

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RESILIENCE FUND



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The value of sharing is etched into the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF) and in all our relations.



Xaayda Kil- (Skidegate Dialect of the Haida Language) is "isda" which means to give

When we share, we give wholeheartedly as part of who we are and our journey, thereby making a creative difference. When others share with us, they do the same. IPRF is sharing the cycles of receiving and giving as another year has passed. Our 2023 Annual Report centers on our traditional value of sharing. You will see and hear many people sharing, respecting and fostering resilience and self-reliance with all our relations just as they have all year. Community recipients, volunteers, partners and members of IPRF's team are all essential to the work of IPRF by sharing themselves, not for themselves, but for holding up community first while increasing our collective understanding of our tradition of giving back, shifting power, and capital to community. Their time, stories and experiences ensure we remain centred around the fact that communities know what communities need. We are grateful for the unique perspectives that each person brings to how we collectively support Indigenous Peoples.

IPRF is honoured to connect the present contemporary forms of sharing, caring, giving, and making a creative difference in our past and our future. **Sharing happens between us, with an abundance to give and a community to accept. It is reciprocal.** We may speak in different languages, but the collection of our lived experiences shared and woven together shows the resilience, strength, and hope of Indigenous Peoples. We have been honoured to hear an abundance of ideas and solutions from Indigenous communities. On page 22, you'll see what is ahead as we look to the next season of IPRF and think about how we continue to grow with Indigenous communities and their needs.

Whoever you may be, dear reader, thank you. Thank you for sharing your time with us and allowing us to share stories in return.

ALL OUR RELATIONS



Within the relations of all – to live well.

VOICES OF COMMUNITY

With deep appreciation, IPRF thanks recipients for sharing their time, truths and experiences with us. Through their work in community, we see IPRF's vision brought to life, and through their willingness to share stories, we see very clearly the importance of shifting resources and decision making to Indigenous communities and organizations.

IPRF has the privilege to uplift and share these stories with you and recognizes that all stories are meaningful. Unfortunately, we cannot share them all, though we wish we could.

"EAST"



Flat Bay Band, Inc.

The support provided by IPRF was used to provide our vulnerable population, in the BSG (Bay St. George) communities with Creating Wellness Quotient Assessments, coaching and final assessments through the Flat Bay Band's Tajike'k Program. This service was provided free of charge to all clients, and provided them with transportation and food security, as well as flexible appointment options to accommodate the needs of each individual participant. This created a barrier-free accessible program, clients were able to meet in person, over the phone or over zoom, depending on their needs, and were provided with assistance to put the health suggestions through the program into effect.



The support provided made a direct impact on our vulnerable populations, through this program we were able to provide social inclusion, food security, transportation assistance, customized health assessments and coaching, and final assessments with go forward plans for the clients.

The cost of living has risen significantly in Newfoundland & Labrador, and has created additional barriers, especially for those on a fixed income, making it even harder for our vulnerable populations to purchase healthy meals, wellness products/services and creates more financial strain which leads to more mental health issues and stress. As a result of the Wellness Assessments, clients receive tailored recommendations, referral and information for their individual needs to increase their and their family's wellness capacity.

Clients were first assessed on a biochemical, physical, and neurological level to derive 1) a detailed recommendations report and 2) a Wellness Quotient Score. Based on this assessment the Coach and client entered into a customized and collaborative action plan to address the recommendations and issues so as to improve their WQ score to the next assessment. The Master Coach helped the clients address all the areas of their plan and improved all the determinants of their health and wellness. Customized coaching helped to manage and prevent chronic disease illness and injury, in some completely cases reversing the problem. Holistic programming like the Tajike'k relieves stress on both the clients and the health care system, as clients have the opportunity to sit down with someone and go over any questions, concerns and issues without the stress of being rushed, not understood properly or having to wait weeks for a discussion with their family doctors.

Flat Bay is a rural community, causing transportation for individuals outside of the community difficult and costly. Throughout this program, we found that providing assistance with travel (or) offering flexible appointments (zoom, over the phone, having the Master Coach travel to their community) made the program far more accessible and increased the participation of those with mobility, financial or transportation issues. Our success through this program was providing customized health assessments, food security and assistance to over 75 vulnerable persons around the BSG area.

IPRF has become a vital program that provides support to Indigenous organizations and communities to build health & crisis resistance and capacity to be well.



Our suggestion would be to provide report template that includes a section for financial reporting. Of course, increased and continued funding is always a need as environmental conditions in our province continue to rise and cause our client base to grow.

"SOUTH"



Nipawin Oasis Community Centre

“The funding really made a difference in the nutrition, food security we were able to provide.”

This bundle made a difference in increased knowledge regarding nutrition, wellness, food security and safety, sense of belonging, shopping, budgeting, cooking skills, involvement with children and youth, and Cree language.

Successes were the eagerness from families to want to do cooking and the shopping while involving their children. Challenges were the demand was higher than we could meet at times. Other challenges were the high cost of nutritious food.

I find your grant application and final report such a relief. I like that you trust the organization to do what they say are going to do and have the financial accountability that is needed. I like that your language of the grant is respectful of all and that it is Indigenous focused. We struggle here as we only have 1 admin staff and some grants are so cumbersome, time consuming that less time spending with people/staff or any time for self-care is minimal. I wish all grants for a charity such as ours was like yours. So, thank you.



