

## About the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use

### 1. What is the main goal of the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use?

The MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use seeks new clean technologies from BC, Canada and around the world to help British Columbia's mining industry reduce water use. The Challenge's objective is to identify innovative technologies for reducing water use in mining operations.

### 2. Who is funding the Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use?

The MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use is primarily funded by the Mining Association of British Columbia (MABC) with funding provided by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation as part of the Mining Innovation Road Map project. This Challenge is being conducted with support from the Government of British Columbia, Natural Resources Canada, Newcrest Mining, Teck Resources, Natural Resources Canada, and PricewaterhouseCoopers Canada, as well as ecosystem partners Global Mining Guidelines Group and the Bradshaw Research Initiative in Minerals and Mining (BRIMM) at the University of British Columbia.

### 3. What is MABC?

MABC is the voice of mining in British Columbia, representing operating steelmaking coal, metal and industrial mineral producers, as well as smelting operations and advanced development companies in the province. Our mandate is to encourage the safe, responsible development and operation of mining and related facilities across British Columbia. The mining industry generated more than \$12 billion in economic activity and supported over 35,000 direct and indirect jobs in 2019, while contributing more than \$1 billion in direct payments to the provincial government.

### 4. Who is running the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use?

MABC has selected Foresight Cleantech Accelerator Centre as delivery partner to coordinate the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use.

[Foresight](#) is Canada's cleantech ecosystem accelerator. Foresight supports the identification and validation of cleantech opportunities and the successful commercialization of solutions. We bring together industry, government, academia, investors, and innovators to address today's most urgent climate issues and support a global transition to a green economy.

### 5. What is the value of the prize allocated to the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use?

The winning concept will receive \$150,000 in prize money, and the potential opportunity to pilot their innovation at a BC mine.

## **6. How can I get funding for my technology from the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use?**

To be eligible for the Challenge prize, you must submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) in accordance with the Program Guide. Your proposed technology must meet the criteria set out in the Program Guide and be evaluated to be among the highest of quality opportunities aligned with the goals and objectives of the challenge. Best applications will move to the final phase of the challenge, the Full Project Proposal. After this second round, the best application will be selected by June 2022 and awarded the prize.

## **7. What are the eligibility requirements I must fulfill to participate in the Challenge?**

This Challenge is open to all categories of applicants and project collaborators, including technology developers, academic institutions, research laboratories, small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), and multinational enterprises. These eligibility requirements are detailed in section 4.4 of the [Program Guide](#).

To participate in the **MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use**, applicants must present a technology aligned with the objectives of the challenge that must be at a [Technology Readiness Level \(TRL\) of 6-9](#).

## **8. I am a non-Canadian company. Can I apply to the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use?**

Yes. This Challenge is open to both Canadian and international applicants.

## **9. Are there any requirements regarding where the technology is developed?**

There is not a specific requirement for where the technology is developed; however, job creation in the province of BC is one of the technology evaluation metrics.

## **10. Are existing technologies allowed in the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use?**

Yes. TRL 9 is for existing technologies. TRL 9 is where technologies are at the stage of 'actual application of the product and/or process innovation in its final form or function before it reaches the market.'

## **11. Can I participate in the Challenge if I am close to TRL 6 but still 5?**

Unfortunately, we are not accepting technologies that have not reached TRL 6 by the application date of this challenge (February 18, 2022).

## **12. When will the MABC Mining Innovation Challenge: Reducing Water Use prize be awarded?**

The prize will be awarded in Q3 of 2022.

## About the Application

### 13. How do I apply?

In order to apply to the challenge, you will need to submit an application to the [Challenge platform](#).

### 14. Is the entry to the Challenge confidential?

Yes. Entries to the Challenge will be confidential. They will be shared in confidence with those involved in administering the challenge and assessing entries, MABC, Foresight, and the judging panel.

### 15. If I apply, how will the information I submit be used?

Your privacy is immensely important to us, and we respect the need for confidentiality. If you apply, all of the information and documents submitted will only be viewed by our Technical Evaluation Reviewers and Foresight's staff for the purpose of applicant selection, with the exception of the submitted non-confidential project description.

The Technical Evaluation Reviewers are independent experts that have been screened to ensure they have no conflict of interest in the reviews. Only summary information will be used by MABC for program evaluation purposes.

### 16. What are the evaluation criteria for the Challenge?

The evaluation criteria are sets of criteria reflecting the different goals of the Challenge. They are listed in section 5.2 of the Program Guide.

### 17. How is my application going to be reviewed?

In the first phase (EOI), your application will be evaluated by a panel of independent Technical Evaluation Reviewers, who will evaluate the technology based on the evaluation criteria. The reviewers will select the best applications to move to the second phase of the challenge. In this second phase, finalists will submit their Full Project Proposal (FPP). All FPPs will be reviewed by a panel of independent Technical Evaluation Reviewers, and the best one will be submitted to MABC for final approval.

