

**Literary Individual Project Grant  
September 4, 2018  
Expert Panel General Comments**

Comments made by the Expert Panel during its assessment of applications submitted to the September 4, 2018 Literary Individual Project Grant program are outlined below. Please note that these comments provide an overview of common issues noted by the Expert Panel and do not necessarily relate to every unsuccessful application submitted to this deadline. The Expert Panel does not provide individual comments for each application.

**Project Description**

Expert panel members enjoyed reading all applications but reacted mostly favourably to those that included an Albertan or Canadian connection.

Explain not only how your project benefits you as an artist but also how the project impacts a wider audience, and/or genre.

Pay particular attention to your timelines to realistically determine the number of months needed to complete a draft or final polish.

Make sure to take the time to proofread your project description to catch spelling errors, wrong word usage, and grammar. Remove any tracked comments from the final version that you submit.

Keep your resume updated with current publications or works-in-progress.

Please separate awards won from nominations and short-listed commendations in your resume.

Narrow your focus and be clear about the genre you are writing in and your audience.

**Budget**

It is important to be specific about each budget line item and break down subsistence into amounts for housing, rent, food, child care, utilities, transportation, and materials as opposed to providing a lump sum for monthly expenses .

Use the comment boxes provided on the budget expense page in GATE to explain any expenses that are not readily understandable to a third party, e.g. rental of separate office space in addition to subsistence.

If you apply for subsistence, e.g. rent or artists fees, please explain why you need living expenses to complete the project. Are you taking a leave of absence from your job, declining other income to work on your project, etc.

If you request funds for a residency along with general subsistence, make sure the two reflect the total number of months, e.g. one month for residency and eight months general subsistence for a total of nine months. This total should also match the timelines provided in the project description.

Costs associated with printing and publishing, plus capital expenses like sound recording equipment, computers, and software are not eligible.