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**Advancing Indigenous Research (AIR) Fund**

**Guiding Principles:**

Located on the traditional territory of Atikameksheng Anishnawbek First Nation, and home to 25 Indigenous faculty members, Laurentian University is uniquely positioned to facilitate and conduct interdisciplinary research with Indigenous communities and peoples. Laurentian University’s commitment to supporting Indigenous research is consonant with our institutional vision of promoting intercultural awareness through respectful and responsible academic practices, engagement and collaboration. Through strategic investments in Indigenous research, Laurentian university aims to enhance our understanding of the knowledge systems, experiences and aspirations of Indigenous peoples, foster meaningful and longstanding relations with Indigenous peoples and better respond to the unique challenges faced by both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. In order to encourage and support Indigenous research initiatives at Laurentian, to build capacity for Indigenous research in Northern Ontario, to create and strengthen collaborative networks of Indigenous research regionally and nationally, and to respond to the call for action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Laurentian University has established the Advancing Indigenous Research (AIR) Fund.

The objectives of AIR Fund are therefore:

1. To stimulate collaboration and networking on Indigenous research
2. To enhance capacity for Indigenous research
3. To provide opportunities for the research community and researchers to identify research questions that matter the most to Indigenous peoples
4. To enable the Laurentian research community to have increased success in external research funding for Indigenous research

**Eligibility:**

The applicants must be full-time faculty members at Laurentian University who are conducting research in any area of Indigenous research that aligns with Laurentian University’s Strategic Research Plan.

**Terms and Funding Provisions:**

The application deadlines for AIR Fund are February 1 and October 1 of each year. A full proposal should be submitted to Laurentian University’s Romeo on-line portal (https://romeo.laurentian.ca/romeo.researcher). Faculty members may submit one application per year and the same research project can only be funded once. The funding decisions will be made by the Vice-President Research based on the recommendation from a designated committee, which will include Indigenous research expertise.

Use of funds:

* Funds must be spent within one year of receipt and cannot be carried forward.
* Funds must be only used for eligible expenses as outlined at the end of this document.

Funding levels:

* Individual faculty members may apply for funding to a maximum of $5,000 per application.
* Research centres may apply for funding to a maximum of $10,000 per application.

Selection Criteria:

* Applications will be evaluated based on the applicant’s proposal, including the background, outline of the project, expected outcomes and description on how this project will advance Indigenous research at Laurentian, timeline of delivery, references, participants, and justified budget.
* Applications must demonstrate Indigenous community engagement and/or a commitment to building capacity of Indigenous researchers.
* The proposal format:
	1. No more than 4 pages
	2. Text should be typed single-line spaced in a font no less than 12 pt. with 1-inch margins all around
	3. Pages must be numbered in Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.).
* Applications should include their CV to document their past and current research activities.
* Priority will be given to applications that have clear target and timeline for
1. Developing an external funding proposals or
2. Generating measurable research outcomes (such as peer-reviewed publications, policy document, research films or innovative arts, etc.)

Reporting Requirements:

* Successful recipients are required to provide the Vice-President Research with a final report within 3 months of the end of the funding period.

Eligible Expenses:

* Graduate students/research assistants
* Consumables
* Development of articles or books for publication
* Networking and workshops for preparation of external funding applications
* Database, telecommunication, information technology and research tools.