

Repatriation & Reconciliation Funding Sources



September 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 or a museum seeking funds for reconciliation and repatriation work.

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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Note:

Canada Council for the Arts is opening their new application portal. New programs will be announced shortly, including changes to the [Creating Knowing and Sharing: The Arts and Cultures of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples Funding](#) on their website. Check their site regularly for details.

COMING UP SOON

YVR Foundation

Bill McLennan Masterpiece Study Abroad Program, up to \$4,000

Travel grants are for BC or Yukon First Nations artists and community researchers who wish to further their art or community research practice through the research/study of BC and Yukon Indigenous art collections at a YVRAF museum partner.

Deadline September 21, 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: October 10, 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](#)

BC Community Gaming Grants

Capital Project Grant, up to \$250,000

Capital Project Grants provide \$5 million annually to not-for-profit organizations throughout B.C., to support the completion of inclusive, accessible capital projects that meet community-identified needs and priorities. **“Not-for-profit organizations that are looking to send or receive Indigenous cultural belongings and/or ancestral remains can apply for capital project funding to support the repatriation process.** Eligible project expenses include transportation costs associated with returning the cultural belongings and/or ancestral remains, the travel costs for Indigenous delegates, staff or others that are participating in the process, and the costs associated with the ceremonial practices required in the repatriation process.”

Deadline: October 15, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

**BC Gaming Capital Project Grant Informational Webinar
Thursday, September 18, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

[Register](#)

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 to August 31 of the next calendar year.

[Find out more on their website](#)

BC Arts Council

Project Assistance: Community Arts Organizations, up to \$25,000

Project Assistance: Community Arts Organizations supports the development of community-based arts through the creation or presentation of public programming initiatives that provide engagement between artists, participants, and communities, and reduces or eliminates barriers to public participation in the arts. Activities may include performances, exhibitions, documentation, circulation and presentation projects, creation of new works, collaborative arts activities, artists' residencies, exploration and presentation of traditional, new or diverse art forms, and artistic or organizational development projects.

Deadline: October 16, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

BC Arts Council

Project Assistance: Museums and Indigenous Cultural Centres, up to \$25,000

The Project Assistance: Museums and Indigenous Cultural Centres grant program supports eligible museums, Indigenous cultural centres and arts or curatorial collectives with the development and creation of artistic or cultural history programming and community engagement initiatives. Examples of eligible projects include exhibition development, documentation and dissemination projects, artists' residencies, exploration of new museological and curatorial practices, community engagement projects, public programs, and collections management projects.

Deadline: October 16, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

Council on Library and Information Resources

Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices, up to \$300,000

For digitizing rare and unique content stewarded by collecting organizations in the US and Canada. Launched in 2021, the program is designed to support efforts to digitize materials that deepen public understanding of the histories of people of color and other communities and populations whose work, experiences, and perspectives have been

insufficiently recognized or unattended. These often “hidden” histories include but are not limited to, those of Black, Indigenous, Latine, and other People of Color; Women; Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Non-binary, and other Genderqueer people and communities; Immigrants; Displaced populations; Blind, Deaf, and Disabled people and communities; and Colonized, Disenfranchised, Enslaved, and Incarcerated people.

Application to this program is two-stage; First being an initial application to create an eligible pool of applicants, and if selected to move forward, a Final Application

Deadline: October 20, 2025 for Stage 1.

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Museum Assistance Program - Collections Management, up to \$50,000

The Museums Assistance Program (MAP) supports heritage institutions and workers in the preservation and presentation of heritage collections in Canada. The Program provides financial assistance to Canadian museums and related institutions for activities that facilitate Canadians' access to heritage, foster preservation of Canada's diverse and rich cultural heritage (other than built heritage), including Indigenous cultural heritage and foster professional knowledge, skills and practices related to key museum functions.

Deadline: November 3, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Museum Assistance Program - Indigenous Heritage, up to \$200,000

The Indigenous Heritage component of the Museums Assistance Program (MAP) supports the preservation, presentation, and management of Indigenous cultural heritage in Canada. It also seeks to increase public awareness and understanding of the rich and diverse cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities. The program also supports organizations for their staff to participate in professional development and training opportunities including internships to enhance knowledge and skills in these areas.

Deadline: November 3, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

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

Department of Canadian Heritage

Museum Assistance Program - Access to Heritage, up to \$200,000

The Access to Heritage component of the Museums Assistance Program (MAP) fosters greater access to heritage across different geographic regions of Canada. Eligible projects are related to the organization and circulation of travelling exhibitions which assist heritage organizations in reaching new audiences and reflecting Canada's diverse cultural and natural heritage.

Deadline: November 3, 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, December 10, 2025

[Find out more on their website](#)

Department of Canadian Heritage

Community Anniversaries - Building Communities through arts and Heritage, up to \$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, 2026

[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.