

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Operational Partner for Siksika litaisokinaapyoyis Healing Lodge (Siksika Nation Recovery Community)

Issued by:

litaisokinaapyoyis Healing Lodge Board of Directors
Siksika Nation, Alberta

Issue Date: Monday, July 21, 2025

Term of Contract: Start date – Negotiable. End date – March 31, 2027

Proposal Deadline: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 4:00pm MST

1. Overview

The Siksika Nation is inviting proposals from qualified organizations to work in partnership to develop comprehensive operational management services for the Siksika Nation Recovery Community, a forthcoming 75-bed inpatient recovery facility which includes 6 detox beds dedicated to holistic addiction treatment. This initiative is a collaborative effort between the Siksika Nation and the Government of Alberta, aiming to address the pressing need for culturally appropriate recovery services within the community and the broader Calgary region.

The selected partner will report to the litaisokinaapyoyis Healing Lodge Board of Directors. The selected partner will be responsible for providing sub operations in collaboration with litaisokinaapyoyis vision. This includes co-developing operational activities, from pre-opening preparations to co-management of day-to-day operations, ensuring the delivery of services that are both clinically effective and culturally resonant. A key aspect of this partnership will be the commitment to capacity-building within the Siksika Nation, with the goal of transitioning to a fully Nation-operated facility by the end of the initial contract term – March 2027.

2. Background

The Siksika Nation, proud member of the Blackfoot Confederacy, has a rich cultural heritage and a strong commitment to the well-being of its members. Recognizing the devastating impact of addiction on Indigenous communities, the Nation has prioritized

the establishment of a recovery community that integrates traditional healing practices with evidence-based treatment modalities.

In July 2023, the Government of Alberta announced a partnership with the Siksika Nation to develop this recovery facility, investing up to \$30 million in capital funding. The facility is expected to serve up to 300 individuals annually, providing long-term, live-in treatment programs that address the physical, mental, emotional, and cultural aspects of recovery.

3. Scope of Services

The successful proponent will be expected to:

Pre-Opening Phase: (Co-Management and Co-Develop)

- **Operational Planning:** Co-develop comprehensive operational plans, including staffing models, program curricula, and facility management protocols.
- **Staff Recruitment and Training:** In conjunction with the Executive Director, hire and train a multidisciplinary team, emphasizing the inclusion of Siksika Nation members and culturally competent professionals.
- **Facility Readiness:** In collaboration with the Technical Advisory Committee, to assist with the setup of the facility, ensuring compliance with all regulatory requirements and readiness for occupancy.
- **Community Engagement:** Participate and implement recommendations gathered by Siksika Nation community engagement activities.

Operational Phase: (Co-Management and Co-Develop)

- **Program Delivery:** Co-manage the day-to-day operations of the recovery community, delivering inpatient programs that combine clinical treatment with cultural and land-based healing practices.
- **Quality Assurance:** Implement continuous quality improvement processes, including regular evaluations and adjustments to programs and services in collaboration with the Executive Director and approval from the Board of Directors depending on the scope.
- **Compliance and Reporting:** In compliance with the Siksika Nation Financial Administrative Law (FAL) ensure adherence to all applicable regulations and funding agreements, providing regular reports to the Siksika litaisokinaapyoyis Board of Directors, Siksika Nation Chief and Council, and relevant stakeholders including Government of Alberta on a monthly or quarterly basis.
- **Capacity Building:** Provide mentorship and support to develop operational expertise within the Nation. Applicant must complete culturally sensitive training designed to promote awareness, respect, and understanding of Siksika

(Blackfoot) ways of knowing, traditional healing practices, community values, and historical experiences.

4. Proposal Requirements

Proposals should include the following:

1. **Executive Summary:** A brief overview of the organization and its suitability for this project.
 2. **Organizational Profile:** History, mission, governance structure, and relevant experience in managing recovery or healthcare facilities.
 3. **Approach to Siksika Nation Partnership:** Demonstrated experience working with Indigenous communities and strategies for respectful and effective collaboration.
 4. **Operational Plan:** Detailed plans for staffing, program delivery, facility management, and integration of cultural practices.
 5. **Capacity Building Strategy:** Outline of methods to mentor and develop for transition of operations to the litaisokinaapyoyis Executive Director, Siksika Nation members and/or other Nation entities/stakeholders accordingly.
 6. **Financial Proposal:** Comprehensive budget, including projected operational costs and proposed management fees.
 7. **References:** At least two references from similar projects or partnerships.
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5. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

| Criteria | Weight |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Cultural Alignment and Sensitivity | 25% |
| Experience in Recovery Operations | 25% |
| Quality of Operational Plan | 20% |
| Capacity Building Approach | 15% |
| Financial Viability and Transparency | 10% |
| References and Past Performance | 5% |
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6. Submission Instructions

Please submit your proposal electronically by **4:00pm on Tuesday, August 5, 2025** to:

Siksika Nation

Attn: Alayna Doore, Executive Director of Iitaisokinaapyoyis Healing Lodge

Email: alaynad@siksikanation.com

Subject: *RFP – Recovery Community Operational Partner*

For any inquiries or clarifications, please contact the above email by Friday, August 1st 12:00pm MST.

7. Additional Information

The Siksika Nation reserves the right to:

- Accept or reject any or all proposals.
 - Enter into negotiations with one or more proponents.
 - Modify the terms of this RFP at any time.
 - Select the proposal that best aligns with the Iitaisokinaapyoyis's values and objectives.
 - Ownership and reporting of all operational and cultural data.
 - Execute a Non-Disclosure Agreement.
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We look forward to partnering with an organization that shares our commitment to healing, cultural integrity, and community empowerment.

Note: This RFP is based on publicly available information regarding the Siksika Nation's recovery community initiative. For the most accurate and up-to-date details, please refer to official communications from the Siksika Nation.