

Literary Individual Project Grant

September 3, 2019

Expert Panel General Comments

Comments made by the Expert Panel during its assessment of applications submitted to the September 3, 2019 Literary Individual Project Grant program 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 for each application.

Project Description

- The panel valued those projects with a strong artistic exploration of subject matter that stretched the applicant's creative abilities.
- The panel recommends applicants do not make assumptions about intangible factors like securing a publisher or an agent, publication in journals or magazines, being invited to festivals or panels, selling a certain number of copies, and/or assuming the success of social media marketing.
- Project descriptions should include a full description of the project including specific details of the project content, an outline of objectives, planned activities, timelines, and expected results. A brief summary does not give the panel adequate information about the project.
- The panel was unable to support marketing proposals for books that have not yet been published or scheduled for publication.
- Effective project descriptions focus primarily on the details relevant to the project itself.
- Whenever possible, submit a writing sample that is relevant to the current project, even if it is a preliminary draft or material in a similar genre, to provide an indication of what the work will look like. Remember to upload no more than 15 pages. Jurors will not read more than 15 pages.
- When writing from a different cultural perspective, applicants are encouraged to consider additional consultation, community engagement, and appropriate cultural protocols.
- For graphic novel projects applicants are recommended to upload a writing sample – not just an outline – that will accompany the illustrations.

- Attachments should be named “Surname_First Name_attachment type.pdf” (Smith_John_ProjectDescription.pdf).

Budget

- Remember to use the comment boxes to explain further expenses and revenue, especially if any services or items are in-kind.
- Clarify what units are in expenses, e.g. pages, hours, days, etc.