

Indigenous Arts Project Grant

September 3, 2019

General Expert Panel Comments

Comments made by the expert panel during its assessment of applications submitted to the September 3, 2019 deadline are outlined below.

Please note: these comments provide a summary of the Expert Panel's assessment and do not necessarily relate to every application submitted to this deadline.

The Expert Panel does not provide individual comments.

- The expert panel would like to thank all applicants for putting in the hard work and taking the opportunity to apply.
- Please provide more support material. This helps the expert panel to see your accomplishments and the quality and type of work you do. Also, please include invitations, letters of support, correspondence, quotes for costs, and information about courses where appropriate
- The panel appreciated honouring the importance of cultural protocols, of receiving family and/or community permission where appropriate, and where Elders and other community facilitators were properly compensated.
- Be sure to ask for what you need in your budget; do not ask for too little.
- Please be sure that fees or honoraria for Elders are appropriate for the services they are providing. Reach out to Elders and/or communities to find out what the minimum honoraria are, in addition to any required gifts.
- Please reach out to the AFA consultant if help is needed in preparing and/or choosing your support material for your proposal. We are very happy to help you with your written draft, budget, etc., before deadline. Where possible, please attend and/or watch grant workshops provided by the AFA
- We encourage you to continue to create your art and apply again in the future.
- Please tell others about this Indigenous grant funding opportunity.
- Please do not assume panelists know who you are or know about your artistic practice, as a lack of information makes it very difficult to assess.
- The expert panel appreciated projects that demonstrated an opportunity for growth in your artistic career and the development of the discipline.
- When your project involves mentors, please identify your mentors and explain the reason behind the choice, as well as provide a breakdown of what the mentorship will entail.

- Project descriptions that did not demonstrate genuine engagement with the identified community were challenging for the panel to assess, particularly when dealing with sensitive issues.
- The expert panel appreciated applications that demonstrated respect for traditional knowledge by including information on how it was obtained and their right to share it.
- There was greater support for projects that illuminated the histories, cultures, traditions, and contemporary experiences of Indigenous Peoples.