

Minister of Housing,  
Infrastructure  
and Communities



Ministre du Logement,  
de l'Infrastructure  
et des Collectivités

Ottawa, Canada K1P 0B6

March 14, 2025

Jesse Hulsman  
Director of Infrastructure & Operations  
Municipality of East Hants  
50 A Poplar Dr  
East Hants, NS B2S1X2  
jhulsman@easthants.ca

Dear Jesse Hulsman:

I am pleased to inform you that your project CHIFC-001076 *Brookside Wastewater Revitalization* is approved in principle under the terms and conditions of the Government of Canada's Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF) Direct Delivery stream.

Federal funding of the project from the CHIF program will be the lesser of: up to \$6,307,410; or, up to 50 percent of the total eligible project costs, per the program terms and conditions. Additionally, it is your responsibility to verify stacking limit conditions of all government programs providing funding to the project.

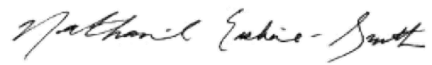
Program officials from my Department will be in contact with you soon to discuss the funding agreement and help schedule an announcement. The reimbursement of eligible project costs can occur only after a funding agreement has been signed by both your organization and Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC). Please carefully review the Annex attached to this letter, which contains important details about the conditions associated with this approval in principle.

The Government of Canada is committed to helping you make housing more attainable and affordable for our communities and ensure the continued delivery of essential services for all residents. The CHIFC-001076 *Brookside Wastewater Revitalization* is an excellent example of the commitment and vision needed to make this a reality across our country.

Canada

Thank you for your application, and congratulations once again. I look forward to seeing this project come to fruition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nathaniel Erskine-Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Honourable Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities

Encl. *Annex - Approval in Principle Conditions*

## **Annex - Approval in Principle Conditions**

This approval in principle is based on your application and the information contained therein. For a Contribution Agreement to be signed and for funding to be disbursed, a number of conditions have to be met.

### **Eligible Project Costs**

For the purpose of reimbursement, eligible project costs, as determined under the terms and conditions of the CHIF program, must be incurred on or after the date of this letter and before September 30, 2031, and must be associated with contracts signed on or after the date of this letter. Costs incurred outside of this timeframe will be deemed ineligible, with the exception of costs related to environmental assessment and Indigenous consultation and engagement activities, as well as costs associated with climate-related requirements, which are retroactively eligible up to two years prior to project approval, but no earlier than September 10, 2024.

Total funding from all levels of government (including municipal, provincial, territorial, and federal) cannot exceed 100 percent of total project costs, and total federal government funding cannot exceed 100 percent of total eligible project costs under this program.

The reimbursement of eligible project costs incurred is subject to the timely execution of a funding agreement. If a funding agreement is not signed, the Government of Canada will not reimburse any costs incurred. Once executed, the funding agreement represents the final step of the funding approval process.

### **Project Changes**

Any changes to the project will require careful review and approval by HICC. As your project is being approved in principle based on the information in your application, please notify officials, in writing, should you expect changes in scope or timing to the project.

### **Environmental Assessment**

Canada has determined that there are no federal requirements under the Impact Assessment Act (IAA) for this Project.

## **Indigenous Consultation**

Canada has determined that there is a legal obligation to consult with Indigenous peoples since Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights under Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 could be adversely impacted by this Project. Until such time that HICC confirms that federal requirements to consult with Indigenous peoples are met and continue to be met, no site preparation, vegetation removal or construction can occur and Canada will not pay for eligible costs. A letter describing requirements will follow. In addition, any conditions will be outlined in the Contribution Agreement to be negotiated.

## **Climate-related requirements**

The project is subject to climate-related program requirements. For Canada to pay eligible costs for the project, a climate report containing information on these requirements must be submitted to Canada, to Canada's satisfaction.

## **Public Communications Protocol**

Departmental officials will contact you shortly to move forward with the negotiation of the funding agreement. Thereafter, HICC's Communications Branch will be available to discuss how a joint funding announcement, and all other communications activities, will be coordinated, and the roles and responsibilities of each party. They will also proactively reach out in advance of opportunities for a joint announcement. We ask that all external communication activities about the approval of the project remain confidential until a joint announcement involving both parties can take place. This relates specifically to a formal public announcement, news release, and/or official project milestones (such as ground-breaking ceremonies or grand openings).

HICC recognizes that prior to a formal joint announcement, you may have specific activities that you need to undertake to ensure that the project is progressing in a timely manner. Communications of an operational nature (e.g., calls for tender, construction, and public safety notices, etc.) can be carried out. Furthermore, you are permitted to engage stakeholders to proceed with planning or consultation, and you may enter into contracts to advance your project's design or other work.

### **Additional Conditions**

In addition to other terms and conditions that will be identified within the funding agreement, the funding will be subject to the following conditions:

- Your organization will establish and use competitive and transparent tendering processes unless approved in advance by HICC;
- All ineligible costs, cost increases or overruns, and any costs related to the ongoing operation and maintenance of the project, will be the responsibility of your organization. Eligible costs will only be reimbursed by Canada up to the maximum of \$6,307,410 approved for this project. It is your responsibility to confirm the eligibility of all items identified in the application prior to incurring expenses, as claims made for ineligible costs will not be reimbursed;
- HICC requires confirmation that all remaining project funding has been secured prior to entering into a funding agreement. This includes loans from the Canada Infrastructure Bank, where applicable;
- The applicant must own or have secured all necessary rights and interest in the asset or assets Canada funds. Canada may request documentation to verify asset ownership or agreements prior to entering into a funding agreement; and,
- To receive funding, the project must be authorized or endorsed by a resolution of Council, Band, or Board of Directors, as applicable. The resolution must be received before a funding agreement can be executed.