

Request for Innovative Proposals

Spring
2023



Round 2 RFP: Focus Areas

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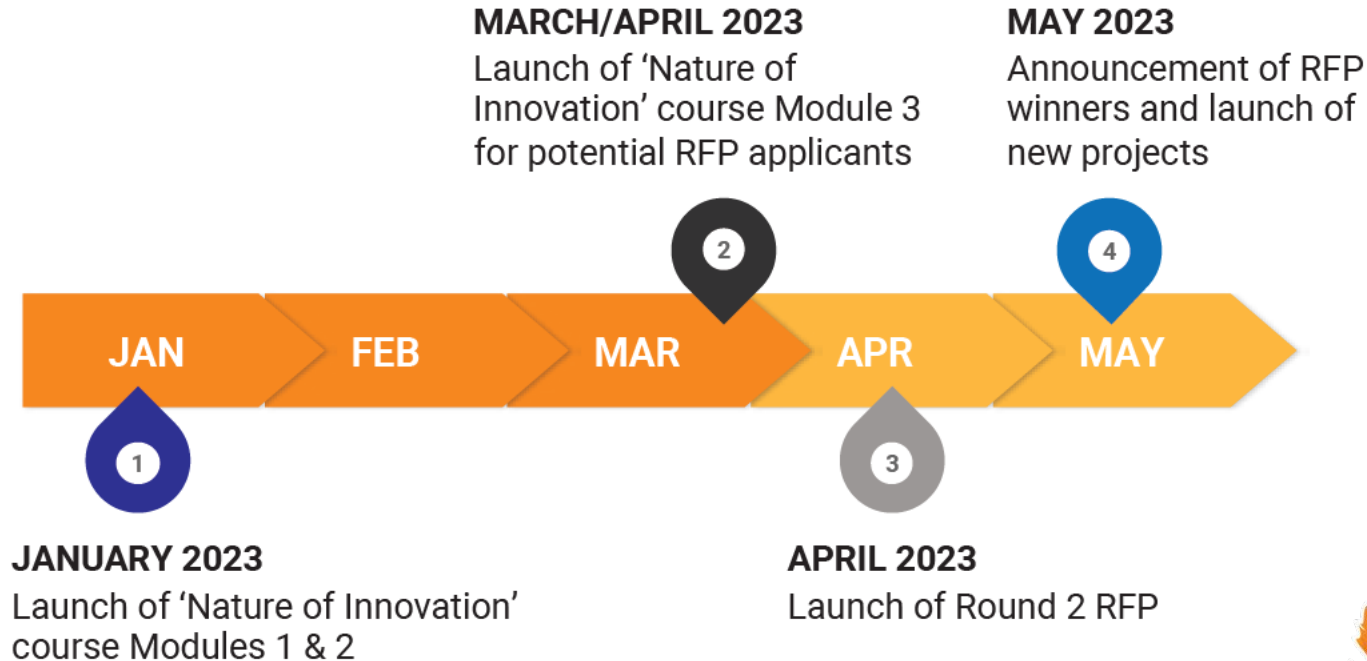
In the spring of 2023, CASE Innovation Lab will launch a second call for proposals for transformative supported employment project ideas. Focus areas for funding include:

- Enhanced employment opportunities/participation
- Transformative technologies
- New trends in employment supports
- Public education and awareness
- Engaged underserved / equity-deserving populations
- Raised profile of supported employment services



Round 2 RFP: Timeline

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Round 2 RFP: Eligibility Criteria

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- Proposals should typically not exceed **CAD \$125,00**, be **up to 12 months**, and **conclude before October 31st 2024**
- Innovations should be for the use of the supported employment sector, rather than profit a single organization*
- All applicant organizations must be registered with the Canadian government, but do not have to be CASE members
- Applications from independent individuals will not be considered
- Partnerships are encouraged, with a clearly defined lead
- All objectives must be geared towards meaningful and equitable employment outcomes



* For example, we will fund promising start-up enterprises so long as the model can be shared and replicated elsewhere.

