



Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw
Squamish Nation

Ta na wa Ns7éyxnitm ta Snewíyelh
Language & Cultural Affairs

Cultural Grant Policy 2022

SQUAMISH NATION

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PART 1 – PREAMBLE

- 1.1 Whereas, the Squamish Nation values the culture of the Squamish People and wishes to support the people directly in events and projects that express that culture.
- 1.2 Whereas, the Squamish Nation wishes to create a non-political, fair, impartial, transparent, open process for Squamish Nation members to access financial support for their ideas of cultural expression.
- 1.3 Whereas, this policy is the responsibility of the Ta na wa Ns7éyxnitm ta Snewíyelh, Language & Cultural Affairs Department, is to be used to guide the management of a cultural grants program for Squamish Nation members.

PART 2 – DEFINITIONS:

- 2.1 “Annual budget” means the budget approved annually by the Squamish Nation Council.
- 2.2 “Conflict of interest” means a situation in which a person is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity could be impaired with their ability to act in the public interest.
- 2.3 “Cultural” means the ways of being Squamish (either historical or contemporary) and may include artistic expression, gathering people, language, ceremony, practices.
- 2.4 “Cultural Grants Review Panel” means the group of Squamish Nation members appointed under this policy by the Director and the Director themselves or their designate.
- 2.5 “Director” means the director appointed by Squamish Nation Council to oversee this policy.
- 2.6 “Good standing” means not taking legal action against the Squamish Nation or owes money to the Squamish Nation.

- 2.7 "Personal benefit" means a person's financial or material benefit, or the financial or material benefit of a related persons.
- 2.8 "Related Person" means
- (a) eḵw'í7tel (immediate relations) and includes spouse, common-law spouse, child of spouse, parent, parent-in-law, brother/sister-in-law, siblings, children; and
 - (b) eshílhkw'íws (other related or connected relations) and includes grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, first cousins, or any person with whom that person currently resides.
- 2.9 "Squamish Nation" means the nation of the Squamish People, and the Squamish Indian Band within meaning of the Indian Act.
- 2.10 "Squamish Nation member" means as member recognized under the Squamish Nation Membership Code.
- 2.11 "Squamish people" means descendants of the Squamish People who lived in Squamish Territory since time immemorial.
- 2.12 "Squamish Territory" means the territory in the watersheds of the Howe Sound, English Bay, Burrard Inlet, and False Creek.

PART 3 – OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objective of this policy is to provide support to Squamish Nation Members for cultural projects or events that benefit Squamish People by administering financial support directly to:
- (a) groups made up of mostly Squamish Nation members
 - (b) individual Squamish Nation members in a way that is fair, transparent, and impactful
- 3.2 This policy is to support the Squamish People with
- (a) Cultural or language events that are community-based, or

- (b) Cultural projects by groups or individuals, that primarily benefit Squamish Nation members

3.3 Cultural Grant funding is subject to availability of funds in the annual budget.

3.4. Cultural Grants Policy will provide funding for three programs:

- (a) Major Events Program
- (b) Group Cultural Projects
- (c) Individual Cultural Projects

3.5 **Major Events Program** is intended to fund projects with up to \$30,000 (can be a single day or multi-day event), and is to:

- (a) encourage Squamish people coming together
- (b) evoke a sense of celebration in the Squamish Nation
- (c) express the resilience, creativity, and connection of the Squamish Nation
- (d) foster community connectivity
- (e) be inclusive, welcoming and entertaining
- (f) provide opportunities for Squamish Nation artistic or cultural talent

3.6 **Group Cultural Projects Program** is intended to provide funding between \$4,000 to \$10,000 for projects that:

- (a) promote and enrich Squamish knowledge and/or teachings of the Squamish People
- (b) contribute to connecting Squamish People to Squamish culture and/or language
- (c) advance the understanding, awareness, or participation in Squamish cultural practices and/or language learning
- (d) express Squamish cultural or linguistic identity
- (e) provide opportunities for contemporary and/or traditional cultural expressions

