



Date: January 6, 2012

To: Urban Aboriginal Community Organizations

Re: ACCESS Request for Proposals Applications

ACCESS is pleased to invite new and former applicants to submit an application for project-based funding for employment/training and/or employment assistance services delivery that is targeted towards Aboriginal people residing in the Metro Vancouver area. Limited funding is available this fiscal year. Projects that include cash or in-kind contributions and partnerships will rate higher during the Internal Review Committee proposal assessments. Projects must be completed within the fiscal year with no carry forward to the next fiscal year.

The new ASETS (Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy) focuses on the following three priorities:

1. Supporting demand driven skills development (comply with local labour market demands);
2. Fostering partnerships with the private sector and the provinces; and
3. Placing emphasis on accountability and results

Therefore, in line with the above priorities, any projects approved for funding by ACCESS also should follow the above ASETS priorities.

You will find attached an ACCESS application form, RFP Information Fact Sheet and the supporting proposal guidelines. Unfortunately, there will be a very short RFP period this year as funds were not available until this late date. **The deadline for proposal submissions is Monday, January 30, 2012** for sponsors intending to begin their projects by April 1, 2012. Only **one** project will be accepted from an organization. Please ensure that the application form is entirely completed as incomplete applications will be delayed. Submit a hard copy and an electronic version of your application. Employment assistance services proposals can be submitted to Blair Bellerose, Director of EAS at the Friendship Center EAS site. Other proposals should be sent to me at the ACCESS head office at Park Royal. Please review the *RFP Fact Sheet* and *Program & Proposal Guidelines* for further information.

You will be notified in writing or by telephone if your application is incomplete. Should you wish to resubmit a revised and/or completed application, this could delay your approval process and the start date of your project, or it could result in you losing out on funding for the upcoming fiscal year. All proposals will be reviewed and assessed by ACCESS Internal Review Committee with recommendations forwarded to ACCESS CEO and ACCESS Board for final approval.

ACCESS will place a higher funding priority on proposals that meet the following target group priorities for the upcoming fiscal year of April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013:

- Women
- Youth
- Persons with Disabilities
- Older Workers
- Unemployed Young Parents
- Local Demands-Driven Skills Training

If you require any further information or assistance on Employment Assistance Services proposals, you may contact Program Officer Linda Federation (lfederation@accessfutures.com) or Director Blair Bellerose (bbellerose@accessfutures.com) at telephone number 604-251-7955. For other project-based training programs, contact Program Officer Elaine Clare (eclare@accessfutures.com) at 604-913-7933 ext. 229 or me (llacaille@accessfutures.com) at extension 225. Please note these are changes in email addresses.

Yours truly,



Lucie Lacaille
Director of Programs and Development