Round 2 RFP: Priorities

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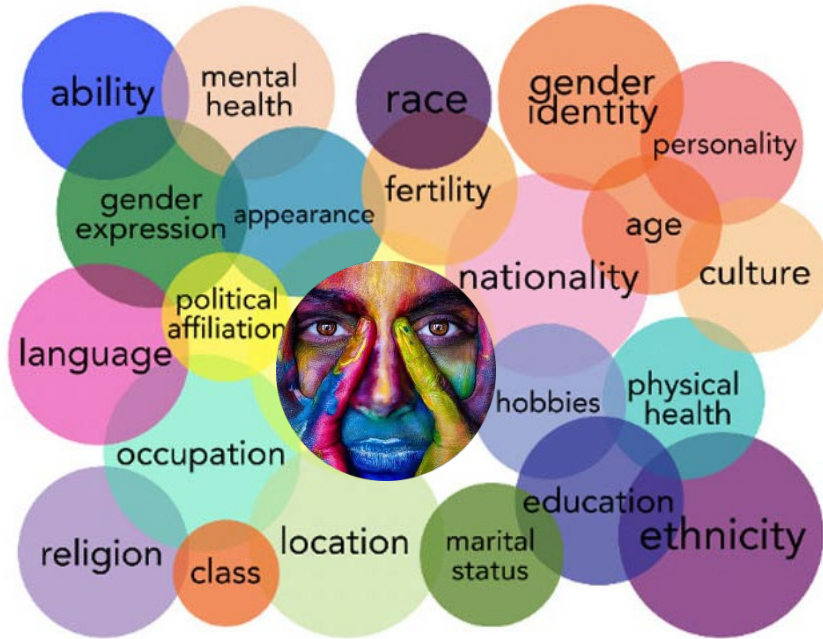
Projects must clearly address one or more of the following priorities:

- Enhanced or increased employment for jobseekers experiencing disability
- Successful transitions from high school to employment for youth experiencing disability
- Enhanced public awareness of the benefits to workplaces and hiring practices that are inclusive of individuals experiencing disability
- Enhance the profile and uptake of supported employment services



Round 2 RFP: Target Groups

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- Employers in strategic sectors
- Supported employment service providers
- Community organizations
- Job-Seekers experiencing disability with a focus on:
 - ✓ Youth
 - ✓ Under-served and equity-deserving populations

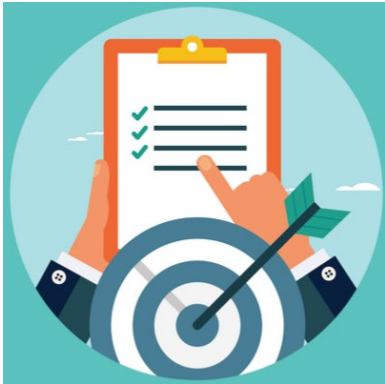
"There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives." - Audre Lorde

Round 2 RFP: Selection Criteria

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Submissions will be reviewed by an independent and representative Committee, based on:

- Relevance to the Innovation Lab focus areas, priorities, and target groups
- Adherence to CASE's [9 Guiding Principles of Supported Employment](#)
- Degree of innovation (e.g. Is it truly innovative for the sector, region, target group?)
- Understanding of the problem being addressed and existing solutions (if any) available
- Quality of planning and ability of the organization to undertake the proposed project
- Impact/outcomes and potential for replication
- Quality of collaborations and/or partnerships



Round 2 RFP: Keys to Success

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- ✓ Pay attention to the Eligibility and Selection Criteria
- ✓ Review CASE's [9 Guiding Principles of Supported Employment](#) and consider taking the [Supported Employment Essentials](#) training
- ✓ Review what existing [Innovation Lab partners](#) are doing
- ✓ Sign up for the CASE 'Nature of Innovation' course, in particular module 3 where you can draft a proposal and have it reviewed prior to applying. Contact learn@supportedemployment.ca.
- ✓ Start designing your project well in advance of April to ensure that proposals are clear and well researched/developed
- ✓ Do an environmental scan to determine if there are others who are already working on similar projects/innovations. If so, we encourage all collaborations.
- ✓ Ensure that all answers are clear, concise, and reviewed



Stay in Touch

Questions?

- Check out the Innovation Lab [RFP FAQ](#)
- Contact us at innovate@supportedemployment.ca

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