

First Nations Environmental Contaminants Program

Waste Management Symposium 2023

May 31, 2023



FNECP Mandate

The Program is helping First Nations improve their health and wellbeing by supporting their capacity to **identify, investigate**, and whenever possible, **reduce** the impact of exposure to **environmental hazards** through community-based research, monitoring, knowledge integration and risk communication.

Guiding Principles:

- ❖ Multi-disciplinary approach: Western science and Traditional Knowledge
- ❖ Community based participatory research
- ❖ Equity
- ❖ Commitment to the First Nations principles of OCAP



FNECP Background

- Established in 1999 to support First Nations' engagement in assessing the extent of environmental contaminants exposure and the potential for associated risks to the health and well-being of First Nations communities south of the 60th parallel
- Facilitate collaboration and building of trustful relationships between academically trained researchers and First Nations communities and organizations
- Enable communities to identify potential human health risks, to make informed decisions, and initiate risk mitigation/remediation actions
- Since 2000, the FNECP has funded over 140 projects across Canada

Community Benefits



Builds capacity among
the next generation of
researchers



Training and hiring
opportunities



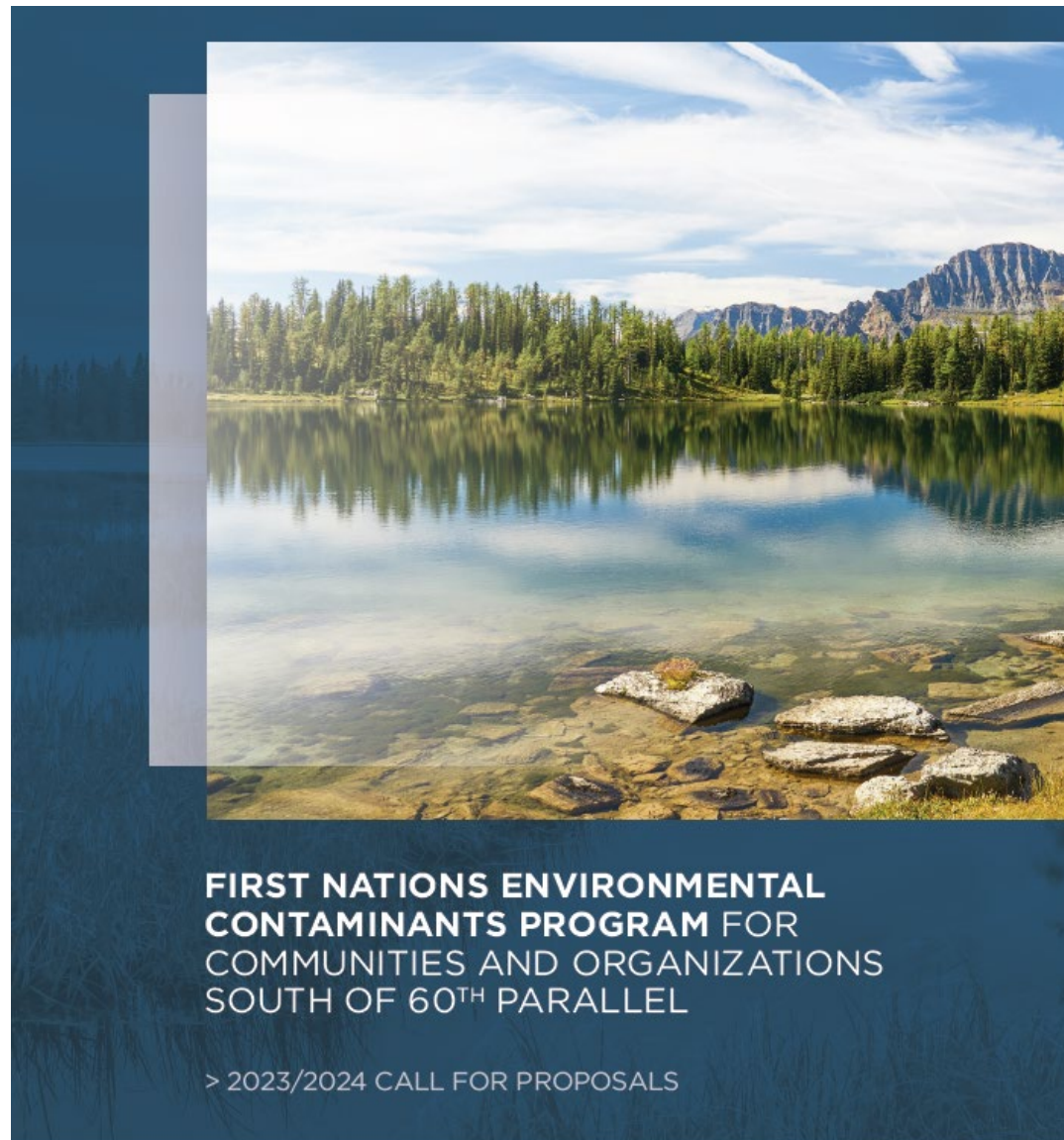
Knowledge transfer
within the community



Supports Traditional
Knowledge transfer

FNECP Call for Proposal

The **FNECP Call for Proposal** is released annually and contains all the necessary information to develop a proposal and apply for the program funding



Who can apply for funding?

- First Nations communities (on-reserve) and First Nations organizations south of the 60° parallel in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec and Atlantic Canada
- Bands, Districts, Tribal Councils and Associations, Councils, governments of self-governing First Nation communities and regions
- First Nations non-government and voluntary associations and organizations

Research Streams

1. Primary Research



2. Knowledge Integration



3. Risk Communication



Project outcomes must be linked to the human health impacts on community members