"WEST"



Northern Network of Peers for Equality Society

We want to express our sincere gratitude for the support provided by the IPRF grant, which has significantly contributed to the success of our project. With the conclusion of the funding period, we reflect on the impact made possible through the acquisition of a vehicle and the implementation of our peer-led initiatives.

The vehicle has been essential in facilitating access to crucial health and social services, as well as fostering cultural connections through participation in ceremonies and gatherings. Additionally, the grant has covered essential expenses such as insurance, maintenance, and initial fuel costs, ensuring the sustainability of our programming throughout the funding period. As we conclude this chapter, we remain committed to our mission of supporting Indigenous individuals and communities, and we extend our heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to make a meaningful difference.

“Living in a small community plagued with racism and discrimination, the enduring effects of COVID-19, such as limited access to diverse funding sources, have further exacerbated existing inequalities and marginalized vulnerable community members. These lasting effects underscore the ongoing need for support and resources to address the underlying issues of racism, discrimination, and inequity in our community.”

The support provided by the grant has made a significant difference to our group and community. Through our inclusive approach and the resources made possible by the grant, we have created a welcoming and supportive environment where everyone feels valued and heard. This sentiment was echoed by an elder who expressed gratitude for our open-door policy and the sense of belonging they experience when accessing our services. The availability of transportation provided by the grant has also empowered community members to seek assistance without fear, knowing they can rely on our support for essential needs such as transportation and meals. The impact of this support extends beyond practical assistance; it fosters a sense of community, connection, and empowerment among those we serve.



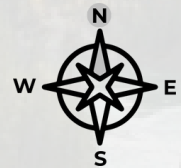
“... we encountered the tragic loss of three significant participants in our program due to toxic drug poisoning, highlighting the urgent need for harm reduction initiatives and support services in our community. This experience has reinforced the importance of our work and the critical role we play in providing essential support and resources to those in need. Through these challenges, we have learned the importance of flexibility, resilience, and the need for ongoing collaboration and advocacy to address the complex issues facing our community. While there have been obstacles along the way, our commitment to serving our community remains unwavering, and we continue to strive for positive impact and meaningful change.”



We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and would like to express our gratitude for the support provided throughout the application and reporting process. While we do not have specific suggestions for improvement, we would welcome the opportunity to host more virtual conversations with decision-makers, including participants of our program, in a circle-style format. This inclusive approach would allow for meaningful dialogue and the sharing of stories, fostering deeper understanding and collaboration, even in a virtual setting.

“We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the leaders and decision-makers within IPRF. Their continued support over the last two years has been pivotal in the success we have seen, and the positive change reported by participants. Sechenalyagh (thank you, Chilcoltn), for your unwavering commitment to our cause.

"NORTH"



Northern Network of Peers for Equality Society

Although we often had difficulty connecting to language specialists from the other Inuinnaït communities (Kugluktuk, Gjoa Haven, Ulukhaktok, and Cambridge Bay), we were very successful in other ways. This was due to conflicting schedules and poor bandwidth in the other communities.

We were fortunate to be able to set up Starlink in our centre. This has made such a positive difference for us, especially when we are invited to be a part of virtual meetings such as Zoom or Webex.

In November we hosted an Inuinnaït language specialists' meeting to discuss language revitalization, terminology, and making the Inuinnaït language more accessible to the general public. The Elders also took part in recording podcasts and in hosting Inuinnaqtun language and culture coffee houses.

This bundle has made an enormous difference for our organization and the project itself. Transportation for our Elders can be extremely expensive so having the funding to get them to the cultural centre every day was a blessing.

Our internet access used to be a real challenge. There were days when we couldn't even send or receive email messages. Submitting proposals by their closing dates could be a nail-biting experience. Once we had our Starlink satellite dish installed we very rarely had any problems, and we didn't have to worry about going over plan limits.

While all that we did was successful, the Inuinnaqtun language coffee houses where Elders shared their knowledge and promoted the use of the language, were wildly successful. We hosted three sessions on Saturday mornings and in total we had 67 individuals who took part in the sessions.

Our challenge remains how to get more language revitalization programs going in other communities or how to motivate other language advocates to set up and apply for funding to run such programs on their own.

We learned so much from this project. We learned new Inuinnaqtun terminology and new oral histories.

The process for applying for Indigenous Resilience funding was excellent. The questions were clear and relevant, the budget information was clear and easy to fill out, and the reporting process was excellent. While we chose to fill out the application, we appreciate the fact that you are willing to allow recipients to use video and other methods to apply and report.



IPRF wishes to thank our partners, communities, volunteers, and Advisory Council for sharing yourself, not for yourself, but for holding up community. Through reciprocal practices, we build purposeful relationships that are built on trust and understanding. We create stronger connections with one another and uplift and amplify community voices. This is the basis of our work - grounded in the values of the Peoples served. We honour the voices of Indigenous communities and organizations. Your efforts increase our collective understanding in shifting power and capital to community so that Indigenous Peoples have authority over Indigenous-led funds designed to support Indigenous initiatives.



