# *Just Waters* Community-Led Projects

*Just Waters* is a research project funded by the University of Manitoba through their Ignite program, which provides funding for interdisciplinary collaborations. *Just Waters* draws inspiration from Indigenous peoples who have shown us that water is an animate, living force. *Just Waters* is working to shift public understanding of water by moving research to the next steps, whether it’s advocacy, knowledge mobilization, or policy recommendations.

We are funding up to $15,000 for projects that promote water justice, including but not limited to projects that address access to clean water and sanitation, impacts of hydro, water governance, fish health, wetland/lake/river health, flooding, and more. These projects will be led by Indigenous communities, Indigenous-led organizations or Indigenous governments, with support from our team if desired.

## Criteria

We welcome proposals for projects that:

* Are led by Indigenous communities, Indigenous-led organizations, or Indigenous governments in Canada
* Focus on water and justice (see above for examples)
* Require $15,000 or less to complete (can be utilized as supplemental funding to an existing project).
* Can be completed by March 1, 2026.

Possible projects could include:

* Community water gathering
* Children’s book
* Language resources
* Video
* Podcast
* Water monitoring or testing
* Educational initiative

We welcome you to email or call Sarah Deckert (Project Coordinator) to discuss a proposal prior to submission: sarah.deckert@umanitoba.ca, 204-914-4482.

## How to Apply

Fill out the form below and submit by October 15, 2025, using one of the following methods:

* Email the application form to sarah.deckert@umanitoba.ca
* Over the phone with Sarah Deckert at 204-914-4482
* Mail application form to Sarah Deckert, 92 Dysart Rd, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2M5
* Fax this application form to 204-474-7566 Attn: Sarah Deckert

# Application form

## Contact Information

**Name:**

**Community, organization or government:**

**Address:**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

**Briefly describe your role in the community, organization or government:**

## Project Description

1. **Briefly describe the proposed project.**
2. **If these funds will be used as supplemental funding, please explain:**
3. **Project Timeline: {DATE} to {DATE}**
4. **Provide a simple breakdown of the proposed budget for the project.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Expenses**  | **Cost** |
| **Travel** |  |
| **Honourarium** |  |
| **Materials and supplies (ex. venue and catering for an event)** |  |
| **Externally contracted services** |  |
| **Students** |  |

1. **Have you worked with a University of Manitoba researcher/faculty member before? If so, please write their name(s) here:**
2. **Would you like to keep working with them if possible?**
3. **The University of Manitoba is bound by the Research Ethics Board to ensure that research participants are protected and respected. At *Just Waters*, we also aim to ensure that all our research follows OCAP principles (**[**https://fnigc.ca/ocap-training/**](https://fnigc.ca/ocap-training/) **). If your project has implications for either REB or OCAP (i.e. if you will be collecting information from human participants and/or data from First Nations communities), we look forward to developing a plan with you.**

1. **If there are ways for the** [**Just Waters team**](https://chrr.info/current-projects-2/just-waters-thinking-with-hydro-social-relations-for-a-more-just-and-sustainable-world/) **to assist with the project, please describe below. This could include research support from a faculty member and/or administrative support.**

**If your project is accepted, you agree to:**

* Uphold OCAP and REB principles where relevant.
* Provide a short title and 50-100 word description of the project to use on the Just Waters website and in promotional and reporting materials.
* Meet with Just Waters director Adele Perry at the start of the project to work out details of Just Waters’ role.
* Submit a progress report halfway through the project.
* Submit a short report to the Just Waters on how the funds were used.
* Return any unused funds to Just Waters.
* Acknowledge Just Waters and the University of Manitoba Centre for Human Rights Research as a funder in any resulting research publications and in any event promotional material related to the research.