- 3.7 **Individual Cultural Projects Program** is intended to provide funding for up to \$500 per individual that:
- (a) promote and enrich Squamish knowledge and/or teachings of the Squamish People
 - (b) contribute to connecting Squamish People to Squamish culture and/or language
 - (c) advance the understanding, awareness, or participation in Squamish cultural practices and/or language learning
 - (d) express Squamish cultural and/or linguistic identity
 - (e) provide opportunities for contemporary and/or traditional cultural expressions
- 3.8 Each program will have two calls for proposals that are six months apart

PART 4 – ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 To apply for Major Events Project or Group Cultural Projects Program, an applicant must:
- (a) be a Squamish Nation member
 - (b) be a registered not-for-profit society in good standing with BC Registry Services, or
 - (c) be an organizing committee, with a chair and deputy chair, made up of majority Squamish Nation members
- 4.2 To apply for the Individual Cultural Projects Program, an application must:
- (a) be a Squamish Nation member
 - (b) be in good standing with the Squamish Nation
- 4.3 Each application must also have activities that:
- (a) primarily benefit Squamish Nation people
 - (b) be accommodating, welcoming and open to people of all ages, abilities, sexual orientation, gender identities (including trans*, gender-variant and two-spirit

people), ethnicity, cultural background, religion, language, socio-economic conditions, in their policies, practices and activities

- (c) have completed all previous projects funded through the Cultural Grants Program and can report on the most recent previous project in the current application, or have written approval from the Director to apply if the previous project is not complete by the time of the application deadline

4.4 Ineligible applications are:

- (a) Those which have proposed activities that do not meet the Program objectives and eligibility
- (b) Squamish Nation Departments
- (c) Publicly funded or private educational institutions (public schools, universities, colleges, training organizations)
- (d) Applications where the central focus or theme is not cultural or language based
- (e) Those submitted by the same group or individuals who received Cultural Grants in the most recent call for applications
- (f) Any projects that involve drugs or alcohol

PART 5 – ASSESMENT CRITERA

5.1 Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- (a) Excellence: clarity and articulation of project proposal
- (b) Relevance: impact to Squamish People
- (c) Feasibility: ability to carry out activities proposed
- (d) Support: support for proposed activities
- (e) Budget: clear and detailed

5.2 All Applicants must specify in their application:

- (a) the amount of funding for which they are applying

- (b) a budget for how the funding will be used
 - (c) an explanation on how the funding will provide a benefit to the community, or assist in the development of the cultural community
 - (d) all other sources of approved funding, including both monetary and in-kind support
 - (e) any other funding or in-kind support received from the Squamish Nation; and
 - (f) Applicants seeking funding in support of a specific project must also specify the total project budget for the year
- 5.3 Each year the Director approves a Cultural Grant application form with questions focused on the following categories:
- (a) Proposed Project
 - (b) Participation and Impact
 - (c) Support
 - (d) Finance
- 5.4 Applications will be prioritized if they meet the following criteria:
- (a) Projects involving youth under 24 years old
 - (b) Projects that take place primarily for the benefit of Squamish Valley members
 - (c) Projects that take place primarily for the benefit of members living outside of the North Shore and Squamish Valley
- 5.5 Funding should strive to be distributed to applications that take place in the Squamish Valley that reflect the percentage of member population in the Squamish Valley.
- 5.6 Funding should strive to be gender equal in distribution.

PART 6 – FUNDING AMOUNTS AND LIMITS

- 6.1 Groups or organizations are permitted to submit more than one application per year for separate and distinct activities but only one application per call.