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ADVISORY COUNCIL



Dr. Deborah Saucier
Métis Nation



Tina Petawabano
Cree



Kevin Lamoureux
Anishnabeg



Catherine Pennington
Métis Nation



Nancy Etok
Inuk



Chris Googoo
We'koqma'q First Nation



Jasmine Elisapi Redfern
Inuk



Launa Payne
St'at'imc



Germaine Catchpole
Anishnaabe

FROM THE ADVISORY COUNCIL



“I am grateful to have walked alongside IPRF in all aspects.”

I am Launa Payne (Purcell) I am a member St'at'imc Nation, Xa'xtsa home fire, located near the West Coast of British Columbia. My background is in education, more specifically place based learning. This passion for land as medicine led me to collaborate with a colleague to form Rise Up Indigenous Wellness Society. Rise Up is a grass roots non-profit society aimed at supporting holistic wellness for our Urban Indigenous community. Rise Up has grown to support many programs and contracts over 10 Indigenous people.

I have had the opportunity to be a part of IPRF since May 2020, initially as a recipient of a bundle to facilitate on the land camps. We found the application process to be decolonized and accessible. In fact, when we are asked to review the application process of other funders, we always hold IPRF as the gold standard. In 2021 Wanda and Victoria ask me to volunteer in the Western Review process. Being a part of the Western review allowed me to provide insight on local events and organizations. Further, it was a window into the similar work that other Indigenous grass roots organizations are taking. I was able to participate firsthand on removing barriers for Indigenous organizations committed to wellness and healing. In my role as holding a seat on the Western Review committee I saw firsthand of the massive increase on the request for support bundles. IPRF is uniquely equipped to understand our community needs as a funder driven by Indigenous values and staffed by Indigenous people.

In 2023 I was asked to apply for a seat on the IPRF board. This role has given me insight into the inner workings of IPRF. I have noticed how the values of listening to community and removing barriers guide the work of IPRF. I have seen how quickly IPRF responds to crisis situations such as the fires of 2023 that affected the interior of BC. I am excited to see the path forward and barriers being removed in our communities. I am particularly enthusiastic to support multi-year funding for organization. I am grateful to have walked alongside IPRF in all aspects.

All My Relations,
Launa Payne (Purcell)

FROM THE ADVISORY COUNCIL



“Everyone shares knowledge, learnings, stories, and it is always done so, in a good way.”

For the past 3 years, I have had an incredible experience volunteering with the Indigenous People’s Resilience Fund as an East review committee member. I have had the opportunities to grow professionally and personally. There is a lot of learning - and unlearning - as it relates to Indigenous philanthropy.

I am truly honoured, as a new Advisory Council member to see just how incredibly generous everyone is at IPRF. Everyone shares knowledge, learnings, stories, and it is always done so, in a good way. We also have a shared understanding that communities know best what they need – this is crucial to keep in mind as we reflect on an exciting future ahead for the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund.



PARTNERS

IPRF wishes to thank our partners and acknowledge their contribution, support, friendship, and action to **bridge the gap between Western philanthropy and Indigenous-led philanthropy**. Your commitment to sharing resources and shifting capital to Indigenous-led funds propels IPRF's work and strengthens reconciliation with community.

All One Fund
Calgary Foundation
Carthy Foundation
CMA Foundation
Community Food Centres Canada
Community Foundations of Canada
The Counselling Foundation of Canada
Definity Insurance Foundation
Donner Canadian Foundation
Edmonton Community Foundation
Enbridge
The Frontline Fund
GreenShield Canada
Inspirit Foundation

Laidlaw Foundation
The Lawson Foundation
McConnell Foundation
Medavie Foundation
Metcalf Foundation
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Sprott Foundation
Suncor Energy Foundation
Toronto Foundation
Trottier Family Foundation
Vancity
Vancity Community Investment Bank
Vancouver Foundation
Walmart Foundation



McConnell Foundation

On the theme of sharing, I want to start by thanking the IPRF for inviting me to share my perspective in this Annual Report.

When we talk about sharing in the context of reconciliation in philanthropy, this must include sharing ideas and perspectives, and also sharing financial resources. It is the responsibility of non-Indigenous Canadians to learn about the realities of Indigenous people and communities. We take our accountability to the TRC Calls to Action and the Philanthropic Declaration of Action seriously, and we aim to work with humility and respect for Indigenous self-determination. We also rely on Indigenous people and partners to shape our understanding. I am grateful to the IPRF and many other people and partners for accompanying the McConnell Foundation in our learning journey over the years.

The generous sharing allowed our Foundation to build our knowledge and increase our commitment. It was many years of building relationships and exchanging ideas that ultimately led the McConnell Foundation to commit to a capital transfer of \$30M to Indigenous-led community foundations, including a first transfer to IPRF in 2023. This commitment is over and above our annual granting, intending to shift capital from our endowment to the endowments of Indigenous foundations, sharing wealth, and shifting decision-making into the hands of the people best placed to support Indigenous communities coast to coast to coast.

I want to thank the team at the IPRF for doing what you do, for inviting the McConnell Foundation to partner with you in this work, and for creating opportunities to share much more than money. I wish you great success in your ambitions for the coming years. We are happy to be partners in the journey.

