



Adult Education

The Government of Canada's 2021 Budget announced funding of "\$350 million over five years, starting in 2021-2022, expand access to adult education by supporting First Nations people on reserve who wish to return to high school in their communities and complete their high school education" (Government of Canada, Budget Plan 2021-2022, p. 250).

As part of its advocacy efforts within the National Indian Education Committee (NIEC) of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), the FNEC supported the NIEC's recommendation to add new funding based on a "per capita" methodology with a guaranteed amount per region (management fees to regional training centres or organizations + per capita in direct support to students). The AFN Chiefs Committee on Education subsequently approved these two recommendations arising from the NIEC. The AFN Chiefs Committee on Education endorsed the recommendation by the NIEC, which is to be tabled as a resolution at the next AFN Special General Assembly in December 2022.

In addition, the FNEC has defended the current funding of adult education centres from the interim formula of the elementary and secondary program. The additional funding will therefore be added to the amount determined by the interim formula.

The FNEC is actively working to ensure that the additional share (\$36.6M) is distributed fairly and quickly to Quebec communities.

In addition, the FNEC is collaborating with all adult education centres in Quebec (the CDFM, ITUM and the Mitshapeu Centre, the Tshakapesh Institute, the CSPNÉA and its regional adult education centres) to develop a regional plan for the distribution of the new adult education funding. An equalization formula developed by the FNEC was well received by regional adult education organizations.

At present, adult education organizations in Quebec are waiting for Indigenous Services Canada's (ISC) response to begin their work to expand the adult education offer in the region.