

What is it? The Climate Ready Infrastructure Service (CRIS) is a national initiative connecting local governments with climate experts to enhance their infrastructure projects' low-carbon resilience. It's part of the Climate Toolkit for Housing & Infrastructure, a suite of resources supporting local governments in achieving Canada's National Adaptation Strategy and 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan goals.

Who benefits?

- **Local Governments:** Gain access to specialized expertise for integrating climate resilience into infrastructure projects (water systems, transportation, buildings, etc.). Receive guidance, informed decision-making support, and capacity building opportunities.
- **Climate & Infrastructure Experts:** Apply their knowledge to impactful projects, expand their professional network, receive financial compensation, gain recognition as a climate expert, and contribute to national climate goals.

How it works:

1. **Project Proponents:** Local governments with populations under 30,000 submit a service request detailing their project needs.
2. **Expert Matching:** CRIS matches the project with a qualified expert based on the project's scope and the expert's expertise.
3. **Expert Support:** The matched expert provides advice and options to incorporate climate adaptation and mitigation considerations into the project's planning and design.
4. **Outcome Reporting:** Projects are expected to provide data-driven metrics and storytelling to showcase the impact of the expert's involvement.

Key Program Features:

- **No cost to participate:** Access to experts is provided as a free service to local governments.
- **Flexible engagement:** Experts can commit to varying levels of involvement based on project needs.
- **Focus on capacity building:** CRIS supports local governments in developing the knowledge and skills needed for advancing climate-informed infrastructure projects.
- **Support for diverse projects:** Infrastructure projects in the planning and design stage that are looking to enhance climate mitigation, adaptation, or minimize environmental impacts are welcome.
- **Commitment to Indigenous communities:** Indigenous Tribal Authorities and leadership bodies are eligible to apply.

CRIS is a valuable tool for communities seeking to build a more sustainable and resilient future. It helps them:

- **Enhance local capacity:** Develop internal expertise and skills for climate-resilient infrastructure projects.
- **Access specialized knowledge:** Gain access to cutting-edge knowledge and best practices for climate adaptation and mitigation.
- **Align with national goals:** Contribute to achieving Canada's 2030 emissions reduction targets.

Get Involved:

- **Local Governments:** Submit a simple service request through the CRIS website.
- **Climate Experts:** Apply to join the CRIS and become part of this national network.

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