

Briefing Note

For Decision

NOTE ID: BN004

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 recommends approval of a \$55,000 grant to the Nexus Community Institute to continue its established community development programs in southern Ottawa. The Institute has a proven eight-year track record of implementing successful initiatives that strengthen community infrastructure, support family settlement, and promote women's access to resources.

3. BACKGROUND

The Nexus Community Institute has been operating community development programs in southern Ottawa for eight years. These programs have been well-received and have demonstrated tangible benefits for residents in smaller communities. The Institute focuses on three primary areas: developing funding programs to help families settle in smaller communities in southern Ottawa; providing information resources for women that enhance self-development, community connectivity, and access to support services; and conducting community-centered research to build rural and small community capacity for family and economic development.

4. CONSIDERATIONS

The Institute's programs address several key priorities of the department, including promoting regional development, supporting women's empowerment, and enhancing community resilience. The continuation of these programs would maintain valuable services that have become integral to many southern Ottawa communities. The Institute's community-centered research also generates valuable data and insights that inform broader policy development and program design. Financial records and previous grant reporting demonstrate the Institute's sound fiscal management and ability to achieve stated objectives.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Given the Institute's established track record, alignment with departmental priorities, and demonstrated impact, the proposed grant represents a valuable investment in community

development. The Institute's programs fill important gaps in small community infrastructure and support services, particularly for families and women in southern Ottawa.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Deputy Minister approve the \$55,000 grant to the Nexus Community Institute to support the continuation of its community development programs in southern Ottawa for the upcoming fiscal year.