Jane Rabinowicz, *Chief Program Officer*

In March 2023 the McConnell Foundation celebrated 20 years of work in reconciliation, collaborating with Indigenous partners. McConnell has been a partner with IPRF since 2020 and we are pleased to have walked alongside them as part of this journey. As we work toward building a \$250 million Indigenous-led fund, we welcome McConnell Foundation's contribution to this goal and call for action to the philanthropic sector in shifting power and transferring significant capital to community by supporting Indigenous-focused philanthropy practices.

Lawson Foundation

The Lawson Foundation is proud and honoured to have Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF) as a partner and collaborator and looks forward to continuing this relationship into the future. As the only national Indigenous philanthropic foundation in Canada, IPRF has proven themselves at the forefront of philanthropic work with Indigenous communities and organizations, leading the way in transforming application processes and responsiveness to community needs. In their work, IPRF lives its values, being relational and collaborative in supporting and elevating community-led and culturally grounded projects. IPRF's principle of sharing guides their giving of abundance and care.

In their acknowledgment of communities knowing what communities need, IPRF strengthens trustful and understanding relationships, grounded in the values and honour of the People they serve. As an Indigenous organization, IPRF understands Indigenous realities and are better able to connect with applicants through a flexible, accessible, culturally-appropriate application process and dialogue. For partners, IPRF's support has led to increased connections with Elders, increased food security, expanded programming, and bringing community together. IPRF shares many synergies with the Lawson Foundation's Child and Youth Diabetes Strategy through support of food security and food sovereignty programming, the most frequent type of programming IPRF provides support for. Similarly, the Lawson Foundation and IPRF share in their respective supports for health and healing and bringing together community, as diabetes-related activities in food security and food sovereignty often mean bringing people together for individual, family, community, and collective well-being. This support often means bringing community together and making space for Elders and youth to connect.

The Lawson Foundation's Child and Youth Diabetes Strategy sees sharing as the interconnectedness between individuals, and between people and surrounding social and physical worlds, giving meaning to the individual through their connection to community. Sharing reflects a oneness to humanity; that people and communities thrive from sharing and caring with others around us and share a collective responsibility to contributing to their community. Sharing is strength through selflessness, responsibility, and providing rather than acquiring.

VOLUNTEERS

We are led by strong Indigenous philanthropic knowledge holders who support Indigenous communities from coast to coast to coast. IPRF wishes to acknowledge our volunteers and extend our heartfelt gratitude for their unwavering commitment to the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF). Their dedication to supporting Indigenous communities through thoughtful, culturally informed philanthropy is truly commendable.



EAST REVIEW COMMITTEE

Amanda Bernard, Chris Googoo, Germaine Catchpole



SOUTH REVIEW COMMITTEE

Bill Mintram, Cameron Adams, Spirit River Striped Wolf



WEST REVIEW COMMITTEE

Vincent White Quills, Braden Etzerza



NORTH REVIEW COMMITTEE

Alyssa Carpenter, Nancy Etok, Jasmin Redfern



CENTRAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Brian Jackson, Joshua Iserhoff

Volunteers are essential to the work of IPRF. **We are actively seeking additional volunteers to join our team.** Please reach out to Joe Plant (info@iprfund.ca), if you are interested in volunteering or joining the review committees!

Dear IPRF Reviewers,

The IPRF team extends our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering commitment to the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF). Your dedication to supporting Indigenous communities through thoughtful, culturally-informed philanthropy is truly commendable. **The way you show up wholeheartedly is etched into the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund** and in all our relations, and the way you share your time, stories and experiences ensure we remain centered around the fact that communities know what communities need. We are grateful for the unique perspectives that each of you brings to how we collectively support Indigenous Peoples.

Because of you, the following is true:

IPRF's Mission Embraced



Your efforts in addressing immediate and long-term needs of Indigenous communities, while prioritizing safety, resilience, and the integration of traditional knowledge with contemporary health services, have been instrumental.

IPRF's Values Upheld



Your work reflects a deep commitment to embedding Indigenous cultural perspectives in all practices and decisions, ensuring that the philanthropic priorities resonate authentically with Indigenous-led processes.

IPRF's Principle's in Action



Your adherence to nimbleness, adaptability, collaboration, transparency, and innovation, all while prioritizing community safety, is greatly appreciated and has significantly contributed to the Fund's success.

IPRF's Role Acknowledged



Your role in assisting the Advisory Council and in enriching the application and fund support processes with diverse backgrounds and experiences is invaluable.

Advancing Indigenous Philanthropy



Your contribution to enhancing Indigenous Peoples' presence in the philanthropy sector, amplifying grassroots initiatives, and fostering positive shifts in language and laws for the betterment of Indigenous communities is truly inspiring.

Your efforts are not just about offering and stewarding bundles of support; they are about nurturing hope, supporting resilience, and building a brighter, more inclusive future.

Thank you for sharing your dedication, your passion, and your belief in a better world.