All research projects should focus on a specific science-based concern, use a multidisciplinary approach and involve community participation in all phases of the research, from the concept development to planning, implementation and reporting

1. Primary Research



Focus on environmental hazard identification, investigation and characterization



Collect information on the **levels of the environmental contaminants of concern in different media** (food, water, soil, or air) and **human exposure routes**



Be achievable in two years



Selected proposals can receive up to **\$125,000** per project in funding **over two years**

2. Knowledge Integration



Focus on secondary research, i.e., make use of existing scientific data



Integrate the existing **scientific data** with **community-based knowledge** to support knowledge integration for an environmental public health issue of concern



Proposals could be submitted prior to and in preparation for a future primary research proposals should knowledge integration demonstrate the need



Selected proposals can receive up to **\$25,000** per project in funding **over one year**



3. Risk Communication

- Can be used for extensive and sophisticated risk communication of the results of previously completed primary research to increase First Nations' awareness of the new knowledge and its implications for human health
- Selected proposals can receive up to **\$25,000 per project** in funding **over one year**



SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR FUNDING



1. The FNECP program requires that:

- Primary research projects be carried out in partnership with **academically trained scientists (a MSc or PhD -level) with a track record of peer-reviewed publications in the field of the proposed project**
- Knowledge integration projects be carried out in partnership with a project lead with **at least a bachelor's degree in environmental sciences, health sciences or education**
- Risk communication projects be carried out in partnership with **academically trained experts (at least a BSc or MSc-level) with proven experience in conducting risk communication in the field of the proposed project**

2. The academic partner(s) must be identified in the proposal



FNECP Contaminants of Interest

- Chemical Hazards
 - Persistent Organic Pollutants
 - Heavy Metals
 - Agricultural Chemicals
 - Pharmaceutical Residues
 - Naturally Occurring Toxins
- Radiological Hazards
 - Radon

