



Multicultural Initiatives Fund (MIF) – Project Funding

Application deadline: March 31, 2021

Please read the Guidelines carefully before starting the grant application. There have been a few changes to note:

- **Priority on anti-racism and cross-cultural understanding projects**
- **COVID-19 gathering limits**
- **No matching funds required**

Priorities

MIF aims to advance cross-cultural understanding and Reconciliation in Saskatchewan by supporting projects encouraging people to share, learn, appreciate and respect cultural diversity.

The MIF-Project grant provides funding to community-based organizations to support:

- ethno-cultural, multicultural, First Nations and Métis initiatives, projects and activities, with priority to projects reaching Indigenous people, youth, and northern and/or rural communities and newcomers.

The MIF-Project grant program prioritizes the following types of projects:

- **Anti-Racism** work that looks at issues of power and privilege and how they impact individual and systemic discrimination; it usually includes active dialogue to build equity and justice in organizations and communities.
- **Intercultural Connections and Reconciliation** entails different cultural and indigenous groups coming together over time to build bridges i.e. exchanges, cooperative work, creating safe spaces, dialogue, creative projects, etc. This includes projects that have a focus on implementing or working towards implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action or reconciliation efforts.
- **Integration** supports welcoming and inclusive communities that create a sense of home and belonging. We recognize the creativity and innovation that arise from bringing different cultural perspectives together and cultivating the unique contributions of all.

The MIF-Project grant also supports the following types of projects, but with lower priority for funding:

- **Celebration of Diversity** includes education and festivals that showcase differences and similarities, most often through performance, cuisine and other arts. It includes an awareness that groups that include many perspectives, especially from different cultural world views, lead to greater creativity and innovation.
- **Cultural Retention** supports organizations passing on cultural practices and traditions within a particular cultural community.

Contact

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the Consultant during the application process, particularly if you are unsure whether your project fits the priorities of this grant.

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Consultant

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Applicant Eligibility

Eligible Applicants are:

- **Registered Non-Profit** organizations in Saskatchewan. These organizations must:
 - have a primarily cultural mandate in Arts, Heritage, Multiculturalism or Cultural Industries as defined by [SaskCulture's Cultural Policy](#), or otherwise demonstrate significant engagement in cultural activity; and
 - have been in existence as a registered non-profit for at least one full fiscal year prior to the deadline date; and
 - be in good standing with Information Services Corporation (ISC); and
 - **provide a copy of their most recent signed audited Financial Statement submitted to ISC; and**
 - have no outstanding grant follow-ups due to SaskCulture.

OR be a:

- **First Nation or Municipality.** The applicant must:
 - be in good standing with the Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Grant Program; and
 - have no outstanding grant follow-ups due to SaskCulture.

Ineligible Applicants:

- Unincorporated community groups may consider forming a partnership with an eligible organization to meet the eligibility requirements for this grant program. Please consult with SaskCulture to discuss options.
- Schools and post-secondary institutions are ineligible for this grant. Interested schools should inquire about:
 - [Artists in Schools program](#) at SK Arts as an alternative to this grant program;
 - [Multicultural Education Initiatives](#) through the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan.
- Eligible Cultural Organizations (ECOs) are ineligible to apply. ECOs should include project ideas in the next Annual Global Funding application.

Projects that are submitted that do not meet the eligibility requirements will not be reviewed.

Project Eligibility

COVID-19 and Eligible Projects – Updated as of February 3, 2021

Due to the uncertainty around the impact COVID-19 will have on public activities in the coming months, SaskCulture is limiting the scope of its funding programs for the **2021 spring round** of applications. SaskCulture will not be accepting project proposals for any type of large indoor or outdoor gathering this year, in order to abide by gathering size limitations defined in Saskatchewan's most current public health orders. All approvals of funding may be conditional on the applicant's ability to adhere to Saskatchewan's public health orders in effect at the planned date of the event. Applicants are strongly encouraged to consider online or virtual activities or small group activities. All applicants must address how they will meet public health safety guidelines to minimize the risk of COVID-19. In addition to the

regular adjudication criteria, grants will be assessed on their ability to meet Saskatchewan's public health orders in place at the time of adjudication. Applicants are encouraged to organize events with clearly articulated cancellation policies and agreements on payments. Written or verbal notice of postponements or cancellations of funded events and activities must be submitted to SaskCulture.

