



Program Guidelines

Fire Equipment and Training Fund

2025 Manitoba Wildfires

Overview

In support of communities impacted by and responding to the 2025 Manitoba wildfires, the Canadian Red Cross is mobilizing funding to Indigenous communities and municipalities to help local fire departments recover and strengthen their capacity to respond to future wildfire events. Through the 2025 Manitoba Fire Equipment and Training Fund, one-time grants are available to support initiatives that address gaps in training and minor equipment needs identified during the 2025 wildfire response. This includes purchasing new equipment or replacing equipment that was used or lost during the fires and providing training to strengthen wildfire readiness and response capacity.

For more information on how the Canadian Red Cross is supporting individuals, families, and communities affected by the 2025 wildfires in Manitoba, [please visit our website](#).

Key dates

Application deadline	July 31, 2026
Eligible project timeframe	April 1, 2026 – April 30, 2027

Who can apply?

Indigenous governments, municipalities and municipal entities, and regional entities, including Tribal Councils and Mutual Aid Districts, that were directly impacted by the 2025 Manitoba wildfires can apply.

The following are **ineligible** for grant funding by the Canadian Red Cross:

- Individuals
- For-profit organizations or businesses
- Political organizations

What can this funding support?

The 2025 Manitoba Fire Equipment and Training Fund provides grants to support **minor equipment purchases** and **wildland firefighter training** for fire departments serving First Nations, Métis Settlements, and municipalities impacted by the 2025 Manitoba wildfires. This funding is intended to help fire departments address the needs and gaps identified during the wildfire response, while strengthening their ability to respond to future wildfire events.

Funding is available for training and equipment purchases made between **April 1, 2026, and April 30, 2027**.

What funding is available?

Funding requests must be between **\$10,000 and \$200,000**, based on the population size of the community:

- ✓ Communities with a population of **1,999 or less** can apply for up to **\$100,000** in funding.
- ✓ Communities with a population of **2,000 or more** can apply for up to **\$200,000** in funding.

We're listening!

We have learned of the unique challenges and needs of some communities and regional entities, despite their population size. Depending on the availability of funding and other equity considerations, high value equipment over \$50,000 and requests that exceed the funding limitations outlined above may be considered for entities that meet some of the criteria below:

- Fire departments that are mandated to and responded to large populations or multiple communities or regions in the 2025 Manitoba Wildfires.
- Remote, isolated or difficult to access communities.
- Communities that served as large service centers or hosts for multiple communities seeking services during the 2025 Manitoba Wildfires
- Regional entities that provide coordination support, such as Tribal Councils and Mutual Aid Districts.

Speak to a grant officer at CRCgrants@redcross.ca for more information.

All funding will be awarded with the following considerations:

- The availability of funds.
- Equitable distribution of funds across communities and geographies impacted by the 2025 Manitoba wildfires.
- The population the proposal supports.
- The location and accessibility of the community.



Proposals must be from communities or organizations that were directly impacted by the 2025 Manitoba Wildfires.

Eligible costs and activities

Training

Examples of eligible training costs and activities include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Wildfire-related training to strengthen firefighter skills and response capacity (e.g., wildfire suppression training, wildfire behaviour training, wildfire safety training, or training for volunteer firefighters)
- ✓ Training related to the use of new equipment used during a wildfire response
- ✓ Costs associated with delivering training, such as facilitator or instructor fees, venue rental, training materials, or other supplies required for training delivery
- ✓ Honoraria for Elders or culturally relevant knowledge holders, where appropriate

Equipment

Examples of eligible minor equipment costs include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Replacement of firefighting equipment used or lost during the 2025 Manitoba wildfires
- ✓ Purchase of equipment and materials that strengthen wildfire response capacity for firefighting personnel (e.g., hoses, pumps, brush saws, wildfire PPE, or other wildfire suppression equipment)
- ✓ Equipment required to support wildfire response operations or training, such as:
 - Wildland fire gear and PPE (jackets, pants, work gloves, boots, and helmets)
 - Portable pumps, hoses, water tanks, fire skid units
 - Two-way radios, investigation cameras, drones
 - Brush saws and other vegetation, management equipment

Note: If your proposal includes the purchase of new equipment or technology, please consider including costs for training associated with their use if your fire department does not have existing knowledge of how to use them.

Ineligible costs and activities

While the Canadian Red Cross aims to be as flexible as possible to respond to community identified recovery needs, there are some activities that we are unable to fund. The following activities are **ineligible** for funding:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">x Major capital purchases such as vehicles, retrofitting of vehicles, and equipment over \$50,000 in value per unit; exceptions may apply as outlined above. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">x Activities that do not adhere to the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values of the Canadian Red Cross |
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- x Ongoing personnel salaries, staffing costs or other core operational expenses, including those intended to expand or scale regular operations
- x Training or activities that take place outside of Canada
- x Requests that would result in double recuperation of funds, for example for items or services covered by insurance, government assistance, or other funding

How to apply?

Invited communities are asked to submit their proposal through the Survey Monkey Apply application portal. A link to the application portal will be shared with invited applicants. For questions regarding the application process, please contact CRCgrants@redcross.ca.

Proposals will be accepted from now until **July 31, 2026**, and will be considered on a rolling basis against available funding and the Canadian Red Cross's understanding of community needs and recovery priorities. The Canadian Red Cross may not be able to fund all proposals or fund proposals to full amount requested.

If you need support or assistance related to this proposal or procurement of needed equipment, please contact our team.

Contact us to discuss your initiative with a Grant Officer:
CRCgrants@redcross.ca