



ARCTIC  
INSPIRATION  
Youth Prize

# NOMINATION GUIDE 2025



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# What is the Youth Prize?

The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize funds and supports youth who have ideas to bring positive change to the North.

The Youth Prize offers up to \$700,000 each year, with seven different youth teams able to win up to \$100,000 each.

The Youth Prize inspires team building and encourages the development of projects that deliver immediate benefit to northern communities.

By enabling teams to carry out projects and by celebrating their achievements, others can be inspired to do the same.

**Does that sound like something for you? Read on.**



# What are the Eligibility Criteria?

**“Eligibility Criteria” are the things your proposed project must have in order to be considered for an Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize.**

## Diversity

The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize aims to inspire team building and empower Northerners to realize opportunities that are important to their communities.

### Team diversity

The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize is an award for teams. Individuals alone cannot be nominated. Since the Youth Prize is about team building, it's recommended that your team be diverse. For example, a youth team might reach out to additional groups, such as Elders, grassroots groups, southerners, teachers or people from research, philanthropy, culture and education communities.

The entity that is nominated for the Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize (the Nominee), and would receive the Youth Prize funds, is required to be northern. Non-northern nominees, even with a project in the North, are not eligible. Note that this does not mean that southern individuals or organizations cannot be part of the project team or provide support. They just cannot be the nominee or the recipient of the Prize funds.

## Age diversity

To be eligible, your Team Leader and more than half of your team members must be 30 years of age or younger.

## Location diversity

The Team Leader and the majority of the team are required to be Northerners as the Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize is about inspiring northern youth to build, lead and manage their own solutions.

For the AIP, a Northerner is defined as:

- An Indigenous person of the North preferably working and residing in the Yukon, NWT, Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut, Nunavik or Nunatsiavut;

or

- A non-Indigenous person working and residing in the Yukon, NWT, Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut, Nunavik or Nunatsiavut.

## Novelty

The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize is focused on innovation and bringing new ideas to life. The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize is about inspiring teams to initiate and implement new, innovative projects with real, relevant impact. Therefore, projects that continue, expand or duplicate already-established initiatives are not eligible.

Proposed projects should be based upon traditional knowledge, scientific research, and/or practical knowledge in order to be eligible.

## Impact

The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize aims to directly impact communities across the North.

### Focused impact

Your team and your project should address opportunities that are relevant and important to the people in your communities. Your project can have one or more focus areas, such as, but not limited to: education; health and wellbeing; culture, arts and language; science and traditional knowledge; climate change; food security; and the economy.

### Causal impact

Your project should address the causes of a northern issue, rather than its symptoms. How the project will address the causes should be clearly outlined in the nomination. For example, a project that aims to prevent oil spills addresses a cause; a project that aims to clean up oil spills addresses a symptom. This applies to all projects.

### Local impact

Your project needs to be carried out and have impact within one of these regions: the Yukon, NWT, the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut, Nunavik and Nunatsiavut.

### Direct impact

Your project should bring about action that has immediate impact. Therefore, projects that only collect and store knowledge are not eligible. Similarly, single, short-term activities (for example, conferences, workshops and meetings) are not eligible unless clearly part of a broader action plan.

### Respectful impact

Proposed projects are required to provide secular, non-partisan solutions that do not contravene the laws of Indigenous self-governments and land claims agreements. (Note that this does not exclude projects that involve Indigenous ceremony, healing, traditional practice, etc.)

## Financial sustainability

The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize is about having impact with the support of partners and team members.

Preferably your project should have some buy-in from people or groups. Buy-in means a committed financial or service contribution, which you'll need to help sustain the project beyond its planned duration.

## General

Your team must use the Nomination Template and complete all sections. Incomplete nominations are not eligible.

Submit your Nomination Template electronically to the Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize by **February 24, 2025 at 11:59 pm PT**. Nominations received after this deadline won't be accepted.

