

NOMINATION GUIDE

2016 Competition for the Arctic Inspiration Prize

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NOMINATION PROCESS:

- Nominators play an essential role in the success of the Arctic Inspiration Prize, especially for small-scale teams/projects. Nominators are expected to work closely with the nominated team to complete the Nomination Package.
- In addition to these guidelines, Nominators should read the [About](#), [Nomination](#) and [FAQ](#) sections of the Arctic Inspiration Prize website before completing the Nomination Package. Contact the Arctic Inspiration Prize office for any additional questions about the program or the nomination process.
- All sections of the 2016 Nomination Package must be completed. Note that the indicated number of pages is a maximum and that the sections can be kept shorter, especially for smaller scale projects.
- Completed 2016 Nomination Packages must be sent to the Arctic Inspiration Prize office before the deadline date of **Friday, 30 September 2016**. Incomplete nominations, or those submitted after the deadline date will not be accepted.

ELIGIBILITY:

- One to five prizes totaling \$1 million may be awarded each year. We encourage nominations for projects of all scales. Smaller scale (local, grassroots) projects (i.e. under \$100,000) are as eligible and encouraged as very large ones (up to \$1 million).
- Teams may not apply directly for the Arctic Inspiration Prize; they must be nominated using the Nomination Package. Self-nominations are not accepted.
- The Prize is for teams only; no individual can be nominated.
- The Prize addresses worldly issues, therefore only secular, non-ideological nominations will be considered for the Prize.
- Officers of the Arctic Inspiration Prize organization and members of the selection committees are not eligible to be nominees or nominators for the Prize during their terms, and for six months following the end of their term.

- Where there is uncertainty about the requirements or processes for the Prize, the Arctic Inspiration Prize organization retains the right to interpret the contents of the nomination guidelines and package.
- Meeting the eligibility criteria allows teams to be nominated for the Arctic Inspiration Prize. It does not, however, guarantee that they will receive a prize.
- Decisions made by the selection committee are final and cannot be appealed.

PRIORITY AREAS:

The knowledge being applied or mobilized must address challenges and opportunities of strategic importance to the Canadian Arctic and its Peoples. The Arctic Inspiration Prize will accept nominations that address the [causes rather than the symptoms](#) of one or more of the following priority areas in the Canadian Arctic. Sub-areas are provided as examples only.

Education

- Primary and secondary scholastic retention
- Environmental education
- Capacity building
- Literacy
- Specialized training programs

Human Health

- Community health and wellness
- Youth health
- Infectious disease
- Country food

Socio-cultural Issues

- Community adaptation
- Resiliency

- Housing
- Cultural identity & traditions

Environment

- Drinking water
- Ecosystems and wildlife
- Climate change
- Sustainability

Economy

- Sustainable development
- Involvement and integration of communities
- Local business
- Tourism

SELECTION CRITERIA:

The following list of criteria will be used to aid both the screening and selection committees. **Meeting criteria 1 to 5 is mandatory for eligibility, while criteria 6 to 9 are used to rate the quality and value of the projects.** The scope and scale of a given project is not a criterion; they can be very small or very large.

1. Diversity of the Team

- The nominated team clearly brings people and/or organizations from different disciplines and background together (e.g. industry, northern communities, research, government, northerners/southerners, etc), overcoming possible disinclination and joining strengths to deliver the proposed K2A plan. Team members should **not** be all from a single organization. The team includes both knowledge producers and knowledge users. Northerners have meaningful engagement in the proposed K2A plan, not only as partners but also as fully integrated team members.

2. The plan truly brings Knowledge to novel Action (K2A plan)

- The proposed K2A plan is not just a collection/storage (e.g. environmental monitoring, data or knowledge archiving) of knowledge, but clearly proposes to transform knowledge into concrete action. The team has to propose a novel action plan, not just a continuation of an already established project. (i.e. Hiring additional staff for continued monitoring/archiving is not considered a novel action plan, but the development of new tools/programs for knowledge mobilization and translation would be).

3. The plan addresses the Cause rather than Symptoms

- The proposed K2A plan addresses the cause of an Arctic issue rather than its symptoms. For example, a project that aims to **prevent** environmental damage (ex: an oil spill) addresses the cause, hence qualifies for the Prize. On the other hand, one that intends to repair the damage (ex: the clean up) addresses the symptom, hence would not qualify. This criteria also applies to socioeconomic and human health issues.

4. The Proposal is Secular, not Ideological

- The proposed K2A plan pertains only to worldly issues leading to secular and non-ideological achievements and actions.

5. Impact in the North

- The proposed K2A plan will clearly have an impact in the North, at the community, regional or national level.

6. Help to Make Northern Issues Better Known in the South

- The proposed K2A plan and its recognition by the AIP have the potential to raise awareness of Northern issues in the south (media coverage, social media, visibility...)

7. Sustainability

- The proposed K2A plan will lead to a long-term impact and/or has a chance to continue beyond the two-year period proposed for the AIP.
- Single, short-term activities such as conferences, workshops and meetings are **not** encouraged unless clearly embedded in a longer-term action plan.

8. AIP Award Should Serve as Seed Money and/or an Incubator

- The team/project demonstrates a clear plan to use the leverage potential of the AIP award (as seed money) to raise funds from other sources for the future and the sustainability of the K2A plan and/or encourages or has the potential to encourage others to develop similar ideas/projects (act as an incubator).

9. Convincing Accountability Regarding Project Execution

- The nominated team demonstrates effective accountability mechanisms with regards to leadership, management, finances, project timelines and how progress is measured/documented and reported.

REVIEW AND DECISION PROCESS:

- The Arctic Inspiration Prize Office first screens nominations for eligibility and completeness of the nomination package.
- Using the Selection Criteria above, a Screening Committee reviews all eligible and complete nominations and selects a shortlist of up to 10 top ranked applications to be forwarded to the Selection Committee.
- Out of the shortlisted nominations, the Selection Committee, using the Selection Criteria above, will select Prize Finalists and from one to five Prize Laureates with associated awards totaling up to \$1 million CAD.
- All nominated teams, including Finalists, non-Finalists and Laureates, will be informed of the decisions of the selection committee shortly after the final selection is made.
- In addition to the Laureates receiving the Prize, Finalists will also be acknowledged at the Prize ceremony.
- The Prize will be offered to those teams and nominations considered outstanding by the committee.

Please note that the decisions of the Selection Committee are final. There is no appeal process.