

FYA First Nations

# Seeding Strength Grants Guide

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**Seeding Strength Grants** are two \$100k rounds (\$200k total) of funding available in 2023 open to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (16-35) and organisations fighting injustice and building Blak power across the country.

# Why we're launching Seeding Strength

Our vision is that First Nations young people's voices and truth are heard and respected on the change they want to see. They are strong in spirit, stories, connected to community, land, language and culture. First Nations young people are self-determined, sovereign caretakers of country. They are living free from racism, discrimination, domination and injustices. The future is Blak and strong, and country is healing.

One of the powerful ways that FYA can support young First Nations people and their communities to create change is by shifting resources. First Nations young people and their campaigns, movements and projects need financial backing to win. We have a role in fundraising, shifting resources through grant-making, monitoring and evaluation, and increasing philanthropic connections.

The young mob that we'll be funding, we will provide support to in terms of ensuring that they have the governance and systems in place to use the funds for maximum impact. We'll also work with them to embed and increase monitoring and evaluation skills to build the evidence base of this work, with the aim of securing ongoing sustainable funding for long term change.

# What we'll fund...

Our role is to support young First Nations people to channel and grow their **inherent strengths** to overcome **systemic, individual and social challenges**, to shift power and achieve the **self-determined change they want to see**.

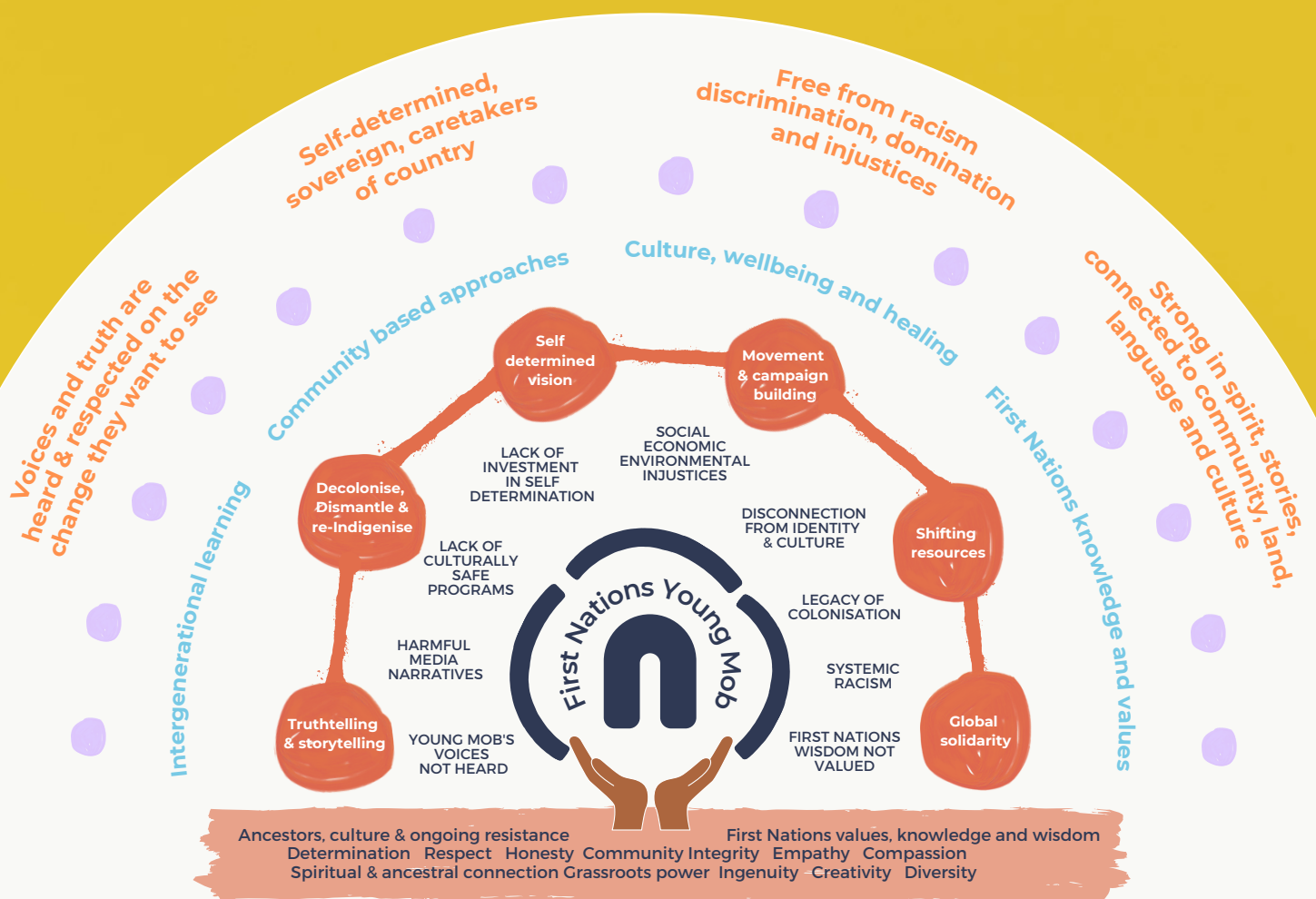
Through our First Nations Strategy, we've identified 4 impact areas that are critical to shifting power to young mob for them to create the self-determined change in their communities and on this sacred land.