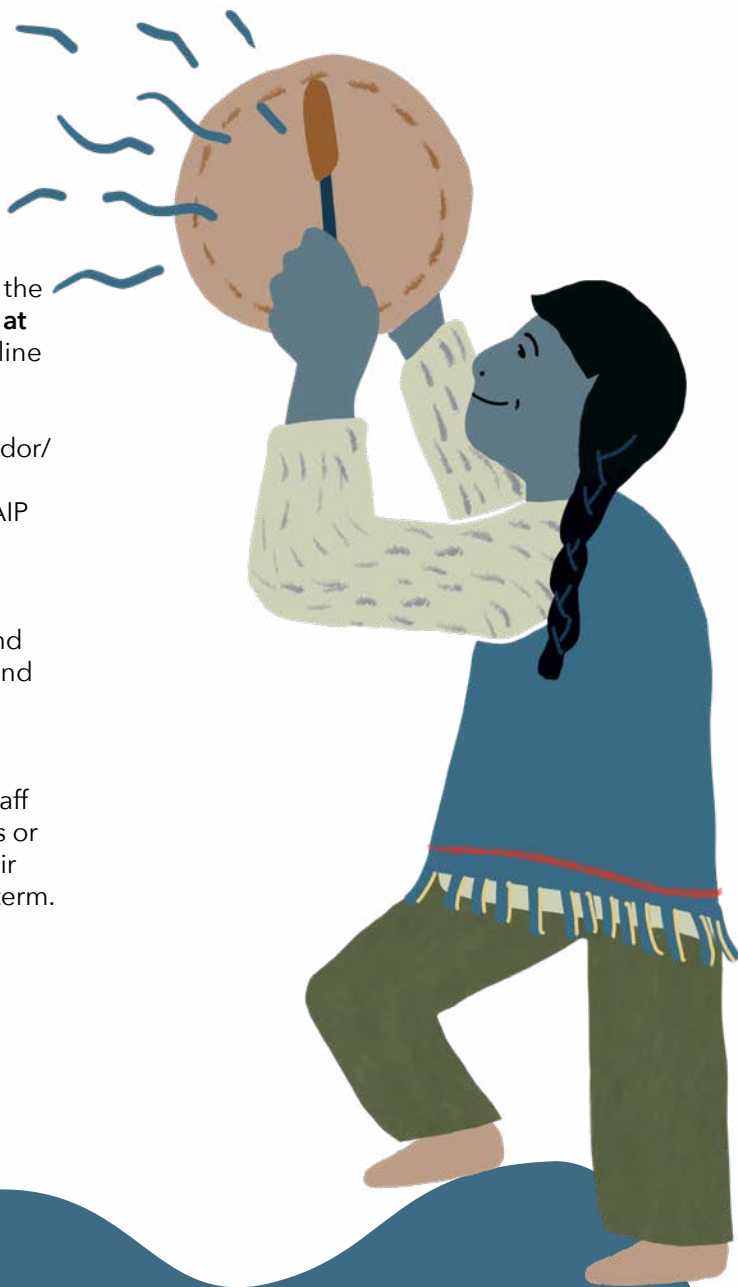
Your team must be nominated by an official Ambassador/Nominator of the Arctic Inspiration Prize who is not connected to the project or team in any way. Your AIP Regional Manager can help you find one.

Nominators should be aware of both the team and project, and be able to confirm the value, quality and relevance of the proposed project by completing and signing a Nomination Letter.

Arctic Inspiration Prize staff, trustees, and Selection Committee members and Rideau Hall Foundation staff and board members are not eligible to be nominees or nominators for the Arctic Inspiration Prize during their terms, and for six months following the end of their term.

See list here:

[arcticinspirationprize.ca/ambassadors](https://arcticinspirationprize.ca/ambassadors)



# How do you choose the winners?

Decisions made by the Selection Committees are based solely on the Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize's weighted Selection Criteria, which are as follows:

1. **Diversity** (score = 2)
2. **Novelty** (score = 1)
3. **Impact** (score = 5)
4. **Financial sustainability** (score = 3)
5. **Project accountability** (score = 2)
  - Degree of accountability (leadership, management, finances, project timelines) and how progress will be measured and reported.
6. **Ability to highlight northern achievements** (score = 2)
  - Degree of your team's ability to highlight inspiring northern achievements and innovations in the North.
  - How well you will be able to promote the Youth Prize and your involvement in it through social and traditional media.

Winner selections are final. There is no appeal process.



## How do we apply?

To be considered for the Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize, you have to 1) fulfill our Eligibility Criteria and then 2) provide all the information we require in the Nomination Template.

But please note that this alone doesn't guarantee that a team will receive an Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize. Only those projects that most strongly fulfill the selection criteria will be selected as Laureates/Winners.

An electronic copy of your completed Nomination Template should be submitted to the Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize office at:

- **Email: [aip@rhf-frh.ca](mailto:aip@rhf-frh.ca)**

The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize office will confirm receipt of the nomination to your Team Leader.

## When do we need to apply?

Send your Nomination no later than:  
**February 24, 2025 at 11:59 pm PT**  
Nominations received after this time will not be eligible.

# What happens if we win?

**First, you celebrate! Then we'll get started. Here's what you and your team agree to:**

- You'll carry out the project as described in your Nomination Template, as this was the basis of the project becoming a Laureate/Winner. Changes to any major elements of the project require the approval of the AIP in advance.
- All winning team members will have to pass an Enhanced Criminal Record Check if your project involves working with vulnerable peoples (for example, children, people with disabilities, the elderly).
- Photographs and information about your team and your proposed project can be used for the promotion of the Youth Prize and other promotional activities (for example, on the Youth Prize website, social media channels, in media releases). The AIP team will reach out for relevant team or project photos.
- You participate in Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize activities, including regional promotion of the Prize, media conferences, ceremonies and receptions.
- Your team and your Ambassador/Nominator will not reveal that you have been selected as a finalist or a Laureate/Winner until you have been given written clearance to do so by the AIP Team.

- Your team will share media coverage of your winning project (that you're aware of) with the Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize office.
- You will clearly note in any communications about your project that you are a 2025 Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize Laureate/Winner.
- Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize staff, trustees, and Selection Committee members may visit your winning team/project during the proposed duration of the project.
- The Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize will retain 4% of the prize amount to conduct an independent impact visualization/evaluation. The results will be given to you and can assist you in fundraising from Arctic Inspiration Youth Prize sustainability partners, governments, and others.

## Nomination Template

The Nomination Template is a tool to help you develop your nomination, and includes specific details regarding elements that a nomination must include, and how a nomination should be organized. The Nomination Template is provided as a workable digital file. To be considered eligible, all sections of the template must be completed in written or video format, as indicated.

[Download the Nomination Template here.](#)



# SHAPE YOUR NORTH

RISE TO THE PRIZE



[arcticinspirationprize.ca/youth-prize](https://arcticinspirationprize.ca/youth-prize)