



## Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated Call for Proposals 2025-2026 Uqausirngaq

### Overview

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) and the three Regional Inuit Associations (RIAs) are developing a Nunavut specific 10-year Action Plan that will identify goals and actionable steps that we can take to ensure the protection, reclamation, revitalization, and maintenance of Inuktitut. The Nunavut specific action plan will be implemented in part with Inuit distinctions- based funding from the Indigenous Languages Component.

### Background

The Indigenous Languages Component (ILC) is a federal government grants and contribution program that replaced the Aboriginal Languages Initiative in 2020 with the passing of the Indigenous Languages Act in 2019. The purpose of ILC is to support the efforts of Indigenous communities to reclaim, revitalize, maintain, and strengthen Indigenous languages.

The federal government department of Canadian Heritage administered ILC and divided the funding into four pots for years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022: an Inuit pot, a First Nations pot, a Métis pot, and a multi-distinction pot, funding many organizations, urban, regional, and community-based language initiatives and projects.

Then in 2022-2023, the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) Board of Directors and Canadian Heritage agreed to alter ILC funding to support implementation of the Inuit Nunangat Policy<sup>1</sup>. ITK approved a resolution to advance Inuit self-determination in language funding and to allocate the federal ILC funds for Inuit Treaty Organizations to administer.

The NTI Board of Directors established the Uqausirngaq Fund as follows:

FY	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Annual Funding	\$3,293,456.00	\$3,899,851.00	\$3,293,456.00	\$3,293,456.00
Total	\$13,780,219.00			

<sup>1</sup> [Inuit Nunangat Policy \(rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca\)](https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca)

To distribute the annual allocation from Uqausirngaq Fund, NTI is issuing a Call for Proposals (RFP) for 2025-26.

## **Mandate**

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) represents Inuit under the *Nunavut Agreement*. NTI's mission is to foster the economic, social, and cultural well-being of Inuit through the implementation of the *Nunavut Agreement*. NTI coordinates and manages Inuit responsibilities set out in the *Nunavut Agreement* and ensures that the federal and territorial governments fulfill their obligations.

## **Governance**

NTI is governed by a Board of Directors elected by Nunavut Inuit. The majority membership of the Board are held by the three Regional Inuit Association (RIA) Presidents and Vice-Presidents. The NTI President and Vice-President are elected by Nunavut Inuit, regardless of regional residency. NTI works collaboratively with RIAs in policy development and development of pan-territorial programs while RIAs focus on regional issues and operations.

## **Proposal Guidelines**

The purpose of the Uqausirngaq RFP is to provide and enhance opportunities for Inuit to protect, reclaim, revitalize, and maintain Inuktut that are not currently supported by government programs.

NTI has identified five areas of priority for the reclamation, revitalization, maintenance and strengthening of Inuktut as follows:

1. Inuktut Media and Arts
2. Inuktut Education
3. Inuktut Language Skills Development
4. Inuktut Community Programming
5. Inuktut Language Documentation

Funding does not cover capital investments, deficit recovery, salaries and honoraria for Board members (for regular operations delivery), start-up/operational costs for commercial enterprises, or support for developing cultural/professional industries.

Successful applicants must adhere to the minimum reporting requirements.

## Priority Areas

Proposals should clearly identify language programming activities that demonstrate alignment with the Uqausirngaq priority areas and articulate how it will ensure the protection, reclamation, revitalization, and maintenance of Inuktut for Inuit.

### 1. Inuktut Media and Arts

Proposals that ensure the development and dissemination of Inuktut media and arts to support the strengthening of Inuktut language and culture. Types of activities may include programming in television, radio/podcast shows, film development, print newspapers/magazines, verbal arts, and literary arts.

### 2. Inuktut Education

Proposals that ensure capacity exists to provide school-based Inuktut instruction in early childhood, K-12, and post-secondary education. This may include immersion programs, immersion curriculum, and resource development.

### 3. Inuktut Language Skills Training

Proposals that ensure Inuit outside of public school have access to Inuktut instruction and are supported in learning Inuktut. This includes Inuktut language courses, professional development, or language skills training.