Grant area	Examples
<b>Truth-telling and storytelling:</b> Young mob's voices and stories need to be heard, truth-telling and shifting narratives is critical to achieving First Nations justice and healing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A truth-telling film made by a First Nations young person.</li><li>• A project supporting First Nations young people with lived experience of injustices to tell their stories on different platforms.</li></ul>
<b>Decolonising, dismantling and re-Indigenising:</b> Harmful, racist, colonial institutions and policies must be dismantled and decolonised to end injustices facing young mob, and First Nations ways of doing, knowing and solutions should be embraced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A campaign on climate justice focused on First Nations solutions run by grassroots mob.</li><li>• A project in a First Nations community building evidence on alternatives to prisons or police.</li></ul>
<b>Building and strengthening movements, campaigns and global solidarity:</b> First Nations young people will achieve transformative change through strong movements, effective campaigns and strong global solidarity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bringing over a global First Nations speaker to do a workshop with young mob.</li><li>• Core funding (ie salaries) for First Nations justice campaigns or movements.</li><li>• Holding a protest or creative action in a community.</li><li>• An overseas international exchange trip.</li></ul>
<b>Facilitating vision creation:</b> Having a strong vision and being able to gather and connect is critical to transformative change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holding a gathering of young mob together in your movement to create a vision.</li><li>• Workshops to imagine the world we want to create.</li></ul>



**We believe that by supporting and funding campaigns, movements and projects in these four areas, we will see power shift to young mob and this will lead to transformative change:**

- Young mob's voices & truth will be heard on the change they want to see.
- Young mob will be strong in spirit, stories, connected to community, land, language and culture.
- Young mob will be self-determined, sovereign caretakers of country.
- Young mob will be living free from racism, discrimination, domination and injustices.
- The future is Blak and strong, and country is healing.



### FYA First Nations Strategy

**Strengths** **Barriers** **Strategies** **Approaches woven in** **Funded projects** **Vision**

## Our values

- We back First Nations young people and our communities efforts for self-determination, sovereignty, land back, ritual back, culture back, language back, water back, climate justice, disability justice, political power and prison abolition.
- We centre and are led by the vision, knowledge, culture, expertise and values of First Nations peoples.
- We are committed to decolonisation and we work to undo the harms of ongoing colonisation.
- We are trauma-informed and we centre holistic and First Nations models of wellbeing, care and healing.
- We provide safe and inclusive spaces and understand the intersectional experiences of LGBTQIA+ mob, mob living with a disability and young parents.
- We are accountable, transparent and evaluate our work.
- We show solidarity and connect with First Nations people across the world.

# Grant rounds

In 2023, we will have two rounds of funding of up to **\$100,000** (total **\$200,000**) with two types of grants available.

## Rapid response:

Applications for Rapid Response grants are open all year round.

We understand that these can be urgent situations. We'll make initial contact within a week, but allow a month for the turn around of funds if successful. We will aim to get them to you as soon as possible.

