



Wawanesa Climate Champions: Youth Innovation Grant

OVERVIEW

THE OPPORTUNITY

In alignment with Wawanesa's Youth Stewards Pillar of their [Climate Champions](#) program, Wawanesa, in partnership with Canadian Colleges for a Resilient Recovery are offering funding and support to help accelerate youth-led climate action innovations that have been identified as a gap in the space.

The Wawanesa Climate Champions: Youth Innovation Grant will award **FIVE** projects \$30,000 each to initiate or extend a project/innovation that is youth-led and focused on climate change or climate mitigation. The awarded funds must be used within **one year** of being received.

Wawanesa Climate Champions: Youth Innovation Grant is intended to support youth-led climate-related projects in partnership with a C2R2 Partner Institution. It is encouraged that youth participants are engaged in all steps of the project, including the application process. All projects will be made possible with funding from Wawanesa Insurance. While successful projects will be enabled by C2R2 Partner Institutions, youth leaders must be closely included in each project.

There is no limit to the number of applications submitted.

If you have questions regarding eligibility or how to complete an application, please email youthinnovation@resilientcolleges.ca.

IMPORTANT DATES

Application Period | January 23, 2024 – March 15, 2024

Application Review Period | March 16, 2024 – April 15, 2024

Project Award Announcement | April 22, 2024

Project Funding Length | One Year

ELIGIBILITY AND PROCESS

- Applicants must be enrolled in a full-time or part-time post-secondary program or have recently graduated (within 2 years) from a post-secondary program at one of the 14 identified [C2R2 Partner Institutions](#).
 - Note: Applicants do not need to be enrolled in an environmental/climate related program as all disciplines of study have potential for climate action solutions.



- Participants must be considered a youth as defined by C2R2 (18-30 years of age).
- Applicants must obtain application approval from a designated contact at a C2R2 Partner Institution.
 - A designated contact will be assigned with appropriate contact info and process outlined before launch. They will help vet & guide applications.
- Canadian Colleges for a Resilient Recovery is a coalition with representation coast to coast to coast. We encourage youth from all backgrounds, especially those from underrepresented groups to apply.
- Youth interested in applying must email youthinnovation@resilientcolleges.ca with their name, C2R2 Partner Institution they are enrolled with or have recently graduated from, and what their project would focus on. C2R2 will then connect those who have emailed with a contact at their home institution to discuss the project idea and complete the application form below.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Projects must support **youth-led climate action innovations that will help Canadian communities mitigate or adapt to climate change, ultimately helping increase climate resilience.**
- Note: Because the challenges communities face across Canada differ, projects can be focused on addressing local climate challenges and needs.
 - **Mitigation example:** A project that can help increase carbon capture/sequestration.
 - Mitigation can be on an individual level (if it is scalable nationally), a community level, a national level or a sector specific level eg. farming.
 - **Adaptation examples:** A project that helps Canadian communities adapt to the impacts of climate change. Innovations in this space can vary. A few examples are listed below as thought starters:
 - Innovations in mapping high risk fire/flood areas to help better inform communities of upcoming risks and recommend solutions that will help prevent loss in the future.
 - Innovations in affordable climate resilient housing.
 - Innovations that support farmers' ability to adapt to climate change to help protect the sustainability of our food sources.
- All applicants **must clearly outline the problem** their climate action project aims to address related to climate change and building climate resilience.
- All applicants **must outline what is innovative about their project.**
- The **end impact of the project must benefit a Canadian community or multiple Canadian communities** beyond the walls of a C2R2 college.
- All applicants must be able to share: **the projected end impact** of the project tied to building climate resilience, **how they will measure outcomes and impact**, and measurable **project outcomes at the end of the one-year** funding period.
- Projects can vary from seed funding for an innovative idea to become a reality, to scaling the reach or impact of an existing youth-led innovation. Each project must achieve key activities and some outlined milestones by May 2024 with the project to be fully completed by April 2025. **All applicants must be able to provide a one-year plan outlining how funding will be used to accomplish goals during this timeframe.** If the project will continue beyond this one year, applicants must provide an outline of what this looks like and what phase this one year of funding will support. Projects can be completed in less than one year.



- All applicants must be able to commit to sharing best practices, insights, and lessons learned from the project process to other youth stewards.
- To help with impact reporting and storytelling, all applicants must be able to commit to providing ongoing updates throughout the life-course of their funding, providing quotes, photos, videos, and permissions to share information about their project and themselves for use in Wawanesa's internal and external communications if selected.

