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INUIT TAPIRIIT KANATAMI

Call for Research Proposals

under the

Canada-Inuit Nunangat-United Kingdom

Arctic Research Programme

202 -2025

High-Level Programme Details

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI), Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR), National Research Council of Canada (NRC), Parks Canada (PARKS), and the Fonds de Recherche du Quebec (FRQ) are proud to launch a joint Call for Research Proposals, under the Canada-Inuit Nunangat-United Kingdom Arctic Research Programme (Programme), in support of key themes connected to climate-driven changes to the terrestrial, coastal and near-shore marine environments in Inuit Nunangat, as well as impacts on Inuit and community health and well-being.

The current and future economic, social, cultural, environmental and health implications of environmental changes for Inuit communities are critical. Inuit disproportionately experience a range of challenges that negatively impact social determinants of health including food security, housing, and mental wellness. Many of these challenges will be exacerbated by rapid changes to the environment.

Projects supported by this Call will include effective representation from multiple disciplines of research, including environmental, social, cultural, health, design and engineering. It is expected that the majority of research conducted by projects will take place within Inuit Nunangat. Inuit Nunangat is the Inuit homeland in Canada, encompassing the land claims regions of Nunavut, Nunavik in Northern Quebec, Nunatsiavut in Northern Labrador and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region of the Northwest Territories. It is inclusive of land, water and ice, and describes an area encompassing 35 percent of Canada's landmass and more than 50 percent of its coastline. If any research is conducted outside of this area, it must demonstrate direct relevance to Inuit Nunangat.

All Research Teams must consist of a Principal Investigator from the United Kingdom, as well as a Principal Investigator from Canada. It is encouraged that the Canadian Principal Investigator be an Inuk, or a representative from an Inuit organization or Inuit Nunangat community. If the Canadian Principal Investigator is not an Inuk, or a representative from an Inuit organization or Inuit Nunangat community, an Inuit partner must be a funded Co-investigator in the project team, and involved from the outset in the co-development of the research proposal.

A Letter of Intent (LOI) will be required to assess eligibility of Research Teams and relevance to the Call. This will be followed by an invitation to submit a Full Proposal for those research teams who meet the eligibility and relevance requirements. Both the LOI and Full Proposal shall be submitted via the FRQ online platform, [FRQnet - Portfolio \(gouv.qc.ca\)](https://frqnet.gouv.qc.ca).

Details can be found in the Programme Guide, available on the Programme web page (<https://frq.gouv.qc.ca/en/program/canada-inuit-nunangat-united-kingdom-arctic-research-programme>). Additional information on the specific eligibility requirements from each funding partner, as well as the terms and conditions for these partners, can be found on the partners' respective webpages (see Key Resources section below). Funded projects may be eligible for in-kind research support, offered by PARKS, NRC and POLAR. The nature of in-kind contributions may include accommodations, access to facilities, sites, equipment, technician support, staff support, etc. Full Proposals must make mention of the intent to solicit in-kind support.

Call for Research Proposals Themes

To be eligible, projects must address **one of two** themes presented below. Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with the relevant funding organizations to ensure alignment within the themes.

Theme 1 – Arctic Ecosystems and their Impact on Inuit Communities

(funding provided by UKRI, POLAR; and FRQ, if applicable)

This theme must explore research related to understanding dynamic Arctic ecosystems in the context of rapid change and the impact of these changes on Inuit health and well-being. This includes terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems and cryosphere (sea, freshwater or glacial ice, snow, permafrost) research at local, regional and pan-Arctic scales for better models and predictions; the impacts of changing marine and terrestrial environments on local ecosystems and the vitality and well-being of Inuit Nunangat communities and Inuit. Examples of research conducted under this theme could include, but are **not limited to**:

- collecting baseline information on terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, including abiotic elements such as the cryosphere;

