

Repatriation & Reconciliation Funding Sources



June 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.

BCMA Hosted Canadian Heritage to learn more about Movable Cultural Property Grants and the Museums Assistance Program - Indigenous Heritage Component. [View the recording on our website.](#)

COMING UP SOON

Friends of the BC Archives

Terry Reksten Memorial Fund, \$2,000

The Terry Reksten Memorial Fund offers two (2) grants of \$2000 each to community archives, historical associations, or museums. The grants are intended to assist in acquiring, preserving, indexing and/or disseminating archival material relating to BC and its regions.

Eligible applicants must be open to the public in regular posted hours and have three or fewer paid employees. No organization is eligible to receive a grant from the Fund in two consecutive years.

Deadline: June 17, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

Heritage BC

Heritage Legacy Fund, Various amounts and Funding Streams

Program funds are used for community initiatives that conserve and increase the understanding and appreciation of heritage resources. Heritage resources may include existing heritage buildings, structures, sites, cemeteries, districts, cultural landscapes, or intangible heritage such as language and customs. Four Streams: Heritage Conservation for the preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of heritage resources with contributions up to \$50,000. Heritage Awareness for the research, documentation, presentation, and publication of information about heritage and heritage resources with contributions up to \$10,000. Heritage Planning for the creation of planning documents to assist with heritage conservation and awareness with contributions up to \$5,000. Indigenous Partnerships for initiatives to further reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through collaboration. Contributions up to \$7,500.

June 2, 2025 Intake Opens and Eligibility Checks Begin.

Deadline: August 15, 2025

[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, next deadline is June 13, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

Canada Council for the Arts

Creating, Knowing and Sharing: The Arts and Cultures of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples – Short Term Projects, up to \$100,000

The Short-Term Projects component of Creating, Knowing and Sharing funds First Nations, Inuit and Métis professional and aspiring artists, cultural carriers, arts/cultural professionals, groups, collectives and arts/culture organizations. Grants provide support for any combination of eligible Creating, Knowing and Sharing activities for projects lasting up to 12 months.

Deadline: September 10, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

The Hamber Foundation

The Hamber Foundation Grants

Deadlines March 15 and September 15, annually. Grants are awarded only to institutions and organizations registered as “educational” or “charitable” under the Canadian Income Tax Act and which are in possession of a registration number in good standing at the date of application. The Hamber Foundation makes grants for cultural, educational and charitable purposes within the Province of British Columbia. The Foundation prefers to support specific projects rather than contributing to general sustaining assistance or to large capital projects. The Foundation may review

major grant proposals from time to time. Categories include Educational Resources, Health & Welfare, Amateur Athletics, and Creative & Cultural Arts.

Deadline: September 15, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

Telus

Indigenous Communities Fund, up to \$25,000

The ICF provides one-time grants to Indigenous-led organizations such as Band Councils, Indigenous Governments or representative groups, community groups and non-profits. Non-Indigenous-led organizations can apply if they demonstrate a clear and tangible relationship with an Indigenous organization and have documented support from an Indigenous-led organization or community. Projects should clearly address a pressing social or well-being need and create measurable community outcomes such as, but not limited to: accomplishing individual and community wellness and healing, reviving cultural strength, knowledge and skills, helping overcome geographical and economic barriers, and/or increasing social connections to help foster community engagement. Eligible organizations can apply once per calendar year. \$5,000 - \$25,000 grants are available to support Indigenous-led initiatives that support tangible positive outcomes.

Fall Intake: September 11 - October 9, 2025 or until the first 200 applicants are received.

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Local Festivals - Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage, up to \$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.

Deadline: October 15 for festivals starting July 1-August 31 of the next calendar year.

[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](#)

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](#).

Watch a recent [BCMA Webinar with Canadian Heritage, and Movable Cultural Property](#).

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

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](#)

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 BCMA [Indigenous Culture & Heritage Funding Resources Page](#).

Please feel free to share this email within your networks.

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You do not need to register more than once.



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