

Call for Candidatures:

Focal Points for the ICOMOS Indigenous Heritage Working Group (2025-2027)

Deadline for applications – 16 February 2025

In 2024, a call for members went out for the ICOMOS Indigenous Heritage Working Group (IHWG). That Working group has now been established and is already collaboratively working on a forward workplan.

The objectives of the group include:

- **Engagement.** To increase, engage with, and serve its worldwide membership working in indigenous heritage;
- **Policy and Practice.** To shape the definition of exemplar conservation theory and practice and to develop and/or identify heritage theory, policy and practice about the identification, conservation, development and support of indigenous heritage and the rights, responsibilities, and relationships of indigenous peoples in relation to this heritage;
- **Dissemination and Education.** To promote and disseminate knowledge of, and respectful approaches to, indigenous heritage in all its diversity; and
- **Advice and Guidance.** To provide guidance and advice, where possible, in relation to questions in indigenous heritage to the ICOMOS Board, National Committees, International Scientific Committees, Working Groups and membership.

ICOMOS' work is undertaken by the Indigenous Heritage Working Group (IHWG) under the coordination of two volunteer ICOMOS Focal Points. We are seeking candidates to take on these volunteer positions for the period March 2025–December 2027.

Modalities for candidatures and engagement

- Open to all ICOMOS members with skills and experience in the diverse fields of Indigenous heritage – being a member of the IHWG is seen as an advantage;
- Indigenous Members of ICOMOS are encouraged to apply, noting that at least one of the Focal point positions will be filled by an appropriately qualified Indigenous person ([see the IHWG-Guidelines](#) – the definition of 'Indigenous' is based on the modern understanding of the term "Indigenous developed by the UN's Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues).
- The candidate's CV (max 2 pages) and motivation letter (max 1 page) in English should be sent **by 16 February 2025** to [secretariat\[at\]icomos.org](mailto:secretariat[at]icomos.org);
- Period of appointment: March 2025–December 2027 (2 years and 9 months);
- This is a volunteer position, not based at the ICOMOS Headquarters, that requires a minimum commitment of ½ to 1 day a week (2 to 4 days per month on average). Note that work is not evenly distributed throughout the year – and so peaks with more days required occur. ICOMOS may be able to cover some travel expenses (based on prior agreement and consultation with the Director General);

Scope of Work (with reference to the Terms of Reference of the IHWG), the Focal Points will:

- Act as facilitators and coordinators for ICOMOS' work in relation to Indigenous heritage
- Collaborate with Working Group Task Team Coordinators for the activities of the IHWG under the supervision of the ICOMOS Board member appointed to liaise with the Working Group, the ICOMOS Director General, and in close coordination with the ICOMOS Headquarters;

- Engage with other ICOMOS entities, primarily through their representatives and report to the ICOMOS Board, Advisory Committee and Scientific Council to ensure coherence across ICOMOS with regards to IHWG-related activities;
- Facilitate the development of collaborations with external stakeholder organizations, with the support of the ICOMOS Board;
- Serve for a period of three years and then usher in a transition period during the change of Focal Points to facilitate the shift of responsibilities;
- Monitor progress and support ICOMOS members/groups in the implementation of the relevant resolutions arising from General Assemblies especially:
 - [Resolution 21GA 2023/15 – Climate Change and Indigenous Heritage](#);
 - [Resolution 21GA 2023/18 – Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Values and Interconnections between Culture and Nature in the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage Sites](#);
 - [Resolution 21GA 2023/21 – Indigenous Peoples' Inclusion throughout ICOMOS](#).

Qualifications Required

- Background (training and minimum 3-5 years of work experience) in a field related to Indigenous heritage
- Familiarity with the work of ICOMOS and its structure
- Ability to think strategically, self-motivate and take initiative as appropriate;
- Excellent diplomatic, organizing and communication skills;
- Flexibility and willingness to learn new skills, interact with new domains and stakeholders;
- Flexible time schedule allowing participation at necessary meetings and events often across different time zones (online and in-situ, involving travel);
- Very good command of written and spoken English;
- Working knowledge of following IT tools (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, WhatsApp, Skype, Zoom and equivalents, etc.).

Qualifications Desired

- Familiarity with ICOMOS governance procedures;
- Membership or involvement with one or more of the ICOMOS Working Groups or Scientific Committees;
- Fundraising experience and skills;
- Experience working with international organizations in administrative, policy-making, advocacy roles;
- Fluency in French would be an advantage, and other languages would be desirable.