

## Indigenous Guardian Community Visits Information and Application Process

### Building a new Indigenous Guardian program?

### Working on expanding or strengthening an existing Indigenous Guardian program?

### Here's an opportunity to visit with other communities to share and learn!

Across Canada communities are building and strengthening their Indigenous Guardian programs - and there's a lot to learn from each other! Indigenous Guardian Community Visits are an opportunity to visit another Indigenous community to share, learn and be inspired by each other's Indigenous Guardian work. A chance to get together in-person to exchange knowledge, experiences, ideas, successes and challenges related to Indigenous Guardian programs and to spend time together on the land.

Nature United believes in the power of people talking to people. And that's why we are providing an opportunity for communities to apply for funding to support Indigenous Guardian Community Visits. The community visit is organized by communities themselves, and Nature United provides funding to support travel and logistics (up to \$5,000 per visit). Communities that participate in Indigenous Guardian Community Visits will be asked to reflect on and document what they learned after the visit and this will be shared with others through the Indigenous Guardians Toolkit.

**STEP 1:** Consider where your Indigenous Guardian program is currently at, what you most need at this time and how a Community Visit could be useful.

*You might be just getting your program started and want to learn from a more established program. Or your program might be taking on specialized monitoring activities and you want to train with another program about using data collection and data management tools. Or perhaps you've heard about a community that is involving youth and elders in their Indigenous Guardian work and you want to learn more about how that might work in your community. These are just some of the reasons for organizing an Indigenous Guardian Community Visit.*

**STEP 2:** Reach out to another community you would like to visit and come up with some ideas of what you'd like to focus on during your visit.

*You can visit the [Map of Indigenous Guardian Programs](#) on the Indigenous Guardians Toolkit website to find out who's doing what. Once you have made contact with a host community and have found a mutual interest you can submit an application for funding support to make it happen.*

**STEP 3:** Apply to Nature United for funding to help cover costs for the Indigenous Guardian Community Visit. See details below, but to apply for funding there needs to be a visiting community and host community confirmed, an outline of what you'd like to do as part of the Community Visit and a budget of what the visit will cost (Nature United can fund up to \$5,000. If your budget is higher, then communities will need to contribute funding).

The Details ....

For more information or questions, please contact Claire Hutton ([chutton@natureunited.ca](mailto:chutton@natureunited.ca))

**Proposal (see separate document “Application Template”):**

- Provide a brief description about the Indigenous Guardian programs in both the visiting and hosting communities and who will participate in the Community Visit (both for the visiting and hosting communities)
- Describe the topics, issues, and activities that you would like to focus on during the Indigenous Guardian Community Visit and how it will impact/strengthen your respective Indigenous Guardian programs
- Include draft dates, itinerary and agenda for the Indigenous Guardian Community Visit
- Describe how reflections and learnings from the Indigenous Guardians Community Visit will be documented so that it can be shared through the Indigenous Guardians Toolkit
- Proposal must be developed and approved by both the visiting and host communities (include contact information for leads from both visiting and hosting communities)
- The proposal should not be more than 3 pages long (including a budget and itinerary).
- Please use the “[Application Template](#)” for your proposal.

**Budget:**

- Each application should include a detailed budget for the Indigenous Guardian Community Visit (including all costs associated with both the visiting and host communities).
- Nature United recognizes that the cost of visits will vary depending on distances and travel logistics; the budget should reflect accurately the total anticipated costs.
- Nature United can fund up to \$5,000 and therefore may not cover the total budget associated with the Community Visit (other funding sources should be identified in the budget).
- Funds will be dispersed directly to the Indigenous Government/Band/Nation/Stewardship Office of the visiting community and NOT to individuals. Participants are responsible for organizing all aspects of the Community Visit.

**Deadline**

- There are no specific deadlines for this opportunity, applications will be reviewed as they are received.
- Community Visits can occur any time throughout the year.

Please submit proposals by email to Claire Hutton ([chutton@natureunited.ca](mailto:chutton@natureunited.ca)) – and please get in touch if you have any questions.

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