

Status: Draft

Deadline: Indigenous Arts Projects -
April 24, 2025

Application Type: Indigenous Arts
Projects

Applicant:

Content Note

This tab is optional. You can use it to provide information about your application. It does not affect the assessment of your project.

What is a content note?

A content note is a verbal or written notice that precedes potentially sensitive content. It indicates in advance any topics that the audience may find triggering or distressing.

While some readers are OK with encountering these topics without advance notice, others appreciate being able to prepare themselves, especially if the content could lead to them reliving painful experiences.

If you believe your **application**, **artistic examples** or **support documents** contain potentially sensitive content, please provide a brief content note below as a courtesy to OAC staff and assessors.

We'll make sure that this program's assessors know that the absence of a content note does not guarantee the absence of content they may find challenging.

Do you want to provide a content note?

[More about content notes](#)

Project Information

Project Title (Maximum 15 words)

Project Summary (Maximum 25 words)

Project Category

From the list below, select one of the following that best applies to your project.

Total amount you are requesting from OAC

This amount will be auto filled from the budget section.

Artistic Discipline

What is the main artistic discipline involved in the proposed project? Select one only.

Project Category 2

From the list below, select one of the following that best applies to your project.

Project Category 3

Does your project include one of the following? Select all that apply:

Start Date of Your Project

The activity for which you are requesting funding cannot start before April 24, 2025.

End Date of Your Project

The activity for which you are requesting funding cannot be completed before September 5, 2025, and must be completed by September 5, 2027.

Background

Make sure that the information you give in this section shows that you are eligible to apply for this program. See the [Guide to OAC Project Programs](#) and the program web page for information about eligible applicants and ask program staff if you are not sure.

This program is managed by Indigenous staff members and peer-assessed by Indigenous artists and arts professionals. Assessors will consider your answers to the questions and your support material in their assessment. When writing your application, please use plain and concise language. Refer to the [Evaluation Rubric – Activity Projects](#) for more information on what assessors look for.

Reminder: OAC grants to individuals are taxable income. If you apply as an individual and receive a grant over \$500, you will be issued a T4A form (even if you apply on behalf of a group).

This program is open to Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit or Métis) individuals, Indigenous collectives, ad hoc groups, and Indigenous organizations only.

To determine your eligibility, please identify your Indigenous Nation(s) (First Nation, Inuit, Métis), and the community(ies) where you are from. (Maximum 50 words)

Writing tip: Collectives and organizations must answer this question for the project's artistic/programming lead and for key board members. See the definition of Indigenous organizations on the program web page.

Please tell us more about your lived experience and relationship to your Indigenous nation(s), community(ies), and culture(s). (Maximum 50 words)

Writing tips:

- Your lived experience may include your family, your community, and/or cultural connections. It may also include experiences related to displacement and disconnection (government policies, adoption, residential schools, relocation of communities, etc.).
- For collectives and organizations, answer this question for the project's artistic/programming lead and for key board members.

Tell us about who you are as an artist, arts professional, group or organization. (Maximum 300 words)

Writing tip: This is the place to tell the story of your artistic journey up until now and to describe what is important to you in your work and why. If you are applying as a group or an organization, state your mandate.

Describe the context in which you work. You may choose to include information about your environment, community, artistic influences and cultural identity or, as relevant, your connection to OAC priority groups and how they have had an impact on you or your organization's art, career/development and decisions. (Maximum 300 words)

Writing tips:

- Consider including information as it relates to Indigenous artistic and culture practices, and to Indigenous communities.
- The OAC's priority groups are Indigenous artists, artists of colour, Deaf artists and artists with disabilities, new generation artists (18-30 years old), artists living in regions outside of Toronto, and Francophone artists.

Applicant CV(s), Résumé(s) and Bio(s)

Either use the field provided to enter your CV(s), résumé(s) or bio(s) (maximum 1,000 words); or use the upload button to upload 1 document in PDF format (maximum **3 pages for individuals** or maximum **8 pages for organizations and groups**).