Project Eligibility notes

Projects must meet at least one MIF Project Priority to be considered for funding. All funds are to be used for the benefit of cultural development in Saskatchewan and for residents of Saskatchewan. Organizations and/or projects must address a community-identified need and demonstrate community involvement.

Activities that use or present Indigenous cultural material, traditional knowledge or stories without demonstrated permission (supporting letters) from the community are not eligible.

Application limitations:

- Applicants may only submit **one application to MIF-Project** per grant deadline.
- Applicants **may not** apply to multiple SaskCulture funding programs to support the same activity for the same time frame:
 - *Priority will be given to projects and organizations not already funded by other Lottery-supported grant programs*
- Applicants can be approved for only **one open MIF Project grant** at a time, and **only one a year**.
 - *Priority will be given to projects that have not received a MIF Project grant in the previous year.*
- If the applicant already has a current MIF Project grant wrapping up during the time of application or an outstanding/overdue SaskCulture grant, a second proposal will not be considered until the current one is reconciled. Contact SaskCulture for options.
- **START DATE:** Eligible start dates for this round must be between May 26, 2021 (eight (8) weeks after the grant deadline) and December 1, 2021. If you are wanting to apply for a project with a start date after December 1, 2021, please wait for the Fall 2021 MIF-Project deadline to apply
- **END DATE:** All projects must be completed within one year (12 months) of the start date.

Funding Levels *REVISED*

The maximum request amount per grant is \$10,000. Matching funds for grants between \$5,000 and \$10,000 are no longer required. However, applications with requests of \$5,000 and over should show greater evidence of community support and will benefit from showing other self-generated income.

The budget should include all revenue and expenses related to your project including grant requests to other funding programs or agencies and the budget should balance (revenue = expenses). Expenses claimed must be to support eligible activity proposed in the application.

The budget tool is for project costs only. Regular organizational operating expenses, staff wages and contributions of volunteer time should not be identified as revenue or expenses in the budget. These costs are ineligible for the program. In-kind contributions (donations for food, goods, services, equipment, waiving rental fee, etc.) do not substitute for eligible expenses and should not be included in the budget. Contributions and non-monetary support for a project can be described in the proposal as evidence of community support and partnerships.

Eligible Expenses

MIF-Project grants cover direct costs to the development and delivery of a cultural project. Please ensure that only Eligible Expenses are included and that they are clearly explained.

Eligible Project expenses include:

- Wages, honorarium and contract agreements for cultural resource people who are offering their skills and expertise for the term of the project. This does not replace wages for the core job responsibilities of existing staff;
- Travel expenses for program participants. This includes gas, rental of vehicles, bus transit and airfare. While the primary cultural activities must take place in Saskatchewan, travel outside of the province is eligible if it is to bring resource peoples in locally to conduct work;
- Material expenses related to the cultural activity;
- Facility costs would only be considered eligible in situations where additional space is required for the project to move ahead. The existing space/facility of an applicant organization is not eligible and would be considered as an in-kind contribution- i.e. rent, utilities and office overhead.
- A recommended maximum of 20% of the total grant award can support food expenses that are a part of the cultural experience that is being offered for participants. A strong rationale would need to be provided to exceed this amount.
- A recommended maximum of 10% of the total grant request can be utilized for advertising and promotion cost for the project. A strong rationale would need to be provided to exceed this amount.
- A small portion of the grant may go towards reasonable expenses for COVID-19 health safety measures. This includes hand sanitizer stations, masks and any other reasonable measures.
- **Organizations that are not ethno-cultural, multicultural, First Nations or Métis, and that are applying for support for a festival or performance, must provide details of the multicultural, First Nations or Métis performers and will be provided funding only for their artistic fees.**

All claimed expenses must fall within the indicated start and end date of the grant. All expenses **must be verifiable by receipts or transaction record, upon request**. Expenses incurred before or after the grant period will not be eligible.

