



# BE THE CHANGE!



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 DAVID SUZUKI  
FOUNDATION  
PRESENTED BY  
 Desjardins

## RULES OF THE FUTURE GROUND PRIZE AWARD 2022 EDITION

### PRESENTATION

The David Suzuki Foundation is organizing a citizen mobilization contest from March 14 to June 22, 2022, entitled Future Ground Prize (hereafter "the contest"), presented by Desjardins and supported by Nature's Way. The contest's goal is to promote Ontario and British Columbia grassroots initiatives that positively impact their community and the environment.

For several years, young people have helped the global environmental movement reach unprecedented recognition and momentum. We hope to support these inspiring efforts and enable today's young people to do even more. That's why this year's Future Ground Prize is launching its special youth edition to celebrate and encourage their projects and highlight their inspiring initiatives.

The Future Ground Prize in Ontario and British Columbia will be available exclusively on the [Future Ground Prize](#) website and on the [Prix Demain le Québec](#) website in Québec.

### WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Any group, collective, association, committee, community organization - with a majority of members who are between the ages of 5 and 25 years old - as well as any youth organization (cooperatives, non-profit organizations, etc.) and any school, college, university group and association in Ontario or British Columbia that takes concrete and positive actions to accelerate the ecological and social transition in its community. The individual who submits the application on behalf of a project will be called "Participant".

Only one (1) entry per Participant will be accepted by the Organizers. Only entries that comply with all the stipulations below and the conditions set out in these rules will be retained. In this regard, the Organizers reserve the right to make all necessary checks with regard to the conditions of participation requested from each Participant.

The Participant must comply with the following criteria:

- Be actively involved in the implementation of the initiative;
- Be available and qualified to answer any questions from the Organizers and the media;
- Be a person and not a legal entity (For example, a school cannot participate, but a student or teacher who has worked on the initiative can submit it on behalf of their school)
- Not have won the Grand Prize, the People's Choice or the Youth Prize in a previous edition of the Future Ground Prize
- Represent a group of at least two people

For the Rising Stars Award, additional criteria apply. Participants must:

- Be between the ages of 5-14
- Be part of a daycare or elementary school;
- Have an adult represent the project and sign an adult sign a release form (individual over 18 years)

## **HOW TO PARTICIPATE?**

- Choose a representative from your team to fill out the form (the "Participant");
- Submit your application before April 10 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific, through the David Suzuki Foundation website: <https://david Suzuki.org/take-action/act-locally/future-ground-prize/>
- Ensure that you fill out every question on the application.
- No purchase is required to participate in the Future Ground Prize, it is free

Organizers may contact Participants to complete their file if necessary. Incomplete, erroneous or falsified information or details that do not allow the Participant to be identified or located will disqualify the application.

## **WHAT ARE THE SELECTION CRITERIA?**

An Organizer Committee will choose fifteen (15) finalists according to similar criteria that the Jury (hereinafter the "Jury") will apply.

The selection of the 15 finalists and the designation of the winning projects will be done in two separate stages, but according to similar criteria.

Initiatives must meet the following criteria. Projects must:

- Be carried out by the Participant in Ontario and British Columbia
- Be already in progress and making impact at the Contest start date;
- Have a positive impact on the environment and within the community;
- Have a strong capacity for mobilization involving beneficiaries, partners, stakeholders, community members etc.

In particular, the following initiatives will disqualify if they:

- Are led only or mostly by individuals over 25 years old;
- Do not meet the conditions set out above;
- Are not formalized and developed;
- Are led by a single individual;
- Are exclusively creative (such as a song, painting, photo, etc.);
- Any religious or have a political affiliation or initiatives that promote mobilization actions with violence or civil disobedience. As a non-profit, charitable organization, the Foundation cannot accept these types of projects;
- Have previously won the Grand Prize;
- Are led by a for-profit company.

To make the final selection of the 15 Future Grand Prize finalists submitted to the Jury, the Organizer Committee will consider the above criteria. They will also take care to select varied projects as much as possible. At the end of a public voting period, Jury members will also vote for their favorite project, and will take into account the result of the public vote. The People's Choice Prize winner is determined by an online voting competition only.

For all practical purposes, the Organizer Committee (in charge of selecting the 15 finalist projects) and the Jury (responsible for choosing the winner among the 15 Grand Prize finalists) are sovereign and are not required to justify their decisions.

The winning project of the People's Choice Award will be determined by a public voting contest only from May 16 to June 13, 2022.

For all intents and purposes, if it is recalled that the Organizer Committee (in charge of the selection of the 15 finalist projects) and the Jury (in charge of the selection of the Jury Prize and the Rising Stars Award among the finalists) are sovereign and are not required to justify their decisions.

## **WHAT ARE THE REWARDS?**

### **GRAND PRIZE AWARD**

The final Participant selected by the Jury will win the following awards:

- The sum of \$5,000 Canadian, offered by Desjardins;
- an invitation on June 22, 2022, to a virtual event to present their project virtually to David Suzuki;
- a private online meeting with David Suzuki and Severn Cullis-Suzuki;
- a certificate and letter of support from the Foundation;
- media coverage and network visibility via the David Suzuki Foundation's social networks.

## PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD

The Participant who collects the most votes among the 15 Grand Prize finalists will win the People's Choice Award. They will win the following awards:

- The sum of \$2,500 Canadian, offered by Desjardins;
- attendance at a virtual event on June 22, 2022, to present their project to David Suzuki and Severn Cullis-Suzuki;
- a certificate and letter of support from the Foundation;
- media coverage and network visibility via the David Suzuki Foundation's social networks.

