

# Southern Speakers Symposium Fund

## Application Guidelines



Canada 

ACIC  CACI  
ATLANTIC COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

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## Guidelines

### Purpose

The purpose of the ACIC Member Southern Speakers Symposium Fund is to provide opportunities for Southern partners to dialogue with Atlantic Canadians on issues and demonstrate impact of efforts in international cooperation.

ACIC will make funds available to support the participation of international guests to the region to speak at ACIC's annual symposium from **June 21-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 in Charlottetown, PEI**. Funds can be used for both international as well as regional travel costs. The ACIC member will be responsible for organizing travel logistics and providing funds for the speaker. Please note, however, that meals and accommodation during the symposium will be covered by ACIC<sup>1</sup>. ACIC would be pleased to provide accompanying letters of support where required for travel visas.

Up to **\$3000** is available to help cover travel costs associated with having the Southern partner visit Atlantic Canada.

ACIC member applicants are encouraged to consider how the individual's background and area of work pertain to the overall theme of the symposium. Please note, however, that there are many intersecting issues arising from the theme that we have chosen which will attract broad-based participation as well as a spectrum of contributing expertise.

Though not a requirement, consideration will be given to the value added to the ACIC member's work or additional public engagement opportunities that may exist in conjunction with the speaker's participation in the ACIC symposium.

### Symposium Theme

#### **Walking Together Towards a Sustainable Future**

We live in an increasingly complex world where seemingly intractable issues divide us as human beings and we remain disconnected from the natural world that sustains us. We have failed to heed the warnings of scientists of the urgency to solve foreseeable environmental problems. Global inequalities within and between countries are widening, disparities of opportunity, wealth and power persist, and gender equality remains a concern. Climate change is now affecting every country on every continent, and urgent action is needed to combat its impacts if we are to achieve any other global goal.

And yet as we look to the Indigenous peoples of the world and their knowledge to help guide us on a sustainable path, it is often they who find themselves on the front lines of the destructive

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<sup>1</sup> As these costs are covered by the symposium registration fee, the fee will be waived for the selected speaker. Note, however, that registration through the symposium website will still be required for information purposes.

forces wrought by decades of damage to our planet. How do we heal our relationships with both people and planet to walk together on a path towards more resilient societies?

With these challenges, however, comes opportunity. Canada can take an important step as part of its efforts toward reconciliation by ensuring our laws are in harmony with the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (UNDRIP). Globally, progress has been made to reduce extreme poverty. Access to education has greatly increased for both boys and girls. Innovations in communications, science, and technology hold potential to further accelerate improvements in social, economic and environmental realms. The [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) is an ambitious 15-year plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at mobilizing efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. It is a framework and a roadmap to coordinate and guide countries, organizations and citizens towards a sustainable future.

Complex issues require holistic approaches that are informed by diverse voices working together across sectors, disciplines, and borders. If we are to succeed in transforming our world to create the future we want, we must do so together. In a world of seemingly increasing divisiveness, how do we overcome barriers to walk together on a journey that will lead us onto on a path towards more sustainable and resilient societies?

Importantly, how do we work within our own communities to address local issues within this global framework? And what are the bold and transformative steps we desperately need to take that will allow us to travel the distance on this collective journey?

ACIC's 2018 symposium will tackle these questions through a focus on climate change, indigenous issues, and collaboration, among others. It will be an opportunity to work across sectors and issues, erasing artificial silos and boundaries while bridging issues and voices, to promote values of pluralism, tolerance and respect.

The event will create a rich networking and learning environment through a combination of keynote speakers, panel discussions, and workshops, and will bring together international cooperation practitioners, youth, indigenous leaders, feminists, local governments, environmentalists, issue-specific experts, advocates and academics to strengthen individual and collective capacity, and increase dialogue on making connections between the issues and the actions necessary to create a sustainable future, both locally and globally.

## Eligibility

- Proposals must be submitted by an ACIC regular member (not individuals).

- ACIC accepts funding proposals from members in good standing – payment of membership dues must be up to date.
- Applicants must not have any outstanding final reports still to submit from previous ACIC-funded projects.

### Submission Deadlines

All proposals must be received by 4:00 pm (AST) **February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. A selection committee will review all proposals after the deadline and results will be announced in early April. Completed applications may be sent to [janelle@acic-caci.org](mailto:janelle@acic-caci.org).

### Reporting

A financial and brief narrative report is due by **August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018**.

*Please note that the Application Form is a separate document.*