

Southern Speakers Symposium Fund

Application Guidelines



Canada 

ACIC  CACI
ATLANTIC COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

April 2019

Guidelines

(can also be found here: www.acic-caci.org/southern-speakers-fund)

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 **Oct. 3rd & 4th in St. John's, NL**. 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 ACIC¹. ACIC would be pleased to provide accompanying letters of support where required for travel visas.

Up to **\$3,000** 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

Gender Equality: the power of story-telling to build relationships and collaboration

"I raise up my voice—not so I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard...we cannot succeed when half of us are held back." —Malala Yousafzai

Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Gender inequalities are complex and multifaceted, and interwoven with various other systems of power and oppression. Work on this issue is inherently and necessarily political as well as personal, and socioeconomic. We therefore

¹ 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.

cannot discuss gender inequality without discussing intersectionality and how this impacts the advancement of women and girls. Feminist approaches now bring an intersectional perspective:

- deconstructing established hierarchies
- drawing attention to multiple forms of discrimination
- and avoiding simplistic and inaccurate gender binaries and dichotomies

In this symposium, we will discuss what it means to bring a feminist approach, and the importance of developing authentic relationships and supporting collaboration to affect change. We will discuss the importance of including all voices, and the power of individual stories.

ACIC has begun the process of finding innovative ways to build connections: by finding spaces for collaboration with local women's movements and organizations; by developing what it looks like to focus on youth voices (particularly girls) in advocacy and policy work; and in particular, by giving attention to the perspectives of women of colour, indigenous women, members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and others who have not been traditionally included in decision-making processes.

Bringing together women's groups, government departments, youth-serving organizations, and civil society organizations, we will share a way to increase our ability to empower women and girls. With the federal government's focus on the Feminist International Assistance Program (FIAP) abroad and ACIC's new strategic plan emphasizing youth leadership and strengthening effectiveness of ACIC members and partners, we strive to provide opportunities a space for peer learning to achieve these objectives.

The act of connecting people from diverse paths by sharing stories can be a powerful mechanism. Solidifying relationships is fundamental to the growth and wellbeing of all humankind no matter the substance in which we all work. More importantly however, is the sustainability and the respectful maintenance of these relationships that are essential. What are the success stories we can share that illuminate relations that are everlasting?

The keynote presentation, panel discussion and capacity-building workshops will focus on ways for us to learn about key global issues such as the SDGs and in particular gender equality.

The Symposium will include a pre-conference focusing on youth engagement and leadership. Workshops will centre on youth dialogue and integration but will be open to all to attend.

Eligibility

- Proposals must be submitted by an ACIC regular member (not individuals) or non-profit organizations based in the Atlantic.

- 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.
- Previous Southern Speakers are not eligible.

Submission Deadlines

All proposals must be received by **4:00 pm (AST) May 15th**. Application forms can be found here: www.acic-caci.org/southern-speakers-fund.

A selection committee will review all proposals after the deadline and results will be announced in mid May. Completed applications may be sent to janelle@acic-caci.org.

Reporting

A financial and brief narrative report is due by **December 31st, 2019**.

Please note that the Application Form is an online form found [HERE](#).