

Clean Resource Innovation Network (CRIN) Digital Oil and Gas Technology Competition

Technical Reviewer – Role Description

Competition Background:

The Clean Resource Innovation Network (CRIN) is a pan-Canadian network focused on ensuring Canada's energy resources can be sustainably developed and integrated into the global energy supply. In 2020, CRIN was awarded \$100M from Canada's Strategic Innovation fund, part of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED). The agreement identifies \$80M for technology enablement which will be distributed through three technology competitions (Digital Innovation, Environmental Footprint Reduction and Low Emission Fuels and Products) for TRL 6-9 beginning in 2021.

The objective of the Digital Oil and Gas Technology competition is to identify breakthrough digital technology solutions that address environmental and economic challenges in Canada's oil and gas industry. The total funding available for projects in this Competition is up to \$5M subject to the discretion of CRIN and the availability of funds. The maximum funding request to CRIN for any one project is \$1M. There is no minimum funding request for any one project. The total number of projects that receive funding will be determined based on project financing recommendations made by the competition's technical reviewers.

The competition will run a 1-phase application process open to all eligible applicants.

Technical Reviewer Role:

Technical reviewers are responsible for assessing pre-assigned applications against established merit evaluation criteria using a scoring rubric. Reviewers will be asked to score and provide feedback on projects on set criteria, which will cover areas such as the innovation of the proposed project, the impact of the technology (environmental, economic and social), as well as the commercialization and implementation potential of the project. Reviewers will receive a small honorarium for their services. The competition is currently recruiting reviewers. The number of application reviewers required will be determined by the number of applications the program receives, as well as the focus area of the projects.

Reviewing happens over a 2-week period at the reviewer's own pace, and we estimate approximately 15 hours to review applications as a result of detailed submission form and supporting documentation. Applications will be assigned to reviewers based on expertise areas, as well as overall need for the competition.

Reviewers will be asked to review all applications in a fair and transparent manner, disclosing any potential conflict of interest prior to accepting any review assignment. Reviewers will also be required to sign a standard non-disclosure agreement in order to protect the confidentiality of potential applicants. Following their application assignments and after conducting a review of each assigned application, all reviewers will be required to participate in a Consensus meeting. During this session, the top ranked applications will be discussed and a decision for the projects to recommend for financing will occur. Open, transparent discussions about each project will occur during the Consensus meeting, including any reservations a reviewer would like to bring forward regarding a particular project. The consensus meeting session will be observed by an independent Fairness Evaluator.

Reviewer Skill-set and Requirements:

Skillset:

- Have previous experience reviewing technologies for challenges, competitions or funding programs

- Capable of assessing a project for its fit with digital oil and gas technology competition area, including assessing the potential impact and commercial potential of the technology/project
- Expertise in one or more of the following areas:
 - environmental monitoring
 - operational excellence and efficiency
 - capital project execution
 - health and safety
- Experience with enterprise, and/or digital solutions
- Experience in business model and financial analysis, project selection and risk assessment
- **Fluency in French** is not a requirement, but a strong asset at this time

Requirements:

- Be willing to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement, as well as disclose and recuse yourself from any assigned applications for which you have an identified conflict of interest
- Be willing to communicate with MaRS Discovery District team over the duration of the competition
- Be willing to attend a 1-2-hour virtual reviewer team orientation session between July 26th and July 30th, 2021 in order to understand the scoring rubric, and overall review process
- Available to review applications (i.e. up to 15 hours) between August 9th and August 18th, 2021
- Participate in the virtual Group Consensus meeting; to take place between August 23rd and August 24th, 2021