## Seeding Strength Round 1, 2023:

<b>Applications open</b>	<b>20 January</b>
<b>Online info session</b>	<b>3 February</b>
<b>Applications close</b>	<b>17 February, 5pm</b>
<b>Recipients announced</b>	<b>6 March</b>
<b>Funds released</b>	<b>Mid-Late March</b>

## Seeding Strength Round 2, 2023:

This will open in the second half of the year. Details to come.

# Types of grants

## Two types of grants are available:

- **Rapid response:** First Nations young people (aged 16-35 years) can apply for rapid response grants of \$2,000 to \$20,000 for urgent campaigns/movements/initiatives relating to social change in response to systematic oppression & specific injustices of First Nations young people.
- **Campaign, movement or project based:** First Nations young people (aged 16-35 years) can apply for grants (from \$2,000 to \$50,000) to support core funding for existing or new campaigns, movements and projects in our four impact areas:
  - Truthtelling and storytelling
  - Decolonising, dismantling and re-Indigenising
  - Building and strengthening movements, campaigns and global solidarity
  - Facilitating vision creation

## When does the money have to be spent?

- **Rapid response:** The money has to be spent within 3 months of receiving the funds.
- **Campaign, movement or project based:** The money can be spent over 1-2 years, let us know about this in your budget break down.



# Selection criteria

Grant recipients will be selected by a panel of three First Nations people from our First Nations Governance Group. These are all young mob aged under 35 years. You can read more about our First Nations Governance Group [here](#).

- We will give priority to fund grassroots and not-for-profit campaigns, projects, organisations and movements.
- We will also aim to fund a diverse mix (age, ability, gender, mobs) of people and projects recognising that there are multiple layers of discrimination and injustice for intersectional mob.

We select grant recipients based on the following criteria:

	Criteria	Guiding questions (for you to think about, as these are what the panel will think about)
1	Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are you run for mob by mob, including young blackfullas (16-35 years)?</li><li>• What's your cultural governance - how are you accountable to community?</li><li>• What other First Nations people are already working on this issue?</li><li>• Do you have enough people involved to make it happen?</li></ul>
2	What and why	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does this issue impact many First Nations young people?</li><li>• Why is this important?</li><li>• What are the long term changes that this project could make to transform our communities, policies and systems?</li><li>• Have you tested this idea with your community &amp; is there support or opposition?</li><li>• What needs to happen for this to change?</li></ul>
3	How	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How are you going to achieve this (what steps will you take)?</li><li>• Does your movement, project or campaign have a focus on the voices and experiences of people who have lived experience in the justice system, state care, mental health system, Disability, impacts of Climate change and/or housing instability?</li></ul>
4	Where	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are you based in a city, or rural, remote or regionally?</li></ul>
5	Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do you have a clear budget of how you will spend the money?</li><li>• Do you have other funding or income streams from anywhere else?</li><li>• How well resourced is this compared to other projects?</li><li>• For organisations or businesses, what's your annual income/turnover?</li></ul>

# Application process

**Keen to apply? Here's what to expect.**

- Step 1: Fill out this short Expression of Interest form. One of our team will be in touch with you to have a yarn within two weeks.
- Step 2: You'll be invited to do a more detailed application (including a breakdown of budget) and/or interview.
- Step 3: The panel will consider your application.
- Step 4: You'll be notified of the outcome of your application.
- Step 5: The funds will be released to you.
- Step 6: There'll be a reporting process, but we'll keep it simple.

## Reporting

- We will not replicate colonial ways of reporting funding, which can be a barrier to mob receiving funding for important work for our communities.
- Our reporting process will be simple, and managed by our First Nations Team, and tailored to your needs.

## Still got questions?

Join us for an online information session to receive tips on how to write your grant and get answers to any questions you have.

Free Online Zoom Session  
Thursday 2 February 2023, 12 - 1PM AEDT  
Register [here](#).

# Keen to apply?

## Register your interest 📍

**[fya.org.au/seeding-strength/](https://fya.org.au/seeding-strength/)**

Our First Nations team will be in touch within 7 business days to have a yarn.

**fya**