

Indigenous Artist Microgrant 2022 Guidelines

Preserving First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Culture and Tradition

April 19, 2022: Full guidelines published

Applications: Ongoing until funds are allocated

Deadline: There is no deadline to apply

Program Overview

This program is intended to support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artists living and working in the Treaty 7 region for activities and expenses related to the preservation, maintenance, and revival of Indigenous culture and tradition. Eligible proposals may include:

- Projects related to crafting and creating regalia.
- Projects related to traditional methods and forms.

Applicants may apply for up to \$5,000. Total funding available for this program is \$75,000.

Commitment to Equity

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Blackfoot Nations—Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai; and also acknowledge the Beaver people of the Tsuut’ina and the Bearspaw, Chiniki and Wesley bands of the Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis People of Region 3, and Indigenous people who make the Treaty 7 region their home.

As part of our responsibility to Calgarians to ensure equitable access to public funding, Calgary Arts Development is dedicated to addressing and working to eliminate institutional inequity in our programs, policies, and practices. We also acknowledge that our actions—both conscious and unconscious, past and present—have benefited some communities while limiting opportunities and outcomes for others including Indigenous communities, Black communities, persons of colour, persons with disabilities, Deaf communities, as well as persons with diverse sexual orientations or gender identities.

We envision a city where all artists have the freedom, agency and platform to share and amplify their stories, art, cultures and experiences: a city where Calgarians of all backgrounds can access, create and participate in art as part of their everyday lives.

To that end, Calgary Arts Development’s community investment team is accountable to ensuring that lines of communication are welcoming, clear, and open, and that the scoring process is fair and deeply considerate. We will work one-on-one with applicants who experience barriers to access to develop

accommodations that suit their unique abilities and situations and continually seek to learn and address inequities in our programs and processes.

Need Help Applying?

We recognize that barriers within the arts community exist, particularly for equity seeking communities, and that there are many unique entry points into an artistic practice and career in the arts. If you are unsure about eligibility, please reach out to discuss this with the program specialist before applying.

Calgary Arts Development is committed to open, fair, and transparent processes. If you have any questions, want feedback on your application or if it's your first time applying, please don't hesitate to contact us for support. While we may not be able to meet in person at this time, our team will be available to provide support over the phone, through email, or through the use of audio and video platforms.

Please see the [Investment Program Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) for answers to common questions, and contact the program specialist as early as you can to ensure they can provide the best support possible. Staff can provide feedback on your application up to one week before application deadlines.

There are two policies available for potential applicants who may need accommodations or assistance to apply to this program such as translating program guidelines and applications. These policies are available to potential applicants even if they decide not to apply to the program.

- An [Accommodation & Accessibility Policy](#) is available for potential applicants who experience barriers to access, to develop accommodations that suit their abilities and situations.
- The [Application Assistance Policy](#) provides financial support for eligible applicants to alleviate some of the costs associated with preparing and submitting an application.

Who Can Apply?

This program is open to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) artists and collectives practicing and operating in the Treaty 7 Calgary region working in any artistic discipline. It is also open to Treaty 7 First Nation artists practicing on reserve or operating within the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

Eligibility

- An applicant may only apply for one opportunity or phase of development.
- You may receive one Indigenous Artist Microgrant per year.

- You may not receive funding from more than one Calgary Arts Development program for the same project or phase of a project.
- You may not apply to this program if you have final reports past their due date for prior grants.
- Beginning in January 2023, you may not have more than four open grants with Calgary Arts Development, including grants for which a deadline extension has been approved. A request for an exception to this eligibility requirement must be submitted in writing and in discussion with the program specialist. Applicants are encouraged to take this policy into consideration when planning their applications in 2022.

For a glossary of terms and more important information about eligibility, please refer the [Investment Program Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#). If you have questions about eligibility please contact the program specialist.

What Can You Apply for?

This program can fund activities and expenses related to the preservation of Indigenous culture and tradition. Activities funded through this program must be completed within 18 months of grant notification.

If your project is not related to the preservation of traditional Indigenous culture or forms, please refer to the [Artist Development Microgrant](#) or the [Original Peoples Investment Program](#).

Eligible proposals may include:

- Projects related to crafting and creating regalia.
- Projects related to traditional methods and forms.
 - Including mentorship, training, knowledge sharing

Eligible expenses may include:

- Accessibility expenses.
- Artist fees.
- Course fees (for individual courses which do not count toward the pursuit of a credit, diploma or degree granting program).
- Documentation.
- Honorariums.
- Materials.
- Marketing, publicity or outreach.
- Per diems (fixed daily rate for lodging, meals and incidentals while not at your primary residence).

- Purchase of equipment, including hardware and permanent software (up to \$2,000 maximum – must be directly related to your proposed activities).
- Rental of equipment or space.
- Subsistence expenses (e.g., rent, food, child care, etc. - must be necessary in order to complete the project).
- Technical fees (e.g., web service fees, licensing fees etc.).
- Travel expenses.

Please note that eligible project expenses for this program may not be considered deductible project expenses by the Canada Revenue Agency. Please consult the CRA guidelines when creating your project budget.

