

2025 Call for Applications

UArctic, Yukon University, and Memorial University's Global Arctic Leadership Initiative Project Call for Indigenous and Northern Collaborative Research Education and Engagement

BACKGROUND:

Global Affairs Canada's Global Arctic Leadership Initiative (GALI) is a partnership between the [University of the Arctic](#) (UArctic), [Yukon University](#), and [Memorial University](#).

UArctic operates through a distributed leadership and orientation model focusing on enhancing capacity in Northern institutions throughout the circumpolar North. GALI funding is a key component of UArctic's engagement in Canada, with a focus on supporting capacity building across Northern Canada. Over the life of the project, UArctic, Yukon University and Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador will implement a range of initiatives within the larger project including supporting engagement and research in the circumpolar region. Learn more about the program at <https://mun.ca/uarctic/>

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 region interested in continuing their research and education engagement programs in the region in keeping with the UArctic values, [Memorial University's Policy on Research Impacting Indigenous Groups](#) and supporting priorities within [Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework](#).

Who can apply?

UArctic and Memorial University encourage engagement between Canadian UArctic member institutions, other Canadian members, and other UArctic member institutions for this collaborative research and education initiative. The lead applicant must come from a Canadian UArctic member institution. A complete and updated list of member institutions can be found on the [UArctic website](#). 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

The funding is targeted to support cooperative projects and networking activities related to Arctic research and education engagement, particularly on priority issues in [Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework](#). As this is the final year of the funding program, projects must be completed by March 31, 2026. The maximum ask is \$40,000 for two-year projects, and it is encouraged that funding requests be scaled down in line with the shorter time frame of this funding cycle. Funding cannot be applied retroactively, and project funding cannot be applied for activities already carried out on ongoing projects.

Duration of the Project

Projects must occur within the timeframe May 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

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 Northern 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 such as International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) and International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), and all UArctic member regions will be considered an asset (North America, Nordic countries, Asia and Europe). ***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 six values. Fulfilling all the 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.

UArctic Values

Circumpolar

UArctic promotes northern voices and a circumpolar world view.

Inclusive

UArctic embraces and respects cultural diversity, language plurality, and gender equality.

Respectful

UArctic promotes relationships of respect, trust, and partnership, and embraces the perspectives and knowledge of northern Indigenous Peoples.

Collaborative

UArctic is committed to supporting participatory approaches to the production and sharing of knowledge.

Open

UArctic is a university network without walls, committed to reducing all barriers to cooperation - across borders, cultures, and academic systems, embracing transparency and openness.

Influential

UArctic provides decision-makers with knowledge-based advice that supports sustainable development in the Arctic.

Activities Eligible for Funding

The following activities 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

For projects with a community partner, applicants must demonstrate a well-developed plan for respectful relationships with and within the communities they propose to work with and in.

Application Package

The applicants will submit all of the information through the Memorial University's [application portal](#). The applicants will be guided through the application form and they can upload

supporting documents such as letters of the institutional and partner organization support as well as principle investigator's CV through the same system.

- 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)
- A letter of support from an Indigenous or Northern partner organization outlining the nature and the strength of the project team's relationship with the partner organization
- A knowledge mobilization plan

The following sections provide more details on the kind of information the applicants will be expected to provide as part of their project plan, budget, and knowledge mobilization plan.

Project plan shall include:

- The purpose and overall goal of the project
- List and descriptions of the concrete deliverables
- Description of the project activities
- 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

Budget

This fund cannot be used to cover the expenses of travel and registration to academic conferences or research/administrative overhead.

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 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 (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
- Applicants must document funding of at least 25% of the total budget from in kind and or other sources

Knowledge Mobilization

Knowledge mobilization is the process of putting knowledge into service of society. There are many definitions of knowledge mobilization. Over the years, the Harris Centre at Memorial University has developed a definition in accordance with its values that emphasizes the process and not necessarily the means or tools for knowledge mobilization.

“Knowledge mobilization is about putting available knowledge into active service to benefit society. Both research knowledge and experiential knowledge are worth sharing for the benefit of all. Knowledge mobilization is always about knowledge exchange and it should be mutually beneficial.”

Keeping that definition in mind, the applicants must indicate what knowledge they are planning to mobilize, who their audiences are and how they are planning on sharing the project information.

The applicants should consult the knowledge mobilization planning toolkit developed by the Ontario Centre of Excellence Health which can be found here:

http://www.kmbtoolkit.ca/sites/all/themes/kmb/assets/images/Knowledge_Mobilization_Planning_Form.pdf

Application Deadline

Applications must be completed and submitted through Memorial University’s application portal by **February 15, 2025 23:59 (CEST)**. Applications received after the deadline or incomplete applications will not be evaluated. The funding decisions will be made by the end of April 30, 2025, and the grants need to be accepted by successful candidates by May 31, 2025.

Proposal Evaluation Procedure

The projects will be evaluated through an independent evaluation process and evaluation committee that includes representatives from Canadian and other UArctic member institutions and their 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 mobilization plan, 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:

<https://www.mun.ca/research/Indigenous/index.php>

Memorial University Policy on Research Impacting Indigenous Groups:

<https://www.mun.ca/research/Indigenous/consent.php>

Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework:

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1560523306861/1560523330587>

UArctic Values:

<https://www.uarctic.org/about-us/>

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action:

[https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Calls to Action English2.pdf](https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf)

National Inuit Strategy on Research:

<https://www.itk.ca/projects/national-inuit-strategy-on-research/>

Universities Canada principles on Indigenous education:

<https://www.univcan.ca/media-room/media-releases/universities-canada-principles-on-indigenous-education/>

Ethical Principles for the Conduct of Research in the North:

<http://acuns.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/EthicsEnglishmarch2003.pdf>

Knowledge mobilization planning toolkit developed by the Ontario Centre of Excellence Health:

http://www.kmbtoolkit.ca/sites/all/themes/kmb/assets/images/Knowledge_Mobilization_Planning_Form.pdf