

NEW
NOUVEAU

Programme LIFT du Canada

Canada LIFTs Program

Wed. Feb. 18, 12:00 pm CT

Mer. 18, février, 12 h HNC

Information Session

Séance d'information

Welcome, the session will begin shortly

Bienvenue, la séance commencera bientôt



icn-rcc.ca/programs/lift/
icn-rcc.ca/programs/lift/fr/



En partenariat avec

Canada

► Agenda

- **Program Overview**
- **Eligibility**
- **Requirements**
 - Registration Process
 - Application Process
- **Funding Streams**
 - Catalyst
 - Momentum
 - Together
- **LIFT Approach**
- **Questions & Answers**

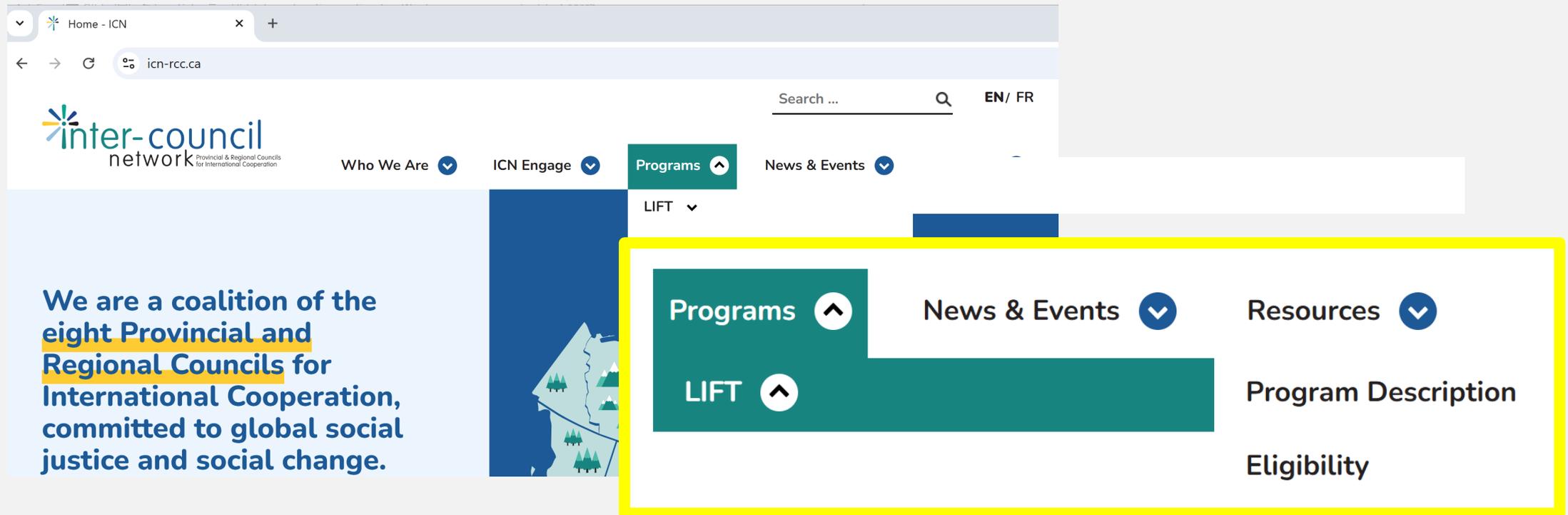
► An Overview

- A new, **purpose-driven** funding and learning program
- Developed **with and for** Canadian SMOs and international partners
- Centred on **supportive, transformative,** and **community-led** engagement in **international cooperation**

The LIFT Program's Intention

Access to funding combined with practical resources, learning, and peer connection, can foster a greater opportunity to reduce barriers, shift power, and strengthen the broader ecosystem in which SMOs operate.

► Program Information and Updates



The image shows a screenshot of the ICN website. The browser address bar displays 'icn-rcc.ca'. The website header includes the 'inter-council network' logo and navigation links for 'Who We Are', 'ICN Engage', 'Programs', 'News & Events', and 'EN/ FR'. A search bar is also present. The 'Programs' menu is expanded, showing 'LIFT' as a sub-option. A yellow box highlights the 'Programs' and 'LIFT' menu items, along with 'News & Events', 'Resources', 'Program Description', and 'Eligibility' options.

Home - ICN

icn-rcc.ca

Search ... EN/ FR

inter-council network Provincial & Regional Councils for International Cooperation

Who We Are

ICN Engage

Programs

News & Events

LIFT

We are a coalition of the eight Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation, committed to global social justice and social change.

Programs

LIFT

News & Events

Resources

Program Description

Eligibility

► Program Information and Updates

February 3, 2026 - For Immediate Release

Program Launches to Support Community-Led International Cooperation by Canadian SMOs

Canadian small and medium-sized organizations (SMOs) working in international cooperation now have access to a new funding and learning program, one designed to reduce barriers, support learning, and strengthen locally-led change.

