



## Economic Development Support Team

New Relationship Trust (NRT) has developed a new initiative called the Economic Development Support Team (EDST), which assists First Nations in BC to enhance their economic opportunities.

### ***About the EDST***

The EDST is an advisory service. EDST Advisors are First Nations business specialists who provide support and advice to First Nation communities in BC on how to take the “next steps” to advance business opportunities in their territories. Support and advice are tailored to the specific needs of each participating community – it can apply to evaluation and/or analysis, development or implementation phases of economic projects.

### ***How it works***

NRT provides project management and coordinates the EDST advisory services. A dedicated EDST Coordinator will liaise with participating First Nations, guide them through the application process, and coordinate EDST Advisor schedules.

The EDST Coordinator will redirect communities to apply for other NRT funding sources if they require early stage business support.

After completing and submitting the EDST application, if a First Nation wishes a follow-up interview to be conducted by an EDST Advisor, the First Nation will be invoiced a one-time \$1,000 fee. During the follow-up interview, EDST Advisors will ask questions to help determine which economic development steps to recommend to the community.

### ***Eligibility***

First Nations in BC that have established economic development infrastructure and are seeking advice on how to advance specific business projects in an effective manner are encouraged to apply to the EDST initiative.

Tribal Councils in BC can also apply on behalf of First Nations with accompanying support letters.

The EDST is currently responding to short-term requests for capacity development support (approximately three years).



**Economic Development Support Team  
Application Form**

Name of First Nation: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

The EDST application questions will help the EDST Advisors to understand your current economic development status. After receiving your application, we will assess your responses and will assign an EDST Advisor to travel to your First Nation to do a follow-up interview.

1. Do your First Nations community members hunt, fish, gather foods and perform cultural ceremonies in your territory?  
 Yes     No
2. Do community members conduct other activities in your territories that show a continued use of your lands and waters?  
 Yes     No
3. Does your First Nation hold regular community meetings?  
 Yes     No
  - a. If so, do you discuss business projects proposed within your territory at meetings?  
 Yes     No
4. Has your First Nation developed and adopted a Vision Statement?  
 Yes     No
  - a. If so, has the Vision Statement been shared with community members?  
 Yes     No
5. On a scale of 1 to 5, at what level is your community's knowledge of Aboriginal Rights and Title?  
Some knowledge     1     2     3     4     5 Very knowledgeable
6. If your First Nation has a Treaty, on a scale of 1 to 5, at what level is your community's knowledge of your Treaty Rights?  
Some knowledge     1     2     3     4     5 Very knowledgeable



7. Does your administration collect and document evidence of Aboriginal Title, and do you document your Aboriginal Rights (including oral history)?  
 Yes     No
8. Do you have open dialogues with the provincial and federal government regarding your territory?  
 Yes     No
9. Do you have a legal strategy in place regarding your territory?  
 Yes     No
- a. If so, is there a political strategy in place to support and strengthen your legal strategy?  
 Yes     No
10. Has your First Nation developed legal and political strategies with neighboring First Nations and other groups?  
 Yes     No
11. Does your First Nation have protocols with neighboring First Nations that address interdependency of shared / overlap territory?  
 Yes     No
12. Does your First Nation have Human Resource, Finance and Communication Policies?  
 Yes     No
13. Does your First Nation have Governance policies that include managing the lands and resources?  
 Yes     No
14. Has your First Nation produced the following documents (check all that apply):
- |  |                              |                             |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Annual Report                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| b. Strategic Plan                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| c. Community Development Plan                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| d. Economic Development Plan                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| e. Corporate Investment Plan                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| f. Business Plan for First Nations owned company | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
- If so, do the document(s) incorporate the community Vision Statement?     Yes     No
15. Do you have a Land / Marine Use Plan that details your territory, and your authority and jurisdiction in your territory?  
 Yes     No
16. Do you have a Land Stewardship Plan that explains what activities are/are not allowable in your territory?  
 Yes     No



17. Has your First Nation developed and adopted the following (check all that apply):
- a. Declaration of Sovereignty or Nationhood  Yes  No
  - b. Constitution  Yes  No
  - c. Laws regarding your Territory  Yes  No
18. Does your First Nation actively research and map proposed development projects within your territory?  
 Yes  No
19. Has your First Nation drafted consultation and accommodation (i.e. referral, engagement) protocols and/or policies that you provide to government and industry?  
 Yes  No
- a. If so, do the protocol / policies outline consultation and accommodation expectations that take your cultural values into account?  
 Yes  No
20. Have you adopted laws that strengthen your Aboriginal Title and Rights?  
 Yes  No
21. Do you have a system in place to address infringement of your Aboriginal Title and/or Rights?  
 Yes  No
22. Do you engage with industry proponents separate from dialogue with provincial and federal government?  
 Yes  No
23. Do you proactively engage in business discussions with proponents and/or the Crown?  
 Yes  No
24. Has your community entered into protocols, letters of understanding (LOU), Strategic Engagement Agreements or other agreements with the Crown regarding your territory?  
 Yes  No
25. Has your First Nation entered into negotiations to reassume authority and jurisdiction of your territory from the Crown?  
 Yes  No
26. Does your First Nation have a process in place to assess the impact of proposed projects?  
 Yes  No
27. Does your First Nation conduct an impact assessment prior to entering into negotiations with project proponents and/or the Crown?  
 Yes  No
28. Does your First Nation have a negotiating team that is responsible for engaging with industry (and Crown, if political)?  
 Yes  No



29. Does your First Nation have a process that is used to evaluate project proposals that are provided to you for consideration?
- Yes     No
30. Has your community negotiated any of the following (check all that apply):
- |                                     |                              |                             |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Memorandum of understanding      | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| b. Impact benefit agreement         | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| c. Joint venture agreement          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| d. Revenue sharing agreement        | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| e. Equity position in company       | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| f. Other form of business agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
31. Do you have operational policies and procedures in place for business projects?
- Yes     No
- a. If so, is the Vision Statement of your First Nation incorporated into the business practices and values of your corporate arm?
- Yes     No
32. Does your First Nation have a separate corporate structure in place to develop economic opportunities?
- Yes     No
- a. If so, did you use a hiring process to find your corporate leader?
- Yes     No
33. Do Chief and Council and/or corporation Board receive training on economic development governance practices and systems?
- Yes     No
34. Does your community have a community trust?
- Yes     No
35. Does your First Nation have a strong relationship with your financial institutions (i.e. banks, Aboriginal Capital Corporation, Community Futures)?
- Yes     No
36. Does your community have a data base that lists the skills, education and training of members, which can be used to determine capacity for new business opportunities?
- Yes     No
37. Do community members understand the business objectives of the First Nations economic projects?
- Yes     No
38. Is there a specific economic opportunity that your First Nation would like EDST Advisors to assist you with?
- Yes     No



39. If you have a project in mind, please describe it: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Economic Development Support Team Application**

I understand that the information submitted in and with this application will be used to assess our First Nation’s Economic Development Support Team application. I hereby certify that the information provided with this application form and in any documents accompanying it is true, accurate and complete. I have read the guidelines for the Economic Development Support Team initiative, and by submitting this application, I agree to be bound by the policies and guidelines of this initiative.

*Authorized signatory must be directly from the First Nation (i.e. Chief, Councillor, Band Manager, etc.) and must have title listed.*

Authorized signatory: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit application by fax or email to:**

Veronica Creyke  
EDST Coordinator  
New Relationship Trust  
Suite 1008-100 Park Royal South  
West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2  
Fax: 604-925-3348  
Email: [vcreyke@nrtf.ca](mailto:vcreyke@nrtf.ca)