In the event that a project wins both the People's Choice Award and the Grand Prize it will not be able to combine the two awards. In this case, the People's Choice Award would go to the project that won the second-highest number of votes. Winners may not contest the awards in any way. Each prize awarded cannot be transferred or sold to any third party. The awards may not under any circumstances be the subject of a cash refund, exchange or any other form of trade, nor may it be exchanged. It is non-transferable and cannot be sold.

## RISING STAR AWARDS

This year, the Future Ground Prize is also launching a youth edition to reward the commitment of people ages five to 14.

The Participant who collects the most votes among the five youth project finalists will win the Rising Star Prize. They will receive:

- The sum of \$1,000 Canadian, offered by Desjardins;
- attendance on June 22, 2022, at a virtual event to present their project to David Suzuki and Severn Cullis-Suzuki;
- a short video of support from Severn Cullis-Suzuki;
- a certificate and letter of support from the Foundation;
- media coverage and network visibility via the David Suzuki Foundation's social networks.

## FOR THE 15 FINALISTS

Each of the 15 finalists selected by the Organizer Committee will receive one-on-one mentoring (about 1 hour) to prepare for the votes as well as a letter of support from the David Suzuki Foundation, and will be invited to a presentation to the [Future Ground Network](#).

## **FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS**

All Participants who comply with these rules will receive a mobilization kit from the David Suzuki Foundation.

## **FOR PUBLIC VOTERS**

Among those who vote for their favourite initiative, two (2) people will be drawn. Each of these two people will receive a \$50 gift card / one-year family or group pass to National Parks Canada. The Foundation reserves the right to verify that the voters' emails are valid.

## **WHAT ARE THE STEPS?**

### **Submission of applications - from March 14 to April 10, 2022**

You have until April 10 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific to submit your project by completing the application form. Please read these rules carefully to maximize your chances!

### **Announcement of the 15 finalists – May 2, 2022**

All participants will be contacted by late May 2022 to let them know if the Organizer Committee has selected them as one of the 15 finalists.

### **Public Vote – May 16 to June 13, 2022**

Beginning May 16, 2022, the public will be able to vote for their favourite project on the David Suzuki Foundation website until June 13 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern and 9:00 a.m. Pacific. Mobilize your community and broadcast your project to get as many votes as possible! The jury will take these votes into account during the final selection of the Grand Prize Award, and the project with the most votes will win the People's Choice Award.

### **Winners Announced – June 22, 2022**

A diverse jury made up of people committed to socio-environmental improvements in Ontario and British Columbia selected by the Organizer Committee, will meet on June 14 and choose the winner from among the 15 finalists. The Grand Prize, People's Choice Award and the Rising Stars Award will all be announced on June 22, 2021, at a live online event with David Suzuki and Severn Cullis-Suzuki.

## WHAT ARE THE PARTICIPANT'S COMMITMENTS?

The Participant who submits the project application commits to:

- Officially represent the project, and make themselves available to the David Suzuki Foundation and the media to answer questions about their project.
- Respect the Jury's decisions, which are firm and without appeal.
- Authorize the David Suzuki Foundation to use the written and visual materials provided with the application or any documentation subsequently produced by the Foundation.

If a project conflicts with the rights of third parties (such as trademark, copyright, image rights, etc.), the David Suzuki Foundation will not be liable for any loss or damage resulting from the use of these materials. If any materials are defamatory, insulting, obscene, offensive, violent or inciting to violence, political, racist, homophobic or xenophobic, are contrary to public morality, are contrary to the terms of the Contest as described in these rules, are contrary to the terms of use of the Site, are contrary to the prohibition of advertising for alcoholic beverages or, more generally, to the legislation in force, they will not be accepted.

Finally, by taking part in this campaign, each Participant guarantees:

- That they are the author of all the elements constituting the project, and that no plagiarizing or copying from existing protected works has occurred and, in general, that they do not submit to the Organizers projects that infringe on intellectual property rights or the rights of third parties, in particular under copyright, trademark law or the right to personal image;
- That, if persons appear in photographs or films submitted to the Organizers, the persons are of legal age or, if they are minors, prior consent of their legal representative has been obtained, and that the Participant has obtained their express consent before submission of these elements as part of the Contest;
- That the elements submitted to the Organizers do not contain any viruses, worms, Trojan horses or any other destructive and harmful content;
- That the Project is not obscene or defamatory and does not infringe on the privacy or publicity rights of third parties;
- That the Project and its implementation do not violate any applicable laws or regulations;
- That no rights related to the Project have been assigned to a third party.

## WHO SELECTS THE WINNER?

A jury made up of a diverse committee brought together by the Organizers will select the Future Grand Prize winner among the 15 finalists. The jury will be made up of prominent members or well-known experts in their field, as well as representatives of the Future Grand Prize sponsors, and activists who are involved in environmental groups and the socio-ecological transition with young people.

The Jury will meet on June 14, 2022.

In the event of a tie, the vote of Jury president, a representative of the David Suzuki Foundation, will count double. The Jury is sovereign and is not required to justify its decisions.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Organizers may cancel all or part of the Future Ground Prize Contest if it appears that fraud has occurred in any form whatsoever, particularly with online voting fraud, in the context of participation in the Contest or the determination of finalists and winners. In such a case, they reserve the right to verify the validity of the votes and not award the prize to anyone who commits fraud and to refer the perpetrators of such fraud for prosecution before the relevant courts. The Organizers shall not incur any liability on behalf of the Participants due to fraud.

The Organizers shall not be held responsible in the event of a tie break or circumstances beyond their control (in particular technical problems) that disrupt the organization and management of the Contest, such that the Contest would be shortened, extended, postponed, modified or cancelled.