2026 UArctic Project Funding

Indigenous and Northern Collaborative Research and Education Engagement Fund

BACKGROUND:

Support for this fund is provided by Global Affairs Canada, **subject to final funding approval**. If you have any questions about the fund or this guide, please contact uarcticfunding@mun.ca.

Indigenous and Northern Collaborative Research and Education Engagement

The purpose of this fund is to support researchers with established relationships and partnerships in the Arctic interested in leading collaborations for research and education engagement initiatives in the region. The funding is targeted to support thematic network initiatives and cooperative projects related to Arctic research and education engagement, particularly on priority issues in Canada's [Arctic and Northern Policy Framework](#), and in keeping with the [UArctic values](#), [Memorial University's Policy on Research Impacting Indigenous Groups.](#)

Who can apply?

Lead applicants must be based at a Canadian UArctic member institution. Collaboration among Canadian UArctic member institutions, other Canadian partners, and UArctic institutions internationally is strongly encouraged. All projects must involve a minimum of three UArctic member institutions, including at least one international member.

For help building relationships with other Canadian UArctic members, feel free to reach out the Lisa Goulet, Membership Engagement Coordinator at lgoulet@mun.ca.

Applicants may only hold one Indigenous and Northern Collaborative Research and Education Engagement award at a time.

Amount of Funding

For this funding year only, the funding is divided into two separate streams:

Stream A: up to $40,000 for two-year projects (a maximum of 5 will be awarded).

Stream B: up to $100,000 for five-year projects (a maximum of 6 will be awarded).

Funding cannot be applied retroactively, and project funding cannot be applied for activities already carried out on ongoing projects.

Duration of the Project

Two-year projects must be completed by September 2028.

Five-year projects must be completed by September 2031.

Funding priorities

Priority will be given to the projects which fulfil the following criteria:

1. Have a minimum of three UArctic partners, with a project lead from a Canadian member. However, it is beneficial to have more than three countries involved (there is no limit to the maximum number of partners). Although the majority of project partners need to be UArctic member institutions, project partners can also include other Arctic organizations. ***Unilateral (national) projects are ineligible for funding.***
2. Inclusion of activities that meet the UArctic values and address at least one of the priority issues of [Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework](). All applications are evaluated based on the guidelines and most importantly on how the project meets the UArctic's values. Fulfilling all six values is regarded as excellent, but addressing minimum four out of six is sufficient.
3. **One** of the following:
   a. Involvement of activities within existing UArctic Thematic Networks or UArctic Institutes. The linkage to the Network or Institute needs to be clearly defined by an established contact to the Network or Institute in question. The activities need to be highlighted and specified. For a list of existing networks please see: https://www.uarctic.org/organization/thematic-networks/); or
   b. Development a [new Thematic Network]() or an UArctic [Institute](): A description of the developmental-process and preparations need to be clearly elaborated.

Activities Eligible for Funding

The following activites are eligible under this program:

Eligible activities:

- Establishment and development of a UArctic Thematic Network or an UArctic Institute
- Development of joint courses or joint degree programs on topics with Northern relevance at bachelor's, master's or PhD levels
- Development of flexible education, especially online based programs or courses
- Networking activities related to research activities conducted by the UArctic Thematic Networks
- Education or research activities focusing on issues within Canada's Arctic & Northern Policy Framework

Application Deadline and Procedures

Applications must be completed and submitted by **April 24, 2026 23:59 (CEST)**. Applications received after the deadline or incomplete applications will not be evaluated. Review, grant decisions and acceptance will be finalized by September 2026, pending funding approval by Global Affairs.

The applicants will submit all of the information through the Memorial University's [application portal](). All applicants must register within the portal and will be guided through the application form. Applicants can upload supporting documents such as budget documents, letters of the institutional and partner organization support as well as principle investigator's CV through the same system. All applications must include:

- Personal information
- A project plan
- A detailed budget including any other separately requested project funding, as well as existing funding from other sources
- The applying institution must provide an endorsement letter from the appropriate leadership level
- The main applicant's CV (max two pages)
- Indication of support from an Indigenous or Northern partner organization. That support must be provided clearly and unambiguously, either through a letter of support for the application, or some other appropriate indication of willingness to engage with the academic researchers (for example, correspondence, or an email exchange).

- Details on knowledge sharing

The Project plan should include:

- The purpose and overall goal of the project
- List and provide descriptions of deliverables
- Description of the project activities, timelines, etc.
- Description of how the project addresses an issue identified within Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework and how UArctic values are being addressed
- Planned project outputs (activity results), outcomes for the target group(s) and impacts on the target group(s) wider society, e.g. how will the outcomes benefit the circumpolar world?
- Internal project evaluation including measuring impact of the activities and how the sustainability of the project will be ensured
- Indigenization and community engagement plan (*Stream B only*)

Budget:

The following are eligible costs under this funding program:

- Teaching fees or payments *(Please note that you cannot cover the permanent salaries for scientific/academic or technical/administrative staff)*
- Costs for online conference platforms and tools
- Consumables related to research work
- Research and partnership related travel, accommodations, and per diems
- Portion of research related equipment and materials purchases
- Student support for graduate and undergraduate students
- Payments to non-university personnel necessary for the research activities (e.g. drivers, bear guards, guides, local knowledge holders, etc.)
- Software and data packages related to research activities
- Catering for research related events such as workshops or information sessions
- Administrative overhead (maximum 15%)

Applicants must document funding of at least 25% of the total budget from in-kind and or other sources. Letters of committement/support strengthen application submissions and are encouraged.

Proposal Evaluation Procedure

The projects will be evaluated through an independent evaluation process and committee that includes representatives from Canadian and other UArctic member institutions and community partners.

The evaluation process focuses on three dimensions of excellence;

1. UArctic values: relevance to the North as expressed through UArctic values and Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy. How the project contributes to circumpolar cooperation, its inclusiveness and openness and diversity of partners and is relevant to Northern communities and peoples, also contributes to policy making.
2. Academic and research excellence and feasibility of the applied project (education and/or research), its interdisciplinary and inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and other knowledge systems. The experience and scientific merits of the lead applicant.

3. Project's management: knowledge sharing approach, internal and external risk management, sustainability plans for the activity, long-term impacts and internal evaluation. Budget must reflect of the project activities in a realistic manner.

UArctic and Memorial University expect that all research projects are conducted with research integrity and where applicable follow indigenization strategies.

The project grants will be managed and administered by Memorial University on behalf of UArctic in accordance with the terms of a Global Arctic Leadership agreement with Global Affairs, Canada.

Helpful resources as you consider your application

Indigenous Research at Memorial University

Memorial University Policy on Research Impacting Indigenous Groups

Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework

UArctic Values

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action

National Inuit Strategy on Research

Universities Canada principles on Indigenous education

Ethical Principles for the Conduct of Research in the North

Guiding questions to consider while designing your research

Questions?
Contact uarcticfunding@mun.ca