

Briefing Note

For Decision

NOTE ID: BN003

March 17, 2025

MEMO TO: The Deputy Minister

SUBJECT: Approval of a \$55,000 Grant to the Nexus Community Institute

1. SUMMARY

This briefing note seeks approval for a \$55,000 grant to the Nexus Community Institute to support their ongoing community development programs in southern Ottawa. The grant will enable the continuation of initiatives that have been well-received and have demonstrated positive impacts over the past eight years.

3. BACKGROUND

The Nexus Community Institute has been operating various community development programs in southern Ottawa for eight years. Their initiatives include developing funding programs for families to settle in smaller communities, providing information resources for women to support their self-development and community connectivity, and conducting community-centered research to enhance rural and small community capacity for family and economic development. These programs have been instrumental in fostering stronger, more resilient communities in the region.

4. CONSIDERATIONS

Approving this grant will ensure the continuity of valuable community programs that have proven beneficial. The Institute's track record of successful implementation and positive community feedback supports the need for ongoing funding. However, it is essential to consider the current fiscal environment and ensure that the grant aligns with the department's strategic priorities and budgetary constraints. Additionally, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms should be in place to assess the continued effectiveness of the programs.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The Nexus Community Institute's programs have made significant contributions to community development in southern Ottawa. Continued support through this grant will help sustain these initiatives, benefiting families and enhancing economic development in the region. The positive outcomes and community support for these programs justify the investment.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Deputy Minister approve the \$55,000 grant to the Nexus Community Institute. This approval should be accompanied by a requirement for the Institute to provide regular progress reports and a final evaluation of the programs' impact to ensure accountability and effectiveness.