



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TRANSPORTATION

NUNAVUT PROSPECTOR'S PROGRAM

POLICY STATEMENT

The Department of Economic Development & Transportation is committed to supporting the development of a sustainable and viable mining industry in Nunavut through financial and technical assistance to prospectors by encouraging their work and building the information base regarding mineral deposits.

PRINCIPLES

The policy is based on the following principles:

- Partnerships will respect Inuit Societal Values of *Piliriqatigiinniq/ Ikajuqtigiinniq* (working together for a common cause), *Pilimmaksarniq/ Pijariuqsarniq* (development of skills through action and effort), and *Qanuqtuurniq* (being innovative and resourceful).
- The foundation of the mining industry is the information gained through prospecting and geo-science.
- Nunavut residents will be encouraged to participate in mineral exploration to support sector development.
- Information on which decisions for financial assistance are based will be available in annual scheduled reporting, and all decision making processes will be fair, transparent, and without conflict of interest.

APPLICATION

The *Nunavut Prospector's Program Policy* establishes the general terms and conditions by which financial assistance will be provided to prospectors by the Department of Economic Development & Transportation through:

A. Nunavut Prospectors Fund (Schedule A)

DEFINITIONS

Department

The Department of Economic Development & Transportation.

Nunavut Resident

Individual who has lived in Nunavut as their primary residence for at least one year.

Prospecting

The search for new mineral deposits, or the reassessment of previously known mineral deposits or occurrences by means of conventional prospecting techniques, geological, geochemical, and geophysical surveying, sampling and assaying.

Prospector

A person engaged in the activity of prospecting, for the purposes of identifying the potential of a site or area for some type of future mining endeavour.

Contribution

Transfer of funds under certain terms and conditions to an applicant from whom the Government of Nunavut will not receive any goods or services.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Minister

The Minister will table annually in the Legislative Assembly a summary of contributions detailing the name of each recipient, the amount of each contribution, and the community in which the applicant resides. The Minister may delegate authority to approve provisions of this policy to the department head.

Department

The department head, or their designated lead senior official, shall establish and communicate clear and transparent procedures and criteria for allocation of funds under this policy that address:

- Application Process
- Evaluation Criteria
- Terms and Conditions

The department will publish at least annually a report detailing the name of each successful applicant, the community in which the successful applicant resides, the amount of each contribution, and a brief description of the type of investment being supported.

PROVISIONS

Eligibility

Assistance may be provided through Schedule A to individuals defined as prospectors.

General Conditions

- All provisions contained in the *Financial Administration Act, Government Contract Regulations* and the *Financial Administration Manual* shall apply to the financial administration of all contributions issued by the department.
- Eligibility for funding under this policy does not guarantee subsequent approval for financial assistance of any kind. Financial assistance will be provided only to the limit and availability of funding allocated to this policy within the main estimates of the budget.
- Prospectors selected to receive contributions under this program may be funded at a level below the amount requested.
- All recipients of contribution assistance must agree to allow the department access to inspect all books and other financial statements related to the project, and to obtain any other information necessary for evaluating the success of the project work.
- Any information provided by the prospector to the department in the form of maps, prospecting reports, or preliminary data, shall remain the sole property of the prospector for marketing their claims, and the department shall ensure that all such data in its possession shall remain confidential for a period of two years. After two years, the department may provide this information to the general public by any method (including publication) that it deems appropriate.

APPEALS

- (a) An applicant for grant or contribution has the right to appeal a denial of funding.
- (b) Appeals will be dealt with in accordance with the Guidelines established in support of this Policy.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Financial resources required under this policy are conditional on approval by the Legislative Assembly and on the availability of funds in the appropriate budget.

PREROGATIVE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Nothing in this policy shall in any way be construed to limit the prerogative of the Executive Council to make decisions or take action respecting Culture, Language, Elders and Youth grants and contributions outside the provisions of this policy.

SUNSET

This policy shall be in effect from the date of signature until March 31, 2014.

SCHEDULE A

NUNAVUT PROSPECTORS PROGRAM

- Purpose** The Nunavut Prospectors fund provides financial assistance to prospectors in support of increased prospecting activity in Nunavut.
- Eligibility** Eligibility for contributions is restricted to residents of Nunavut who:
- Are 18 years or older
 - Hold a valid Prospector's Licence
 - Demonstrate working knowledge of prospecting or have the equivalency of having taken the Introductory Prospecting Course.
- Eligible Expenses** The following expenses related directly to prospecting work are eligible for contribution assistance:
- daily living allowance per person for each day spent prospecting up to a maximum duration of 30 days;
 - wages for any assistants, as well as any specialized equipment (rock hammers, and sample bags) needed for conventional prospecting activities;
 - sampling and analysis costs;
 - equipment rentals;
 - equipment purchases and repairs;
 - wages for up to two assistants other than the applicant;
 - travel within Nunavut;
 - costs for preparing and writing the required reports, including translation;
 - consulting fees for the services of professional engineers and/or geologists; and
 - basic prospecting equipment.

Ineligible Expenses

The following expenses are not eligible for contribution assistance:

- Management, administration, legal, or accounting fees;
- Permanent re-useable items which have potential uses for activities other than Prospecting, including Hondas, skidoos, outboards;
- Travel outside of Nunavut;
- Engineering studies (such as environmental impact work, metallurgical testing and feasibility), transportation studies, as well as all other work relating to the actual development of a property; and
- Activities that support mining, and/or ore processing and directly result in net income for the applicant.

Review

The Resident Geologist or other responsible staff will review the application and provide a response to the applicant within 45 days

Supporting Data

- A Nunavut Prospecting Licence
- A map outlining your project area.
- A preliminary discussion with the Resident Geologist about your project.
- Appropriate access permits from the Regional Inuit Association if the project is on Inuit Owned Land

Accountability

Prospectors that have had their application approved will provide a Prospecting Report to the department before the end of the Government of Nunavut fiscal year (March 31) in which the application was approved. The report must contain the following information:

- Summary of Prospecting Activities (diary);
- Assay results;
- Map of the area prospected, with all sample locations plotted at 1:50,000 scale;
- The Technical Summary Form; and
- The Financial Summary Form and Receipts.

Report requirement details report will be available in the Nunavut Prospector's Program Guidelines.

Amount

The department will provide a contribution of up to \$8,000.

If a Prospector is required to repay an advance, that individual is ineligible for further assistance until repayment is made in full.

Payment The department will provide two unequal payments of 75% of the approved amount prior to any prospecting, and 25% after the prospector has provided his/her Prospecting Report, provided that said Report outlines sufficient expenditure.

Term This is an ongoing program