Canada LIFTs (LIFT) has been created to support Canadian non-profits and charities working in solidarity with local and international partners with access to flexible funding with practical resources, peer connection, and relevant learning opportunities. It will provide predictable opportunities for organizations to respond to community priorities and to engage with diverse public audiences in Canada and around the world.

Developed with and for SMOs, LIFT reflects feedback from organizations seeking funding approaches and support that recognizes lived experience, local leadership, and the realities of working in dynamic contexts with limited resources.

"SMOs have told us clearly that they want funding that meets them where they are, and that supports genuine partnership with communities," said Janice Hamilton, on behalf of the Inter-Council Network (ICN). "LIFT responds to that call. It's a program designed to reduce barriers, build trust, and help organizations work differently."

Funded by Global Affairs Canada, and led by the ICN, LIFT is designed to elevate the broader ecosystem of Canadian SMOs, their partners, and the communities they work.

LIFT will open its first funding stream, **Catalyst**, focused on smaller funding amounts that support experimentation, learning and early impact. Additional streams will follow, with larger amounts and matching opportunities to scale, adapt and deepen collaboration.

Alongside funding, a LIFT community of practice will connect organizations across regions and sectors, enabling peer learning.

The ICN is delighted to have the support of The Honourable Randeep Saral, Secretary of State, International Development who participated in an International Development Week event in Montreal, which celebrated the Canada LIFTs program and the investment in SMOs in International Cooperation.

Program Description

Designed to support transformative, community-led international cooperation by small and medium-sized organizations (SMOs) based in Canada and their partners, LIFT is a new, purpose-driven funding and learning program.

Combining access to funding with practical resources, learning, peer connection, LIFT's explicit intention is to reduce barriers, shift power, and strengthen the broader ecosystem in which SMOs operate.

Program	Description	How to Apply
Catalyst <i>Program Announced February 3, 2026</i>	Funding under \$50K per year (with a \$150K maximum for multi-year funding) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intended to reduce entry barriers and support experimentation, learning, and early impact Often associated with new applicants, however not restricted to them This is a space for first-time and early-stage organizations while still including more established applicants who choose this program 	Register by March 30, 2026 Apply by April 30, 2026 Decisions shared: July 2026
Momentum	Funding above \$50K and below \$200K per year (with a \$400K maximum for multi-year funding) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed for organizations ready to scale, adapt, or deepen their work Requires 5% matching contribution 	Register by June 30, 2026 Apply in September 2026 Decisions shared: November 2026
Together	Funding between \$100K and \$200K per year (with a \$600K maximum for multi-year funding) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires 100% matching contribution 	Register by June 30, 2026 Apply in

About

The Inter-Council Network (ICN) is a coalition of the eight Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation. These independent member-based Councils are committed to global social justice and social change and represent more than 350 diverse civil society organizations across Canada.

Global Affairs Canada manages Canada's diplomatic relations, provides consular services to Canadians, promotes the country's international trade, and leads Canada's international development and humanitarian assistance. LIFT is a program undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through Global Affairs Canada.

[Program Description](#) [Eligibility](#)

[View more programs:](#)

Canada LIFTs Program – Eligibility Criteria

Applicants who meet all of the requirements below are invited to apply.

✓ Organization

Your organization may be eligible if you:

- Are a registered Canadian nonprofit or charity
- Meet the definition of a Small or Medium-Sized Organization (SMO), with your organization's most recent financial statements showing:
 - Consolidated revenue equal to or less than \$10 million, and
 - Annual overseas expenditures in development assistance not exceeding \$2 million (i.e. projects administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as their main objective).
- Have been incorporated in Canada for at least 3 years (can provide proof of legal status (e.g. a letter of incorporation), and a Canada Revenue Agency business number or registered charity number.

Program Eligibility ► Who Qualifies?

As an SMO you may be eligible if you are:

- Registered Canadian nonprofit or charity
- Small or Medium-Sized Organization with your organization's most recent financial statements showing:
 - Consolidated revenue equal to or less than \$10 million, and
 - Annual overseas expenditures in development assistance* not exceeding \$2 million
- Legally incorporated in Canada for at least 3 years (with proof of legal status such as a letter of incorporation), and a CRA business number or registered charity number.
- Able to provide 3 years of financial statements (audited preferred but not required)
- Capable of demonstrating financial, ethical, and operational capacity to manage funds responsibly

*For example: projects administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as their main objective

Program Eligibility ► What Types of Projects?