IF AWARDED FUNDING

- You will help drive funded project recognition by working with the C2R2 Partner Institution to draft and publish a media release about the funded project and Wawanesa's support and will be available to local media as requested.
- You will help increase Wawanesa employee education by providing one employee education session (up to 30 mins.; national; virtual) to share with employees about the work being done, the importance of work related to climate change, and the positive outcomes of this kind of work.
- You will engage Wawanesa employees in the funded projects by building employee volunteer opportunities into project, as available.
- You will ensure all marketing and promotion opportunities are shared with C2R2 and Wawanesa, including the following:
 - Inviting Wawanesa to visit Funded Project site for learning and relationship building and to capture content for storytelling (personal interviews, photos, video, etc.), where applicable.
 - Inviting Wawanesa to attend Funded Project on-site events and projects, where applicable.
 - Inviting Wawanesa to attend Funded Project meetings/events, where applicable.
 - Provide Wawanesa with speaking opportunity at Funded Project event, where possible.
 - Mentioning the Funded Project and Wawanesa's support at events or in communications, where appropriate.



APPLICATION GUIDE

Wawanesa Climate Champions: Youth Innovation Grant is intended to support youth-led climate-related projects in partnership with a C2R2 Partner Institution. It is encouraged that youth participants are engaged in all steps of the project, including the application process. All projects will be made possible with funding from Wawanesa Insurance. While successful projects will be enabled by C2R2 Partner Institutions, youth leaders must be closely included in each project.

There is no limit to the number of applications submitted.

If you have questions regarding eligibility or how to complete an application, please email youthinnovation@resilientcolleges.ca.

1. C2R2 Partner Institution
 - Name the C2R2 Partner associated with this application. The institution must be an active C2R2 Partner from [this list](#).
2. Have you received approval and co-developed this application with your respective key contact from your respective C2R2 Partner Institution?
 - Select Yes or No. Only applications that have approval will be eligible.
3. Primary Contact
 - Provide all contact information for the individual leading the application. This could be the youth participant or the key contact at the C2R2 Partner Institution.
4. Secondary Contact (Optional)
 - Provide all contact information for the individual leading the application. This could be the youth participant or the key contact at the C2R2 Partner Institution.
5. Which of the following options best describes your relation to the C2R2 Partner Institution?
 - Select one option of Current Part Time Student, Current Full Time Student, Recent Graduate (within last 2 years), Institution Department Working Directly with Youth.
6. Do you self-identify as someone from an equity-deserving group? (Equity-deserving groups include Indigenous people, racialized and visible minorities, people with disabilities, 2SLGBTQIA, newcomers, and women)
 - Select one of Yes, No, or Prefer not to respond.
7. Please select the equity-deserving group(s) with which you self-identify (please select all that apply)
 - Select all with which you identify or choose Prefer not to respond.



8. Name of project
 - Provide descriptive name of project.
 - Maximum 20 words.
9. If successful, will this funding be used to launch a new project or amplify the activities of an existing project?
10. Provide a brief overview of project including key goals and outcomes.
 - Maximum 500 words.
11. What climate-related problem does this project address?
12. Why is this project needed or important?
13. What is innovative about this project?
14. Projected end-impact of the project and how will this project impact a Canadian community or communities?
15. How will youth be involved in and throughout this project?
 - Eligible project requires youth-led activities as part of each project. Youth is defined as 18-30 years of age.
16. Please identify any opportunities within this project that could allow Wawanesa employees or others to engage or volunteer with it.
17. What will be your measurable project outcomes at the end of one year?
 - While allowable, not all projects are required to utilize the entire project period. Please describe your expect project outcomes at the end of one year. If you expect you will require less than one year, please describe.
 - Maximum 300 words.
18. How do you plan to measure outcomes and impact?

Additional Documents

19. Please provide a one-year plan outlining how funding will be used to accomplish goals during the project timeframe.
 - Any format of project plan is acceptable. Gantt charts are recommended to show timeline of project, key milestones, corresponding activities aligned to the project, etc.
20. Please provided a detailed budget that outlines how the awarded funds will be used to accelerate your project throughout the proposed timeline
 - Budget template provided in application form.
 - Budget development must be completed in close partnership with the C2R2 Partner Institution. Funds will be distributed to the C2R2 Partner Institution to enable the Youth Innovation Grants. Funds will not be provided directly to an individual youth participant.