

Original Peoples Investment Program 2018

Deadline: TBD

Applications Open: TBD

We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the Blackfoot and the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta, including the Siksika, Piikani, Kainaiwa, Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations.

We acknowledge that the city of Calgary is situated on lands where the Bow River meets the Elbow, and that the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is "Mohkinstis" and the Michif Cree name is "Ohtuskwane".

We also acknowledge that the city of Calgary is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3 within the historical Northwest Métis homeland.

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Program Information

The Original Peoples Investment Program (OPIP) supports the preservation and revitalization of First Nation/Métis/Inuit (FNMI) art through community-based projects and activities that are supported and validated by FNMI artists, community, Elders and Knowledge Keepers.

This program works towards the following broad outcomes through project-based grant investments:

- Indigenous arts and cultures are supported and enhanced as living cultures.
- Through a better understanding and representation of Indigenous arts, more non- FNMI Calgarians will honour Indigenous artists and their stories.
- Indigenous artists and communities are provided meaningful and sustainable supports in their efforts to share, celebrate and educate about Indigenous arts and cultures.

First Nation/Métis/Inuit artists and collectives and FNMI-lead organizations that apply to OPIP may request up to \$10,000 towards an arts-based activity or initiative that fits the criteria defined below. The total funding pool for this program is \$200,000. Funded projects will be expected to be completed in 2019.

Keep in mind that this program is accepting applications for all projects that fall within the maximum request—don't feel pressure to think of a \$10,000 project. Instead think of what you want to do and ask for what you need!

The deadline for applications will be 4:30pm MST, <DATE>.

OPIP will only be accepting one round of applications for 2018, after which the program outcomes and process will be evaluated by Calgary Arts Development along with the FNMI community so that future iterations will remain effective and responsive to the needs of FNMI artists.

Background

Calgary Arts Development staff met with an Indigenous Artist Advisory Committee and Elders to develop recommendations and an outline of an arts funding program that will support Indigenous artists and build a positive relationship with the Indigenous community.

Calgary Arts Development aspires to:

- Develop authentic relationships with the Indigenous community living within and in the surrounding areas of Calgary.
- Understand how to incorporate Indigenous teachings, values and ways of knowing into a framework for program design that will guide future work with Indigenous communities, artists and art.
- Build trust by engaging Indigenous artists throughout the process of program design and implementation.
- Deliver programs that are mutually validated, by both the Indigenous community and by Calgary Arts Development.

How are Funding Decisions Made?

All eligible applicants will have the option of participating in a non-hierarchical decision-making process to decide which applications receive funding:

- There will be one month after the deadline to review applications online.
- Afterwards, Calgary Arts Development will host a Community Circle event where applicants meet and have the option to speak to their projects in-person, ask questions, share perspectives and collectively decide who receives funding.

The Community Circle will take place on <DATE> at <VENUE>.

The following will be expected of applicants who indicate on their applications that they would like to participate in assessment:

- All applicants assessing must agree to the Community Circle Terms of Reference (<LINK>).
- No applicant that is assessing will be assigned to review or vote for their own application, or for any application they may benefit directly from in success or failure through this process.
- All assigned applications must be read prior to the Community Circle.
- If an applicant that is assessing does not read all of applications assigned to them, they will not be allowed to vote at the Community Circle.
- All applicants that wish to assess must be present at the Community Circle to vote.

Elders and Knowledge Keepers from the Indigenous community will be invited by Calgary Arts Development to provide a voice around ceremony, protocol and traditional knowledge and ways of knowing:

- Elders will be invited to read applications and participate in all discussions, but will not participate in the voting process.
- The role of the Elders will be to act as a supportive and validating presence for all applicants and to provide wisdom and guidance towards the broad outcomes of the program described above.

Community Circle Format

- Opening prayers lead by Elders.
- Review guidelines for safe space and conduct.
- Five minutes for every applicant to speak to the following (optional):
 - Introduce yourself and your artistic practice.
 - Briefly describe the project and what you think is important about it.
- Five minutes per application for the rest of the Community Circle to ask questions.