### 18. Is there a screening process to ensure that the technology is not infringing on other patented technology?

It is the responsibility of the applicants to ensure their technologies are not infringing on patented technologies.

**19. Can we submit the same entry under different companies?**

No. If two companies are working on the same technology, only one submits the entry. This company is the lead applicant of the applicant team. If the Full Project Proposal is selected as the winner of the challenge, partners are responsible for deciding how the prize is distributed between them.

**20. Can the same company submit more than one technology?**

Yes. As long as they are in separate applications, a company can submit more than one technology.

**21. Is there any preferred TRL for the technologies?**

No. It is an eligibility requirement that submitted technologies are within TRL 6-9, but as long as that criterion is met, TRL is not part of the evaluation criteria that define the quality of the applications.

### About the Process

**22. What are the phases of the application process?**

The challenge application process consists of two phases:

The first phase is Expression of Interest (EOI), where you are submitting your technology application. This application will be reviewed by the Technical Evaluation Reviewers. The best technologies will proceed to the second phase of the challenge.

The second phase is the Full Project Proposal (FPP). The FPP is a more detailed application to fully understand and evaluate the technology. The FPP will be evaluated by the Technical Evaluation Reviewers, and the best technology will be recommended to MABC for final approval and announcement.

**23. Is there a maximum number of applications participating in the challenge?**

No. All applications will be reviewed, and the best ones will proceed to the second phase of the challenge.

**24. Is there a maximum number of finalists moving to the second phase of the challenge?**

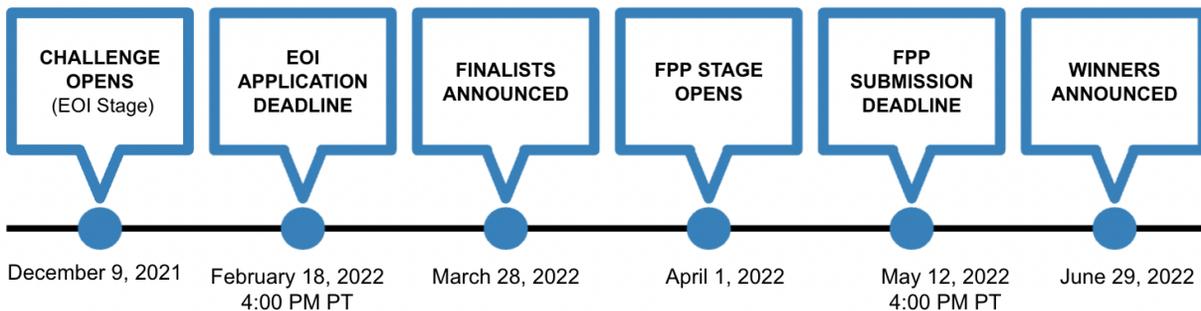
No. There is no limit or a maximum number of FPP finalists who will compete for the award.

**25. How long will it take to review the applications?**

Timing to complete the EOI stage will depend on the number of applicants. We expect to contact you regarding the outcome of your application about five weeks after the closing date of the application process.

**26. What are the relevant dates of the challenge?**

The expected timeline of the challenge is as follows:



**27. What is the timeline for EOI and FPP phases?**

The EOI phase provides 10 weeks to complete the application beginning on December 9th, 2022. Finalists will have six weeks to prepare a Full Project Proposal once this stage opens on April 1, 2022.

**28. What do I do if I am selected as a finalist?**

If you are selected as a finalist after the EOI phase, you are required to prepare a Full Project Proposal, providing detailed information about your technology.

**29. Is there any process to ensure the fairness of the challenge?**

Yes. PricewaterhouseCoopers Canada will be the independent Fairness Evaluator who will oversee the process and observe during review meetings.

**30. Can I ask for a second review of my application if I am not selected as a finalist?**

No. There is no appeal process. The Fairness Monitor will oversee the entire process to ensure equity and fairness throughout so that only the merits and quality of the technologies and submissions determine the challenge outcome.

**31. Will I receive feedback on my FPP even if I am not the winner of the Challenge?**

Yes. The finalists of the Challenge can receive feedback on their application upon request.

**32. Is there any support during the application process?**

Yes. You will be able to contact Foresight by email with any question you may have regarding the application at [BCminingchallenge@foresightcac.com](mailto:BCminingchallenge@foresightcac.com). There will also be an information webinar held at the start of the Expression of Interest phase.

**33. Will the process favour larger companies with large innovation teams?**

The size of a company is not a selection criterion so it will not impact the score of an application.

**34. How will the challenge coordinator communicate with me?**

Foresight will communicate with applicants using the email address of the organization's representative provided in the application form of the EOI phase.

**35. Will I receive notifications on the status of my application?**

You will be notified when you start an application, when you successfully submit your application, and when the finalists are announced. There will not be intermediate status updates.

**36. How can I get answers to my questions about the application?**

If you have further questions about the application process, you can contact Foresight by sending an email to [BCminingchallenge@foresightcac.com](mailto:BCminingchallenge@foresightcac.com).