



Multicultural Initiatives Fund (MIF) – Major Project

Application deadline: **October 13, 2026**

Please read these Guidelines carefully before you start your application. Before you apply, contact consultant Shelley Fayant at sfayant@saskculture.ca to make sure your project is eligible and that this grant is the right fit.

SaskCulture has an [Accessibility Fund](#). If you have trouble with the language, technology, accessibility, or any part of the application process, the Accessibility Fund is here to support you. Contact the Consultant to learn more.

You can ask for up to \$15,000 for eligible project costs.

Purpose

The purpose of the Multicultural Initiatives Fund is to support projects that:

- offer eligible ethnocultural, multicultural, First Nation, Métis, intercultural or cross-cultural activities that create meaningful cultural impact, are accessible, and serve communities well;
- respond to a need the community has identified and show that the community is involved;
- show strong partnerships and community involvement with the cultural communities taking part. Applicants must include proof that these cultural groups agree to, understand, permit, consent to, and are committed to the project; and
- support cultural development in Saskatchewan and benefit people who live in Saskatchewan.

Major Project Streams

MIF-P's Major Project Streams work to advance cross-cultural engagement in Saskatchewan by supporting projects that encourage people to share, learn and engage through:

- **Anti-Oppression** work that addresses unfair power, privilege, and discrimination against people or groups. This includes discrimination that happens between people and in systems. Anti-Oppression work includes conversations and actions that help cultural organizations and communities build fairness and justice.

If you choose this stream, be ready to show how the project will:

- use trauma-informed approaches to help make sure no further harm is done;
- help organizations and communities recognize and prevent different kinds of oppression;
- support services that respect different cultures and meet the needs of people and families who have been affected;
- create and share training, tools, guides, courses, or workshops that teach people how to recognize and address oppression;
- create opportunities for cross-cultural conversations and improve access to services, information, and support for people who have experienced oppression;
- share the voices of people affected by racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, or ableism, using approaches such as storytelling to challenge harmful ideas;
- help the wider community understand the root causes of unfair treatment and the barriers these groups face.

- **Intercultural Connections** work that brings different cultural communities together over time. This may include cultural exchanges, shared projects, safe spaces, community conversations, creative work, and activities that help build welcoming and inclusive communities. If you choose this stream, be ready to show how:
 - people from different cultural backgrounds will spend time together, learn from each other, and better understand and appreciate each other's cultures.
- **Truth and Reconciliation** projects that work to heal relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Saskatchewan. These projects may support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action or other reconciliation work. They may include sharing truth publicly, apologizing, remembering past harms, and taking steps to repair those harms. Applicants should explain who they are reconciling with and which Calls to Action their project will address. [For more information, visit SaskCulture's Indigenous Awareness Hub.](#) If you choose this stream, be ready to:
 - show how the project will use trauma-informed practices to help prevent further harm; and
 - show how First Nation or Métis people are leading the project, if your organization is not Indigenous-led. This can be through staff, board, advisory committees, or volunteers; and
 - explain what **Truths** will be shared with non-Indigenous participants, including how they will learn about past harms such as residential schools; and
 - name the TRC Call or Calls to Action the project will address; and
 - upload current documents, such as letters, agreements, or MOUs, that show your partnership with First Nation or Métis organizations. You must show that the First Nation or Métis leaders, organizations, or communities named in the project agree to, understand, permit, consent to, and are committed to the project; and
 - list any First Nation or Métis resource people, such as Elders or Knowledge Keepers, using the **SaskCulture Cultural Resource Peoples template**. Include their role in the project and their contact information.

For **Cultural Continuity** and **Celebration of Diversity** projects, see the Multicultural Initiatives Fund - Small Project Streams in separate guidelines.

NOTE: Your project may fit more than one Stream. Choose the Stream that best matches what you want your project to achieve.

Priorities

Priority will be given to projects that:

- take place in northern, rural, or other underserved communities in Saskatchewan.
- are led by equity-denied communities or cultural organizations, including ethnocultural, First Nation, Métis, 2SLGBTQ+, or disability groups. Priority may also be given to organizations that show a strong commitment to equity through their staff, Board, lived experience, and programming.
- are led by organizations whose main purpose is cultural work.
- are from applicants that have not received a MIF Project grant from the past two funding rounds.

- are from applicants that have not received more than \$30,000 in SaskCulture or Sask Lotteries operational funding in the last year.
- are not competitive events.

Please contact the Consultant to make sure that your project fits the **Purpose, Streams and Priorities** of this grant.

Applicant Eligibility

You do not need to be a SaskCulture member to apply for SaskCulture funding.