- monitoring and integrated modelling of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystem changes where baselines have been established, and the consequences of the potential impacts for Inuit communities;
- identifying emerging risks and opportunities from environmental change and the potential impacts to Inuit and Inuit communities to develop timely and effective responses;
- changing ecosystems and the impact on the Arctic's natural and cultural heritage and challenges and opportunities for conservation of this unique environment;
- changing diversity and accessibility of marine and terrestrial species populations and the challenges and opportunities this presents for food security and quality, and economic diversification;
- climate change influences on Inuit cultural and harvesting activities to improve understanding of associated health outcomes, and allow evidence-based climate adaptation policy-making;
- understanding and projecting climate change induced needs and gaps in the food systems Inuit depend on, including Inuit and market food security;
- knowledge of diseases in northern wildlife, including impacts on country foods and food security;
- effects of pollution and human activities on the local environment (e.g. air quality, water quality, country foods, etc.) and on community and Inuit health and well-being;
- understanding implications of environmental change on national and international laws and security;
- influences of climate change on the social determinants of Inuit health;
- identifying gaps in legislation and policy that contribute to systemic challenges in the areas of health and wellness in the region, and how these might be exacerbated by environmental change;
- issues of mobility for Inuit Nunangat communities, including the drivers for increased or decreased movement of people in the Arctic through changing climate and ecosystems, and the interactions and links with other factors such as forced migration/displacement, local heritage and cultural values, and political and economic drivers.

Theme 2 – Mitigations and Adaptations for Resilience

(funding provided by UKRI, NRC; and FRQ, if applicable)

This theme must explore research related to innovative, practical and ethical mitigation and adaptation tools and technological solutions derived from understanding the impacts of environmental change on housing, health, food and water. Profound infrastructure gaps exist between Inuit Nunangat and the rest of Canada, and existing infrastructure in Inuit Nunangat is increasingly vulnerable to climate change related issues. Examples of research conducted under this theme could include, but are **not limited to**:

- technologies for response to changing ground conditions' effects on community infrastructure, such as permafrost thaw and coastal erosion;
- adaptations for seasonal road systems due to fluctuating environmental conditions and the impact on community access to country foods, health infrastructure and supplies;
- the associated impacts and opportunities of marine transportation upon housing stock, food security and safety, both environmental and personal;
- innovative food, water and waste systems in response to changing environmental conditions for remote communities;
- house-scale renewable energy systems and storage;
- new technologies supporting energy efficiency retrofits in social housing;
- technical innovations, including telehealth services, to support community and Inuit physical and mental health and well-being services, as related to the impacts of climate change;
- resilient technologies for healthy, innovative, adaptive and culturally appropriate housing that address the effects of household crowding on housing performance, as related to the impacts of climate change;

- implications of environmental change on current and future availability and access to clean drinking water in Inuit communities;
- technologies for sustainable development, supporting community priorities
- technologies that enable interjurisdictional learning and education on sustainable energy options.

Proposals must also address at least **two of the three** cross-cutting issues below:

- **Economics of Arctic change:** for example, from local level (subsistence economies, local livelihoods and trading relationships) to new industries, including circular economies, development of new fishing grounds and new logistical hubs, international trade, including global legislation and governance, and tariffs of shipping routes, tourism, and the socio-economic impact of climate change.
- **Resilience and sustainability:** for example, of communities, infrastructure and industry, and the environment to the changing Arctic; understanding the key determinants and solutions (social, cultural, ethical, economic, geographical, political, infrastructure-related) of Inuit community resilience to rapid Arctic climate change and/or increases in risk of shocks.
- **Inuit community health and well-being:** for example, the interrelated and interdependent nature of community health and well-being and changes to the natural environment; creating Inuit-specific, culturally relevant, and gender specific health and well-being indicators that incorporate climate vulnerabilities, and monitoring them to document climate change influences on Inuit health.

Available Funding

The available funding for this Call is approximately CAD 6,900,000 from the Canadian partners and £7,630,000 from the UKRI.

For Canadian applicants, the maximum amount of funding per project is CAD 150,000 per year. Québec applicants may be eligible for a yearly supplement of CAD 50,000 from FRQ to support the participation of researchers from the province of Québec. The total request for funding for each project cannot exceed CAD 600,000 for the 3 year period.

