



# **ANISHINABEK/ONTARIO FISHERIES RESOURCE CENTRE 2024/2025 Project Application Package**

**PART 1: ABOUT THE CENTRE**

**PART 2: APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

**PART 3: HOW TO COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION**

**2024/25 PROJECT APPLICATION FORM (Separate Document)**

## PART 1: ABOUT THE CENTRE

### The Centre

The Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre (A/OFRC) originated from the Anishinabek Conservation and Fishing Framework Agreement signed in July of 1993. The Centre is a not-for-profit corporation established under letters patent dated April 25, 1995 by the Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations. The A/OFRC serves as an independent source of information, providing advice on fisheries conservation and management issues wherever there is an interest to member communities of the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)-Anishinabek Nation.

The A/OFRC mandate is to:

- Report on stock status by data collection, inventory, monitoring, and evaluating the impacts of use and other environmental stresses on fish populations and their habitats;
- Make available and promote the use of state of the art science, technology, and techniques; and
- Provide a forum for information sharing and participation with stakeholders.
- Make recommendations to promote ecosystem sustainability

The A/OFRC receives its core funding from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and supplements its field program through various additional provincial and federal funding applications.

## PART 2: APPLICATION GUIDELINES

### Timeline

The Centre will accept letters of intent at any time throughout the year, with a submission deadline of September 30<sup>th</sup> for projects occurring in the following fiscal year.

The deadline for the submission of the Project Application is October 31.

### The Process

The Letter of Intent is a form used by the A/OFRC to signal a community's desire to submit a formal Project Application. Once a letter of intent is received, an A/OFRC Project Leader is assigned to assist the community representative in the completion of a full proposal. The Project Leader can explain different assessment techniques or types of training that we offer, and will assist with completing the technical sections of the formal proposal.

All project proposals are reviewed by our Project Committee. The Project Committee

is made up of members of the A/OFRC Board of Directors. This committee brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the review process. The staff and Committee meet in early December each year for a detailed review of each proposal. This process may result in a request for revisions to the submitted applications. A/OFRC Project Leaders contact community representatives if more information or significant changes are required. Projects considered for implementation in any given year are assessed by the Committee with consideration for the following:

#### Project Necessity and Relevance:

- Will lead to decisions/recommendations
- Local and general value
- Relates directly to A/OFRC mandate • Necessary to the integrity of a fishery

#### Economic Value and Efficiency:

- Required budget to carry out the project is reasonable based on available resources
- Joint proposal (several First Nations or First Nation and stakeholders)
- Outside funding solicited or potential

#### Community & Stakeholder Commitment:

- Support of individuals from F.N. Council/Elder
- Communication with MNR about the project
- In-kind or cash commitment from First Nation
- Anishinabek community involvement
- Non-native community involvement

#### Scientifically Sound:

- Science and TEK appropriate to the problem

- Historical/current data/local knowledge has been examined
- Training proposed
- Completion of study probable by end of funding period
- Previous projects resulted in sound products/reports
- Proposal well written and presented

#### Promotes Educational and Scientific Development:

- A/OFRC assistance developmental vs. sustained
- Training component included
- New First Nation involvement, no previous A/OFRC projects
- Will stimulate further fisheries work by applicant
- Results presented in form accessible to the public with help of A/OFRC

In January our Projects Committee reviews each application once again and either approves or declines the proposal for implementation. In early February, the A/OFRC informs the First Nation Chief and Council of the outcome of the process. Local or area OMNR offices are also informed of the intent to conduct the approved projects.

**Eligible Applicants** Member First Nations of the Union of Ontario Indians, Anishinabek Nation.

**Choosing your First Nation's Contact** The A/OFRC conducts its field programs in partnership with its client First Nation communities. The First Nation Contact is involved in the entire project implementation process from the development of the proposal to the community meeting / information delivery

and is integral to the success of any program. As each community has unique concerns, A/OFRFC Project Leaders depend on the community contact for insight into their First Nation's relationship with the resource, for an understanding of the concerns surrounding the status of the resource as well as for access to historical users who can contribute to the better understanding of the resource.

In communities with a staff-person charged with responsibility for natural resource management, this would be the logical point of contact with the A/OFRFC. Some communities have given that responsibility

community's knowledge of its resources. The submitted project is not to be viewed as an economic development exercise. Rather it is intended to be completed in partnership, with the A/OFRFC and the First Nation contributing resources in order to study a concern and increase the knowledge and expertise of the First Nation. Access to local expertise and meeting space rental fees are examples of resources that can be offered in-kind to the success of a project.

### **Project Implementation**

Field projects are administered by the A/OFRFC. This means that the A/OFRFC provides an experienced project leader and crew members to complete all field work,

## **PART 3: HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION**

The 2024-25 application is a fillable Word document which can be completed within Microsoft Word or printed out and completed. Once signed it can be scanned and emailed to:

email: [aofrc@aofrc.org](mailto:aofrc@aofrc.org)

If completing the Application by hand, write legibly and use a black pen.

