

**SASKCULTURE INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS POLICY**

Policy Name:	Board Values	Number: GP-2
Policy Type:	Governance Process	Date Approved: April 2000 Latest Revision: September 2003

SaskCulture and its members share the following beliefs about culture:
The content of this policy, at this time is constitutionally driven.

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 associated with each other to further the course of one or more aspects of culture, their personal development, or to promote understanding between cultures.

SaskCulture is guided by the following principles and values:

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 representative of, and responsive to Saskatchewan people.

SaskCulture will:

- value accessibility, inclusiveness, equal opportunity and democratic processes;
- value and respect the diversity of the people of Saskatchewan;
- recognize multiculturalism within the context of the ideas, intentions and values expressed within both the current provincial and federal legislation.

SaskCulture recognizes strength in common purpose.

SaskCulture will:

- be a 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, and both the public and private sectors;
- value cultural organizations with a unique mandate;
- value the involvement and contributions of volunteers and cultural workers.

SaskCulture provides access to enabling resources which are equitable and fair for all cultural program and service providers.

SaskCulture will:

- value SaskCulture's position as a partner in the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation;
- value lottery dollars as a significant source of revenue for cultural activity;
- value collective effort in encouraging a healthy resource base for cultural activity;
- encourage transparent and accountable funding adjudication mechanisms;
- value effectiveness and efficiency in programs and services both within organizations and across the cultural community

Disclaimer: SaskCulture's sample policies are being shared as reference tools only, for use by other non-profit cultural organizations. SaskCulture does not guarantee that they will be accurate or functional for other types of organizations. These documents are meant as samples only and may, or may not, reflect SaskCulture's current operations.