

Call for Innovation: Women in Climate Tech

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the NorthX Call for innovation: Women in Climate Tech?

Through the 2026 Women in Climate Tech Call for Innovation, NorthX will invest up to **\$3 million in non-dilutive funding** to support women-led climate hard tech ventures advancing commercialization-ready solutions.

The call is designed to accelerate technologies that are essential to deep decarbonization but remain underrepresented in investment pipelines, while addressing persistent commercialization barriers faced by women founders beyond access to capital.

This initiative builds on the success of NorthX's first Women in Climate Tech call and reflects NorthX's commitment to backing high-impact innovation and strengthening Canada's climate tech economy.

Who can apply?

- This call is open to **Canadian-incorporated climate technology companies** led by founders or co-founders who identify as women.
- NorthX will also consider companies where individuals who identify as women hold senior leadership roles (e.g. C-suite) **and equity ownership** within the company.
- Founders who identify as **non-binary or gender diverse** are encouraged to apply and connect with the NorthX team.
- Projects may be conducted outside Canada, but preference will be given to proposals demonstrating **clear impact in BC and across Canada**.

What are the key challenges faced by women founders in climate tech?

Women founders in climate tech continue to face systemic barriers, including unequal access to venture capital, limited exposure to early customers and strategic partners, and fewer opportunities to validate technologies at scale. These challenges are especially pronounced in capital-intensive, hardware-focused climate solutions. This call is designed to help address these gaps by supporting early commercialization, validation, and market readiness.

How is this program different from other NorthX funding initiatives?

While all NorthX funding programs aim to support impactful climate solutions, the Women in Climate Tech Call for Innovation is specifically designed to address the underrepresentation of women-led ventures in climate technology investment pipelines. The call prioritizes companies where women play a leading role in shaping technology development, commercialization strategy, and long-term growth.

How can I apply for the Women in Climate Tech Call for Innovation?

Applications will be submitted through NorthX's online application platform. Applicants will be asked to complete a short-written Expression of Interest (EOI) and submit a short video describing their company, technology, and proposed project.

Applications open: *February 5, 2026*

Applications close: *March 13, 2026*

Apply here: <https://portal.northx.ca/>

Are NorthX funding applications similar across different calls for innovation?

Yes. NorthX uses a consistent application format across calls, including a written EOI and a short video submission. However, applicants are expected to clearly articulate how their project aligns with the specific objectives and priorities of the Women in Climate Tech Call for Innovation.

Does the lead applicant need to be a woman?

While anyone may submit an application on behalf of a company, NorthX expects that the woman-identifying founder or leader meets eligibility requirements and plays a meaningful role in both the application process and project execution.

How much funding is available through this call for innovation?

NorthX will commit up to \$3 million in non-dilutive funding across multiple projects through the Women in Climate Tech Call for Innovation. Funding will be distributed across several selected companies to maximize impact.

What are the minimum and maximum funding amounts that can be requested?

There are no strict minimum or maximum funding thresholds. However, NorthX aims to support multiple projects, and funding requests should be proportionate to the scope and maturity of the proposed project. Funding requests that exceed 50% of total project costs may be less competitive.

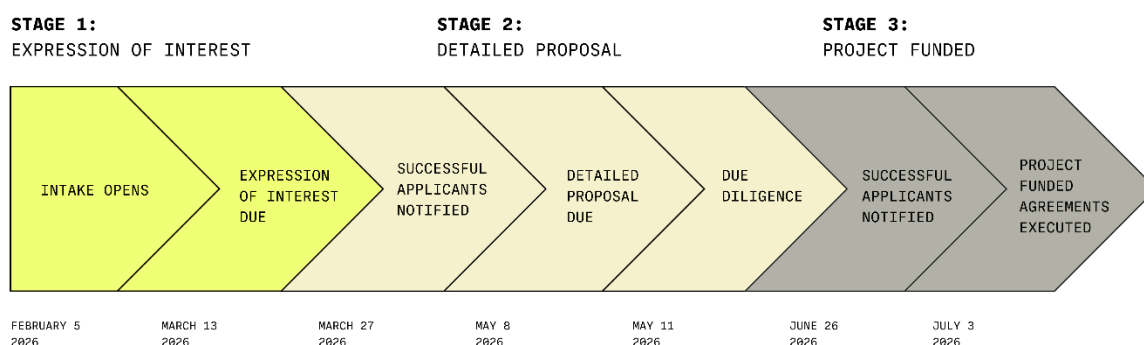
My company is based outside of Canada, but we have a project in the country. Are we eligible?

