

WHEATON PRECIOUS METALS
FUTURE OF MINING
CHALLENGE

Expression of Interest **Applicant Guide**

Submit your application:

[Expression of Interest
Form](#)

Expression of Interest Deadline:

**11:59 pm PT
August 29, 2025**

2025

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1.0. Challenge Background

The Wheaton Precious Metals Corp. ("Wheaton Precious Metals" or "Wheaton") Future of Mining Challenge (the "Challenge") seeks to support the mining industry to innovate, improve efficiencies, and deliver essential commodities and materials in a more sustainable manner.

Each year, the Challenge invites ventures from around the world to propose scalable, technology-driven solutions for specific areas of impact.

2.0. 2025 Challenge Focus & Objective

The focus of Wheaton's 2025/2026 Future of Mining Challenge is sustainable water management in mining. Wheaton is seeking expressions of interest from ventures who have innovative, scalable technologies that have the potential to improve water use and reuse, support water monitoring, and reduce water quality impacts, while creating operational efficiencies at mine sites. Areas of interest include:

- Water use reduction and efficiency
- Water quality and environmental monitoring
- Tailings and wastewater management

Solutions should demonstrate potential for significant impact and scalability across the mining industry.

This year, Wheaton is collaborating with The University of British Columbia, Sauder School of Business to provide a unique experiential learning opportunity for students enrolled in the *Disruption* course, which is open to both UBC graduate students and fourth-year undergraduate students.





3.0. Challenge Details

3.1. Challenge Award

Wheaton will award a single recipient a US\$1,000,000 cash award, presented at Wheaton's discretion, to support the advancement and commercialization of their technology. The winner will be publicly announced at PDAC 2026 in Toronto, providing high-profile industry recognition.

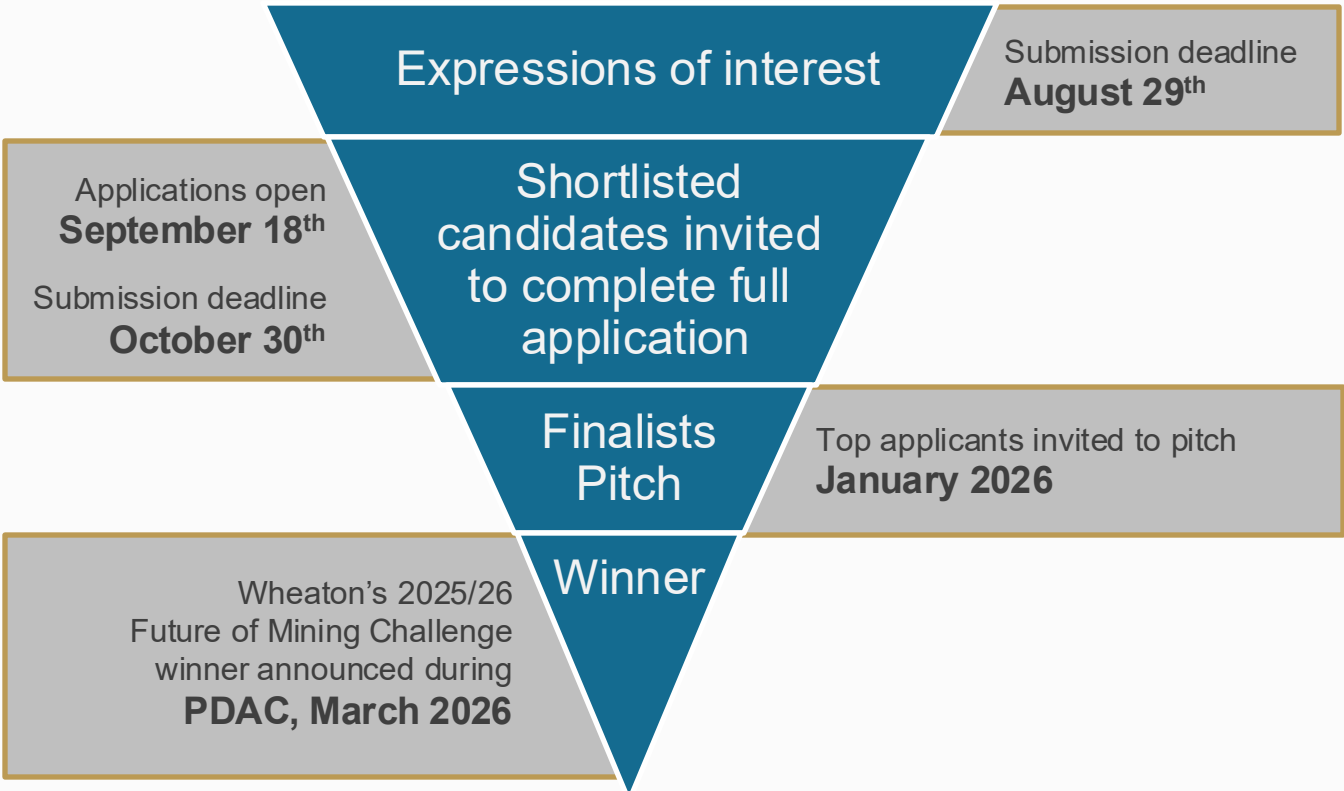
All finalists will be publicly profiled, offering broader industry exposure.