6.2 Individuals may only receive funding once per year.

PART 7 – ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

7.1 Eligible Expenses

- (a) Performances (theatre, music, dance, poetry/literature)
- (b) Workshops or seminars on the subject of arts, culture, language or heritage
- (c) Demonstrations of the creative arts, culture or heritage
- (d) Educational programs or activities in the creative arts, culture, language or heritage
- (e) Studies, plans, or strategies related to arts, culture, language or heritage
- (f) Gatherings that bring Squamish People together such as camps, community gatherings, or family reunions
- (g) Projects that enhance the community's understanding, appreciation, or participation of Squamish culture
- (h) Food or material costs for an event
- (i) Honoraria or artists fees
- (j) Equipment purchase
- (k) Travel expenses

7.2 Ineligible Expenses

- (a) Commercial art sales, private galleries, institutional or private collections
- (b) Art competitions or art markets
- (c) Trade shows
- (d) Art therapy
- (e) General fundraising and fundraising events

- (f) Commercial publishing or sales (including books, CDs and DVDs)
- (g) Sales, exhibitions, or events held in commercial premises
- (h) Retroactive funding (projects substantially completed before the grant deadline)
- (i) Deficits or debts
- (j) Fellowships, scholarships, or bursaries
- (k) Contributions to an endowment fund
- (l) Alumni associations or anniversaries
- (m) Traditional “works”, such as ‘baptisms’, namings, coming-of-age ceremonies, weddings, memorials, chieftainships or other traditional ‘works’ that are historically done through calling of witnesses and a family working together to finance. (Traditional works are generally said to be the responsibility of the family to come together and work together to do the work)
- (n) Expenses to further a profit venture or advantage a for-profit partner. The funding must be used to further the applicant’s non-profit activities
- (o) Expenses related to programs/services that are delivered by an organization aligned with any religious group or political party

PART 8 - APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

8.1 Cultural Grants Review

- (a) The Cultural Grants Review Panel must be made up of:
 - (i) The Director or their designate, and
 - (ii) Four (4) Squamish Nation members who are appointed by the Director for up to two (2) years but cannot serve two (2) reoccurring terms.
- (b) The Director must appoint members with an active relationship to the Squamish Nation community and a good understanding of Squamish culture
- (c) The Review Panelists must:

- (i) Sign and uphold an Oath of Confidentiality in a form approved by the Director (Appendix A)
 - (ii) Sign and uphold the Code of Conduct in a form approved by the Director (Appendix B)
 - (iii) Be a member in good standing with the Squamish Nation
 - (iv) Be reasonable and have good judgement to be fair, impartial, and respectfully participate in the review process
- (d) Panelists can be removed by the Director if they no longer meet the requirements of Section 8.1 (c).
- (e) The Director, or their designate, will assess each application and determine if they meet the eligibility requirements of Part 2.
- (f) All applications that meet the eligibility requirements will be prepared electronically or in print for the Review Panelists.
- (g) Review panelists must remove themselves from reviewing an application if there is a conflict of interest or a perceived conflict of interest as per the Code of Conduct.
- (h) The Panel will be presented the combined total amount of all applications submitted and the total allocated budget for the Cultural Grant per fiscal year, as determined by the Director.
- (i) The panel will use good judgement to give fair support to applications based on the criteria and is authorized to deny funding to any application that doesn't meet the criteria or at least meet the criteria in comparison to the other applications.

8.2 Recommendations and Report to Squamish Nation Council

- (a) The Review Panel will choose the list of applications to be funded that meet the criteria and funds that are reasonable for the activities to occur within the proposed budget.

- (b) The Director will prepare a report for Squamish Nation Council outlining the particulars of each grant program calls and list of approved projects.

8.3 Comments, Conditions, Concerns and Reconsideration

- (a) The Review Panel will provide clear and concise and helpful feedback to each applicant on why their project was not recommended for funding.
- (b) The Director may require conditions before payment to ensure this policy will be upheld by the applicant.
- (c) If concerns are raised to the attention of the Director, the Director or their designate may request additional information in the final report for that specific applicant.