- An open, positive and appreciative discussion shared by all assessing applicants, Elders and Calgary Arts Development staff around the following:
 - Which applications really stood out and why.
 - Any questions, ideas or concerns.
- Assessing applicants anonymously vote on which projects they would fund within the overall budget.
- Calgary Arts Development staff compile and tabulate results of voting and share back to the Community Circle to finalize the funding list.
- Closing prayers lead by Elders.
- Opportunity for discussion around the overall process and outcomes (optional).

Program Criteria

Assessors will be asked to consider all of the following when voting on applications:

- Artistic Impact:** The artistic quality of the project or initiative, its potential to advance the applicant's artistic practice and/or goals, and its potential to meaningfully contribute to related artistic forms.
- Community Connection:** How meaningfully, intentionally, and thoughtfully applicants will engage with audiences, participants, or communities that experience the project or initiative.
- Planning:** How reasonable the plan for the project or initiative is, including timeline, budget and the applicant's ability to undertake it.

Assessors are asked to give thoughtful consideration to the contexts that are most appropriate for thinking about each individual application, and factor this into what it means for each application to score highly in each of the criteria.

Who can Apply?

This program is open to First Nations/Métis/Inuit artists, collectives, arts administrators and support workers, and FNMI-lead arts organizations¹ in the Treaty 7 region working in any artistic discipline they choose.

¹ For the purposes of OPIP, the word Indigenous is used to describe persons who are First Peoples of any given territory in Canada prior to colonial incursions

Who is a First Nations/Métis/Inuit (FNMI) Artist?

While there is not one single definition of who is a First Nations/Métis/Inuit Artist, this program welcomes artistic practices representing both traditional and contemporary forms, and is intended for those who can show that they:

- Pursue a high level of excellence in their expression.
- Have clear artistic goals.
- Value a connection to a sense of community.

How to Apply

Applications will only be accepted online through Calgary Arts Development's grant interface. Calgary Arts Development staff are available upon request to offer technical assistance at any stage of the application process.

Applications must be submitted before 4:30pm MST on the day of the deadline. Late applications will not be accepted. Extensions may be provided upon request in certain circumstances in advance of a deadline. Consult the Deadline Extension Policy below for more information.

Accommodation and Accessibility

Calgary Arts Development is committed to open, fair and transparent processes. We will work with artists who experience barriers to access our granting programs to develop accommodations that suit their abilities, including but not limited to:

- Translation
- Braille transcription
- Physical access to meeting spaces

Eligible Expenses

Applicants may use this grant for almost any expense related to their project or initiative, including but not limited to:

- Expenses related to the development, creation, production, or distribution of artistic work, such as supplies, fees for contractors, venue or studio rental, event hospitality, operations, salaries etc.
- Expenses related to professional development, such as travel, mentor fees or honorariums, tuition for stand-alone courses or workshops, or per diems etc.

- Artist fees.
- Subsistence expenses, such as food, rent, child care, etc.

Artists may not use this grant for the below ineligible expenses:

- Purchase of major pieces of equipment over \$500 (capital costs).
- Tuition or any expenses (including room, board, travel, transportation, etc.) intended to allow access to post-secondary degree or credit granting educational programs or study.

Please contact the Community Investment Team if you have any questions about eligible expenses.

Application: *Who am I? Why am I? Where am I?*

Basic required information:

- Contact Information** (Name, Address, Phone, Email)
- Artistic Discipline (self-defined)**
- Description of Artistic Practice.** Describe what your work looks like and what is important about it to you (300 words max). Try to connect to the criteria and the questions below. You may include a list of relevant experiences related to your practice (artist CV or resume, upload DOC, DOCX, PDF, 2MB).
- Funding Request** (up to \$10,000)
- Timeline.** Outline a planned timeline of your project or initiative, including start and end dates of each activity, a brief description of the activity and any other important milestones. Overall projects must be completed in 2019. Can be written directly into online application form or as an uploaded document (acceptable file types: DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, PDF, 2MB).
- Budget** (Must use standard template, upload XLS, XLSX, PDF, 2MB)
- Optional Support Material 1** (DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, PDF, JPG or link 4MB)
- Optional Support Material 2** (DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, PDF, JPG or link 4MB)
- Optional Support Material 3** (DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, PDF, JPG or link 4MB)
- Optional Support Material 4** (DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, PDF, JPG or link 4MB)

For the next section, applicants have the option of either answering in the following ways:

- **Written Response.** Entered directly into the provided area of the online granting interface or uploaded as a text document (900 words max, upload DOC, DOCX, PDF, 2MB).
- **Oral Response:**
 - Audio or video
 - 10 minutes of you speaking to the questions below—keep in mind this is not meant to be an opportunity to perform or showcase your work!

