

REGULATIONS

QUEBEC 2024 STARTUP PRIZE

1. PURPOSE OF THE PRIZE

The InCyber Forum Startup Prize is designed to showcase innovative Quebec startups and young companies. The jury is made up of public representatives, end-users and investment funds from the cybersecurity and digital trust sector. Each year, it recognizes one or more innovative companies in the field. The jury has the option of awarding 2 separate prizes:

1. The InCyber Forum Startup Grand Prize
2. Coup de Coeur Prize

2. TYPE OF PRICE

The prizes are presented to the winner(s) at the InCyber Forum (FIC) Canada, in the Talents Space, by a digital industry personality and/or government representative. For each prize, the winners of the Startup Quebec Forum InCyber North America Prize will receive :

- InCyber Forum Startup Grand Prize:
 - A 100 Pi2 (9m2) “Prestige” stand offered for the InCyber Forum :
 - USA 2025 (value US\$15,000)
 - Canada 2025 (value CAN\$ 9,000)
- The Jury's Favourite Award :
 - A 100 ft2 (9m2) “Essential” stand at the InCyber Canada 2025 Forum (value CAN\$6500).

Winners will benefit from increased visibility on Forum communication media and social networks.

**Candidate start-ups must be headquartered in Quebec.*

3. APPLICATION CONDITIONS

The InCyber Startup Forum Prize is open to :

- Quebec companies* less than 6 years old;
- with sales of less than 10 million Canadian dollars over the past year;
- operating in the fields of security, digital confidence and/or industrial cybersecurity.

A startup linked to a large group may apply, provided they are separate legal entities. Innovation is understood in the broadest sense (technology, usage, marketing, etc.). It concerns both products and services, and covers both technological and business model innovation.

4. MODALITÉS DE CANDIDATURE

Participation is free of charge. Candidate companies must complete their application before August 1, 2024, 11:59 pm.

5. PRESELECTION PHASE

A pre-selection phase will be carried out in August 2024. This pre-selection phase will result in the selection of a maximum of 6 to 10 finalist companies.

6. FINAL EVALUATION PHASE

The 6 to 10 shortlisted companies will be auditioned in mid-September. Auditions will be held in French only. Please note, however, that there will be no translation system. A presentation outline will be sent to candidates in advance of their presentation, to give them a clearer idea of the jury's expectations and how to pitch their solution.

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7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The jury will assess the relevance of the solutions presented according to several criteria:

- Innovative dimension of the company and of the solution(s) presented;
- Maturity of the solutions/services presented;
- Operational efficiency of the solution(s) presented;
- Economic viability of the company and solution(s) presented;
- Differentiating the character of the solution and its ability to create value in an already existing environment.

8. THE JURY

The Jury is made up of qualified personalities from both the public and private sectors, whose list is public. This list is published no later than the closing date for applications, August 1, 2024. The Jury is totally independent of the event organizers, who do not take part in the voting. A candidate may not be a member of the Jury. Before deliberations, Jury members must declare any conflicts of interest they may have with certain candidates (capital links, family links, personal links, salaried employment, subcontracting, etc.). In this case, they will not take part in the deliberations concerning these candidates. Jury members undertake to:

- To observe the strictest confidentiality regarding the information provided by the candidate companies and the deliberations of the jury;
- To respect the embargo on the name(s) of the winner(s) until the official communication of the name(s) by the Forum InCyber organization;
- To make an impartial assessment of the companies and solutions presented.

9. ADVERTISING

Candidate companies will be featured on the InCyber Forum website: northamerica.forum-incyber.com, as well as on the InCyber Forum social networks. Winners will be able to use the Prize name in their corporate documents.

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10. DATA USE

The incyber forum uses the wiin.io platform to collect and process data from startup prize applicants.

Please find below the related data processing policy:

<https://help.wiin.io/portal/en/kb/articles/rgod-and-privacy-notice-wiin>

11. ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES

Participation in the InCyber Startup Forum Prize implies full acceptance of the present rules.

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