3.2. Application Process

Ventures interested in applying to Wheaton's Future of Mining Challenge are required to complete an expression of interest form on the [submission platform](#) by 11:59 pm PT, August 29, 2025.

Expressions of interest will first be screened for eligibility. Eligible submissions will then be evaluated, and shortlisted candidates will be invited to submit a full application. The application period for the shortlisted candidates will open on September 18, 2025, and will close at 11:59 pm PT on October 30, 2025.

All applications must be submitted in English and comply with the requirements outlined in the online form. Submissions are welcomed from around the world. Only applications that meet the stated criteria outlined in [Section 3.3.1](#) will be considered.



3.3. Eligibility Criteria

3.3.1. Technical Criteria

Expressions of interest must meet at least the following technical requirements to be considered for the competition:

1. Demonstrate sustainable water management potential
2. Applicable to base metal and precious metals mining
3. Scalable on a global perspective
4. Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 3-9:

	Definition	Description
TRL 3	Analytical and experimental critical function and/or proof of concept	Active research and development has begun. Feasibility of separate technology components are being validated through analytical and laboratory studies.
TRL 4	Component and/or validation in a laboratory environment	Basic technological components have been integrated "ad-hoc" to establish that they will work in a laboratory environment.
TRL 5	Component and/or validation in a simulated environment	The integrated basic technological components are performing for the intended applications in a simulated environment.
TRL 6	System/subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a simulated environment	A model or prototype, that represents a near desired configuration, has been deployed at a pilot scale, generally smaller than full scale.
TRL 7	Prototype ready for demonstration in an operational environment	A full scale prototype is being demonstrated in an operational environment but under limited conditions.
TRL 8	Actual technology completed and qualified through tests and demonstrations	Technology is being proven to work in its final form and under expected conditions.
TRL 9	Actual technology proven through successful deployment in an operational environment	Actual application of the technology in its final form is being conducted under a full range of operational conditions.

Table adapted from [the Government of Canada's TRL Assessment Tool](#).

4.0. Evaluation Process

All expressions of interest submitted to Wheaton's Future of Mining Challenge by the August 29, 2025 deadline (11:59 pm PT) will be evaluated through a competitive judging process.

Eligible EOI applications will be assessed on the following areas: technology; team & implementation; and market & impact. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to complete a comprehensive application. Finalists will be selected and invited to pitch their technology solutions to a review panel including Wheaton Precious Metals and industry experts. After the presentations, a winner will be selected.

5.0. About the Challenge Facilitators

Wheaton's Future of Mining Challenge is presented and funded by Wheaton Precious Metals and delivered in collaboration with The University of British Columbia, Sauder School of Business.

5.1. Wheaton Precious Metals

Wheaton Precious Metals is the world's premier precious metals streaming company, providing shareholders with access to a portfolio of low-cost, long-life mines around the world. Through strategic streaming agreements, Wheaton partners with mining companies to secure a portion of their future precious metal production. Committed to responsible mining practices, Wheaton employs industry-leading due diligence practices with a goal of unlocking long-term value for shareholders while supporting the broader mining industry in delivering the commodities society needs through access to capital.



Image above: 2025 Future of Mining Challenge winner, ReThink Mining. **Left to right:** Steve Wilson (ReThink Mining CTO), Gillian Holcroft (ReThink Mining President), Randy Smallwood (Wheaton CEO).

5.2. The University of British Columbia, Sauder School of Business

The University of British Columbia Sauder School of Business has been ranked #1 in Canada for the past seven years and is recognized for its focus on innovation and strong ties to industry. Committed to shaping responsible business leaders, UBC Sauder combines academic excellence with practical learning experiences that prepare students to tackle complex, real-world challenges.

5.2.1. UBC Sauder School of Business' Experiential Learning Courses

UBC Sauder offers students enrolled in the *Disruption* course, open to fourth-year undergraduate and MBA students, the opportunity to gain hands-on experience through an experiential learning program focused on real-world innovation and technology evaluation. These students support the review of applicant technologies and may contribute to business analysis activities such as market research, financial modeling, and strategic planning.

While students are given the opportunity to analyze, evaluate the technologies, and make recommendations on which applicants advance in the Challenge as part of their course work, they do not influence the final decision on whether an applicant advances in the Challenge. This decision is made by Wheaton Precious Metals and the Challenge evaluators.

Student involvement in the challenge is aimed at inspiring interest in entrepreneurship within mining and helping to foster the next generation of innovators in the industry.



Image above: UBC Sauder School of Business, Robert H. Lee Graduate School, 2053 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada.



6.0. Terms & Conditions

6.1. Consent for Collection, Use, & Disclosure

Wheaton and The University of British Columbia acknowledge and agree that by submitting an application to the Challenge, an applicant may provide confidential and/or proprietary information (the “Information”). Except as otherwise permitted under this Guide, Wheaton and The University of British Columbia agree to keep the Information confidential, not to disclose the Information to any other person and only use the Information as permitted under this Guide.

