

**THE PRIME MINISTER’S** **SCIENCE COMMUNICATION PRIZE**

**ABOUT THE PRIZE**

* This Prize will be awarded to either a practising scientist1who can demonstrate an interest, passion and aptitude for science communication and public engagement, ***or***to a person who has developed expertise in public engagement with, or communication of complex scientific or technological information to the public.
* $55,000 of the Prize is to be used to support the recipient to carry out a programme of activities/professional development to further their understanding of media communication.
* $20,000 of the Prize money is available to the recipient with no expectations on its use.
* **Applications close at 5pm on Friday 9 October, 2020.**

**1Taken to include natural, physical, mathematical and information sciences, applied sciences, technology, engineering, social science and multi-disciplinary science**

**ELIGIBILITY**

* The Prize will be awarded to eiter a practising scientist1 who can demonstrate an interest, passion and aptitude for science communication and public engagement, ***or*** to a person who has developed expertise in public engagement with, or communication of complex scientific or technological information to the public using recent examples ***e.g.*** public audiences, local science community/wider and international science community.
* Applicants must be a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand permanent resident.
* Re-application by candidates from previous years is encouraged, as long as the eligibility criteria continue to be met. However, past winners of the Prize will not be eligible to enter a second time.

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**ENTRY PROCESS**

* All entries must be completed and received by **5pm on Friday 9 October 2020.**
* The process will involve applicants completing the forms above.
* Applicants will also need one current Supporter *or* Nominator who must be knowledgeable about the applicant’s communication activities and is able to comment on their effectiveness.
* The Supporter *or* Nominator will be expected to complete a Supporter/Nominator Form which asks them to address the selection criteria. *This form can be found above.*

Please note that information provided in the nomination may be subject to the Official Information Act.

**CRITERIA**

**The Prize will be adjudicated on the applicant’s commitment and aptitude for science communication.**

Applicants should present an application statement setting out (with cross references to an attached evidence portfolio):

* Their approach to science communication, including how to identify appropriate means for engagement, and how to design an engagement or communication programme. (400 words)
* Summary of recent successful science communication or engagement activities with a diversity of audiences.   (400 words)
* The proposed programme of developmental activity that would be undertaken if the application was successful. (400 words)
* How the applicant intends to further their role in science communication in the future.  (400 words)

Assessment will include consideration of supporter’s statements and an interview of shortlisted candidates. This will possibly be done using zoom.

**selection panel**

* An independent selection panel is selected by the secretariat. The panels are made up of scientists, researchers, past winners *etc* representing a diverse range of knowledge, gender, ethnicity and regional representation.

**Prime minister’s Science communicaiton panel**

* It is recognised that occasionally members of the selection panel will know applicants or have other conflicts of interest. They will be expected to declare all such knowledge and conflicts of interests. In the case of knowing an applicant the Chair of the selection panel will rule if this is significant enough for the panelist to be stood down from the Panel for that applicant. (In the case of the Chair having a conflict of interest the decision will be made by another member of the Panel who has been identified in this role at the beginning of the process). If there is a conflict of interest the panelist will stand down for that application.
* The selection panel will not enter into any correspondence concerning its deliberations. All inquiries should be directed to the Secretariat. Note that information on matters such as ranking, or names of unsuccessful nominees, will not be disclosed.

The Secretariat for the Prime Minister’s Science Prizes is  Royal Society Te Apārangi

Secretariat  
The Prime Minister’s Science Prizes  
C/- Royal Society Te Apārangi  
PO Box 598

Wellington

Phone: (04) 470 5762  
Email: [pmscienceprizes@royalsociety.org.nz](mailto:pmscienceprizes@royalsociety.org.nz)

**confidentiality**

The Secretariat gives no undertaking to keep confidential any information that is provided in the nomination form unless this is identified as information that should be treated as such. It may, for example, be used to prepare promotional material for the Prize in future years.

**ExPECTATIONS**

* The Prime Minister’s Science Communication Prize is worth $75,000 to the recipient.
* $55,000 of the Prize is to be used to support the recipient to carry out a programme of activities to further their understanding of science communication.
* $20,000 of the Prize money is available to the recipient with no expectations on its use.
* The recipient of the Prize would be expected to be involved in promotional opportunities appropriate to receiving The Prime Minister’s Science Communication Prize.

**announcement**

* The Winner is expected to make themselves available for half a day in December/January to meet with the Prime Minister’s Science Prize media liaison personnel in preparation of media material and photos.
* The Winner will be announced in February/March  (date to be confirmed)
* The Winner will be expected to make themselves available for that announcement in Wellington.

**checklist**

* You are a New Zealand citizen or New Zealand permanent resident.  Please send a copy of your passport
* You are a practising scientist1 who can demonstrate an interest, passion and aptitude for science communication and public engagement ***or*** a person who has developed expertise in public engagement with, or communication of complex scientific or technological information to the public.
* You have nominated a Supporter or someone has nominated you who has a solid understanding of your interest in communication and is able to give expert, current opinion. Check that they have downloaded their form and sent it by the closing date  to [pmscienceprizes@royalsociety.org.nz](mailto:pmscienceprizes@royalsociety.org.nz)
* You have completed the Entrant Form
* You have sent a CV and an evidence portfolio. **Evidence portfolio should be sent as a PDF.**
* Terms and Conditions have been signed and sent.

* **Entries close at 5pm on Friday 9 October and must be sent to**[**pmscienceprizes@royalsociety.org.nz**](mailto:pmscienceprizes@royalsociety.org.nz)

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