For UK applicants, total request for funding for each project cannot exceed £545,000 (at 80% Full Economic Cost), for the 3 year period.

Key Dates

The deadline to submit the Letter of Intent is August 4th 2021, 4pm EDT (9pm BST)

The deadline to submit the Full Proposal is November 10th 2021, 4pm EST (9pm GMT)

Key Resources

To apply under **Theme 1**, make sure to read the Programme Guide, and all other eligibility requirements from the funding partners' websites -

- For UK applicants - UKRI's Terms & Conditions: [Research Grants Handbook \(ukri.org\)](https://www.ukri.org/research-grants-handbook/)
- For Canadian applicants - POLAR's Terms & Conditions: <https://www.canada.ca/en/polar-knowledge/fundingforresearchers/grants-and-contributions-to-support-the-advancement-of-northern-science-and-technology.html>
- Additionally, for Québec applicants - FRQ's Terms & Conditions: https://frq.gouv.qc.ca/app/uploads/2021/05/rgc_2020_va.pdf

To apply under **Theme 2**, make sure to read the Programme Guide, and all other eligibility requirements from the funding partners' websites -

- For UK applicants - UKRI's Terms & Conditions: [Research Grants Handbook \(ukri.org\)](https://www.ukri.org/research-grants-handbook/)
- For Canadian applicants - NRC's Terms & Conditions:
[English: https://nrc.canada.ca/en/call-research-proposals-under-canada-inuit-nunangat-uk-arctic-research-programme](https://nrc.canada.ca/en/call-research-proposals-under-canada-inuit-nunangat-uk-arctic-research-programme)
[French: https://nrc.canada.ca/fr/appel-propositions-recherche-cadre-programme-recherche-larctique-canada-inuit-nunangat-royaume-uni](https://nrc.canada.ca/fr/appel-propositions-recherche-cadre-programme-recherche-larctique-canada-inuit-nunangat-royaume-uni)
- Additionally, for Québec applicants - FRQ's Terms & Conditions:
https://frq.gouv.qc.ca/app/uploads/2021/05/rqc_2020_va.pdf

To inquire or apply for **in-kind support**, please directly contact the funding agency from whom you are seeking in-kind support:

- POLAR: CHARS Campus, researchsupport-soutienalarecherche@polar-polaire.gc.ca
- NRC: Anne Barker, anne.barker@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
- PARKS: <https://gccollab.ca/pages/view/3994535/enresearch-in-parks-canadas-arctic-sitesfria-recherche-dans-les-sites-arctiques-du-parcs-canada>

Contact Information

For all general questions about the Call process, please contact FRQ. Questions will be anonymized and publically shared on the FRQ webpage in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ), www.frq.gouv.qc.ca

Natalie Noël, arctic@frq.gouv.qc.ca

For details about applicable research within each theme, or questions related to the eligibility requirements of the individual funding partners, or their specific terms and conditions, please contact the appointed resources below. Questions will be anonymized and publically shared on the FRQ web page in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), www.itk.ca

Conor Mallory, mallory@itk.ca

United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI), www.ukri.org

Jessica Surma, jessica.surma@nrc.ukri.org

Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR), www.canada.ca/en/polar-knowledge.html

grants-contributions@polar-polaire.gc.ca

National Research Council of Canada (NRC), <https://nrc.canada.ca/en>

Questions about applicable research: Anne Barker, anne.barker@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Questions about eligibility or specific terms & conditions: Elena Di Francesco, Elena.DiFrancesco@nrc-nrc.gc.ca

Parks Canada (PARKS), <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en>

Stephen McCanny, stephen.mccanny@canada.ca

**This Call for Research Proposals is made possible by the
Canada-Inuit Nunangat-United Kingdom Arctic Research
Programme Partners**



Polar Knowledge
Canada

Savoir polaire
Canada



UK Research
and Innovation

Canada

National Research
Council Canada

Conseil national de
recherches Canada



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Parks
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Parcs
Canada

Québec

Fonds de recherche – Nature et technologies
Fonds de recherche – Santé
Fonds de recherche – Société et culture