Ineligible Expenses

The following items are ineligible for SaskCulture funds:

- Funds may not be used for construction, renovations or repairs, capital expenditures, cash prizes, gifts, or the purchase of alcohol;
- Activity that exclusively promotes definable religious or political viewpoints;
- Contributions of volunteer hours;
- Allowances, wages or personal expenses for program registrants and participants;
- Salaries and expenses of existing staff of the applicant organization; and
- Office and administration fees including utilities, rent and/or rental of an applicant organization facilities.

Application and Adjudication Process

Applications are due March 31, 2021. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

Applications must be submitted in the Online Granting Platform (OGP).

- Applicants are encouraged to consult with SaskCulture prior to submitting an application. There are opportunities for early submissions to get feedback to help improve aspects of an application that are unclear or ineligible in advance of a deadline, but this is not a guarantee that funding will then be awarded.
- Only complete, signed and submitted applications will be considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that their application was successfully submitted. Two different people must sign the application.
- SaskCulture will review applications to confirm basic eligibility requirements have been met.
- Eligible applications are adjudicated by volunteer peer assessors with cultural or multicultural expertise.
- Applicants are informed of results approximately eight (8) weeks after the application deadline.
- Funding decisions are final and will not be revisited or appealed.
- Successful applicants receive 75% of their total grant allocation upon grant approval and the remaining 25% upon SaskCulture's acceptance of a properly filed **Follow-Up Report (FUR)**.
- Due to COVID-19, projects with in-person public gatherings may receive a conditional status until confirmation that the event can proceed. Funding will then be provided within three (3) weeks of the event upon confirmation that the COVID-19 restrictions in place at that time will be met.

Application Assessment

The assessors will review applications based on the following criteria:

- Extent to which the project fits with one of the prioritized project types;
- Quality and merit of proposed activity;
- Evidence of the ability of organization to carry out the project and deliver quality programs and services;
- Extent of participation and access for target populations (First Nations, Métis, youth, rural and northern communities newcomers and people of African, Asian and Latin American heritage);
- Extent of resourcefulness, collaboration and partnerships;
- Extent of support and involvement from the community;
- Potential for ongoing impact and legacy;
- Realistic and responsible use of resources (funds, volunteers, etc.); and
- Returning or otherwise annual projects funded by SaskCulture will have their most recent project follow-up report provided to assessors as part of the assessment process.

The quality of writing and attention to detail will definitely benefit an applicant's chances of success. However, we understand not everyone who is applying for funding is a professional grant writer or even whether English is the primary language of the person applying. If an applicant is struggling with the application, please remember, SaskCulture consultants are here to assist you.

Funding Obligations

Funds may only be used for the eligible activities outlined in your application. Significant changes to the use of funds must be approved by SaskCulture. Funds may not be transferred to other activities or organizations and unused funds must be returned to SaskCulture.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a **follow-up report (FUR)** within 45 days of the completion of the project. This report must detail the activities of the project and indicate how it met the goals of the MIF Project program.

Applicants are required to **retain all supporting receipts**. Applicants to SaskCulture that are awarded a grant for the first time will be required to submit receipts. Other applicants will only submit receipts if requested to do so by the Program Consultant. Failure to do so may affect the approved amount.

If the applicant is approved for funding, the FUR is immediately available **online** and should be referred to at the beginning of the project as statistical information will need to be gathered during the project. The applicant may want to use the budget tool regularly as a project management tool. Funds from MIF Project must be used within 12 months of the project's start date.

Recipients are asked to recognize SaskCulture's funding program to help build awareness of the programs and Sask Lotteries as the funder.



***YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME** received financial assistance from Sask Lotteries, thanks to a SaskCulture program.*

Logos and promotional materials are available to successful applicants.

Failure to meet the above funding obligations to the satisfaction of SaskCulture will be grounds to withhold the final payment and will restrict access to future funding.

Acceptance of Risk

When submitting an application, applicants will be asked to acknowledge that they are aware of and agree to follow Public Health Orders, identified by the Government of Saskatchewan Re-Open Plan, that are relevant to and in place at the time of the event or activity and that SaskCulture will not be liable for any of the activities of the applicant in relation to this funding. Please visit the [SaskCulture](https://www.saskculture.ca) or [Saskatchewan.ca](https://www.saskatchewan.ca) websites directly for more details regarding COVID-19 and risk management.