

Introduction

The Aboriginal Aquaculture in Canada Initiative (AACI) has \$650,000 available in 2017-18 to support eligible activities and projects that contribute to the development of Aboriginal aquaculture in Canada. Through the AACI Project Funding, funds will be made available, via a nationally competitive process, to support the development of Aboriginal aquaculture development in Canada.

Deadline for Proposal Submission for 2017-18: Friday June 2nd, 2017.

How to Apply: Contact the AACI Regional Aquaculture Business Development Team (ABDT) for your respective area (see contact information below). Your ABDT member will work with you to develop your proposal and guide you through the submission process.

Process for the Review of Proposals and Rendering of Decisions:

- Proponents should submit proposals to their respective [AACI Aquaculture Business Development Team](#).
- Following the deadline, all proposals will be reviewed by the regional AACI Advisory Committee.
- Regionally successful proposals will be forwarded for review and funding decision by the AACI National Steering Committee (NSC), with decisions expected by June 26th, 2017.
- Proponents will be informed shortly thereafter, and contribution agreements for successful projects will be developed by the ABDT.

Eligible Projects:

Activities and costs eligible for funding under the AACI Project Funding include:

- Equity funding for projects classified as 'flagship' business development projects due to their relevance to the AACI's main objectives. In addition to the criteria listed in the Proposal Evaluation Matrix, proposals of this type will be judged on the number of sustainable jobs created as a result of the new aquaculture business developed (or growth of an existing business);
- Early engagement activities involved in helping the community understand the available opportunities and allowing them to determine whether its members have interest in further investigating and developing a given opportunity in the aquaculture sector;
- Costs incurred in the development of partnerships or joint ventures with private sector companies that are necessary to take advantage of highly technical, large scale, capital intensive opportunities;
- Strategic planning, pre-feasibility and feasibility studies;
- Activities that support the growth of existing Indigenous aquaculture businesses, improve market access, reduce production costs or address an issue affecting the operations of the business;
- Pilot projects necessary to demonstrate 'proof of concept' to establish investor confidence.

Contact the Aquaculture Business Development Team in your region:

For Western Canada and the North (BC, AB, NT, NV and YK):

Aboriginal Aquaculture Association (AAA), Phone: 250-286-9939 Email: info@aboriginalaquaculture.com

For Central Canada (MB, ON and SK):

Waubetek Business Development Corporation, Phone: 705-285-4275 Email: waubetek@waubetek.com

For Eastern Canada (NB, NL, NS, PE and QC):

Ulnooweg Development Group, Fernando Salazar, 902-448-0539 Email: fsalazar@ulnooweg.ca or Adrian Desbarats, 902-218-5312 Email: adesbarats@ulnooweg.ca