The Review Process

1. Mandatory Criteria
Review (MCR)



2. Science Peer
Review (SPR)



3. Community-Based
Merit Review (CBMR)





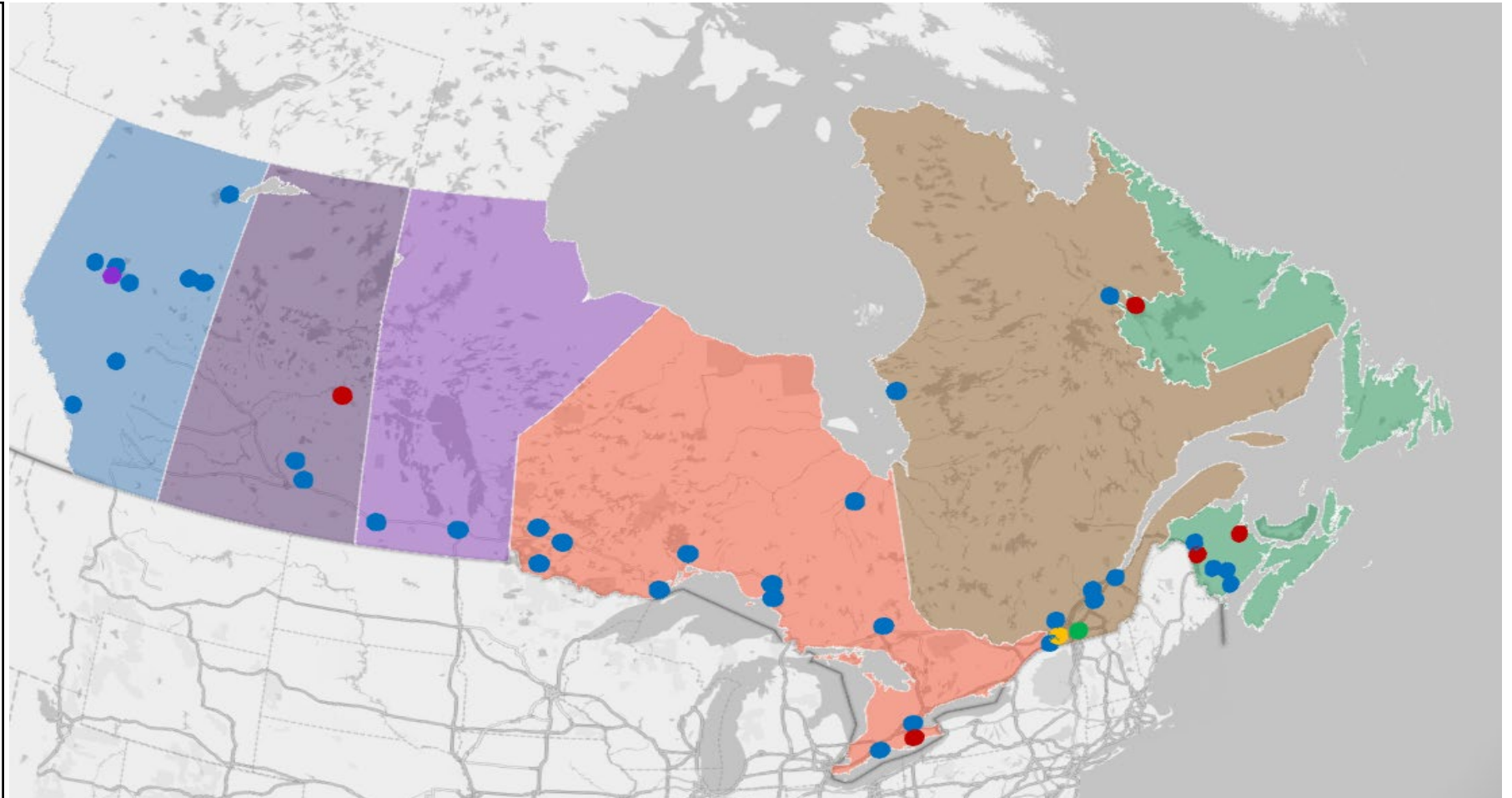
Key Milestones

- Call for Proposal 2024/2025 to be issued (End of June, 2023)
- Webinar Series (July-Sept, 2023)
 - ❑ Introductory Guide for FNECP Webinar
 - ❑ Community Engagement and OCAP Principles Webinars
 - ❑ Proposal Writing Webinars
- Proposal Submission Deadline (End of October, 2023)

FNECP Funded Projects Over the Last 5 Years

Legend

- Chemical Surveillance of Traditional Food, Water, and Soil (n= 35)
- Human Biomonitoring (n= 1)
- Biological Hazard in Traditional foods (n= 1)
- Radon Exposure Assessment (n=5)
- Radon Awareness (n=1)



Additional Information

For more information on the FNECP
contact:

fnecp-plcepn@sac-isc.gc.ca

& visit:



<https://fnecp-plcepn.ca/>

**Programme de lutte contre les contaminants de l'environnement chez
les Premières Nations**

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/fra/1583779185601/1583779243216>

Thank you!
