



2023-2024 ISC On-Reserve Program Overview

For the 2023-2024 ISC programs, we have broken the funding into three distinct streams - Cultural and Prescribed Fire, FireSmart™, and Operational Fuel Treatment. Project timelines are two years but the funding maximums per program stream have increased to \$150,000. Each stream can be stacked together to form one larger application (i.e., if you apply for all 3 streams, your community can be eligible for up to \$450,000). Only one Band Council Resolution (BCR) is required at the time of application, no matter how many program streams are applied for. If, for example, 2/3 programs streams are applied for at a specific time, then 1 BCR is required. If, however, at a later date, the 3rd program stream is applied for, then a separate BCR will be required.

Stream Highlights:

A. Operational Fuel Treatment:

This stream is intended to fund treatment of volatile fuels, on reserve, around structures to a distance of 1km or less.

Fuel Management Prescriptions are a normal expectation where fuel treatments occur on forest land. Prescriptions identify strategies and activities that achieve fuel management goals with due consideration of other resource values which exist on the treatment area.

Details of the program and an exhaustive list of eligible Operational Fuel Treatment activities can be found here [2023-2024-ISC-OFT-On-Reserve-Program-Application-Guide](#)

B. Cultural and Prescribed Fire:

What is Cultural and Prescribed Fire?

Cultural fire uses fire on the landscape to achieve specific cultural objectives, is holistic in nature, typically low-intensity, small scale burns that meet community objectives. It is community driven and could involve comprehensive engagement and guidance from Elders and/or Fire Knowledge Keepers.

Prescribed fire often has multiple resource management values, primarily to reduce and manage forest fuels and maintain a certain forest state and/or reduce wildfire risks. It is often applied with greater intensity, occurs during different times, and is set up differently in the planning process.

What is the On-reserve Cultural and Prescribed Fire Revitalization program?

The FNESS-ISC On-Reserve Cultural and Prescribed Fire Revitalization program was created in 2022. It supports First Nation communities' revitalization of fire by working together to; identify logical cultural or prescribed burn units, consultation in conjunction with the BC Wildfire Service to develop burn plans (if applicable), provide assistance in conducting the burns if invited, and coaching and/or mentorship on burns.

Details of the program and an exhaustive list of eligible Cultural and Prescribed Fire activities can be found here [2023-2025-ISC-CRx-On-Reserve-Program-Application-Guide](#)

C. FireSmart:

The FNESS-ISC On-reserve FireSmart program is designed to support Indigenous communities in building wildfire resiliency through implementation of various FireSmart activities which include:

- FireSmart residential and community assessments
- Education, training, and community events
- FireSmart staff positions
- Vegetation Management
- Purchase of hand and power tools

Details of the program and an exhaustive list of eligible FireSmart activities can be found here [2023-2024-ISC-On-Reserve-FireSmart-Program-Application-Guide](#)

Note: If the funding you are looking for is not eligible through the Cultural and Prescribed Fire (CulturalFire@fness.bc.ca), FireSmart (FireSmart@fness.bc.ca), or Operational Fuel Treatment (Fuels@fness.bc.ca) program streams, please contact FNESS Mitigation (mitigation@fness.bc.ca).