With **deepest appreciation**,

-Joe Plant and the IPRF team



RESOURCES

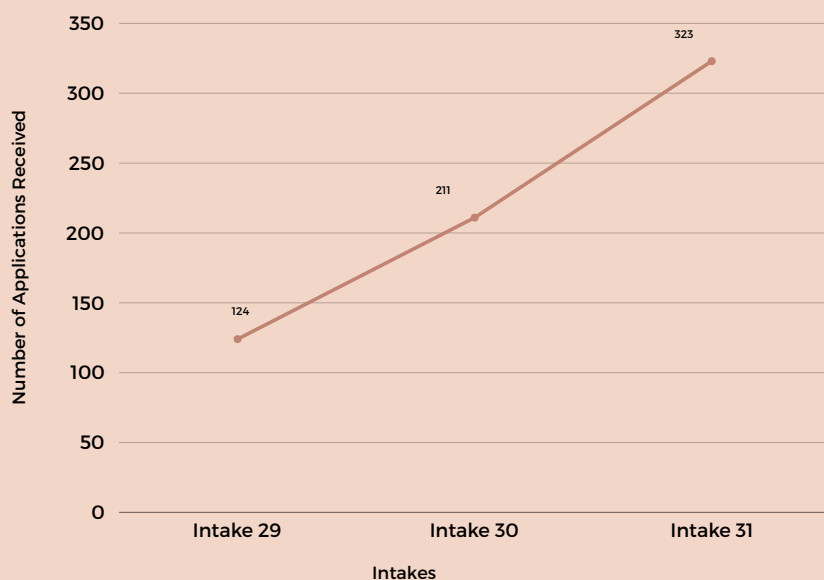
Since our inception in 2020, IPRF has been working to shift resources to Indigenous-led initiatives. Over three years, we have opened 31 different intakes for our bundle programs so communities can access funding.

2023 was a year of introspection, collaboration, and growth. We have settled into our vision and ambition and expanded our reach into community. We are continually thinking about how we share resources in a way that is sustainable for Indigenous communities and allows them to have authority over their funds and projects, especially as our intakes continue to have a big reach and high participation rates.

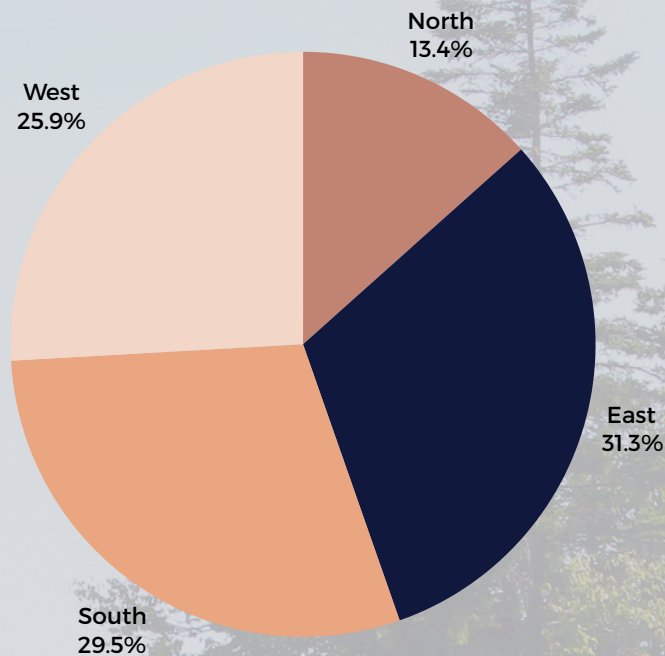
As part of IPRF's commitment to remain transparent, true to our values, and to understand the ways in which IPRF is different from Western philanthropic approaches, Reciprocal Consulting is conducting a 3 year evaluation of IPRF's work and relationships.

Below is a summary of intakes 29-31 that IPRF delivered this past year.

2023 NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED



2023 BUNDLE SUPPORT BY DIRECTION

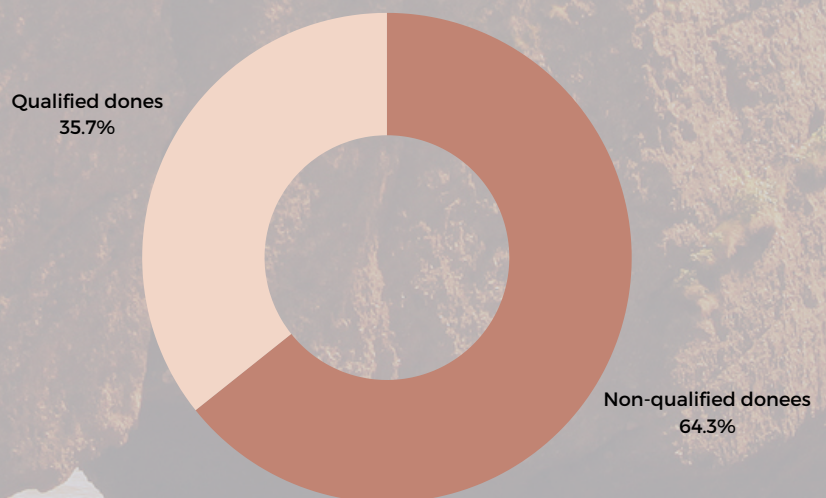


2023 TYPE OF ORGANIZATION SUPPORTED

A key aspect of stewarding Indigenous philanthropy is stepping out of the colonial bounds of 'qualified organizations.' IPRF believes that community knows what community needs, and we are dedicated to building reciprocal and trust-based relationships. IPRF provides for all Indigenous organizations and communities, and we have always viewed our bundle recipients in this way. We don't see the difference between qualified and non-qualified donees, as all organizations have the funding gaps that we strive to support.