- 1. Is this application being submitted with**
- 2. the approval of Chief and Council?** One box must be checked. Note that a Band Council Resolution (BCR) will be required prior to the commencement of any fieldwork.

**Project Title:** The title is to include the name of the water body(s) being studied along with the type of method being used to their natural resources portfolio holder.

### **In-kind Contributions**

Support of a Proposal in the form of in-kind contributions by a First Nation is encouraged. The application and the resulting study are for the benefit of the First Nation and will increase the

to complete the study. For example: Lake Lotsafish Fall Walleye Index Netting.

- 3. First Nation:** Enter the full name of your First Nation.
- 4. Contact Name:** See "Choosing Your First Nation's Representative" before completing. This individual will become

analysis and reporting. From time to time, First Nation community members are hired to assist and these individuals are directly employed by the A/OFRFC.

### **Products**

Once analysis and reporting are complete, the Centre will forward the results of

programs to First Nation communities. The A/OFRC can report results in many different ways including posters, maps, technical reports, newsletters, newspaper articles, website posts, as well as direct delivery and interpretation of results through presentations and community meetings.

the Contact representing the First Nation for the duration of the Project.

5. **Contact Phone:** Ensure that extensions are included if used.
6. **Project Partners:** Indicate any partners that will be involved in your proposed project. This may include partnerships with another First Nation or with a local fish and game club, educational facilities, etc.
7. **Project Support:** Indicate any organizations that have indicated a commitment of support in the form of cash or in-kind contributions. Examples would be Ministry of Natural Resource (MNR) support in the form of training, or your First Nation's in-kind contribution in the form of hall rentals, dockage, etc. In-kind support is to be noted as an estimated dollar value. Note also any additional funding you have applied for in support of your project.
8. **Brief Project Summary:** Complete this section after the Background, Detailed Project Information, Products, Project Team and Work Plan sections are complete. Use this box to create a brief summary of the concern, how it will be addressed, the expected outcome and the use of the information gathered.
9. **Project Location:** Your Project Leader can assist you with completing this section. This section identifies some of the logistics to be considered in order to implement the program. Attach a legible map to your Application which

identifies the proposed study area. Note recognizable landmarks including the location of the proposed study area in relation to your First Nation.

Dark maps such as those printable through Google Maps can be hard to read or unreadable once faxed or scanned.

Include the name of the water body. Indicate its coordinates. Indicate the size of the water body. Note directions to the study site including launch points, local roads and landmarks. Also indicate whether there are any access barriers such as dams, unmaintained roads or lack of access roads.

The A/OFRC also accepts applications for training and workshops. Note the location (include physical address and contact information if known) of any First Nation facility that will be offered for training / workshop delivery.

10. **Background:** Some background work may be required to complete these sections. Your Project Leader can assist you with identifying previous work undertaken with our organization that relates to your proposed study. For the other section, speak to local resource users, your Chief and Council, other users of the resource in question. What is the concern or problem that you are trying to address? Define it. Detail how the problem became known and what work your community or other agencies have undertaken (if any) to resolve it or study it. What recommendations exist? Are there any issues surrounding the resource that should be taken into

account during the study such as land claim negotiations, conflicts due to resource rights with other First Nations, other users? Detail any known issues.

**Detailed Project Information:** This section is completed with the assistance of the Project Leader who will be able to assist you with our range of services and expertise.

**11. Final Products:** Project results can be delivered in many different ways including technical reports, newsletters, presentations and community meetings. With the assistance of the Project Leader choose the best product for the delivery of the results and whose responsibility it will be to compile and deliver the product.

**12. Project Team:** Note names of individuals within the First Nation who will be resources during completion of this study. Include people such as Elders or advisors, individuals who oversee community outreach or community fishermen with knowledge of the water body or resource. Note: This does NOT include individuals chosen by the community to undertake fieldwork. Those individuals are recruited and hired directly by the A/OFRC.

**13. Work Plan:** Using the information contained in the Detailed Project Plan section. Note the dates of key activities. Items that should be noted are target dates for fieldwork, community meetings and the expected date of delivery of any products such as technical reports.

**14. Communications:** Detail your communication plan. From informing community members and other resource users of planned fieldwork to reporting the results.

**15. Authorization on Behalf of the Applicant:** The individual must be one who is authorized by Chief and Council to submit the Application and be the First Nation Contact for the duration of the project.

**16. Attachments:** Ensure that all attachments will be legible if faxed or scanned. Ensure that all attachments if emailed can be opened and read by A/OFRC software.

**18. Project Start-up Requirements:** The A/OFRC will require a BCR and signed Memorandum of Understanding if an application is approved for implementation and prior to any fieldwork.

