

SIX RIVERS FUND

The Six Rivers Fund will make a positive difference for northerners by sharing the benefits of uranium mining today—and for generations to come.

The Six Rivers Fund is an independent non-profit corporation governed by a board of directors to help northerners benefit from the uranium mining industry long into the future.

It is devoted to projects and initiatives that benefit the Northern Administrative District within the following four categories: Youth, Education, Health and Wellness, and Sports and Recreation. For the life of the agreement from 2016 to 2023, the Six Rivers Fund has provided nearly \$1 million to such projects.

Funding decisions are made by the board of directors. If you would like to learn more about the fund, check out the website at www.sixriversfund.ca.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Hunting Cabins

To see how the Six Rivers Fund is making a mark in the Northern Administrative District (NAD), just head into the forest north of Fond du Lac.

After about 50 kilometres, you'll find a hunting cabin—the last of seven cabins built in recent years over a 400-kilometre stretch to Barren Lands First Nation in Manitoba.

The cabins are available for anyone who needs them to spend the night, Six Rivers Fund Chairperson Victor Fern says. All they need to gather is wood for a fire.

Hunting caribou is part of a traditional lifestyle—many households have caribou every day, just as folks in southern Saskatchewan might have beef. Caribou is stored in the freezer or dried to last the full year.

The cabins, funded through the Six Rivers Fund, help support that lifestyle, and in doing so provide opportunities for youth in northern communities.

"It's funding that's given to communities to be active," Fern says. "It's important we continue to do that, and we support the youth because of all the issues we deal with in the northern communities. It's good we try and keep them occupied and support mental health with the cultural programs that we support. As an Indigenous person I think it's important we keep our traditions and cultures alive and pass them on to younger generations."

The fund supports projects of any size, big or small, and Fern would like to see more people take advantage in 2024. The NAD includes 39 communities, but only about half have applied to date.

Board members are willing to drive all around the province to encourage more applications, Fern says.

"We continue to see good projects, provide opportunities for members to make decisions—for the north, by the north."



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Cumberland House Gathering Place

Thanks to a \$20,000 grant from the Six Rivers Fund, the Northern Village of Cumberland House's non-profit agency was able to create a gathering space for families.

They bought a house that was in dire need of repair, and local contractors made it suitable for activities such as cooking classes, self-awareness workshops, providing help with budgeting and resumes, counseling services, and family reunification and visiting.

"We thank you so much for this space," coordinator Georgina Deschambeault says.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Tony Cote Winter Games

This year's Tony Cote Winter Games were hosted by James Smith Cree Nation and held in Saskatoon from April 7 to 13. Indigenous youth from across Saskatchewan participated in volleyball, table tennis, badminton, basketball, hockey, and curling.

Athletes also participated in the opening ceremonies held at Prairieland Park, walking out in front of over 500 spectators.

"It was an exciting experience for many of the youth, since it was their first time participating in organized games," Fond Du Lac Band Councilor Freda Whitedeer says of her community's team.

The games were funded in part by a \$20,000 grant from the Six Rivers Fund.

2023 Funded Projects

PROJECT	COMMUNITY	APPROVED
Fond du Lac Summer Games	Fond du Lac	20,000
Missinipi Broadcasting	La Ronge and Northern Sask.	20,000
Buffalo Narrows Ski Club	Buffalo Narrows	5,499
Fond du Lac Radio Station	Fond du Lac	25,000
Creighton School Division	Creighton	20,000
FDL Youth Centre	Fond du Lac	7,500
FDL Shelter Cabins	Fond du Lac	30,000
Gordon Denny School	La Ronge	10,000
Cumberland House	Cumberland House	14,000
Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation Health Services	Pelican Narrows	20,000
Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation Culture Week	Pelican Narrows	10,000
Pine Island Comm Ref Panel	Cumberland House	25,000
St. Pascal Community School	Green Lake	15,000
Wapaw Square Dancers	Pelican Narrows	10,000
Fond du Lac Youth Conference	Fond du Lac	20,000
Treaty 10 Gathering		20,000
Youth Radio/Tech Mentorship Training	MBC Radio	20,000
Total		\$291,999

Do you have a project or initiative you would like Six Rivers Fund to support?

If it aligns with our priorities and you have a minimum of 25% of the funding secured from at least one other source, you are ready to begin the application process. For example, raising \$500 could lead to funding for a \$2,000 youth conference. **Apply online today!**

We accept applications on an ongoing basis and adjudicate twice a year:

Summer/Fall proposals:
apply before May 31

Winter/Spring proposals:
apply before Nov. 15