Notwithstanding the above, by submitting an application to the Challenge, each applicant consents to the collection, use, and disclosure of their information by Wheaton, The University of British Columbia, each of their respective employees, officers, directors or consultants, and any other individuals or entities involved with the Challenge for the purposes of processing, reviewing, considering and selecting applications to the Challenge.

Applicants understand and agree that Wheaton and The University of British Columbia may publicly share your company’s name, logo, and a brief description of its technology for promotional purposes, should you be selected as a finalist in the Challenge. This includes the public announcement at PDAC 2026 and any subsequent online promotion or public disclosure (website, press release, LinkedIn).

6.2. Application Submission

All expressions of interest must be submitted through Wheaton’s Future of Mining Challenge application platform no later than 11:59 PM PT on August 29, 2025. Submissions sent via email or received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete their submissions well in advance of the deadline. Please note that incomplete or partially filled applications will not be considered. All required information must be entered and uploaded directly into the application platform to be eligible for review.

Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of a complete submission.

6.3. Intellectual Property

Applicants retain all rights to their intellectual property and no rights are granted to Wheaton or The University of British Columbia through participation in the Challenge.

7.0. Contact

If you have any questions regarding Wheaton's Future of Mining Challenge, please send them to contact@futureofmining.ca.



[Future of Mining Challenge Website](#)

Submit your Future of Mining Challenge expression of interest application [HERE](#).

8.0. FAQs

8.1. Challenge Focus & Scope

Can candidates from outside Canada apply to Wheaton's Future of Mining Challenge?

Yes. The Challenge is open to applicants globally, and international participation is strongly encouraged. Wheaton aims to surface high-potential, scalable solutions from around the world.

Is there any reason my application would be disqualified?

The following applicants will not be considered:

- Applicants that are not incorporated: all applicants must be incorporated entities at the time of evaluation
- Applicants that have displayed a lack of compliance with applicable local, state, national or international laws, rules and regulations relating to ethical conduct and responsibility or anti-corruption
- Government, government-owned or political party affiliated applicants

What types of technologies are eligible for the 2025/26 Challenge?

Wheaton's 2025/26 Future of Mining Challenge is focused on sustainable water management in mining. Eligible technologies should address one or more of the following areas:

- Water use reduction, water recycling, or water efficiency
- Water quality and water monitoring
- Tailings and wastewater management

Solutions must demonstrate the potential for significant environmental impact and scalability across base and/or precious metals mining.

Can we apply if our solution is still in early development?

Yes, TRL levels 3-9 will be considered for the Challenge. Submissions will be evaluated based on their potential impact and scalability, not necessarily on their current deployment status.

8.2. Application Process

How do I submit an expression of interest?

Through the expression of interest form on the [submission platform](#) by 11:59 pm PT, August 29, 2025.

The expression of interest form asks for a pitch deck. How much information should I include?

The pitch deck should be no longer than 10 slides.

The final slide should outline how you would allocate the US\$1M Challenge award to further advance the development and deployment of your technology within the mining industry, if you are selected as the winner.

Please find a sample minimum viable pitch deck framework [HERE](#). This template is provided for reference only. Your deck should address all the topics outlined in the sample deck, but it does not need to follow the same order or style.

What happens after I submit my expression of interest?

Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of submission.

Following an initial evaluation, the top applicants will be shortlisted and notified via email on September 18, 2025, with an invitation to submit a full application.

Shortlisted candidates must complete and submit their full applications by 11:59 pm PT on October 30, 2025.

Can I edit my application after submission?

Once your expression of interest has been submitted, you will no longer be able to edit your responses. If you need to make any updates or modifications, please contact us at contact@futureofmining.ca.

Will I receive feedback if my application is unsuccessful?

Application-specific feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants. Only selected applicants will be contacted.

8.3. Evaluation and Selection

Who will have access to the information I submit?

See Consent in section [6.1](#).

How will my application be evaluated?

Submitted expressions of interest will be reviewed and evaluated by teams from Wheaton and The University of British Columbia, including students enrolled in the Start-up course (section [5.2](#)), and contracted subject matter experts. The Challenge winner will be selected by Wheaton, at its sole discretion.

Applications will be assessed through a competitive review process and are evaluated based on three core criteria:

- Technology
- Team & Implementation
- Market & Impact

8.4. Award and Recognition

Is the US\$1,000,000 cash award equity free?

Yes. The US\$1,000,000 award is a non-dilutive, equity-free cash award intended to support the advancement and commercialization of the winning technology. Wheaton does not take any ownership stake in exchange for the award.

Recipients are responsible for paying any applicable taxes on the award funds in accordance with their local tax laws and regulations.

How and when will the winner be announced?

The winner of Wheaton's 2025/26 Future of Mining Challenge will be publicly announced during PDAC 2026 in Toronto, one of the mining industry's leading global conferences. The finalists will also be profiled and recognized as part of the Challenge's final showcase.