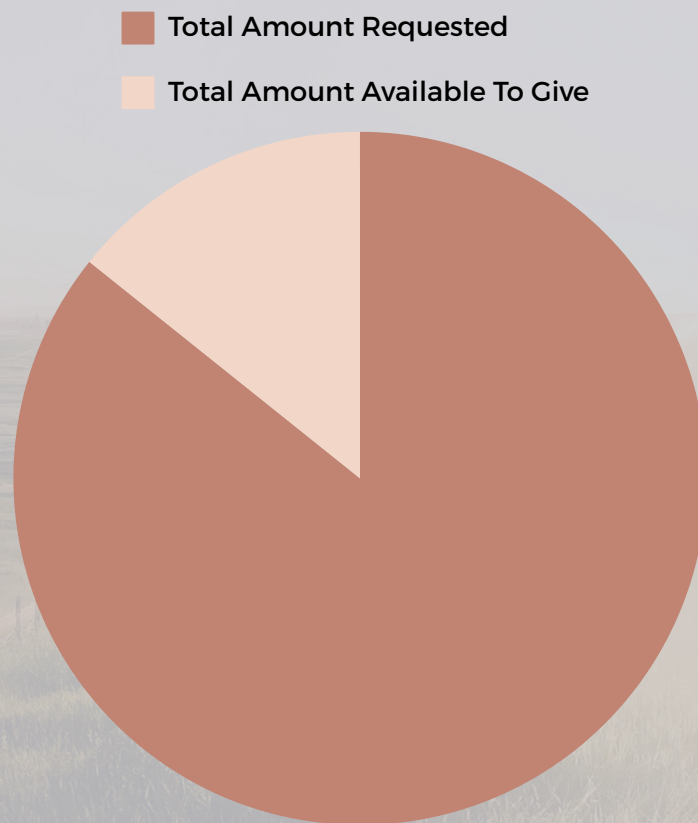
"When I first joined Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund (IPRF) a year into the pandemic, IPRF had already been supporting communities from coast to coast. Though what seemed at first glance to be the norm, I soon learned supporting qualified and non-qualified groups was not the case for the rest of philanthropy."

-Joe Plant, IPRF team member



AMOUNT REQUESTED AND AMOUNT AVAILABLE

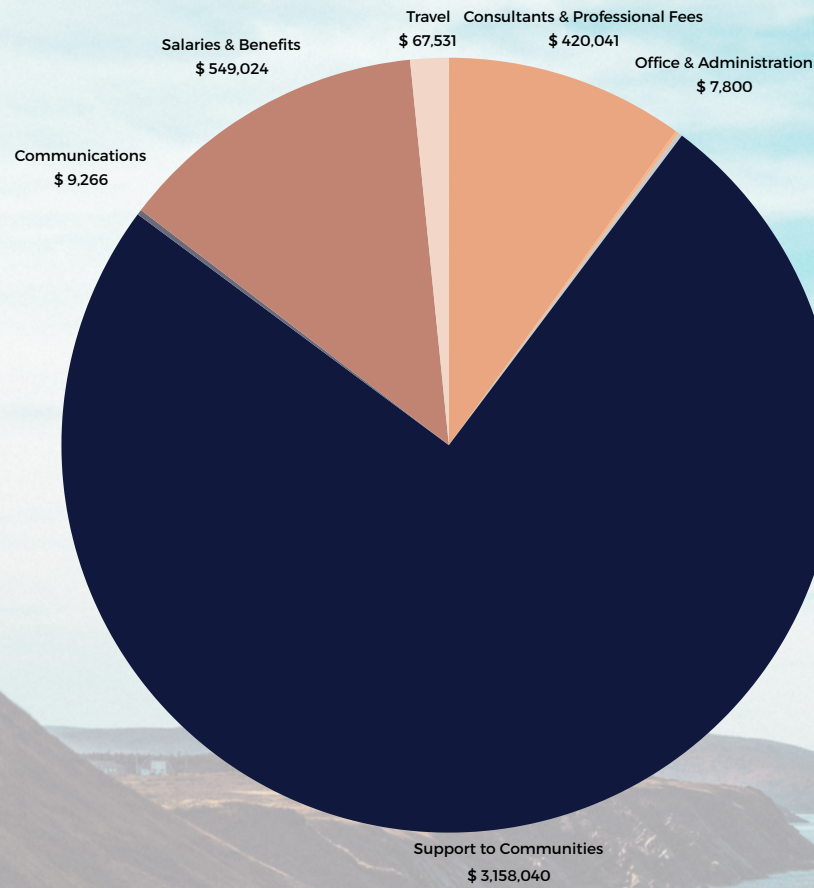
IPRF distributed close to \$3 million dollars to Indigenous-led organizations in 2023. As you can see from the chart below, the requests significantly outnumber the funds currently available. Indigenous communities are actively engaging with us and showing us that there is a high demand for funding Indigenous-led organizations across the country. IPRF is dedicated to continuing our work, building social capital and holding space for learning, innovation, relationship-building, co-creation and activation and bridging the gap between Western philanthropy and Indigenous-led philanthropy.