Who can apply:

- **Incorporated non-profit organizations** in Saskatchewan can apply if they meet these requirements:
 - They must have a mandate in arts, heritage, multiculturalism, or cultural industries, as defined by [SaskCulture's Cultural Policy](#), or show strong involvement in cultural activities. If the organization's main mandate is not cultural, the project itself must be cultural and open to a broad audience, not just internal to the organization;
 - They must have been incorporated as a non-profit for at least one full fiscal year prior to the deadline date;
 - They must be in good standing with Information Services Corporation (ISC) and SaskCulture; and
 - They must provide a signed copy (**with two signatures included**) of the organization's annual financial statement that was most recently submitted to ISC.

OR

- **First Nations, Tribal Councils, Métis Locals, Métis Regions or Municipalities** can apply if they meet these requirements:
 - They must be in good standing with the Sask Lotteries Community Grant Program; and
 - They must have no overdue grant follow-ups with SaskCulture.

Who cannot apply:

- Federal or provincial government organizations or departments, including Crown corporations.
- Arts, Heritage, and Multicultural organizations that receive operational funding directed by the Government of Saskatchewan.
- Organizations that only promote specific religious or political views.
- Districts for Sport, Culture and Recreation.
- Eligible Cultural Organizations (ECOs) and other organizations that receive operational funding directly from the Culture Section of Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund.
- Schools and Post-Secondary Institutions.
- Libraries.
- Businesses.
- Non-profit professional organizations and associations that do not have an ethnocultural, multicultural, First Nation or Métis focus.

- Unincorporated groups.
- Individuals.
- Applicants that have received MIF-Project funding in each of the last 3 funding rounds.
- Applicants who receive MIF-Annual funding.

If your organization cannot apply, contact the Consultant to ask about other options. Options may include:

- Forming a partnership with an organization who can apply to this grant program.
- Searching SaskCulture's "[Find a Grant](#)" tool to find other grants, such as:
 - [Artists in Schools program](#) through SK Arts
 - [Multicultural Education Initiatives](#) through the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan

Additionally, applicants:

- Can only apply to one **MIF-Project (Small or Major)** grant at a time
- Applicants with an active MIF-P grant at the time they apply must contact SaskCulture to discuss their options.
- Applicants cannot apply to more than one SaskCulture funding program for the same activity during the same time period.

Project Eligibility ---

Major Projects must directly address one of the Streams of this funding program.

Ineligible projects include:

- Activities that use or present First Nation or Métis cultural material, traditional knowledge or stories without evidence of permission (supporting letters) from the community.
- Performative or passive entertainment that does not include an exchange of cultural knowledge or awareness.
- Projects that include religious or political activities, viewpoints or components.

START DATE: Eligible start dates for this round must be eight (8) weeks after the grant deadline, **which means they cannot start earlier than December 8, 2026.**

END DATE: All projects must be completed within one year of the start date. If you need to change your plans before or during the project, contact the Consultant as soon as possible.

- While the planning phase may start earlier, the project itself must take place at least 8 weeks after the deadline. **All claimed expenses must be within the grant's start and end date.**

Applications that do not meet the applicant or project eligibility requirements will not be reviewed.

Eligible Expenses

The MIF-Project grant can pay for direct costs needed to plan and run an eligible project. ***This grant is supported by Sask Lotteries. When possible and reasonable, applicants should buy goods and services in Saskatchewan so this support stays in the community. If you are not sure, contact the program consultant.***

Only include eligible expenses in the budget table in the application form. Make sure the revenues and expenses are clearly explained, and that the budget balances. This means total revenues must equal total expenses.

Larger projects: If your MIF-P project is part of a larger project, **only include the MIF-P eligible expenses** in the budget table in the application form. Upload the full project budget separately for reference.

If your project is approved, you can only use the grant money for the eligible activities listed in your application. SaskCulture must approve any major changes before you use the funds in a different way. You cannot move the funds to other activities or organizations. Any unused grant money must be returned to SaskCulture.

If you receive other grants for this project, make sure you have enough eligible expenses for each grant. If your eligible expenses are less than the total grant funding you receive, you may need to return part of the SaskCulture grant.

