



# Native Women's Association of Canada

## ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK AWBEN GRANT 2016

### BACKGROUND

In 2012 the Native Women's Association of Canada launched the Aboriginal Woman's Business Entrepreneurship Network (AWBEN) as part of the collective goal to enhance, promote and foster the social, economic, cultural and political well-being of Indigenous women within Canada.

The vision of AWBEN is to:

- provide a safe, supportive, collaborative, empowering and culturally supportive environment that addresses the unique challenges of female Aboriginal entrepreneurs and aspiring female Aboriginal entrepreneurs
- enhance, develop and accelerate growth for current and aspiring female Aboriginal entrepreneurs in a sustainable way through programs and resources
- promote Community leadership through volunteerism as a reflection of respect and reciprocity and will be paramount to the foundation of the Aboriginal Women's Business Entrepreneurship Network

The AWBEN Grant was launched in 2014 to assist Aboriginal women entrepreneurs to start up or advance their business. AWBEN would like to thank Women Who Rock for their financial contribution this year to the Native Women's Association of Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement unit.

### SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee that will make a final selection of the grant based on personal and entrepreneurship achievements and individual financial need. Successful applicants will be announced on the NWAC website and Facebook account on March 31, 2016.

### ELIGIBILITY

You are eligible to apply to the AWBEN Grant if you are a female: Status Indian, a Non-status Indian, Inuit or Métis and meet these criteria:

1. You are a permanent resident or citizen of Canada
2. You have a business plan or business model canvas
3. You are starting a business, want to acquire or expand your current business
4. You own 51% of your business

### HOW TO APPLY

There are two AWBEN Grants available for 2016, one for \$2000 and another for \$1000.

Applying for the AWBEN Grant is easy! All you need to do is provide the following 4 pieces of information:

1. Provide the information requested below in this form
2. Sign the declaration that you meet the eligibility criteria
3. Provide a short essay to tell us your story and explain how you would invest the AWBEN Grant in your company. This year we are looking for submissions that speak to the benefit of winning the AWBEN Grant and how it will be used to positively impact your company.
4. Include a copy of your business plan/business model canvas

## AWBEN GRANT 2016 APPLICATION

### Please provide the following information in the grant application as a Cover Page

Name:  
Title:  
Company:  
Address:  
Email Address  
Telephone:  
Website: (if applicable)  
Specify if you are: starting a business or advance your business  
Specify if you are: Metis, Status and Non-Status or Inuit

### Eligibility Declaration

I (We) certify that I am (we are) a permanent resident or citizen of Canada, am of Aboriginal ancestry and/or represent a company that is majority-Aboriginal owned. I certify that I have a business plan or business model canvas and it has been included in my grant submission.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

### Essay

Tell us your story and explain how you would invest the AWBEN Grant in your company. This year we are looking for submissions that speak to the benefit of winning the AWBEN Grant and how it will be used to positively impact your company.

***To ensure fairness to all applicants, responses must NOT exceed 300 words. Final selections are based on the information you provide.***

**AWBEN Grant applications must be received by March 23, 2016 by mail, fax or email to:**

**Mail:** Native Women's Association of Canada  
Attention AWBEN  
1 Nicholas Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Ottawa, ON K1N 7B7  
**Fax:** 613-722-7687  
**Email:** [awben@nwac.ca](mailto:awben@nwac.ca)

For more information contact Jane Luhtasaari at 1-800-461-4043 ext. 251