Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN)
and
Western Mining Action Network (WMAN)

Grassroots Communities Mining Mini-Grant Program

The IEN/WMAN Mining Mini-Grants Program offers $4,000 financial grant assistance to communities threatened or adversely affected by mining in the U.S. and Canada.

We recognize that mining activity often has detrimental impacts to all aspects of community and cultural well-being and IEN/WMAN encourages projects that strive to protect the environment, ecosystems, cultural resources, and community health from mining impacts.

Applications for the Program are accepted three times per year. The deadlines are: June 1, October 1, and February 1. Applicants shall be notified of the funding decision within one month of the application deadline. Emergency assistance outside of these grant cycles is also available on a case by case basis (see details below).

If you have any questions about whether or not your project would qualify, please contact us to talk about it prior to the application deadline. You can email questions to Sayokla Williams, WMAN Indigenous Caucus Coordinator or Laura Pitkanen, WMAN Network Coordinator at
wman.ien.minigrants@gmail.com.
We are happy to talk with you.

Grant applications should be submitted on the online form found at https://wman-info.org/programs/mini-grant-program/

Note: Previous grantees must submit a brief report on their previous grant prior to applying for a new one. Report formats are meant to be easy! Please see Grant Reporting Requirements, below, for details.

Grant priorities will be acknowledged as follows:

1. Priority is given to *community-based grassroots groups and Indigenous organizations directly affected by mining*. We strive to award at least half of our funding under this program to Indigenous-led organizations because mining has disproportionate impacts on Indigenous Peoples and their traditional lands.

2. Secondarily, we will fund proposals from *regional or national non-profit organizations* in the U.S. and Canada working on mining-specific issues.

3. Priority is given to applicants with an organizational or mining-specific program budget under $75,000 U.S.

We do not fund the following:

1. For-profit organizations.

2. Proposals related to oil, gas, pipelines, fracking, or tar sands issues.

3. Work or organizations outside of the U.S. and Canada.

4. General operating expenses including: rent, utilities, etc.

5. Staff salaries above 10% of the total grant amount.

Before you apply, please read the following additional grant criteria:

- The Program funds work that directly addresses hard rock/mineral/metals mining issues, such as gold, silver, iron, copper, zinc, nickel, tin and lead, uranium, placer, and coal mining. Legacy, closed and abandoned mine issues are included and do fit this Program. Your proposal should discuss which type of mining issue is affecting the environment or your community and how you will use these Program funds to address it.

- Requests must be ***Project-Specific*** for needs such as scientific/technical/legal assistance, organizing, education and outreach, development of materials, media development, reports, travel, mailings, interns and consultants, etc. to be fulfilled within the next twelve months on a specific mining campaign.

- Although funds are not intended to support an organization's general operating expenses, a small proportion (up to 10%) of the funding can be applied as work compensation or staff salaries for the organization submitting a grant application. However, there is no such limitation for external contractors hired to complete a project-specific task or objective.

- Everyone can apply for these mini-grants, whether you are a registered or unregistered non-profit organization, however we do not fund individuals. If you do not have a tax ID number or a bank account under your organization name, then you must secure *fiscal sponsorship* by another organization that has a tax ID number or a bank account under their organization name.

- All grant awards will be issued via check and must be made payable to an organization. Checks will not be made payable to an individual.

- **If your organization receives general support from True North Foundation we may require additional information. Please contact us prior to submitting your application.**

Emergency Grants

Emergency funds for extremely time-sensitive projects that fall in between grant cycles (i.e., needs that could not have been anticipated at the time of the last cycle and cannot wait to be addressed until the next cycle) may be applied for. These grants are limited and awarded on a case-by-case basis. Please email wman.ien.minigrants@gmail.com to submit a request.

Grant Reporting Requirements:

- We want this to be easy for you, however we do need to report to our own funders as well!

- Within twelve months of receiving the IEN/WMAN Mini-Grant, recipients shall submit a short grant report. *Please be aware that a group will not be considered for future grants until a grant report is submitted.*

- Grant reports may be submitted by email to wman.ien.minigrants@gmail.com. Grantees may submit a brief written report (less 200 words), a short video (less than 3 min.), or a short audio recording (less than 3 min.), or arrange to communicate the grant report to one of our coordinators by phone.

- For all grant reports, please answer the following two questions:

  1. Outcomes: How did these funds benefit your issue or programs (one paragraph). Please also include one to two sentences that summarize how you used the funding to achieve a successful outcome of your work. This information may be shared with funders, within the IEN and WMAN networks, and on our websites. When possible, please submit photographs or short videos that profile the project and accomplishments achieved (optional).

  2. Financials: How was the grant spent? Receipts are not required. E.g.
     $2,000 technical or legal support by hiring XYZ
     $600 public meeting or workshop expenses (e.g. room, food, facilitator, etc.)
     $600 travel costs (e.g. air or road travel, hotel, etc.)
     $400 printing, communications & social media
     $400 coordination compensation for grantee or admin. fee for fiscal sponsor (10%)
     Total $4,000

Any questions? Don't hesitate to ask. We are happy to help.
Please contact: wman.ien.minigrants@gmail.com.