

Repatriation & Reconciliation Funding Sources



May 2025

The BCMA is providing this list as a resource to help connect project organizers to funding for action, whether you are an Indigenous community seeking support, or a museum looking to secure funds to return belongings or compensate Indigenous communities for collaborative projects.

These funding opportunities come from a variety of sources and are not inclusive of all possible opportunities. Organizations and Communities should visit the funders websites and speak directly to the respective program managers regarding eligibility and applications.

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Notes:

Canada Council for the Arts is restructuring their application portal. New programs will be announced this summer.

First People's Cultural Council has two upcoming deadlines. See their webpages (linked below) for Information Videos and Guidelines.

COMING UP SOON

Vancouver Foundation

***Thriving Indigenous Systems Fund*, \$100,000**

Funding up to \$100,000 per year, over three years is available for Indigenous-led initiatives focused on healing, land, rights, and culture. The TISF will support work that creates the conditions for systemic transformation by preserving, evolving, and transforming the social, political, and cultural systems of Indigenous communities in BC.

Deadline: May 21, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

First Peoples' Cultural Council

***Heritage Stewardship Program*, \$75,000**

HSP supports B.C. First Nations inherent right to act as stewards and experts of their cultures and heritage. This program provides funding for up to three out of four priority areas including Sense of Place, Climate Change, Oral Histories and Protocols, and Digitization and Archiving. Applicants can apply for up to **three** priority areas in one application, with a maximum of \$25,000 for each priority area. **Information Video for 2025 Available Online.**

Deadline: May 23, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

First Peoples' Cultural Council

***Braided Infrastructure Program*, \$70,000**

The Braided Infrastructure Program (BIP) is provided by the FPCC Heritage and Arts Programs. Up to \$70,000 in funding is available for B.C. First Nations infrastructure projects that conserve, repair or develop B.C First Nations' cultural heritage, arts and language infrastructure. **Information Video for 2025 Available Online.**

Deadline: May 26, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

Canadian Heritage

***Community Anniversaries - Building Communities through Arts and Heritage*, \$200,000**

Building Communities through Arts and Heritage – Community Anniversaries component provides funding to local groups for non-recurring local events, with or without a minor capital project. Funding is available for non-recurring events that mark the 100th anniversary or greater, in increments of 25 years (e.g., 125th, 150th); of a significant local historical event or personality. NOTE: If you are an eligible Indigenous organization and would like to commemorate a Treaty, please contact the Program by email or phone. Deadline is May 31 for events that will occur during the next calendar year.

Deadline: May 31, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)



Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums

The Going Home Fund

The Going Home Fund facilitates the return or long-term loan of culturally significant materials to Indigenous cultural entities worldwide. This form is for use by Indigenous communities seeking support. Eligible expenses include insurance, packaging, shipping, and other costs associated with the return. The Going Home Fund Advisory Council meets on or around the 15th day of each month to review requests and make awards. You will be notified by email as to the status of your request.

[Find out more on their website](#)

Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund - OSHKI WUPOOWANE | THE BLANKET FUND

Reconciliation Action Grants, up to \$15,000

The Reconciliation Action grants stream will support reconciliation activities, events, and initiatives in communities that contribute to cultural revitalization, elevate Indigenous culture, languages, and traditions, increase understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, or other grassroots initiatives that move reconciliation forward.

Deadline: quarterly in March, June, September and December

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Canada Cultural Spaces Fund, \$ variable

The CCSF supports the improvement of physical conditions for arts, heritage culture and creative innovation. The CCSF supports renovation projects, the acquisition of specialized equipment, and planning, design and feasibility studies related to arts and heritage cultural spaces. Due to limited funding in the current and next fiscal years, construction projects will no longer be accepted, however, exceptional circumstances may apply. Special considerations may be given by the program to funding applications submitted including those by organizations located in rural or remote areas, Indigenous, underrepresented or equity-deserving communities and groups. Funding cannot be approved without key additional funds being confirmed and will not cover 100% of the total costs.

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Legacy Fund – Building Communities through Arts and Heritage, \$500,000

Building Communities through Arts and Heritage - Legacy Fund component provides funding for community-initiated capital projects, intended for community use. Recipients may receive up to 50 per cent of eligible project expenses up to a maximum of \$500,000. Funding supports community-initiated capital projects that: commemorate a significant local historical event or pay tribute to a significant local historical personality; mark a 100th anniversary or greater, in increments of 25 years (e.g., 125th, 150th); involve the restoration, renovation, or transformation of existing buildings or exterior spaces with local community significance that are intended for community use; encourage arts and heritage activities in the local community that are intended for and accessible to the general public. Eligible projects must meet all of the criteria.

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Local Festivals - Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage, \$200,000

Building Communities through Arts and Heritage — Local Festivals component provides funding to local groups for recurring festivals that present the work of local artists; local artisans; local heritage performers or specialists; and local First Nations, Inuit, and Métis cultural carriers. This includes the celebration of LGBTQ2+ communities and Indigenous cultural celebrations. Applicants must encourage local community engagement through activities that promote, celebrate, and preserve local performing and visual arts or local heritage; and have successfully organized a prior edition of the festival, within the last two years, that met all eligibility requirements of this component.

Deadlines: Three times each year

January 31 for festivals starting Sept 1-Dec 31 of the same year,

April 30 for festivals starting Jan 1-June 30 or the next calendar year,

October 15 for festivals starting July 1-Aug 31 of the next calendar year.

[Find out more on their website](#)

UBC Museum of Anthropology

Indigenous Collections Access Grant, max \$3,000

MOA's Indigenous Collections Access Grant offers funding to help cover the costs for Indigenous individuals or community groups to travel to MOA to visit with and study the collections and archives. \$500 for individuals, up to \$3,000 for a group.

[Find out more on their website](#)

YVR Art Foundation

Bill McLennan Masterpiece Study Program Microgrants, \$500

Microgrants are \$500 grants for BC and Yukon First Nations artists and researchers who wish to further their art or community practice through the research/study of BC and Yukon Indigenous art and artifacts either in person or virtually with a YVRAF museum partner. If applicants propose a collections visit at a museum other than a YVRAF museum partner, they should describe why the collection is important to the research they will be conducting.

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Movable Cultural Property Grants, \$ not specified

Movable Cultural Property Grants help designated organizations and Indigenous Governing Bodies/Organizations acquire cultural property of outstanding significance and national importance to Canada, as outlined in the Cultural Property Export and Import Act. Funding can be used to purchase and transport cultural property for which an export permit has been denied, that is important to Canada's national heritage and available for purchase outside the country, or that is being offered at no cost to be repatriated to an Indigenous Community from outside Canada.

[Find out more on their website](#) or see this [Info Sheet](#)

To share a funding opportunity with us, please reach out to Leia
at engagement@museum.bc.ca to add it to the list.

To see past newsletters, see the [Indigenous Culture & Heritage Funding Resources Page](#).

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