### 4. Inuktut Community Programming

Proposals that ensure Inuit can engage in learning, reclaiming, revitalizing, and/or maintaining Inuktut through participation in local cultural activities such as language camps/events, cultural programs taught in Inuktut, community outreach/celebrations, public awareness.

### 5. Inuktut Language Documentation

Proposals that document or record Inuktut language as well as key histories and texts and makes them accessible to Inuit. Language documentation may include digital archive/hub, digitalization projects, recording oral histories/texts, dictionary development, language software/app development, updating place names and signage to incorporate Inuktut.

## Eligible Recipients

Priority funding recipients are:

- Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* (group or individuals),
- Inuit not-for-profit organizations **in** Nunavut with,
  - Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* comprising

- at least two-thirds of their directors,
- the majority of their directors and officers are Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* residing in Nunavut, or
- Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the Nunavut Agreement comprising at least two-thirds of their clientele, and
- Inuit not-for-profit organizations **outside** Nunavut with,
  - Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* comprising at least two-thirds of their directors,
  - the majority of their directors and officers are Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* residing in Nunavut, or
  - Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* comprising at least two-thirds of their clientele, and

Nunavut Inuit for-profit firms with majority ownership by Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* proposing a non-profit activity, municipalities, not-for-profit Indigenous organizations outside Nunavut with at least two-thirds of their clientele made up of Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement*. Recognized national Inuit organizations in partnership with NTI and/or RIAs developing joint programs to benefit Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement* may also be considered for funding.

### **Timeframe of Activities**

All activities must be completed by March 31, 2026.

Contributions In the project budget, applicants must state their contributions and any contributions from other sources.

### **Monitoring and Reporting Requirements**

Contribution recipients will be required to provide a report on the completion of their activities and achievement of intended outcomes, as well as a detailed financial report using the template provided. Contribution recipients may also be asked to provide a progress report for March 31, 2026, depending on the start and end date of activities.

As such, proposals must include a plan for monitoring and reporting that suits the schedule and scale of the proposed activities. Up to 5% of the total budget may be used for monitoring and reporting on the completion and results of project activities.

## **Sharing of Resources**

Contribution recipients will be required to make any resources produced available for use by the public and other organizations free of charge so that Nunavut continues to amass a range of contemporary, Inuit-specific resources and information about promising practices. The intention is that in future years these resources will support expanded delivery of high quality, Inuit-specific programming across Nunavut.

## **Proposal Format**

The proposal may be submitted in Inuktitut or English. The proposal must include:

- A description of the applicant showing they are eligible for funding;
- An overview of the project;
- A detailed description of all the activities of the project;
- The expected outcomes of the activities, with an explanation of how they are linked to the Uqausirngaq Priority Areas (described above);
- A budget that includes a full breakdown of all project costs and indication of the amount requested from the Uqausirngaq Fund, and the value of all other project contributions from the applicant or other sources;
- A description of each project team member (staff and/or consultants), including CVs, the role of each team member, their estimated level of effort, and whether they are a Nunavut Inuk enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement*;
- A description of how the applicant has successfully delivered projects in the past;
- Declaration of any conflicts of interest; and,
- A monitoring and reporting plan.

## **Submission Deadline**

Proposals will be received by Friday May 30, 2025, but may be submitted any time before then.

## **Proposal Evaluation**

Proposals will be assessed on individual merit and the strength of their connection with the Uqausirngaq call for proposals, goals and objectives of the Uqausirngaq Strategic Framework, connection to the Priority Areas described above, and the employment of Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement*. NTI also strives to balance applications across the Priority Areas and across the territory to ensure support for dialects. The Steering Committee will also aim to support out-of-territory Nunavut Inuit enrolled under the *Nunavut Agreement*. Proposals will be assessed to avoid duplication of funding. Review of proposals may take up to one month.

## **Contact Information**

For more information about this call for proposals, contact:

Papatsi Kotierk

Assistant Director, Social and Cultural Development Nunavut Tunngavik

Incorporated PO BOX 638, Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

Email: [pkotierk@tunngavik.com](mailto:pkotierk@tunngavik.com) Tel: 867-975-7580