EMERGENCY SUPPORT

Apart from long-term, sustainable impact, IPRF recognizes the necessity of emergency support measures to respond to exceptional circumstances that arise and create detrimental harm and destruction in Indigenous communities, like wildfires or floods. IPRF acknowledges that timely responses have the potential to make a difference in the quality of life for the members of the community. In 2023, IPRF provided over \$140,000 to support four Indigenous organizations serving communities in emergency events.

IPRF EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023



Support to Communities
\$3,158,040

Communications
\$9,266

Salaries & Benefits
\$549,024

Travel
\$67,531

Consultants & Professional Fees
\$420,041

Advisory Committee Meeting
\$5,280

Office and Administration
\$7,800

THE FUTURE

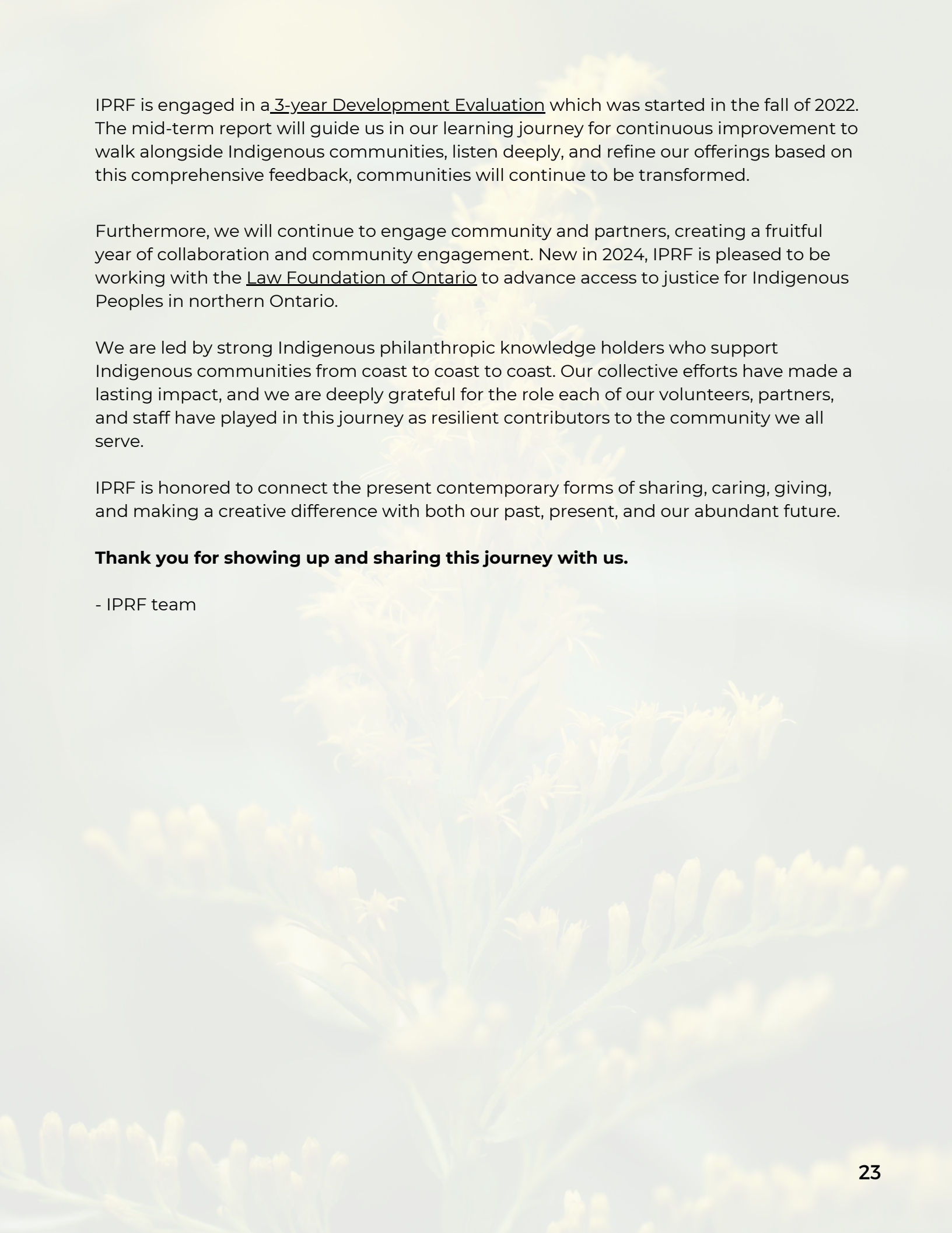
2024 And Beyond: Abundant Futures, Planting the Seeds

IPRF is sharing the cycles of receiving and giving as another year has passed. Communities have always embraced their forms of Indigenous reciprocity. Our theme for this year's annual report is that we recognize what the community has taught us and that the concept of IPRF is something worth sharing through our cultural practice of giving.

