A Sense of Place: Reconnecting to the Land through Indigenous Cultural Heritage

GRANT GUIDELINES

Applicants are advised to read through the program guidelines and application form, and discuss their project with the First Peoples’ Cultural Council (FPCC) staff before submitting their proposals.

To discuss project ideas or seek additional information, please contact:
Karen Aird, Heritage Manager
First Peoples’ Cultural Council
1A Boat Ramp Road, Brentwood Bay, B.C., V8M 1N9
Phone: (250) 319-5682
Email: karen@fpcc.ca

A. Program Objectives

1. Demonstrate how Indigenous cultural heritage is connected to the land, and
2. Explore how Indigenous knowledge, traditions and languages can be used to support community resilience and resurgence, particularly in the context of:
   a. climate change,
   b. cumulative impacts,
   c. pollution prevention (e.g., zero waste management and contamination),
   d. sustainable development, and/or
   e. land management and planning.

B. Program Description

It is difficult to find a direct translation for cultural heritage in Indigenous languages. The closest translations often relate to the sacred, or to knowing oneself. Indigenous Peoples understand and describe cultural heritage according to their perspectives, traditions and languages.

While creating one definition of Indigenous heritage is difficult, generally this would include ideas, experiences, worldviews, objects, forms of expression, practices, knowledge, spirituality, kinship ties, places and land valued by Indigenous Peoples.
Each of these concepts is inseparably interconnected, holds intrinsic value to the well-being of Indigenous Peoples, and affects all generations.¹

Indigenous cultural heritage is rarely included in conversations about the environment, which tend to focus on scientific approaches to managing ecosystems and understanding wider impacts and global threats to our contemporary world. Yet, these approaches and threats impact everything, from local cultural practices to sites of deep value to Indigenous Peoples’ connection to place and the words/meanings associated with those places.

The Sense of Place Program offers grants to B.C. Indigenous communities to foster greater understanding of the connection and safeguarding practices between the land/environment and Indigenous cultural heritage, including Indigenous languages. In addition to funding individual projects, the Sense of Place Program will bring together all grant recipients to share the outcomes and learnings of their work in a 1½-day symposium. The symposium will be held in June of 2020 (location to be determined).

One or two key participants from each project funded by the Sense of Place Program, are required to attend. At the symposium, project participants will provide a 15-minute presentation on their project and share what was learned. To foster learning across communities, attendees are asked to participate in all symposium discussion groups and workshops.

C. Timeline

1. Applications due – October 18, 2019
2. Grants awarded – mid November 2019
3. Interim report due – February 2020
4. Project report due – May 30, 2020
5. Sense of Place Symposium – June 2020

D. Examples of Eligible Projects

The following are examples of the kinds of projects eligible for funding under this grant. These examples are not the only project types that might qualify; please contact FPCC if you have an idea you feel may fit within the Program Objectives described above but is not listed among these examples.

a) Documenting Projects
   • Recording oral histories that explore connections between cultural landscapes and changes to those places over time
   • Documenting practices for safeguarding/managing cultural places

¹ This definition is from the national Indigenous Heritage Circle (http://indigenousheritage.ca).
● Creating an inventory of cultural sensitive areas and ecosystems (e.g., harvesting areas or spiritual areas) and identifying risks associated with climate change, development, contamination, etc.
● Exploring methods of mapping (GIS, etc.) that effectively capture Indigenous knowledge of the land and its ecosystems

b) Caretaking Projects
● Establish a mentorship program where youth are trained to take care of the land and be “champions” in their communities
● Design and deliver school or daycare programs that teach students traditional ways of knowing, taking care of the land, and/or using resources in a responsible/sustainable manner

c) Projects Connecting Language and Land
● Explore how place names help communities understand the importance of a cultural landscape, site, or resource and how it was traditionally managed
● Host an outdoor camp for community youth to learn traditional names of the culturally significant plants, animals, areas, resources, etc. and discuss how these can be protected for future generations

d) Knowledge Sharing Projects
● Host a workshop to identify and reduce risks to culturally significant plants, animals, areas, resources, etc.
● Host an event where elders tell stories about how things had always been in the past and how they are changing now, especially as a result of climate change and cumulative impacts
● Host a community event with traditional activities or methods of teaching about the land, protecting resources, and/or preventing pollution

e) Research Projects
● Undertake a study on how important cultural places are identified and managed from a government perspective versus from an Indigenous perspective (e.g., assessing Species at Risk, traditional methods of gathering information, etc.)
● Undertake archival research on the Indigenous history of a significant cultural place/ecosystem

