



## ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

### 2016 Federal Budget Overview

#### Introduction

On March 22, 2016 Prime Minister Trudeau tabled his first federal budget. An historic \$8.4 billion over 5 years in investments have been made on Indigenous issues. These investments include education, housing, health and more.

The budget provides a specific narrative on the 2% cap. It indicates that with Budget 2016's investments, the total funding for Indigenous programs will be 22% above where funding would have been under the 2% cap. It provides a specific promise to engage in on a new long-term fiscal relationship.

A full summary is below:

#### Areas

##### Aboriginal Representatives Program

- \$96 million over 5 years, starting in 2016-17 with \$10 million ongoing after that to ARO's for capacity and engagement.

##### Justice

- Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women's and Girls - \$40 million over two years for the national inquiry
- Safe Shelter for Victims of Violence - \$10.4 million over three years, starting in 2016-17 is being provided to support the renovation and construction of new shelters for victims of family violence in First Nation communities.
- Shelter Operating Costs – an additional \$33.6 million over 5 years, starting in 2016-17 and \$8.3 million ongoing, is being provided for the operating costs for these new shelters in First Nation communities.
- Aboriginal Court work Program – an additional \$4 million is being provided per year

##### Education

- \$2.6 billion over five years, starting in 2016-17
- Investments in Current Primary and Secondary Education System
  - Immediate funding needs - \$747.6 million over 5 years
  - Language and Culture - \$275 million over 5 years
  - Literacy and Numeracy – \$100 million over 5 years

- Special Needs - \$577.5 million over 5 years
- System Transformation Funding
  - Implementing Transformation - \$824.1 million over 5 years
  - Innovation, Research, Measurement and Evaluation - \$37.5 million over 5 years
  - Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative - \$30 million over 5 years
- \$969.4 million over 5 years, starting in 2016-2017 on First Nations education infrastructure on reserve

#### Aboriginal Languages Initiative

- Funding at the existing level of \$5 million has been extended for the next fiscal year with a commitment to consult on the program for future years

#### Child Welfare

- \$634.8 million over five years, starting in 2016-2017. There is also program reforms that have been committed to.

#### Early Learning and Child Care

- \$29.4 million is being provided in 2016-17 to support urgent repairs and renovations for facilities being used by the Aboriginal Head Start On Reserve Program and the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative.
- \$100 million will be provided in 2017 towards Early Learning and Child Care on reserve. Consultations on this will take place as a part of the new National Framework on Early Learning and Child Care.

#### Infrastructure

The budget commits \$1.2 billion, over 5 years, in support of infrastructure in Indigenous communities. This is described as part of the first phase the government's 10 year plan for social infrastructure.

- Housing - \$554.3 million over two years beginning in 2016-17. Of this, \$416.6 million over two years will be given to INAC to address immediate housing needs on reserve. An additional \$137.7 million over two years will be provided to CMHC to support renovation and retrofit of housing on reserve. These investments are described as a first step in the development of a long term National Housing Framework that includes the construction and maintenance of an adequate supply of housing on reserve.
- Northern and Inuit Housing – an additional \$177.7 million over two years, starting in 2016-17 is provided. Of this \$8 million over two years is being provided to Yukon and \$12 million over two years is being provided to the Northwest Territories. Inuit housing receives the remainder.

- Cultural and Recreational Infrastructure - \$76.9 million over two years, starting in 2016-17 is provided for the construction of cultural and recreational infrastructure on reserve.

### Green Infrastructure on Reserve

This budget commits \$2.24 billion, over the next five years on green infrastructure investments that will help protect the environment and the health and safety of the communities. This investment is part of a 10-year plan to invest in green infrastructure. A specific commitment exists for additional Indigenous investments in this area.

- Monitoring of Water on Reserve - \$141.7 million over 5 years, starting in 2016-17 to improve the monitoring and testing of on reserve community drinking water. This is intended to help address the boil water advisories.
- On Reserve Water and Wastewater Infrastructure - \$1.8 billion over 5 years, starting in 2016-17 to adequately maintain and operate water and wastewater facilities.
- Waste Management - \$409 million over 5 years, starting in 2016-17 to adequately manage garbage and waste on reserve. For remote First Nations this will support the construction of modern landfills and waste management systems.
- Community Infrastructure - \$255 million over two years, starting in 2016-17 is being provided to the First Nations Infrastructure Fund to support projects such as roads, bridges, energy systems, broadband, fire protection services and physical infrastructure to mitigate the effects of natural disasters.

### Employment and Training

- Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy - \$15 million, over two years starting in 2016-17 to launch a pilot project to enhance training that aligns with community needs. This budget is seen as a first phase of renewed and expanded ASETS that the government will consult on over the upcoming year.

### Health

- Community Health Care Facilities – \$270 million over 5 years, to support the construction, renovation and repair of nursing stations, residences for health care workers and health officers on reserve.
- Nutrition North - \$64.5 million over 5 years, starting in 2016-17 with \$13.8 million ongoing

### Fishing

- \$33.1 million in 2016-17 is being provided to Fisheries and Oceans to extend the Atlantic and Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiatives.
- \$81.3 million to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Natural Resources Canada for marine conservation initiatives, including development of Marine Conservation Areas

## Environment

- Off Grid Renewable Energy - \$10.7 million over 2 years, starting in 2016-17 to implement renewable energy projects in off-grid Indigenous and northern communities that rely on diesel and other fossil fuels
- Canadian Environmental Assessment - \$14.2 million over 4 years, starting in 2016-17 to support the CEAA to engage in consultations with Indigenous peoples
- National Energy Board, Transport Canada and Natural Resource Canada – \$16.5 million over 3 years, to support the interim approach to environmental assessments for major projects
- Federal Contaminated Sites Cleanup – \$200 million over two years to support assessment and remediation of federal contaminated sites
- Seven Departments will share \$129.5 million over 5 years to increase resilience to the impacts of climate change in Northern and Indigenous communities
- \$2.9 billion over five years, starting in 2016–17, to address climate change and air pollution issues. This funding will:
  - Support the development of the pan-Canadian Framework, including a Low Carbon Economy Fund

## Other Areas:

- Metis Economic Development Strategy - \$25 million over 5 years, starting in 2016-17
- Renewing the Urban Aboriginal Strategy – Renewal of a sun setting \$23.7 million (a portion of the \$51 million a year program) for one year with a commitment to consult on the project.
- First Nations Finance Authority - \$20 million over the next two years is being provided to strengthen the Authorities capital base.
- \$16.6M over five years starting in 2016-17 to expand the Learn to Camp Program, develop new programming to tell Canada’s stories and encourage Indigenous story-telling and eco-tourism opportunities.
- \$23.6M over five years on a cash basis starting in 2016-17 to reopen the Kitsilano Search and Rescue Lifeboat Station in Vancouver as a Canadian Coast Guard Base with enhanced marine emergency response capacity.
  - Kitsilano will be expanded to include environmental response capacity as well as emergency response training for regional stakeholders and response partners including Indigenous groups.