planning can be funded through the Community Economic Development Program and the Community Economic Opportunities Program. Other government departments also have funding available that can support elements of community planning. You can find more information on the [ISC Funding Programs website](#). Or please use the contact information below to request further information on funding opportunities.

Questions?

If you have more questions about Comprehensive Community Planning, please contact:

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