Writing tips:

- If you are applying as an individual, include your CV, résumé or bio.
- If you are applying as a group or organization, include those of group members or key staff.
- Go to OAC's website for [tips on preparing CVs, résumés and bios for a grant application to OAC](#).

Enter the address for your website

Your website will be briefly reviewed by assessors. The important information you want to share with assessors about your experience, artistic practice and project should still be included in your answers to the application questions.

Support Material

Support Material

If files or links do not conform to the basic upload requirements (types, formats, sizes and minimum/maximum number of files), the system will prevent the application from being submitted.

If the provided artistic examples and support documents do not meet all program application requirements, the submitted application will be considered ineligible and will be withdrawn from the competition.

Assessors will not read documents that have not been requested or review support material for longer than the maximum time allowed. For audio and video examples, if the total running time exceeds the maximum length allowed, specify which part you want assessors to review.

Artistic Examples

Describe how the artistic examples below relate to your project. (Maximum 150 words)

Instructions

Choose artistic examples that are relevant to your project and artistic discipline (for example, if you are a performance-based artist your application should include video examples).

Submit a minimum of 1 artistic example of the artist or lead artist (mandatory, maximum of 5 minutes of viewing, listening and/or reading material). Choose from the following types of artistic examples, as most relevant to your project:

- Video (maximum 2 examples)
- Audio (maximum 2 examples)
- Images (maximum 10 images)
 - Note: 1 image counts as 15 seconds of viewing time.
- Manuscripts of literary material, music scores, scripts, zines, etc. (1 document in PDF format, maximum 10 pages)
 - Note: 1 page counts as 1-2 minutes of reading time based on the nature of your material.

For projects involving additional artists, you may submit additional artistic examples (optional, maximum of 2 minutes of viewing, listening and/or reading material). Choose from the following types of artistic examples, as most relevant to your project:

- Video (maximum 2 examples)
- Audio (maximum 2 examples)
- Images (maximum 5 images)
 - Note: 1 image counts as 15 seconds of viewing time.
- Manuscript of literary material, music scores, scripts, zines, etc. (1 document in PDF format, maximum 4 pages)
 - Note: 1 page counts as 1-2 minutes of reading time based on the nature of your material.

Audio - File Uploads

- Acceptable formats: MP3, WAV
- Maximum size: 20 MB per file
- **Do not use accents or special characters in your file names as they may cause application submission errors (for example: " ' ; : ~ ! % ^ *).**

For each example, click on **Edit Required Information** "www.arts.on.ca/getattachment/Grants/General-Granting-Info/Nova-User-Guide/Edit-Required-Information-Button.png.aspx?width=30&height=30" title="Edit Required Information Icon" /> to provide assessors with details.

Video - File Uploads

- Acceptable formats: AVI, MOV (QuickTime Video), MPEG, MP4, WMV (Windows Media Video)
- Maximum size: 500 MB per file. For files larger than 300 MB, we recommend uploading the file to Vimeo or YouTube and providing the link below.
- **Do not use accents or special characters in your file names as they may cause application submission errors (for example: " ' ; : ~ ! % ^ *).**

For each example, click on **Edit Required Information** "www.arts.on.ca/getattachment/Grants/General-Granting-Info/Nova-User-Guide/Edit-Required-Information-Button.png.aspx?width=30&height=30" title="Edit Required Information Icon" /> to provide assessors with details.

Images - File Uploads

- Acceptable formats: .jpg, .png
- Maximum size: 5 MB per image
- **Do not use accents or special characters in your file names as they may cause application submission errors (for example: " ' ; : ~ ! % ^ *).**

For each example, click on **Edit Required Information** "www.arts.on.ca/getattachment/Grants/General-Granting-Info/Nova-User-Guide/Edit-Required-Information-Button.png.aspx?width=30&height=30" title="Edit Required Information Icon" /> to provide assessors with details.

