

IMI Innovation Award 2019

Introduction

In recognition that the *Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum* has become a top destination for mineral companies and mining suppliers alike and a showcase for new and innovative technology, the International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMI) is pleased to announce that the following Innovation Award will again be given out in Saskatoon on the eve of the annual *Forum* on April 3, 2019.

New for 2019 – Best Technology Product Award

Selected from among applications submitted by Saskatchewan companies, this award for the best technology product represents the most innovative new or applied technology emerging from the supply chain for the minerals industry in the province in 2018.

This year, the winning technology product (not a service) must either have been under development (e.g., a prototype) or newly commercialized in 2018. It will demonstrate that it has had or will have a positive impact on the Saskatchewan minerals industry (e.g., solves a significant productivity problem for the minerals industry, offers an advantage over existing technologies in reducing GHG or air emissions, minimizing land disturbance, improving waste management practices, improving the energy efficiency of operations, reducing water use, or enhancing safety, or helps further digital mining through sensors, automation or data analytics). If not newly commercialized, the applicant must show the potential for the technology product to become commercially available to or be integrated into the industry in 12 to 24 months.

New and innovative ways to integrate commercially available technology products – including those from other sectors, into the minerals industry that solves a material problem for the sector may also be considered.

Technology products that are simply a new feature or version of an existing technology will not be considered. Entries submitted in the previous year are not eligible for resubmission unless significantly unique and innovative enhancements have been made.

The award winner will be considered for funding under IMI's *Operationalizing Innovations* program to support its further development and/or demonstration and may be a candidate for the *Saskatchewan Commercial Innovation Incentive* if a pre-commercial technology is subsequently commercially developed in the province.

Selection of Award Winner

All nominations are to be received by IMI by the deadline and will undergo a merit-review selection process involving representatives of IMI's funding members – BHP, Cameco, K+S Potash, Mosaic, Nutrien and Innovation Saskatchewan.

Entry Requirements

- The participant bears solely the responsibility for the preparation of its entry

- The technology product meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - It is an innovative product involving new technology;
 - It combines existing technologies in a way that results in new intellectual property;
 - It utilizes new technologies to develop new or improve existing products;
 - It utilizes technologies to develop new or improve existing production processes; and/or
 - It is the early-stage development of a new technology (i.e., a prototype)
- The Participant must:
 - Be a supply chain company (not a professional service firm); and
 - Have an interest in the promotion and growth of Saskatchewan's mineral industry supply chain.
- All entries must be made by stated deadlines

Deadline

Completed registration and an outline of the business idea using the online form must be submitted electronically by **February 8, 2019, 11:00pm**.

Required Information

The submission must show how the participant meets the eligibility requirements. Please use the information below to help prepare your application prior to submission.

1. Company description – A summary of the company, like what would be used at the end of a press release or in a presentation (100 words maximum).
2. Company history – Describe the origin and founding of the company, including key dates (300 words maximum).
3. Leadership team – Provide a brief background on your core team members and advisors (300 words maximum).
4. Technology product description – Describe the technology or product offering (maximum 500 words).
5. Innovation description – Describe the scientific or technological innovation behind the idea without disclosing proprietary technology (maximum 500 words).
6. Benefit to industry – Describe the benefit to the minerals industry (500-word maximum)
7. Path to commercialization – If not newly commercialized, describe how the concept/prototype may transition into a commercial technology product (500 words maximum).

All information submitted will be kept confidential.

To Apply

Please contact the IMII at (306) 668-2070 or admin@imii.ca. The application form is available online at www.imii.ca/initiatives/innovation-awards/.