



For Immediate Release

The 2018 ARCTIC INSPIRATION PRIZE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS IS NOW OPEN

Up to \$3 million to be awarded across three prize categories

Ottawa, Ontario, May 14, 2018 – Nominations are now being accepted for the 2018 Arctic Inspiration Prize (AIP). In 2018, the AIP will award up to \$3 million which will be shared by up to 10 winning teams in three prize categories. One \$1 million prize may be awarded to one exceptional team, up to four teams will be awarded up to \$500,000 each, and up to seven teams with members 30 years of age or younger will be awarded up to \$100,000 each. The Youth prize category seeks to inspire the next generations of Arctic innovators to develop projects and plans that address issues and opportunities relevant to them. Nominations will be accepted until October 15, 2018.

“After having awarded more than \$2.4 million last year to inspiring northern innovators, we are very excited to launch this year’s call for nominations,” said Jason Annahatak, Chair of the Arctic Inspiration Prize Charitable Trust. “I am certain that the nominations received this year will be truly remarkable examples of the creativity and innovation that exist in communities across the Canadian North. With the \$60 million gift from the prize founders and the continuously growing network of partners across the North and South, this will undoubtedly be one of the most outstanding years for the Arctic Inspiration Prize to date.”

Potential projects can address any opportunities or challenges that are of importance to the Canadian Arctic and its peoples. A project can have one or more focus areas such as, but not limited to, education, training, health and wellness, environment and climate change, recreation, tourism, culture and economic development.

Last year, a total prize award of over \$2.4 million was shared amongst eight teams for their innovative plans to inspire change and improve the lives of people living in Canada’s North. The Arctic Indigenous Wellness Project, an urban land-based healing program that aims to improve the health of at-risk Inuit, First Nation and Métis peoples in Yellowknife and surrounding communities in the Northwest Territories received the top award of \$1 million. In addition, three prizes were awarded in the AIP category that awards up to \$500,000 each to up to four teams; and four teams received funds for their projects in the new category for youth that awards up to \$100,000 each to up to seven teams.

For the 2018 prize, teams can submit an optional Letter of Intent to receive feedback on their project’s eligibility for the prize. The submission deadline for the Letter of Intent is July 9, 2018.

More information about the AIP, past Laureates, and the Nomination process is available on the AIP website (www.arcticinspirationprize.ca).



About the Arctic Inspiration Prize

As the largest annual prize in Canada with a specific focus on the Arctic, the Arctic Inspiration Prize (AIP) encourages, enables and celebrates the inspiring achievements of the people of the North. Since its inception, the AIP has awarded over \$8.4 million to 22 diverse teams, supporting innovative projects in the fields of education, sustainable housing, health, performing arts, traditional knowledge, language, and science.

The AIP is owned by the northern-led AIP Charitable Trust and supported by Indigenous organizations, governments, industry, philanthropy, and many other partners from the North and South, with management support provided by the Rideau Hall Foundation. In 2017, the founders of the Arctic Inspiration Prize, Ms. Sima Sharifi and Mr. Arnold Witzig, immigrants with a deep love of the North and Northerners, gave the AIP Charitable Trust a gift worth \$60 million, ensuring the perpetuity of the prize.

For more information:

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