

# Tips for a better MRIF application

The approval process for MRIF applications is extremely competitive. The number of applications received always outnumbers the number of projects that can be supported. If your community is applying, you should know how to put the best case forward for your project.



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The program's web site and on-line applications (available at [www.infrastructure.mb.ca](http://www.infrastructure.mb.ca)) outline mandatory and ranking criteria. Projects are assessed against these criteria – particularly:

- Give a clear description of what problem/situation the MRIF will address, including:
  - How the problem/situation developed;
  - What local corrective or mitigating **actions** have been/are being taken to help alleviate the problem (outside of the current application); and
  - What alternatives to the requested project were considered.
- Provide an explanation of how the proposed infrastructure will affect the direction of growth and development outlined in the development plan for your area. In particular, explain how the proposed infrastructure relates to the land uses in the areas that are to be served. Please include a **map** showing the location of the proposed infrastructure and areas to be served.
- Describe your long-term Infrastructure Strategy, including:
  - How the costs of on-going maintenance, operating and replacement will be paid for (e.g., meter rates, utility reserves, etc);
  - What the feasibility of this plan is for the current and projected population of your community, at a realistic rate of growth and development; and
  - Options for the phasing in of the project.
- Regional approaches are encouraged where appropriate – e.g., wastewater treatment plants. When making a regional application, attempts to lever more financial partners will be viewed more favorably than approaching senior governments for increased financial requests.

While the above considerations are important to the assessment of your community's application, we hope they also assist you in making more informed choices and decisions that ultimately lessen the burden on all taxpayers.

Local governments are also encouraged to visit InfraGuide, the National Guide to Sustainable Municipal Infrastructure's website at [www.infraguide.ca](http://www.infraguide.ca).

- InfraGuide was created in 2001 when Infrastructure Canada, the Federation of

Canadian Municipalities and the National Research Council came together with the Canadian Public Works Association to help solve the growing infrastructure deficit in Canada.

- InfraGuide works collaboratively to create a network advantage within the broad infrastructure community, and to develop and disseminate best practices and tools that encourage innovation to support sustainable municipal infrastructure decisions and actions that protect and enhance the quality of life of Canadians. ♻️

For further information on the Canada-Manitoba Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund, please contact: Canada-Manitoba Infrastructure Secretariat

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