

Department of Education, Culture and Employment
Department of Health and Social Services

Eligibility Criteria for GNWT School-based Nutrition, Healthy Eating, and Healthy Foods Programs

1. GNWT programs funded by federal or external resources related to school-based nutrition programs managed by the Department of Health and Social Services

1.1 Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (ADI) (\$1.3 million)

The Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative provides federal funding to First Nations and Inuit community-based organizations that are able to demonstrate upstream activities that reduce the likelihood of developing diabetes. It also funds training of community-based workers and the management of diabetes.

ADI has funded two school nutrition projects over the past few years:

- ***Drop the Pop***

A small portion of the total funding of ADI has been used to support the school-based campaign called *Drop the Pop*. This is the 6th year of the campaign that intends to reduce the consumption of unhealthy, sugary sweetened beverages and foods, raise awareness of healthy eating and eventually de-normalize the consumption of pop and other sugary beverages. *Drop the Pop* is one of the Healthy Eating programs under the *Healthy Choices Framework*

In addition to the challenge to reduce pop consumption, *Drop the Pop* provides grants of between \$750 and \$2000 to schools, depending on population size. These funds can be used for initiatives that encourage healthy eating. Schools run a variety of activities that promote healthy eating, such as special events with the communities and/or elders involving traditional food; others promote healthy eating along with nutrition education, such as reading food labels, trying new foods, Family Fun nights, engaging parents, teachers and students, such as via the Weledeh School Nutrition Ambassadors.

- ***Together for Healthy Learning Project***

Three education authorities, Yellowknife Education District #1 (YK#1), South Slave District Education Council (DEC) and Deh Cho DEC, formed a coalition that applied for ADI funding over the past three years (2008 to 2011). *Together for Healthy Learning* is a three-board coalition, with an Advisory Committee that includes representatives from ECE and HSS. All education authorities were invited to participate but only the Dehcho, South Slave and YK #1 authorities chose to collaborate on the funding application. Funds are for grants available for nutrition education and skill building, some staffing and other projects, including completion of school nutrition lesson plan development for the Dene Kede Way of Learning.

1.2 SipSmartNWT

SipSmartNWT is funded by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer and is a lesson-plan approach to promoting healthy beverage consumption. This initiative was piloted in 13 schools in 2010-11. The *SipSmartNWT* Project Coordinator is located at William MacDonald School and the project will be implemented, as a component of Drop the Pop, in 2011-12.

There is no criteria attached to this project since it does not provide funding to schools.

2. Program funded by the Department of Health and Social Services

- ***Health Promotion Fund (\$180,000 overall)***

This fund intends to support community-based initiatives that support one or more of the following priorities: healthy eating and active living, healthy pregnancies, tobacco reduction and cessation, injury prevention and sexual health. Funds cannot be used for school meal programs but rather can be used for school-based nutrition and education programs. Applicants completed a very simple application form. Proposals are funded up to a maximum of \$10,000.00.

Funding criteria are described in the Application Guidelines:

http://www.hlthss.gov.nt.ca/english/publications/application_forms.htm#Health_Promotion_Fund

3. Programs funded by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment

- ***Aboriginal Student Achievement Attendance Projects***

In 2010-11, ECE funded attendance projects in NWT schools under the Aboriginal Student Achievement initiative, several of which contributed to healthy meals to promote greater student readiness to learn.

- ***Healthy Food for Learning***

In 2010-11, ECE funded a one-year initiative for meal and nutrition education programs in NWT schools. Funds were used to purchase groceries and for staff costs related to the preparation of school meals, for skill building programs or toward kitchen infrastructure needs.