



Ayalik Fund Criteria

The Ayalik Fund supports Inuit youth, generally aged between 12 and 25, from Nunavut communities.

Participation in programs with Ayalik Fund support is by invitation. Participants are identified through networking with local contacts working in Inuit youth-related fields, including schools, community wellness and youth justice. Contact is made directly with youth and their parents or guardians to assess level of interest and other factors. The Ayalik Fund considers the following factors in identifying appropriate youth:

- 1- The youth is experiencing life circumstances such that the program will give him or her a needed boost to stay on a positive trajectory.
- 2- The youth does not otherwise have many opportunities, and could not participate in the program without the Ayalik Fund's financial and personal support.
- 3- The youth is motivated to participate, remembering always that lack of confidence in itself (or other factors) may prevent a youth who would have much to gain through the program from coming forward. We encourage our community liaisons to dig deep to identify such youth.

Our community liaisons have also identified and apply these criteria:

- *We see and believe in the inherent worth of the person.*
- *We respect and honour diversity.*

We target:

- *Youth who take responsibility for their actions.*
- *Youth who would benefit from a second chance.*
- *Youth who, despite their circumstances, show up for their lives.*
- *Youth who are willing to give back to their community.*
- *Youth who would not have the means or support otherwise.*
- *Youth with a positive “can do” attitude.*
- *Youth who need encouragement because they don’t see the “rare gems” that they really are.*

Our Community Liaisons

The Ayalik Fund relies on and appreciates local youth workers and educators who identify appropriate youth, liaise with parents or guardians, and help navigate application and other processes. We could not do it without them!

Pay It Forward

We encourage and expect our Ayalik Fund youth to give back to their communities before and after their adventure. Youth may be asked to share their experience with other youth who are interested in an Ayalik Fund challenge. Others volunteer at school or in the community.

Photos and Feedback

The Ayalik Fund welcomes and values anecdotes from our community liaisons, family members and friends, and youth themselves, as to how the youth have been changed in positive ways through their Ayalik Fund adventure.

The Ayalik Fund also appreciates photographs, videos, and comments from participating youth about their experience. We like to share the successes, spread the word, and encourage participation in and donations to the Ayalik Fund.



What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.

Pericles