- Must be attached to application as a private Youtube link with password.
- Calgary Arts Development staff will be on hand to support with both recording and uploading to application by appointment up until one week before the deadline.

Applicants must speak to the following in either their written or oral responses:

- What does it mean for you to be an Indigenous artist (or for organizations, to represent an Indigenous arts perspective/identity)?**
- How do you think about your sense of connection and relationship to Indigenous community and the land, and what does it mean to you?**
- Describe your project and how it relates to the above, as well as your own artistic goals.**
- Describe the opportunities for relationship-building created by your project, including but not limited to mentorship, discussions, forums, participatory activities, workshops, artist talk-backs, audience experience etc.**

Conditions of Grant and Reporting

Applicants will be notified of their results by email. Successful applicants will be required to sign and return an Investment Agreement 30 days after receiving notification of success in order to receive funding. Calgary Arts Development will provide a T4A for the grant amount. For information about tax requirements for artist grants, please consult the [CRA guidelines](#).

A **Final Report** will be due 30 days after the completion of the applicant's final activity.

- Upload a budget with actuals.** Please keep receipts as you may be asked to provide them (upload DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, PDF, 2MB).
- Describe your experience of completing project. Did you achieve your artistic goals? Did anything change from your original proposal** (200 words)?
- Briefly describe what impact this funding made on your sense of community** (200 words).
- Additional comments you would like to share with Calgary Arts Development** (400 words).
- Support Material 1** (upload DOC, DOCX, JPG, XLS, XLSX, PDF, or link, 4MB)
- Support Material 2** (upload DOC, DOCX, JPG, XLS, XLSX, PDF, or link, 4MB)
- Support Material 3** (upload DOC, DOCX, JPG, XLS, XLSX, PDF, or link, 4MB)

How to Design Your Application

Before you begin writing your application, consider the below questions:

- **What is important to you?**
 - Consider your artistic goals? What do you need, beyond funding, to achieve those goals? Why are those activities, tasks, skills, relationships etc. important to you?
- **What is feasible for you?**
 - If you receive this funding, what activities will you be able to realistically and meaningfully complete?
- **What don't you know?**
 - Don't be afraid to be honest about the challenges or barriers you might experience in your career as an artist or in your artistic practice. An appreciative self-awareness and criticality will allow you to identify any blind spots, or areas you need to invest in, such as professional or artistic development, experimentation, or risk-taking.
- **Who are your communities?**
 - Who is the audience for your work? It could be people who share the same goals or values, people who engage with or see your work, or people who work in your artistic community. Defining your public will allow you to best understand what it means to have an impactful relationship with them.

Contact the Community Investment Team at grants@calgaryartsdevelopment.com or 403.476.2031 if you have specific questions about your application up to 48 hours before a deadline. In some cases staff will send a submitted application back to draft and notify the applicant if it is incomplete, both before and sometimes after the deadline.

Deadline Extension Policy

Calgary Arts Development intends its granting process to be open, fair and transparent.

Calgary Arts Development has a responsibility to the citizens of Calgary to ensure the security and value of their investments.

For clients who intend to submit applications but will miss the deadline, a written request for extension must be received by Calgary Arts Development before the deadline.

Requests not received in time will result in ineligibility for that granting period. The request must state the reason(s) the application deadline cannot be met. Acceptable reasons may include:

- Personal health or family crisis
- Birth or death of a family member
- Unforeseen personal priority

Calgary Arts Development staff will review the request for extension. If in Calgary Arts Development's sole discretion the reason for the extension is compelling, a deadline extension will be granted. A written notice explaining Calgary Arts Development's decision will be sent to the applicant. Extensions will only be granted if doing so will not materially affect the planned assessment process.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Calgary Arts Development, in its sole discretion, may grant an extension in extenuating circumstances.

Questions

Consult the **Investment Program FAQ** for answers to common questions about the program.

Our team is here to support you! If you have any questions about the program contact the Community Investment team at grants@calgaryartsdevelopment.com or 403.476.2031.

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