



## Northern Biodiversity Research Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

This FAQ addresses common inquiries related to the Northern Biodiversity Research Program (2024). We encourage you to refer to [the Program Details](#) document for more in-depth information. If you have any project-specific questions, please contact us directly via email.

### **Who is the Foundation's main contact for the program?**

Applicants who have questions about the program or wish to discuss specific project details can reach out to Dr. David Bysouth at [David.Bysouth@westonfoundation.ca](mailto:David.Bysouth@westonfoundation.ca).

### **What is the application timeline?**

Letters of Intent (LOIs) are due via email to [northern@westonfoundation.ca](mailto:northern@westonfoundation.ca) by 5:00 pm ET on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Applicants who are successful at the LOI stage will be invited to submit proposals to the Foundation by 5:00 pm ET on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### **When will applicants be notified of awards?**

Award notification is expected in late October or November 2024; however, the Foundation may change the timeline of the application process should there be unforeseen circumstances or delays. The Foundation will make every effort to broadly communicate any timeline changes.

### **How long can projects be?**

Research projects must start in 2024 and may extend for up to three (3) years. For this program, applicants may apply for funding from 2024 until 2027. For example:

- 2024 -or- 2024-2025 (Year 1)
- 2025 -or- 2025-2026 (Year 2)
- 2026 -or- 2026-2027 (Year 3)

### **Who is eligible to apply?**

Researchers based at research institutions/organizations that undertake northern biodiversity-related research and then utilize their research findings at conservation decision-making tables or processes are eligible to apply. Applicants must be primarily employed by a CRA-registered qualified donee or associated with a CRA-registered qualified donee institution (see next question).

**Does the applicant need to be a “qualified donee” according to the CRA?**

Yes, applicants are required to be registered as, or associated with, a “qualified donee” as defined by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). For more information on qualified donees, view the CRA’s [guidance](#) on this subject.

**Is matched funding (cash or in-kind) required or expected for this program?**

No, matched funding is not expected for this program. However, in order to receive funding through this program, if the total project costs necessary to complete the project exceed the amount being requested by the Weston Family Foundation, evidence must be provided that the remaining funds have been secured prior to the start of the project.

**Can an applicant hold additional grants for their proposed project?**

Yes, so long as the activities outlined in the application are distinct from those in other funded grants. If additional funds are secured to complete the same work as proposed through this program, the Weston Family Foundation must be notified in writing. Decisions on how to proceed will be determined by the Foundation in consultation with the grantee.

**How many grants will the program fund?**

The Foundation will fund up to approximately 15 projects between the minimum amount of \$600,000 and maximum of \$3,000,000 per research project per funding cycle. However, the review committee may recommend funding more or less than 15 projects depending on the quality and suitability of applications received.

**Can an applicant submit more than one application?**

Organizations may submit up to three (3) applications that represent different projects, however, a different principal applicant is required on each application.

**Are letters of support required at the Letter of Intent (LOI) phase?**

Letters of support are only required at the Proposal phase.

**What expertise is on the review panel?**

The review panel consists of a group of arms-length experts from across varied geographic regions covering a range of different fields of study relevant to northern biodiversity-related research.

**What is a conservation decision-maker or decision-making table/process?**

A conservation decision-maker is a community or government department or representative that has the ability to make conservation decisions related to the management of species, ecosystems, industrial or commercial activities, or the protection or development of land or seascapes. A decision-making table or process is a forum through which researchers, subject matter experts, community members, conservation decision-makers, and others share information and/or enter into negotiations with the intent to influence and reach conservation decisions related to the management of species, ecosystems, industrial or commercial activities, or protection or development of land or seascapes.