For this call, Canadian-incorporated companies conducting projects in or demonstrating clear benefits to BC and the country are eligible to apply.

Do I need a BC-based impact?

NorthX welcomes applications from companies across Canada, however, priority will be given to those who demonstrate tangible impact in BC. For example, applicants from other parts of Canada may be asked to describe how their project or technology could create benefits or partnerships in BC, as part of understanding broader opportunities for scaling and collaboration.

What is the expected timeline for the call for innovation: Women in Climate Tech?



What types of projects are eligible for funding?

NorthX supports projects at Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 4–9, with priority given to solutions that:

- Advance commercialization readiness
- Enable deployment or validation with real-world users

- Directly reduce or remove GHG emissions and deliver measurable climate impact
- Projects delivering co-benefits such as ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, or community resilience will also be favorably considered.

Will NorthX fund software projects?

NorthX prioritizes projects that deliver direct, measurable emissions reductions or removals, with a preference for hardtech solutions. Software-based projects may be considered where they are directly integrated with hardware as part of the proposed solution and where resulting emissions reductions are material and verifiable.

What will be considered out of scope?

Examples of projects that will be considered out of scope include: projects below TRL 4, research-only initiatives, off-the-shelf deployments or implementations without meaningful innovation, awareness or education campaigns, and consumer applications with only indirect climate impacts. Please refer to the Applicant Guide to ensure alignment with the Call's priorities.

Do I need to own the IP?

NorthX aims to support innovation across BC and Canada, with priority given to applicants developing and retaining the intellectual property associated with their project.

Does the video portion of the EOI need to be professionally produced?

No. NorthX encourages innovators to share their solutions in their own words and on their own terms. The production quality of the video will not be considered in the evaluation.

Do I need to address all questions in the Applicant Guide in my video?

Yes. Applicants are expected to address all questions listed at the end of the Applicant Guide in their 5-minute video in order for NorthX to best understand and evaluate the opportunity.

What is the expected timeline and process for investment dispersal?

Once the successful projects are notified, we will collaborate with the companies to develop a milestone plan. As each project milestone is achieved, the corresponding portion of the investment will be dispersed. NorthX funding is re-imbursement based. Innovations supported by NorthX must have a maximum 24-month project timeline.



What costs are eligible?

Only project costs are eligible for funding. Please ensure you segment project costs from general corporate and company-related costs. Applicants should be prepared to provide accurate estimates of project costs to NorthX upon request.

Does NorthX take equity?

No, NorthX funding is non-dilutive.

I've received funding from previous NorthX calls for innovation. Can I still apply?

Yes! We'd be happy to hear about your new projects or follow-on funding opportunities.

Can I submit more than one project?

Yes, organizations may submit multiple EOIs if the projects are distinct and meet the eligibility criteria.

What types of projects and/or companies have you funded through previous calls for innovation?

We fund companies with innovative clean energy and climate solutions that focus on decarbonization and commercialization. Visit our website to learn more about NorthX's funded projects: <https://northx.ca/portfolio>

I don't fit the criteria for this Call for Innovation, but we meet the criteria for other funding calls. Can I speak to someone about other funding opportunities?

[Sign up](#) for email updates and follow NorthX on [social media](#) to stay up to date on what calls are being offered! NorthX launches a variety of funding opportunities every year. Check out [our website](#) for current funding opportunities.

Who can I contact for more information?

Contact us with any questions at womeninclimatetech@northx.ca.