As an SMO your project may be eligible if it:

- Involves work in **international cooperation, global solidarity, or eligible public engagement**
- Proposes activities in **ODA-eligible countries** (or that focus on eligible public engagement in Canada)
- Is **community-informed and partner-led**, with clear roles for partners and participants
- Aligns with **LIFT values**, including localization, equity, learning, and Do No Harm
- Promotes **gender equality and inclusion**, addressing barriers and power imbalances
- Complies with and upholds good practices in **environmental, ethical, and human rights standards**

Program Eligibility ► Process and Next Steps

In order to apply you must also do the following:

- Complete the **registration** by the deadline
- Submit **one complete application only**, by the deadline
- Apply in **English or French**
- Have only **1 active project at a time**

Canada LIFTs Program

Program
Funding

Catalyst

Momentum

Together

Program	Description	How to Apply
Canada LIFTs Catalyst Fund <i>Program Announced February 3, 2026</i>	<p>Funding under \$50K per year (with a \$150K maximum for multi-year funding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intended to reduce entry barriers and support experimentation, learning, and early impact• Often associated with new applicants, however not restricted to them• This is a space for first-time and early-stage organizations while still including more established applicants who choose this program	<p>Register between: February 19 and March 30, 2026</p> <p>Apply by: April 30, 2026</p> <p>Decisions shared: July 2026</p>
Canada LIFTs Momentum Fund	<p>Funding above \$50K and below \$200K per year (with a \$400K maximum for multi-year funding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designed for organizations ready to scale, adapt, or deepen their work• Requires 5% matching contribution	<p>Register between: April 1 and June 30, 2026</p> <p>Apply in: September 2026</p> <p>Decisions shared: November 2026</p>
Canada LIFTs Together Fund	<p>Funding between \$100K and \$200K per year (with a \$600K maximum for multi-year funding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires 100% matching contribution• If selected 3 years of funding will be guaranteed	<p>Register between: April 1 and June 30, 2026</p> <p>Apply in: September 2026</p> <p>Decisions shared: November 2026</p>

► About the Momentum Fund

Eligibility Parameters for the Momentum Fund

- Funding request for **\$50,001–\$200,000/year (maximum \$400,000)**
- Project length: **1 year** (possibility of renewal)
- Apply for or have **only one active LIFT fund at a time**
- Must **provide 5% matching** contribution
- One application per organization
- May include construction

Registration and Application details for Momentum will be available in the coming months on the ICN website.

► About the Together Fund

Eligibility Parameters for the Together Fund

- Funding request for **\$100,001 - \$200,000/year (maximum \$600,000)**
- Project length: **1–4 years** (multi-year funding will be approved)
- Apply for or have **only one active LIFT fund at a time**
- Must **provide 100% matching funds** (or 50/50 split)
- One application per organization
- May include construction

Registration and Application details for Together will be available in the coming months on the ICN website.

► Now Launching: Catalyst

Eligibility Parameters for the Catalyst Fund

- Funding request for **\$10,000–\$50,000/year (maximum \$150,000)**
- Project length: **1 year**
- Possibility for renewal up to two additional years
- One application per organization

Not eligible

- Projects with **construction**: (e.g. building a new structure or refurbishing an existing structure – even if funded outside of LIFT)

The Catalyst Fund's Intentions

To reduce entry barriers and support experimentation, learning, and early impact.

To hold space for first-time and early-stage organizations, while also including more established applicants who choose this program.

► Now Launching: Catalyst

Next Steps for the Catalyst Fund

- Registration open from **February 18 to March 30**
- Review your eligibility before registering
- Use the Registration link on the ICN website
- Completed registrations will receive a Catalyst Fund application **on April 1**
- Application window closes **April 30**

If you want to apply for the Catalyst Fund, you must register first.

Registration is required by the March 30, 2026 deadline.

► Timelines

You can find all key dates and LIFT information on the ICN website.

Go to 'Programs' on the homepage, then select LIFT in the dropdown menu.

Dates for the next two funds (Momentum and Together) are subject to change while the LIFT Team and the ICN develop and finalize details.

► Approach/How We Operate

- Emphasis on local leadership and shared learning
- Decolonizing, anti-racist, feminist principles
- Responsive, learner-centred, equity-focused
- Simplified application process
- Grant renewal possibilities
- Responsive to SMOs' needs

The LIFT program goes beyond funding. It will include opportunities for accompaniment, community of practice, and public engagement.

We accept that we are a new program, and we will be learning and adapting as we go.

▶ Team and Presence

We are building out our program and team, and as we have updates this information will be shared.

For now, all LIFT details are on the ICN website (icn-rcc.ca) and will be shared by the provincial/regional councils.

► Next Steps

- Information will be on the ICN website including:
 - An FAQ
 - Recording of the webinar
 - PDF of the PowerPoint
- If you're applying for the Catalyst fund, you need to register by **March 30**
- **The Registration link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WB9Z833>**
- A Catalyst Fund Questions and Answers Session will be scheduled in April (TBD) once you have access to the application
- If interested in the Momentum and Together funds, more information will be coming soon on the website
- Watch for a survey following the event