



Multicultural Initiatives Fund (MIF) – Project

Application deadline: March 31, 2023

Please read the Guidelines carefully before starting the grant application. SaskCulture consultants are available to discuss your project before you start an application. Please contact the Consultant during the application process to ensure your proposed project meets one of the Purposes of this grant program.

Purpose

MIF aims to advance cross-cultural engagement by supporting projects that encourage people to share, learn and engage in meaningful efforts that address the following Purposes:

- **Anti-Racism** work which engages in issues of power and privilege, and addresses individual and systemic discrimination. Anti-Racism includes active dialogue and action towards building equity and justice within cultural organizations and communities.
- **Intercultural Connections** work which entails sustained cross cultural engagement through activities like cultural exchanges, cooperative work between communities, creating safe spaces, community dialogues, creative projects and integration work for welcoming and inclusive communities.
- **Truth and Reconciliation (TRC)** projects that seek to implement a process of healing relationships that require public truth sharing, apology and commemoration to acknowledge and redress past harms towards implementing the TRC Calls to Action and Truth and Reconciliation efforts. Applicants are encouraged to identify who they are reconciling with and which Calls to Action they are seeking to address. [For more information, visit SaskCulture's Indigenous Awareness Hub.](#)
- **Cultural Retention** work which supports the development and advancement of cultural practices and traditions internal to a particular cultural community. ***Indigenous communities are encouraged to apply to the Aboriginal Arts and Culture Leadership grant program for activity in this area.***
- **Celebration of Diversity** work which supports the performances, displays, and expressions-of ethno-cultural and Indigenous groups for the purposes of education and engagement with the broader community. Celebration of Diversity includes events such as festivals, cultural showcases, and performances that introduce cultural worldviews, expressions, creativity and innovation.

Contact

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Consultant

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Priority will be given to projects that:

- provide significant opportunities to meet the Purposes of the MIF-P grant program, with an emphasis on Anti-Racism, Intercultural Connections, Truth and Reconciliation, and Cultural Retention projects.
- deliver relevant cultural activities that demonstrate significant opportunities for cultural impact, accessibility and service to communities.
- provide strong evidence of partnerships and community engagement from cultural communities that are being focused on. It is the responsibility of the applicant to demonstrate that there is evidence of agreement, understanding, permission, consent and commitment from cultural groups who are identified within a project.
- take place in the province's northern and/or rural or otherwise underserved communities.
- are led by equity-deserving communities and cultural organizations, or by organizations who demonstrate commitment to equity within their organizational structures with attention to diverse staff, board, experience and programming.
- support cultural communities and groups who have had limited access to SaskCulture funding.

NOTE: Previously funded organizations that receive MIF-Project grants yearly-will be prioritized based on the evidence of past impact provided in the application. Organizations already significantly funded by other Sask Lottery-supported grant programs may be a lower priority.

If you are unsure whether your project fits the Purpose of this grant, please contact the consultant, and check [the list of successful applicants](#) and project descriptions.

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
 - **note: SaskCulture will purchase and download a copy of the most recent signed audited Financial Statement submitted to ISC for review and to provide to assessors; 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 Sask 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 program. 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 their next Annual Global Funding application.

Submitted applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements will not be reviewed.

Project Eligibility

- Projects must clearly meet one of the MIF Project Purposes 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.
- 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
 - *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 open MIF-Project grant wrapping up during the time of application or an incomplete/overdue Follow-up Report (FUR) for any SaskCulture grant, a new application will be accepted for consideration, but if approved, payment will not be made until the open grants are completed. Contact SaskCulture for options.
- **START DATE:** Eligible start dates for this round must be eight (8) weeks after the grant deadline.
- **END DATE:** All projects must be completed within one year of the start date; however please contact the Consultant as soon as possible if your plans need to change.

Funding Levels *NEW*

Funding levels for all five **Purposes** have been increased up to a maximum \$15,000 request. However, it is recommended that **Celebration of Diversity** projects apply for a maximum of \$5,000.

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.

Upon approval, 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.

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.
- **Note: Activities like celebratory events and festivals are typically a lower priority for funding (Celebration of Diversity Stream). Priority is given to ethno-cultural, multicultural, First Nations or Métis organizations. Other organizations 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. General event expenses are not eligible.**

All claimed expenses must fall within the indicated start and end date of the grant. All expenses **must be verifiable by receipts or transaction records, 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;
- Generally, food costs are ineligible. See above eligible expenses for exceptions.
- 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's own facilities.

Application and Adjudication Process

Applications are due March 31, 2023. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

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

- Applicants should 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 evaluated by volunteer community members with knowledge and experience that relates to the purpose and priority of this grant program.
- 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)**.

Application Assessment

The assessors will review applications based on the following criteria:

- 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 and evidence of support and involvement from community partners involved in the development and delivery of the project, including Indigenous leadership where relevant;
- Potential for ongoing impact and legacy;
- Realistic and responsible use of resources (funds, volunteers, etc.);

- Overall, how well the proposed activity provides significant opportunities to meet the indicated Purpose of the MIF-P grant program.

Note: Returning or yearly funded MIF-P projects may 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 available to assist you.

SaskCulture strives to be accessible and supportive to applicants throughout the granting process. If an applicant is experiencing barriers, struggling with a grant submission or just needs clarity on this program and its objectives, please contact the MIF-P grant contact who is available to advise you. Our role is to help you navigate the criteria, ensure eligibility and help put your best proposal forward to the MIF-P assessment committee. Please reach out and contact us before a grant deadline and we will be happy to advise and support you in this effort.

Funding Obligations

Please review the ***Funding Obligations for Grant Recipients Guidelines*** on SaskCulture's website for details about what to expect as an approved grant recipient.