Manuscripts - File Uploads

- Acceptable format: PDF
- All documents' page orientation should be portrait, NOT landscape.
- Written material should use a sans serif font of at least 11-point (for example, Arial or Helvetica).
- **Do not use accents or special characters in your file names as they may cause application submission errors (for example: " ' ; : ~ ! % ^ *).**

Support Documents

Instructions

- Each type of support document listed below has its own instructions. Read them carefully to ensure that you:
 - submit all required support documents for your program category
 - respect any limits on the number or length of files
- All documents (except for promotional materials) should use a sans serif font of at least 11-point size (for example, Arial or Helvetica).

Bios, CVs or Organization Summaries of Key Project Collaborators

(optional, 5 documents in PDF format, maximum 10 pages in total)

Writing tip: Consider including CV(s), résumé(s) or bio(s) if your project involves other key artists, collaborators, or mentors. These collaborators should also be listed on the Project Plans tab.

Letter of Support

(mandatory, 1 letter in PDF format, maximum 1 page)

Tip: Your letter may be from a community member, Elder/Culture Carrier, project participant, or organizational representative. The letter writer should describe their experience working with you or your group and why they support your project.

- Note: Letters must be dated and include current contact information, email and phone number. Where possible, letters should be on letterhead.
- If your letter of support was written by the main applicant (you), or if you upload a document that is not a letter of support here, your application will be withdrawn from the competition.

Letters of Confirmation or Commitment

(mandatory for projects that involve mentorships or training activities related to the project, in PDF format, maximum 10 pages)

Past Programming

(for festival and series presentation applicants, optional, in PDF format, maximum 2 pages)

Tip: Festival and series presenters who have not yet confirmed participating artists but have run the event previously should consider including the previous year's schedule.

Project Plans

What are you planning to do, and what do you want to achieve with this project? (Maximum 425 words)

Writing tips:

- Describe the artistic ideas(s), plans and processes related to your chosen category and artistic discipline.
 - **Research and development:** Talk about what you are researching/developing and why, your timeline and the size and scope of the project.
 - **Creation and production of new work:** Talk about the technique, process and approach being used. Clearly explain how many works will be created, and the size, scope and/or scale of the work/project.
 - **Presentations, exhibitions, publications and festivals:** Talk about the presentation, promotion and distribution of the art and artists to audiences.
 - **Connections and partnerships:** Describe the relationship between artist(s) involved and the community, and the creative process that participants will be engaged in.
- If your project includes using artistic material or stories that are not your own, explain how you have gotten or will get the permission to use them (for example, by obtaining copyright clearance or by observing cultural protocols when engaging with traditional knowledge and cultural practices).
- If your project involves cultural practices that are not your own, describe how you have made or will make sure that you are engaging with them appropriately.

Do you plan to involve other people or organizations in your project?

Note: This could include Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists/arts professionals (such as administrators, technical crew, Aunties, Elders, social workers), arts and non-arts organizations, businesses, or groups.

How will this project contribute to your development (or to your group's overall goals)? (Maximum 200 words)

Writing tip: Consider your or your group's artistic and career development within Indigenous artistic and/or cultural practices and the importance of this project at this time.

What audiences, participants, communities, partners and artists do you intend to reach? What immediate and ongoing benefits do you expect the project will have for them? (Maximum 450 words)

Writing tip: You may want to include and explain how this project benefits Indigenous artists and communities. Consider including other OAC priority groups.

What are your plans to reach your intended audience, participants or community? (Maximum 225 words)

Writing tip: If this question is not relevant to your project, enter n/a.

Budget

Your budget must balance at \$0 (total expenses equal total revenues).

Make sure that this budget matches the project you described in the rest of the application.

Tips:

- See the Project Information tab for the maximum grant request amount you can apply for.
- If your budget includes these revenues or expenses, please use these lines:
 - Applicant's personal contribution: **Individual donations** line
 - Crowdfunding: **Individual donations** line
- If you have other revenues for this project (confirmed or unconfirmed), include them and indicate which expenses will be covered by the OAC grant.
- See the program web page for more detailed information on eligible expenses.

