



AIP Webinar

# From Idea to Application

ARCTIC  
INSPIRATION PRIZE



PRIX INSPIRATION  
ARCTIQUE





# Step 1: Choose the Right Category

The AIP has three different prize categories..

## \$1 Million

- One prize
- \$1 million

## AIP

- up to 4
- up to \$500,000

## Youth Prize

- up to 7 prizes
- up to \$100,000
- Must be led by a youth (30 & under)
- Majority of team must be youth

## Step 2: Review Eligibility Criteria/Matrix

In order to be included in the Arctic Inspiration Prize selection process, nominations are required to fulfill all of the [Eligibility Criteria](#). Fulfilling these criteria does not guarantee that a team will receive an Arctic Inspiration Prize.

IMPACT		
The Arctic Inspiration Prize enables real, relevant, and direct impacts in communities across the Arctic region.		
6.	<p>Teams and projects should address opportunities or challenges that are <b>relevant and of importance</b> to the people and communities of the Canadian Arctic. Northerners must lead and shape the project from inception to implementation to ensure that these projects are truly relevant to the North.</p> <p>A 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; and the economy.</p>	✓
7.	<p>Proposed projects should address the <b>root cause(s)</b> of an Arctic issue, rather than its symptoms. How the project will address the root cause(s) 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 – including those of a socioeconomic and human health nature.</p>	✓
8.	<p>Proposed projects are required to be carried out and have impact within the <b>regions eligible for the Arctic Inspiration Prize</b>: Yukon, Northwest Territories, Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut, Nunavik, and Nunatsiavut.</p>	↑
9.	<p>Proposed projects should bring <b>knowledge to action</b> with lasting impacts. Therefore, projects that <b>only</b> collect and store knowledge are not eligible. Environmental monitoring that goes beyond just collecting and storing knowledge (for example, that includes education, job creation, etc.) is eligible.</p>	✓

# Eligibility Criteria



## *Team Diversity*

The Arctic Inspiration Prize aims to inspire team building and empower Northerners to address challenges and opportunities relevant to their communities.

- **Diverse Perspectives:** The Arctic Inspiration Prize is an award for diverse teams and is about teambuilding. Teams should be broadly diverse. Teams that are not diverse are not eligible.
- **Northern Led and Managed:** The Team Leader and the majority of the team are required to be Northerners as the Arctic Inspiration Prize is about inspiring Northerners to build, lead, and manage their own solutions.
- **Nominee and Recipient of Funds:** The entity that is nominated for the AIP (the nominee) and individuals or organizations that would receive and manage the AIP prize funds are required to be exclusively northern.

# Eligibility Criteria



## *Novelty*

The Arctic Inspiration Prize has a focus on innovation and turning knowledge into action.

- **New Project:** The Arctic Inspiration Prize supports new, innovative, and novel initiatives that are ready to be implemented and have a real, relevant impact in the North. It is important that nominations clearly show how the proposed project is distinct from any ongoing work by the team or others in the same area your project would impact.
- **Knowledge Basis:** Proposed projects should be based upon traditional knowledge, scientific research, and/or practical knowledge (e.g. a small pilot project) in order to be eligible.



# Eligibility Criteria

## *Impact*

The Arctic Inspiration Prize enables real, relevant, and direct impacts in communities across the North.

- **Relevance to the North:** Teams and projects should address opportunities or challenges that are relevant and of importance to the people and communities of the Canadian Arctic.
- **Addressing Causes Rather than Symptoms:** Proposed projects should address the root cause(s) of an Arctic issue, rather than its symptoms. How the project will address the root cause(s) should be clearly outlined in the nomination
- **Region of Impact:** Proposed projects are required to be carried out and have impact within the regions eligible for the Arctic Inspiration Prize: Yukon, the Northwest Territories, the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut, Nunavik, and Nunatsiavut.
- **Impact of Project:** Proposed projects should bring knowledge to action with lasting impacts.
- **Immediate and Long-term Impacts:** Proposed projects should lead to an immediate and long-term impact across a large geographic area or a profound impact in a smaller area.
- **Secular and Non-Partisan:** 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.)
- **Total Project Cost:** The Arctic Inspiration Prize aims to inspire diverse teams to initiate innovative projects with social impact. Therefore, the total project cost cannot be more than twice what you are asking for from the Arctic Inspiration Prize.

# Eligibility Criteria



## *Sustainability and Lasting Impact*

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

- Project Buy-in: Buy-in from partners is required to be at least 20% of the amount requested from the AIP but cannot exceed 100% of the amount requested from the AIP.
- Add buy-in from team members does not count towards the 20% minimum.

# Eligibility Criteria



## *General*

- Submit by Due Date
- Official AIP Ambassador
- Nomination Template Required
- Maintaining Fairness in Nominations: Arctic Inspiration Prize Trustees, staff, 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.

**Once you feel you have developed a project or program that fits within these parameters, it is time to bring your idea to an application!**



# Step 2:

## Nomination/Application Checklist

Use the [Nomination Template](#) to build out your application.

- **\$1 MILLION PRIZE CATEGORY:** One team can win \$1 million
  - [Nomination Guide \\$1 Million Prize](#)
  - [Nomination Template \\$1 Million Prize](#)
  - [Budget Excel Tool \\$1 Million](#)

•	<b>1</b>	<b>Nomination Letter</b>	1 page
	<b>2</b>	<b>Nomination Summary</b>	
•	2.1	Administrative Summary	N/A (table)
•	2.2	Project Summary	250 words
•	<b>3</b>	<b>List and Role of Team Members</b>	150 words per member
	<b>4</b>	<b>Project Plan and Expected Outcomes</b>	
•	4.1	Objectives	250 words
•	4.2	Activities and Outcomes	1000 words
•	4.3	Knowledge Base and Potential Overlap	250 words
•	4.4	Budget and Budget Justification	N/A (table and justification)
•	<b>5</b>	<b>Sustainability and Lasting Impact</b>	250 words
•	<b>6</b>	<b>Accountability of Project Execution</b>	500 words
	<b>7</b>	<b>Communications Plan</b>	
•	7.1	Communications Plan	250 words
•	7.2	How did we learn about the AIP?	75 words
•	<b>8</b>	<b>References Cited</b>	N/A
	<b>9</b>	<b>Letters</b>	
•	9.1	Letters of Recommendation	Maximum 15 letters, 1 page per letter
•	9.2	Letters Confirming Partner Contributions	As needed
•	<b>10</b>	<b>Short Resumes</b>	500 words per resume
•	<b>11</b>	<b>Checklist</b>	N/A

# Step 4: Review Selection Criteria



Refer to the Selection Criteria in the [Nomination Guide](#) to review how applications are weighed during the selection process.

1. Team Diversity (weight = 2)
2. Project Novelty (weight = 1)
3. Impact (weight = 5)
4. Sustainability (weight = 3)
5. Project accountability (weight = 2)
6. Ability to highlight northern achievements (weight = 2)

# Next Steps..

1. Review Eligibility Criteria and/or Evaluation Matrix – Refer to [NOMINATION GUIDE](#).
  2. Compile Application by filling out the [NOMINATION TEMPLATE](#).
  3. Review Selection Criteria.
  4. Complete and submit application by **January 19, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. PT.**
  5. Reach out to the AIP Team and your Region Manager if you have any questions or need any direction!!
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