



Multicultural Initiatives Fund – Project Funding

Application deadlines: March 31, September 30

**As September 30 is a Sunday, the deadline has been extended until Monday, October 1.*

SaskCulture Inc.'s Multicultural Initiatives Fund (MIF) aims to advance multiculturalism in Saskatchewan by supporting projects encouraging people in Saskatchewan to share, learn, appreciate, respect and accept cultural diversity.

Purpose

The Multicultural Initiatives Fund (MIF) aims to advance the course of culture in Saskatchewan by providing funds to organizations in areas not typically funded by conventional support systems.

The MIF-Project grant provides funding to community-based organizations supporting ethno-cultural, multicultural, First Nations and Métis initiatives, projects and activities.

Organizations should consider if their project falls within one of the following stream before applying:

- **Cultural Retention** supports organizations passing on cultural practices and traditions within a particular cultural community.
- **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.
- **Anti-Racism** work 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 our institutions and communities.
- **Intercultural Connections** 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.
- **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.

Contact

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Priority will be given to:

- Cross-cultural or intercultural educational projects;
- Multicultural festivals and events;
- First Nations and Métis educational activities or programs that have a focus on implementing or working towards implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action or reconciliation efforts;
- Organizations and projects not already funded by other Lottery-supported grant programs;
- Projects that have not received a MIF Project grant in the previous year; and
- Applications involving significant Indigenous and/or youth involvement, and those from the province's smaller communities.

If you are unsure whether your project fits the purpose of this grant, please contact the consultant, or see a list of successful applicants and project descriptions at www.saskculture.ca.

Applicant Eligibility

Organizations are strongly encouraged to consult with SaskCulture well in advance of the deadline.

Eligible Applicants are:

- **Registered Non-Profit** organizations in Saskatchewan. These organizations must:
 - have been in existence as a registered non-profit for at least one full fiscal year;
 - 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;
(http://www.saskculture.ca/content/file/14-07_Cultural_Policy.pdf)
 - be in good standing with Information Services Corporation (ISC)
 - have no outstanding grant follow-ups due to SaskCulture; and
 - **provide a copy of the organization's signed annual financial statement that was most recently submitted to the Information Services Corporation (ISC) to show evidence of good standing as a non-profit organization in Saskatchewan.**

OR be a:

- **First Nations band 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 the Saskatchewan Arts Board as an alternative to this grant program: <http://www.saskartsboard.ca/menu/apply/programs-a-z/artists-in-schools.html>
 - Multicultural Education Initiatives through the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan: <http://mcos.ca/mcos-investments/>

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

Project Eligibility

All funds are to be used for the benefit of cultural development in Saskatchewan and for residents of Saskatchewan.

Projects must meet at least one objective listed under the purpose of the MIF program to be considered for funding. Organizations and/or projects must address a community-identified need and demonstrate community involvement.

- Applicants may submit one application per grant deadline. Multiple applications will not be considered.
- Applicants can access only one MIF Project grant at a time.
 - If the applicant already has an outstanding/overdue SaskCulture grant, a second proposal will not be considered until the current one is reconciled.
 - Due to the volume of applications received in this grant program, applicants may only access one MIF grant per year.
 - If the applicant's current MIF Project 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 at least eight (8) weeks after the application deadline, and end within twelve (12) months of the project start date.

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.

Eligible Expenses

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.

For MIF Project grants, all expenses must fall within the indicated start and end date of the grant. 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;
- Food or food-related costs are generally ineligible. However, a maximum of 10% of the total grant award can be applied towards nutrition-related expenses if these costs can be directly attributed to the cultural activity;
- Allowances, wages or personal expenses for program registrants and participants;
- Salaries and expenses of existing staff of the applicant organization;
- Office and administration fees including utilities, rent and/or rental of an applicant organization facilities; and
- In-kind contributions (donations for food, goods, services, equipment, waiving rental fee, etc.).

Budget Notes

The budget should include all revenue and expenses related to your project including grant requests to other funding programs or agencies.

Expenses claimed must be to support eligible activity proposed in the application.

All project income and expenses should be included in budget form and the budget should balance (revenue = expenses).

The budget tool is for project costs. 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:* The value of donations of goods and services 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 proposal as evidence of community support and partnerships.**

Funding Levels

The MIF Project grant is a flexible project grant tailored to support a variety of project sizes and community needs throughout the province. Small projects and community groups can request up to \$5,000 to support a cultural initiative without any requirement of matching this amount with other funding sources. However, larger requests will require greater commitment of support from the applicant organization and/or other funding sources.

For request amounts between \$5,001 - \$10,000, MIF Project will cover 70% of eligible costs and the applicant is required to contribute the additional 30% towards eligible costs. The amount the applicant is contributing must be explained in the budget section and must cover eligible expenses for the project. Amounts requested will be reduced if the applicant does not meet the minimum required contribution amounts.

Please refer to the following table to help you determine what stream of funding you are eligible for and what contributions may be required from funding sources other than MIF Project.

Stream	MIF Project Grant Request \$	Maximum MIF Project contribution towards eligible expenses	Minimum applicant contribution towards the total eligible project cost	For projects with total eligible expenses ranging in the following:
1	5,000 or less	100%	0%	5,000 or less
2	5,001 - 10,000	70%	30%	5,001 – 10,000+

For example:

MIF Project Grant Request	Minimum Applicant Contribution	Total Minimum Eligible Project Expense
\$10,000.00	\$ 4,285	\$ 14,285
\$8,000.00	\$ 3,428	\$ 11,428
\$6,000.00	\$ 2,571	\$ 8,571
\$5,000	\$ 0	\$ 5,000
\$2,000.00	\$ 0	\$ 2,000

Application Process

Applications are due September 30th and March 31st each year. Because September 30, 2018 falls on a Sunday, the deadline is extended to Monday, October 1.

SaskCulture now has an online application process. **Late applications will not be considered for funding.**

Organizations are encouraged to consult with SaskCulture prior to submitting an application. SaskCulture will review applications to confirm basic eligibility requirements have been met.

Eligible applications are adjudicated by volunteer peer assessors with cultural expertise representing the northern, central and southern regions of Saskatchewan. Applicants are informed of results within approximately eight (8) weeks of 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.

Only complete, signed and submitted applications will be considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that their application was successfully submitted.

Application Assessment

The funding adjudicators will assess applications based on the following criteria:

- Extent to which the project addresses one or more of the objectives of the MIF program purpose;
- Quality and merit of proposed activity;
- Realistic and responsible use of resources (funds, volunteers, etc.);
- Uniqueness of activity: it does not duplicate existing programs and services offered within the same jurisdiction;
- Evidence of the ability of organization to carry out project and deliver quality programs and services;
- Extent of participation and access for target populations (First Nations, Métis, and youth);
- Extent of resourcefulness, collaboration and partnerships;
- Potential for ongoing impact and legacy; and
- Extent of support and involvement from your community.

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 will only submit receipts if requested to do so by the Program Consultant. Failure to do so may affect the approved amount. Please see the Funding Level Chart.

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.

Groups receiving grants must promote SaskCulture and Saskatchewan Lotteries as supporters of their activities. 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.