Budget notes

Either use the field provided to enter your budget notes (maximum 1,000 words); or use the upload button to upload 1 document in PDF format (maximum 3 pages).

Writing tips:

Make sure that these budget notes match your budget and the project you described in the rest of the application. If you upload a document that is not budget notes here, your application will be withdrawn from the competition.

As relevant to your project, your budget notes should:

- Explain how you are estimating project revenues
 - For example, indicate how **Revenues from box office/admissions/co-productions/touring/exhibition rental/presenting/distribution** projections have been determined and/or relate to your past experience.
- Describe any in-kind contributions (these should not be included in the budget)
- List individual artist fees (for example, fees for performers, artist workshop presenters, artistic directors, Elders/Cultural Carriers, youth, royalties)
- Show how artist fees and other costs are calculated
 - For example, if an artist will be paid a daily rate, give the rate and the number of days they will work.
 - Note: The program does not fund living and personal expenses. Do not provide details of your living and personal expenses as the rationale for the calculation of artist fees. Artist fees may be used at the discretion of the artist.
- State if you are basing fees on standard rates set by institutions (for example, CARFAC)
- Specify what larger expenses include (for example, venue rental includes one week of rehearsals, one week of shows, use of a sound system, technical staff)

OAC Statistics

The following information is being gathered for OAC research purposes only. This information will not be seen by assessors and will not be considered in determining any grant amount.

Festival

Is the project you are applying for a festival, or is your organization a festival? (See OAC's definition of festival below.)

OAC Definition of "Festival"

An event including an organized and multi-faceted program of arts activities that takes place within a defined and concentrated period of time of one or more days. A festival may be one-time, but is usually held on a recurring basis – most often annually. Examples of types of festivals include (but are not limited to): Indigenous arts festivals, pow wows, dance festivals, literary festivals, music festivals, fringe theatre festivals, media arts/film festivals, photography festivals, folk arts festivals, art fairs, multidisciplinary festivals, and community arts festivals.

NOTE: The following are NOT considered as festivals for OAC's purposes:

- Ongoing series of arts activities/events presented either at regular intervals (e.g. every month) over an extended period of time or seasonally
- Commercial trade fairs/conferences
- Individual works that will (or may) be shown as part of a festival (where the applicant is not the festival organizer)

Declaration

This information is for OAC only and is not used by assessors for assessment purposes during the evaluation of your application.

I am submitting my application in:

OAC accepts applications in English or French. Assessment panels in this program are held in English. If there are French-language applications at this deadline, applications are translated and at least one assessor will be francophone. If this deadline receives enough French-language applications, a separate meeting with francophone assessors may be convened.

Voluntary Disclosure of Contact Information

If you receive a grant, OAC would like to share some of your contact details with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming (MTCG) and with your Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP). News about your grant helps your MPP learn about your work and the positive impacts of public arts funding.

The MPP may contact you to congratulate you personally.

The OAC will share the following information:

- your name
- your email address
- your phone number
- your mailing address
- your grant amount
- your project summary
- description of the program through which you received the grant

Do you give OAC permission to share this information with the MTCG?

You can change your answer here at any time until OAC sends the information for this deadline to MTCG (approximately four months after the deadline).

[View Terms and Conditions – OAC Project Grant Applications](#)

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the Terms and Conditions that govern applications to the Ontario Arts Council

[View Terms and Conditions – Receipt of OAC Project Grant Funds](#)

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the Terms and Conditions that govern receipt of Ontario Arts Council funds

Applicant Declaration

I confirm that the information I have provided in this application for funding assistance is true, accurate and complete in every respect. I understand that providing false information may result in legal liability to me and, where applicable, my co-applicant and/or the members of the group and/or organization on whose behalf I am submitting this application.

I also confirm that I have obtained the necessary consents of all relevant individuals to provide their information to OAC and for OAC to use and/or disclose this information as set out in the Terms and Conditions.

By checking the box below, I agree to abide by Ontario Arts Council's Terms and Conditions governing applications to OAC through its online application system (Nova) and the receipt of funds.