

Welcome to the new Executive Director of the Arctic Inspiration Prize

The Trustees of the Arctic Inspiration Prize (AIP), and the prize's managing partner, the Rideau Hall Foundation, are delighted to announce that Marti Ford takes on her new role as Executive Director of the Arctic Inspiration Prize beginning today.



Marti brings extensive leadership experience in education and administration, strategic planning, and in developing and maintaining networks of various communities, governments and partners.

A Nunavut beneficiary, Marti is one of the founding members of the Manitoba Inuit Association, and she is an accomplished and passionate advocate of indigenous advancement. Additionally, she serves on several boards and committees including the Poverty Reduction Council, the Canadian Forces Liaison Committee, and Red River College's Research Ethics Committee. Marti holds a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Education, a Post Baccalaureate Certificate

of Education and a Master of Educational Administration from the University of Manitoba. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Education with a focus on Global Indigenous Language and Culture at the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

Marti has broad and comprehensive senior management experience to inform her new role, most recently as Superintendent at Frontier School Division in Manitoba, and previously as Dean of the School of Indigenous Education at Red River College. She has worked in both rural and urban communities as well as internationally.

"The Arctic Inspiration Prize is by the North and for the North. Given the prize's increased size and impact, and the fact the founders have handed it over to the Trust, it's clear the prize needs experienced and proven leadership to lead it into the future," said Jason Annahatak, Chair of the AIP Charitable Trust.

"Marti rose to the top of a competitive group of excellent candidates who vied for this position. We are confident Marti has the leadership skills to ensure the prize's continued success," he added.

“I am so pleased for the opportunity to work with the entire AIP network to bring the prize to the next level, and to help improve the lives of Northerners,” Marti said of her appointment.

Canada’s North is a region of resourcefulness, incredible innovation, and collaboration; when these forces coalesce, people can profoundly impact life in their communities and regions.

Founded in 2012, the Arctic Inspiration Prize is the largest annual prize in Canada with a specific focus on the Canadian Arctic. The AIP encourages, enables and celebrates breakthrough northern initiatives and teams that stand to transform the fields of education, health, social-cultural issues, the environment, the economy, and research.

Each year, up to \$3 million is awarded across three categories: one \$1 million prize, up to four prizes of up to \$500,000, and up to seven youth prizes of up to \$100,000 each. The Arctic Inspiration Prize has awarded more than \$8.4 million to 22 diverse teams over the last 6 years.

To learn more about our inspiring Laureates, or for information about the nomination process, please visit www.arcticinspirationprize.ca

Jason Annahatak,
Chair, Board of Trustees
Arctic Inspiration Prize Charitable Trust