8.4 Grant Confirmation Notification and Payment

- (a) All grant recipients will be notified by email and a written letter outlining the conditions of their support

PART 9 – CONDITIONS

- 9.1 All individual projects must submit receipts or invoices from the use of the funds allocated to them by a date set by the Director.
- 9.2 All group or event projects must complete a final report in a form approved by the Director by a date set by the Director that includes detailed explanations on:
 - (i) Summary of Activities
 - (ii) Participation and Impact
 - (iii) Budget Expenses
 - (iv) And any other details as determined by the Director
- 9.3 Prior to receiving any funds, successful applicants will be required to sign a Grant Agreement, specifying the terms and conditions associated with the Cultural Grant, which may include any of the following:

- (a) Amount of funding, and schedule for distribution of funds, including any holdback conditions
- (b) Final reporting requirements
- (c) Consequences for misuse of funds or failing to meet other conditions
- (d) Requirements for recognition of funding from the Squamish Nation
- (e) Confirmation of cost-sharing agreements, or funding/in-kind support from other sources; and
- (f) Any other terms and conditions as required by Director

PART 10 – CONFIDENTIALITY

- 10.1 As a member of the Review Panel, all applicant information must remain confidential. All Panelists must hold confidential the information they obtain as a result of their participation in the Review Panel.
- 10.2 All personal information obtained through this policy will be held confidential and secure.

PART 11 – GENERAL APPLICATION

- 11.1 Projects funded in the Major Events Program or Group Cultural Projects Program may submit invoices or cheque requisitions to the Director for use of funds from Squamish Nation accounts if they do not have a separate bank account to administer funds from.
- 11.2 Projects funded in the Major Events Program or Group Cultural Projects Program:
- (a) may be required to submit Audited Financial Statements or General Ledgers if they are a registered not-for-profit
 - (b) May be required to submit receipts or third-party invoices for reimbursement or payment, and all receipts and invoices may be requested before being approved for funding in the next funding call
- 11.3 Projects funded by Individual Cultural Projects are required to submit receipts for funds spent.

- 11.4 Panel members may be compensated in an amount set by the Director with an honorarium for the performance of the duties as a panel member.
- 11.5 For the purposes of this Policy, a panel member is in a conflict of interest when they exercise an official power, duty or function that provides an opportunity to further their private interests or those of a related person or to improperly further another person's private interests.
- 11.6 The Director may request additional information, receipts, or records to confirm the individual or group is compliant with these policies.
- 11.7 The Director may request the return or discontinuance of funds by end of fiscal if an individual or group does not use funds awarded.

PART 12 – REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

- 12.1 This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Director for any amendments to improve the effectiveness of this policy.
- 12.2 The policy shall be reviewed every two years by Ta na wa Ns7éyxnitm ta Snewíyelh, Language & Cultural Affairs Department, to improve the effectiveness of this policy.

Language & Cultural Grant Review Panelists

PART 13 – APPENDIX A: OATH OF CONFIDENTIALITY

I, _____, understand and agree to the following in my appointed position with the Cultural Grants Program:

All information directly or indirectly received through my involvement with the Squamish Nation's Cultural Grants Review Panel is to be kept strictly private and confidential. This would include all business related to the Squamish Nation (i.e., financial information, personnel issues relating to applications, staff or contractors, other volunteers, and applicant information) and viewpoints, opinions, and deliberations by the panel members.

A break in this oath of confidentiality may result in my being asked to leave my position with the Squamish Nation's Cultural Grants Review Panel.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PART 14 – APPENDIX B: CODE OF CONDUCT

I, the undersigned, agree that I will be trustworthy, fulfilling my duties with integrity and professionalism. I will fulfill duties as promised by completing them in a timely manner and providing as much notice as possible if I am unable to complete any given duties. I will respect the dignity and rights of all others. I will foster a spirit of cooperation and goodwill. I will support the objectives of Cultural Grants Policy.

I shall immediately disclose any personal, professional business, commercial, private or financial interest or related persons where such interest might be construed as being in real, potential or apparent conflict with my role as a member of the Cultural Grants Review Panel.

I understand that it is my duty to be forthright in my declaration of a conflict and remove myself from any deliberation of an application that I am in a conflict with.

I understand that my failure to fulfill the conditions of this oath may be considered grounds for correction or termination of my role as a member of the panel, at the discretion of the Director.

Signature: _____

Date: _____