The following items are **Eligible project expenses**:

Wages/Honorariums:

- Wages, honorarium and contract agreements for cultural resource people who are offering their skills and expertise for the term of the project.
- Wages for out-of-province cultural workers may be eligible if it is to lead work that cannot otherwise be conducted by someone in Saskatchewan. Contact the Consultant before making an out-of-province request.
- Pay for cultural experts who are sharing their knowledge and skills for the project.
- Honorarium for program participants who are directly contributing their knowledge and/or lived experience to community engagement projects.
- Organizations that are not ethnocultural, multicultural, First Nations or Métis may apply for events and festivals but are limited to artistic fees, honoraria and travel costs for multicultural, First Nations or Métis performers, Knowledge Keepers, presenters or resource people. In these applications, **General event expenses are not eligible.**

Project Expenses including Food and Nutrition:

- Material expenses related to the cultural activity, including gifts related to First Nations cultural protocols.
- Cultural material assets must remain with the applicant organization, not the participants.
- Food/Nutrition expenses as an important component of program delivery, **if discussed with the Consultant:**

- Food expenses that are a part of the cultural experience being offered for participants, or that help address barriers to participation;
- Organizations are strongly encouraged to follow [Canada's Food Guide](#) for healthy options;
- **Note:** Catering costs for a conference or activity are not eligible.

Facilities / Studio / Offices Costs

- Facility costs would only be considered eligible in situations where additional space is required for the project to move ahead.

Travel Costs:

- Travel expenses for participants based in Saskatchewan attending eligible activity.
- This includes gas, rental of vehicles, bus transit, taxi or ride share, and airfare.

Advertising and Promotions:

- A recommended maximum of 10% of the total grant request can be used for advertising and promotion costs for the project.
- A strong rationale would need to be provided to exceed this amount.

Ineligible Expenses

The following costs are not eligible:

Wages/Honorariums:

- Allowances, wages or personal expenses for program registrants and participants.
- Salaries and expenses of existing staff and Board members of the applicant organization.

Project Expenses:

- Capital expenses such as construction, renovations or repairs.
- Cash or other prizes, gifts, medals, trophies, charitable donations, or the purchase of alcohol.
- Sponsorships, fundraisers, galas or award ceremonies.
- Purchase of artifacts or collections.

Facilities / Studio / Office Costs:

- Office and administration fees, including utilities, rent and/or rental of an applicant organization's own facilities.

Travel Costs:

- Travel and accommodation expenses to bring in out-of-province cultural workers
- Travel and any program expenses for out-of-province participants.
- Expenses related to cultural activity taking place outside of the province.
 - *Discuss exceptions for border communities with the Consultant*

In-Kind Contributions:

In-kind contributions are things like volunteer time, donated food, goods, services, equipment, waived rental fees, or free event tickets. These do not count as eligible expenses and should not be included in your budget. You can describe in-kind contributions and other non-cash support in your proposal to show community support and partnerships.

Application and Adjudication Process

Applications are due **October 13, 2026**. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

Generally, applications are expected to be submitted via the Online Grant Platform (OGP) unless accessibility arrangements have been made.

- **Applicants should contact the MIF-Project Consultant before submitting an application.** Depending on the amount of applications, applicants who submit early may get feedback before the deadline. This feedback may help improve parts of the application that are unclear or not eligible. Feedback is not guaranteed, and it does not guarantee funding.
- SaskCulture will first check each application to make sure it meets the basic eligibility requirements. Eligible applications will then go to the funding assessors. **If an application is not eligible, SaskCulture will tell the applicant.**
- Only applications that are complete, signed, and submitted will be considered. Applicants must make sure their application is successfully submitted. **Note: Two different people must sign the application: the main signing authority and a second signing authority.**
- Eligible applications are reviewed by volunteer community members who understand this grant program and its priorities.
- Applicants will usually hear the funding results about 8 to 10 weeks after the application deadline. Funding decisions are final and cannot be appealed.
- Successful applicants will receive the full approved grant amount after the grant is approved. After the project is finished, they must submit a **Follow-up Report (FUR)**.

Application Assessment

The funding assessors will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

- How well the proposed project meets the Purpose, Streams and Priorities of the MIF-P Major Project grant program; and
- The depth of experience and/or learning for participants and/or audience; and
- How well the project includes and supports participation from northern and rural communities, and underserved groups, including those led by or supporting equity-denied communities; and
- Evidence of realistic and responsible use of resources (including funds, volunteers, etc.), and the ability of the applicant organization to complete the project and deliver quality cultural projects. This includes supporting those who have had limited access to SaskCulture funding in the past; and
- How well the project includes evidence of resourcefulness, collaboration, community support and engagement, and involvement from community partners in planning and delivering the project, including First Nation or Métis leadership where relevant; and
- The potential for ongoing impact and legacy.

Note: If you have received MIF-P funding before, SaskCulture may share your most recent Follow-up Report with the assessors as part of the review.

Clear writing and attention to detail may help your application. However, you do not need to be a professional grant writer, and English does not need to be your first language. Contact the Consultant to ask about supports that may help you prepare your proposal.