

Métis Cultural Development Fund (MCDF)

Project Objectives and Priorities

The MCDF grant is intended to support projects that strengthen and promote Métis cultural identity. All funds are to be used for the benefit of cultural development in Saskatchewan and for residents of Saskatchewan.

SaskCulture encourages organizations to incorporate First Nations and Métis educational activities that have a focus on implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action or other reconciliation efforts. The TRC Calls to Action can be found at: <http://nctr.ca/reports2.php>.

The MCDF program objectives are to:

- Preserve, strengthen, renew, promote and transmit Métis perspectives, culture, languages and/or traditions in Saskatchewan to both Métis and non-Métis communities;
- Mentor and build cultural leadership skills in Métis Communities;
- Increase employment opportunities for Saskatchewan Métis arts and culture resource peoples;
- Meet the need for cultural awareness, cultural activity, skill development, personal growth, researching, documenting and/or sharing Métis culture and positive lifestyles at the individual, group and community level;
- Provide a high level of access and participation in Métis cultural activities using innovative and unique methods to transfer knowledge between generations;
- Benefit children through skills development, mentorship, and having fun; and
- Encourage gathering, sharing, learning, celebrating and developing Métis culture in Métis communities aimed at building long-term cultural awareness and pride.

Applicants should consult with SaskCulture prior to submitting an application to discuss the eligibility of their proposal and to determine which funding program would be the best fit.

Priority will be given to:

- Projects that demonstrate strong community support and partnerships;
- Projects that have significant youth involvement, and/or are based in the province's northern and rural communities.
- Projects that have not received an MCDF grant in the previous year;
- Projects and organizations not already funded significantly by other Lottery-supported grant programs; and
- Organizations who have not received funding support from MCDF in the past, to develop and expand their impact in this area.

Ineligible Projects

Projects that do not satisfy, or directly address, the purpose of the MCDF grant will not be considered for funding. Projects must address a community-identified need and demonstrate community involvement.

Eligible organizations that are not Métis led (50% or less of their board is Métis) may still apply, but these applicants are required to submit additional evidence of support from a Métis organization, community or guiding committee as part of their funding request. The evidence may come in the form of collaborations and partnerships which should be included in the partnerships sections as well as via letters of support.

- Applicants can only access one MCDF grant at a time.
 - If the applicant already has an outstanding/overdue MCDF grant, a second proposal will not be considered until the current one is reconciled.
 - If the applicant's current MCDF grant is wrapping up during the time of application for another deadline, contact SaskCulture for options.
- Applicants may not apply to multiple SaskCulture funding programs to support the same activity for the same time frame.
- Eligible projects must start no sooner than eight (8) weeks after the application deadline, and must end within twelve (12) months of the project start date. Projects that commence sooner than 8 weeks after the deadline will not be considered.