



SASKCULTURE INC.'S VISION, MISSION, PRINCIPLES & VALUES

from SaskCulture's Constitution & Bylaws:

Vision

SaskCulture strives to build a culturally vibrant future in which all citizens of Saskatchewan, individually and collectively, celebrate, value and support participation in and access to cultural experience.

Mission

SaskCulture represents the cultural community as a whole and assists the cultural community in its endeavors to develop and promote the cultural life of the province.

Principles and Values

SaskCulture supports engagement in cultural experience.

SaskCulture will value:

- the diversity of the cultural community and its ability to provide a wide range of cultural experiences to the people of Saskatchewan.

SaskCulture will be responsive to Saskatchewan people.

SaskCulture will value:

- accessibility, inclusiveness, equality and democratic processes;
- and respect the diversity of the people of Saskatchewan;
- multiculturalism within the context of the current provincial and federal legislation.

SaskCulture recognizes strength in common purpose.

SaskCulture will:

- be an inclusive and cohesive force for the cultural community, from which the community will draw strength;
- provide leadership by which the community can collectively advocate for culture;
- value co-operation and partnerships between cultural organizations, as well as between cultural organizations and the public and private sectors;
- value the involvement and contributions of volunteers and cultural workers;
- value a collective effort in encouraging a healthy resource base for cultural activity.

SaskCulture provides equitable and fair access to resources which enable cultural programs and services.

SaskCulture will value:

- Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation as a unique and significant source of revenue for cultural activity;
- SaskCulture's position as a partner in the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation;
- transparent and accountable funding adjudication mechanisms;
- effectiveness and efficiency in programs and services both within organizations and across the cultural community;
- cultural organizations with a unique mandate.

HOW SASKCULTURE DEFINES CULTURE

from SaskCulture's Cultural Policy:

Culture Defined

Culture is a dynamic system of acquired elements, with values, assumptions, conventions, beliefs and rules through which members of a group relate to each other and the world.

As a dynamic system, culture is evolutionary, supporting existing cultural values while challenging them. It defines who we are as a people; keeping alive our past, reflecting our values, articulating our dreams, and fostering pride in who we are. It proclaims our existence and identity to the world.

Cultural Activity Defined

Cultural activity mirrors a culture: it is how a culture perceives and expresses itself, and is perceived, as expressed, by others. It can be defined as the symbolic forms and the everyday practices through which people express and experience meaning.

Culture in Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan has many forms of cultural expression. Overall, there is a level of shared experience that defines a Saskatchewan culture, rooted in our shared sense of place. It includes our languages, our heritage, our stories, our traditions, our rituals, our spirituality, our inventions, our products and our expression. The people of Saskatchewan experience and reflect their culture daily, through a variety of cultural activities, such as creation, preservation, research, presentation, appreciation, participation, education, professional development and training.

Cultural activity manifests itself in the actions of one individual; or of individuals who associate with each other to further the course of one or more aspects of culture, their personal development, or to promote understanding between cultures.

SaskCulture

SaskCulture is comprised of community-based organizations and individuals who have joined together voluntarily to further the course of culture. The membership, inclusive of both vocational and avocational cultural activity, fosters cultural experience that strives to be the best that it can be. SaskCulture is guided by the principles; strength in common purpose; being representative of, and responsive to Saskatchewan people; engagement in cultural experience; and access to enabling resources which are equitable and fair for all cultural program and service providers.

Arts

Art is the expression of inspiration and imagination, from individual to collective, from grassroots to professional, and institutional. Art reflects our culture, embraces our past, provides a window to our future to examine ourselves and our experiences, and transmits humanity's knowledge of the world.

Within the scope of SaskCulture, the arts:

- Engage people as audience, creators or interpreters through access and education; and
- Foster traditional to emerging art forms.

Heritage

Heritage is what we have received from the past. It shapes our present identity and provides insight for our future.

Within the scope of SaskCulture, heritage includes a range of activities in the areas of stewardship, preservation, research, education and engagement. Within this context these activities must exhibit a sensitivity to:

- the indigenous natural environment;
- the impact of the interaction between human activity and natural environments; and
- differing perspectives regarding objects, ideas, places and traditions.

Multiculturalism

Multiculturalism represents the openness to experiencing and celebrating cultural differences within the Canadian context.* It is inclusive of all peoples and respectful of the rights of individuals and groups to maintain and practice their cultural heritage, distinctiveness, growth and evolution. Multiculturalism recognizes the richness and strength of ethno cultural diversity. It builds community by encouraging people to share, learn, appreciate, respect and accept.

SaskCulture will support the fundamental principles of multiculturalism: cultural identity, interculturalism and social justice that are found in federal and provincial multicultural legislation.

** In accordance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as well as federal and provincial multicultural legislation.*

Cultural Industries

Cultural Industries constitutes the economy of the cultural sector, defined by a final product for consumption, derived from the creative sectors (consisting of individual creatives and/or organizational creatives), which is either non-reproducible and aimed at being consumed on the spot (a concert, art fair, exhibition) or aimed at reproduction, dissemination or export (book, film, sound recording, artwork), whether en masse or to a targeted niche to achieve a value for a shared product or experience that results in, or involves, a financial or business transaction.