“Much like the ancient trees that weather storms and continue to reach for the sky, IPRF is continuing to reach new heights in meeting communities and organizations where they are.”

In 2023, IPRF's activities and bundle support focused on planting the seeds today in meeting the new moment for an abundant future. With proper care and nourishment, we will create a forest over time. IPRF is planting these seeds of abundance as we have \$15 M in capital commitments to our Long-Term Sustainable Resource Fund. With a capitalization strategy, where we will raise \$50 M within the next two years and \$250 M over the next five years, we will be self-sustaining, generating \$10-12M in interest earned. Investment processes will respect and draw from Indigenous teachings like the Seven Generation principle (take what you need) knowledge, and our common shared values that reflect optimizing impact versus a maximizing returns approach. These seeds we have planted through our capitalization strategy will help us move from the unimaginable to the realized, achieving great things together through our strengths, hopes, and aspirations.

Much like the ancient trees that weather storms and continue to reach for the sky, IPRF is continuing to reach new heights in meeting communities and organizations where they are. 2023 saw a leadership transition from our co-founders Victoria Grant and Wanda Brascoupe. IPRF is grateful for their leadership and the relationships they built with the partners and the Indigenous communities we serve. [Janine Manning is our new Executive Team Lead](#) and as part of the abundant future, Janine is another example of resiliency and strength we hope to build on our co-founder's legacy of leadership in 2024 and beyond. Our path forward is one of hope and strength, and it is in this spirit that we wish to continue to build on and respect and foster the resilience and self-reliance of Indigenous communities.



IPRF is engaged in a 3-year Development Evaluation which was started in the fall of 2022. The mid-term report will guide us in our learning journey for continuous improvement to walk alongside Indigenous communities, listen deeply, and refine our offerings based on this comprehensive feedback, communities will continue to be transformed.

Furthermore, we will continue to engage community and partners, creating a fruitful year of collaboration and community engagement. New in 2024, IPRF is pleased to be working with the Law Foundation of Ontario to advance access to justice for Indigenous Peoples in northern Ontario.

We are led by strong Indigenous philanthropic knowledge holders who support Indigenous communities from coast to coast to coast. Our collective efforts have made a lasting impact, and we are deeply grateful for the role each of our volunteers, partners, and staff have played in this journey as resilient contributors to the community we all serve.

IPRF is honored to connect the present contemporary forms of sharing, caring, giving, and making a creative difference with both our past, present, and our abundant future.

Thank you for showing up and sharing this journey with us.

- IPRF team

RECIPROCAL CONSULTING SNAPSHOT

As part of IPRF's commitment to remain transparent, true to our values, and to understand the ways in which IPRF is different from Western philanthropic approaches, Reciprocal Consulting is conducting a 3 year evaluation of IPRF's work and relationships. The purpose is to co-create and implement an evaluation and learning framework. The scope of this evaluation includes measuring both the process and impact of IPRF's approach and measuring the extent to which the program and program partners are achieving their stated goals.

86 interviews were conducted, with a diverse group of participants, including: approved funding applicants (n = 39), declined funding applicants (n = 15), philanthropic partners (n = 20), staff (n = 6), advisory council members (n = 5), and a grant reviewer (n = 1). IPRF uses this to continue to guide our work and listen to community voices. Below is a preliminary snapshot of key findings:

How Funds Were Used

- Food security and food sovereignty programs
- Health and healing
- Bringing community together
- Meeting emergency needs
- On-the-land programming
- language and culture revitalization
- Staffing and capacity building
- Re-building infrastructure

How Community Defined Success

That their work:

- Was reflective and response to community needs,
- Elevates Indigenous culture
- Supports community connection

Need for IPRF

- Projects would not otherwise be funded
- IPRF elevates community work
- IPRF is by Indigenous people and for Indigenous People

RECIPROCAL CONSULTING SNAPSHOT

Impacts of the IPRF

Most significant change because of the work funded by IPRF

- Increased connections with Elders
- Increased food security
- Expanding their program
- Increased pride in Indigenous identity
- Increased hope

Most significant change for community

- Brought community together
- Responded to community needs
- Grassroots movements are able to move forward

“They are looking at projects and things differently – how we provide out ceremonies and how we conduct our healing – it is innovative – it is different – not the same as western methodologies – so to me looking at it through an innovative way – to me that is what we do it in a culturally different approach than a western approach. That is a hard thing to explain to western foundations – when you go through a grant application – a lot of times you have to explain and educate them while going through the process – and once they understand you don’t even get funded because its like nope that’s not what we want to do so that is quite the learning.”

-Interview Participant from Reciprocal Consulting’s Evaluation of IPRF

Experience With and Feedback on IPRF

- IPRF application process is easy and straightforward
- IPRF application is accessible, flexible and staff are supportive
- IPRF provides strong and timely communication
- IPRF is culturally appropriate
- Most applicants did not experience any challenges, but if they did mention a challenge, it was around communication and timelines
- Applicants found the approach was personal and validating
- Applicant felt heard and understood



Grounded in the values of the Peoples served, we honour
the voice of Indigenous communities and organizations.

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