

Children First Canada (CFC) “The Future is NOW” Terms and Conditions

1. Children First NOW (“CFC”) will award up to ten “The Future is NOW” awards (the “Awards”). The Awards will honour up to ten individual children or youth under the age of 18 who are promoting and defending the rights of children and have demonstrably changed the lives of young Canadians for the better.
2. Awards may be granted to children or youth who have founded or been the driving force behind initiatives to defend the rights of children in the following areas:
 - **Promoting Mental Health, or Combatting Bullying**
 - Developing programs to support mental health, community building, anti-bullying
 - Removing biases against people with mental health issues
 - Advocating to create access to professional supports
 - Standing up to bullying
 - **Combatting Systemic Racism & Discrimination, or Promoting Truth and Reconciliation**
 - Combatting racism and/or discrimination
 - Striving to create systemic changes
 - Helping to address the inequities facing First Nations, Métis and Inuit children
 - Creating reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children and youth
 - **Promoting Health and Safety (Preventing Injuries / Promoting physical activity and play)**
 - Advocating for accessible playgrounds
 - Increasing access to sports or opportunities for outdoor play and physical education
 - **Combatting Violence and/or Abuse**
 - Raising awareness about child abuse or how to seek help
 - Creating peer support programs and opportunities
 - **Ending Poverty, Food Insecurity or Hunger**
 - Spearheading food drives
 - Advocating for school breakfast or lunch programs
 - Promoting access to shelters or affordable housing
 - **Combatting Climate Change**
 - Promoting conservation or agriculture
 - Encouraging responsible consumption
 - Combatting pollution
 - **Promoting Equitable Education**
 - Promoting literacy and numeracy
 - Efforts to seek language, culture, diversity inclusion in schools
 - Responses to pandemic education disruptions
 - Youth voice in school decision making
 - **Civic Engagement / Advocacy**

- Advocating for the rights of children at local, provincial or federal government level
 - Engaging in political processes to bring about systemic change.
3. Awards will not necessarily be awarded in all of the areas identified in paragraph 2.
 4. To be considered for an Award, a nominee must (i) meet the eligibility criteria, and (ii) be validly nominated.
 5. To be eligible for an Award, a nominee must:
 - a. be under 18 years of age as [May 7, 2024];
 - b. have lived in Canada for at least one year as of May 7, 2024;
 - c. be active (or have been active within the 12 months prior to their nomination) in the initiative for which they are being nominated;
 - d. not be a current member of CFC's Youth Advisory Council;
 - e. not be the child, grandchild, niece, nephew or cousin any CFC director, employee, or contractor; and
 - f. be living; The Future is NOW! Awards cannot be awarded posthumously.
 6. A valid nomination must contain all information prescribed on the nomination form and:
 - a. be received by CFC via the online nomination form (LINK HERE) on or before 5 p.m. ET on March 20th, 2024;
 - b. be made with the knowledge of the nominee; and
 - c. contain a signed statement by the nominee (if 14 or older) and by the nominee's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) that consents to the nomination being made and confirms acceptance of these terms and conditions.
 7. A jury will be appointed by CFC to consider all valid nominations of eligible nominees, and to determine the recipients of the Awards. In making this determination, the jury will consider the following selection criteria:
 - **Leadership:** How is the nominee making a difference in the lives of young Canadians today? How are they demonstrating courage and conviction?

- **Collaboration:** How has the nominee engaged others in taking action to improve the lives of young Canadians? Who have they partnered with and how is their impact increasing through collaboration with others?
 - **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion:** How is the nominee combatting discrimination and creating greater pathways to success for young Canadians who experience barriers to full their participation?
 - **Innovation:** How is the nominee disrupting the status quo? How are they changing attitudes, practices or policies and creating opportunities to make life better for young Canadians?
 - **Impact:** What are the measurable ways in which the nominee is improving the life of young Canadians?
 - **Scalability:** How will the Future is NOW Award enable the nominee to scale and improve their impact on the lives of young Canadians?
 - **Overcoming:** What barriers or challenges has the nominee overcome in their own life and how are they using their own experience of adversity to make life better for other young Canadians?
8. Jury deliberations will be confidential, and the jury will not give reasons for its decisions. Subject to paragraph 9, all decisions of the jury are final.
 9. CFC reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify, amend or cancel the Award in whole or in part, at any time and without notice. CFC also reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to decide all questions regarding: (a) eligibility for an Award; (b) the validity of nominations; (c) the manner in which recipients are selected; (d) the granting of Awards; (e) the prize(s) awarded; and (f) generally, all matters related to the Awards or these Terms and Conditions.
 10. Recipients must accept the Award as awarded. CFC bears no responsibility for any tax or other liabilities incurred by a recipient as a consequence of the Award.
 11. By submitting a nomination, the nominator, the nominee, and the nominee's parents or legal guardians:
 - a. authorize CFC and its directors and employees and the members of the jury to collect, use and maintain the personal information of the nominee, the nominator and the nominee's parents or legal guardians, as provided on and with the nomination, for the purposes of evaluating the nomination and of administering, maintaining and promoting the Awards.
 - b. authorize CFC to publish the names of any recipient of the Award including without limitation in interviews with television, radio and print media, in press releases, on CFC's website, on CFC's social media accounts (including without limitation Instagram and Facebook). The nominator, nominee, and the nominee's parents or legal guardians

consent to such publication and waive any claim to compensation or to damages in connection therewith; and

- c. release and forever discharge, CFC and its sponsors, donors, directors, officers and employees, the members of the jury, and any sponsors of the Award from any claim arising from or related in any way to the Award.