FRIAA FRIP Funds Initiative - Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI)

Developing Enhanced Wildfire Knowledge and Predictive Capabilities

November 2025

RFEOI Due – **January 30, 2026, 2:00 p.m. MST**

Any additional questions can be submitted in writing to **admin@friaa.ab.ca** until 2:00 pm on January 28, 2026. Answers will be posted to the FRIAA website within 48 hours after receipt.

Additional Questions #3

QUESTION #1a: Does the 12-page limit include the form on the first page?
The 12-page limit does not include the form on the first page.

QUESTION #1b: Do references / bibliography count towards the 12-page limit?
Yes, the 12-page limit would include references.

QUESTION #2: We are proposing a research project that seeks to improve wildfire fuel mapping. Can you clarify that such a project would be eligible for funding under FRIP and would not be disqualified due to 'overlap with the FRIAA FireSmart program'?
This type of project would likely be eligible as it is research based and appears to be above normal planning emergency documentation that is eligible under the FRIAA FireSmart Program. The FRIAA Firesmart Program emergency planning documents include Hazard and Risk Assessment, Wildfire Preparedness Guide and a Wildfire Mitigation Strategy. If your project is above and beyond these types of documents, then it should be eligible. Please ensure to clarify how it is different than the similar eligible activities under the FRIAA Firesmart Program.

QUESTION #3a: We work nationally and are wanting to build a model that can be used across Canada but would include an Alberta case study within the funding to test the model and retain relevancy to the FRIAA funds. However, will there be an issue in using a model funded under FRIAA outside of Alberta?
Building a model that is applicable across Canada that has relevance to Alberta and includes an Alberta case study would be considered. This is assuming that the model is related to the wildfire theme and meets the eligibility criteria of the FRIP program.

QUESTION #3b: If such a model is built, who retains the IP?
If FRIAA FRIP funding is used to build the model, then FRIAA would retain the model for public use and availability (see related clauses in the PGA template available in the package available for download). If only partial funding is used to build the model, FRIAA would want to know how this would be made available for public access.

QUESTION #4: When does the funding come through for successful candidates?
Decisions on Expressions of Interest are expected by March 2026, after which successful applicants will promptly be invited to submit detailed proposals. The detailed proposal phase will likely take an additional three months, providing time for applicants to prepare their submissions, FRIAA to assemble a review panel and evaluate the proposals, make recommendations to the Board, and finally notify applicants and grant project approvals.

QUESTION #5: We are seeking further clarification about ownership around project data, deliverables, and products resulting from a FRIP project. Is <u>everything</u> connected to the project to be owned by FRIAA or would only the<u> reports</u> and associated materials become FRIAA's? We are looking to know if the algorithms, data, inference tables, weights, bias sets, model architecture, etc. – as well as the deliverables and product more broadly - would belong to FRIAA.

If FRIAA FRIP funding is used to collect data, build models, or develop algorithms and related products, FRIAA generally retains ownership of these outputs for public use and availability. This not only includes reports and associated documentation, but also data sets collected with FRIAA funding, or any other deliverables or products developed under the funded project. If existing algorithms, data, inference tables, weights, bias sets, model architecture, etc. are used in the project, it would be the products developed with the funding over and above the existing products. In summary, under FRIAA's data requirements, all project outputs— including data, models, algorithms, and deliverables—are expected to be owned by FRIAA and made available for public benefit, unless otherwise specified.