These funds cannot be used for the below ineligible expenses and activities:

- Lost wages or salaries.
- Purchase of or financial contribution towards equipment, land, or buildings over a total of \$2,000 (capital expenditures).
- Purchase of any equipment not directly related to the project.
- Tuition, or other costs related to the pursuit of post-secondary degree or diploma granting educational programs or artistic work related to those educational programs.
- Activities that have already received funding from another Calgary Arts Development grant program.
- Activities related to post-secondary or credit, degree, or diploma granting educational programs or artistic work related to those educational programs.
- Fundraising activities (e.g., activities undertaken for the purpose of raising funds on behalf of a political party or charity).
- Contests and competitions (e.g., grant funding cannot be re-granted in the form of prizes or awards).
- Activities that do not comply with or respect cultural protocols.
- Activities that use or present Indigenous cultural material, traditional knowledge, or stories without permission from the community.
- Activities that promote hatred or intolerance.
- Activities that are illegal or contravene provincial or federal law.
- Activities that contravene municipal bylaw.
- Activities related to campaigning for a specific political candidate or party in an election.

Please note that the eligible and ineligible expenses and activities listed are given as examples and are not exclusive.

How to Apply

Calgary Arts Development staff will work with applicants to determine the best way to submit their application, whether in written form through the online grant interface, or through an oral application in a meeting or pre-recorded video.

If you are interested in applying, please email morgan.possberg@calgaryartsdevelopment.com with the subject line “Indigenous Artist Microgrant” to begin the process.

Application Checklist

- Contact information.
- Funding request (up to \$5,000).
- A brief description of your artistic practice.
- A description of your proposed project or activities. Please include:
 - A description of the tradition, culture, or form you are preserving, maintaining, or reviving.
 - A description of how you connect with the community where this tradition originates.
 - A description of what you want to do, when and where it will take place, who will be involved, how it will happen and why it's important to you.
 - If applicable, a description of how you will respect and follow necessary protocols, gain permissions or seek rights for the traditional practice or form.
- Budget
 - Please list how you will spend the funds.
 - Include quotes, calculations, etc.
 - If the cost of the project will exceed \$5,000, describe how you will fund the remainder.
- Support material
 - Any material that supports your application, including photos, audio/visual material, letters of support, research etc.

Program Criteria & Assessment Process

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- The project meets the program goal of preserving and maintaining Indigenous culture and tradition.
- The project is relevant and meaningful to the applicant’s artistic practice.
- The applicant has appropriately sought the rights or has been gifted the form, and/or has a clear relationship with the originating community.

- The applicant has demonstrated the ability to complete the project as proposed.
- The project budget and timeline is appropriate.

Applications to this program will be reviewed by Calgary Arts Development's Indigenous Advisory Committee. The committee will provide advice and guidance to Calgary Arts Development staff on how the application meets the program criteria, and recommend applications to staff for funding. Committee members may request additional information or advise staff on follow-up questions. The final grant decision will be made by Calgary Arts Development staff, including the director, engagement & reconciliation, and the Indigenous program specialist.

Priority will be given to applicants who have not received a grant from Calgary Arts Development in the past.

Committee members are required to declare conflicts of interest according to the **Conflict of Interest Policy**. Calgary Arts Development thinks of conflicts of interest as close family members, people who are involved in the activity being applied for or where there is a real or perceived financial benefit. If a committee member has applied to the program or declared a conflict of interest, they will not assess those specific applications or be present for any discussions of those applications.

Committee members must review, understand, and adhere to the program guidelines, and to Calgary Arts Development's **Group Agreements**.

Successful Applications & Final Reporting

Applicants will be notified of their results by email. Successful applicants will be sent an investment agreement via DocuSign and are required to sign and return the agreement within 30 days of receiving it in order to receive funding.

We use electronic fund transfers to make grant payments. If your application is approved, you will be required to provide a void cheque or direct deposit form with your banking information. Please let us know if you need any help with this.

Calgary Arts Development will provide a T4A tax form for individuals who receive more than \$500 in total during the 2022 tax year. This includes the primary applicant who may be representing a collective of artists. Please note that you must have a valid Canadian Social Insurance Number or Individual Tax Number to receive this grant. If you have any questions about tax requirements for artist grants, it is a good idea to discuss these with a tax professional or consult Canada Revenue Agency guidelines. There is also additional tax information in our Investment Program FAQ.

Successful grantees will be required to complete a brief final report to share learnings and how the grant benefited their practice and communities. Final reports are due 30 days after the project end date.

In your final report, we would like to know:

- What you accomplished and how this changed or helped your goal. We are curious about any learnings or changes from your original proposal.
- How the grant funds were spent. You'll be asked to share an updated budget with actuals. Please keep receipts and invoices for tax purposes. You may also be asked to provide them.
- Optional: Please share any materials that resulted from your activities, such as images, website links, video or audio material, written samples, etc.
- Optional: Anything else you'd like to share with Calgary Arts Development.

Successful applicants may also be invited to participate in optional surveys, research, and peer-to-peer learning. Please contact grants@calgaryartsdevelopment.com with any questions about reporting requirements.

Contact Information

Please note that Calgary Arts Development staff are continuing to work remotely. If you have any questions about this fund or other grant opportunities, please review the [Investment Program FAQ](#) or email morgan.possberg@calgaryartsdevelopment.com.