Note: Please ensure your project is not better suited to the FPCC Arts Program: Community Lands-Based grants. See: http://www.fpcc.ca/files/PDF/Arts/Community_Land-Based/FPCC_2019-20_Community_Land-Based_Arts_Guidelines_PDF.pdf
E. Funding

Funding through the Sense of Place Program is $2,001 to $25,000. For projects requiring funding of $2000 or less, please refer to the guidelines and application for the FPCC Indigenous Heritage Micro Grants program posted on our website.

Applicants may seek funding from the FPCC language and/or art grant programs in addition to the Sense of Place Program, but the project costs identified for funding must different in each application.

For successful applicants, funding will be given in 3 phases (50% at the start of the project, 40% upon receipt of interim report, 10% upon receipt of final report).

F. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a Sense of Place grant, organizations must a) have a mandate or a focus that includes Indigenous heritage and b) be a:

- B.C. First Nation band or tribal council; OR
- Not-for-profit society registered in B.C. in good standing and governed by Indigenous individuals (at least 51% of Directors identify as Indigenous); OR
- First Nation school, daycare, or adult education centre operating in B.C.

Additionally, the applicant must:

- Demonstrate how their project meets the stated Program Objectives;
- Submit a signed application (only one application per organization);
- Present a realistic, balanced budget which demonstrates financial need;
- Present an achievable project timeline; and
- Have completed all reporting for any previous projects funded by FPCC.

Projects that are part of a larger or on-going initiative may be eligible for funding. However, the part of the project funded through the Sense of Place Program must be a standalone piece with its own budget and outcomes that can be reported according to the deadlines described in these guidelines.

Contact FPCC for questions about the eligibility of your organization or project.

G. Eligible Expenses

- Travel and accommodation for project participants to attend project events or meetings, visit a community, or undertake research outside their community
- Meeting/event space rental
- Food and hospitality
- Honoraria for Elders, facilitators, and others
- Materials and supplies
- Software needed to achieve the project’s objectives
- Equipment purchases, including computers and recording devices, up to $5,000
Printing costs for promotional or educational materials
Contractors may be hired if a project requires special skills. Contractor costs may not go over 60% of the overall project budget. Funding recipients must show they have made best efforts to hire an Indigenous contractor, or provide justification for why a non-Indigenous contractor was hired. A written estimate must be provided with the grant application for contractor costs budgeted over $1000.

Administration expenses (maximum 10%)

Note: Travel and accommodation associated with attending the Sense of Place Symposium will be paid for by FPCC outside of this grant. DO NOT INCLUDE THESE EXPENSES IN YOUR PROJECT BUDGET.

Other expenses may be eligible; please contact FPCC if you have questions.

H. Ineligible Expenses

- Honoraria associated with attending the Sense of Place Symposium
- Equipment costs over $5,000
- Contractor fees over 60% of the project budget
- For-profit business development costs
- Capital purchases such as vehicles or costs associated with building or land improvement or acquisition
- Expenses related to pre-existing community celebrations or anniversaries
- Expenses covered under other funding programs

I. Application Requirements

Sense of Place Program grants require:

- A completed and signed application form which contains:
  1. Clear project description with objectives, activities, participants, and location
  2. Project timeline
  3. Balanced budget with project revenues (including in-kind and other funding) and expenses (including volunteer/in-kind time)
  4. Explanation of how the project meets the Program Objectives
  5. Explanation of how you are addressing protocols for working with Elders or with the land, where required
  6. Brief description of organization’s background, mandate and future plans

- Incorporation documents, if an incorporated organization
- Financial statements, if a registered organization
- A minimum of one letter of support from key project partner or participant.
- If needed, letters of permission to access or alter land, if not owned or occupied by applicant
- If needed, written estimates for contract fees exceeding $1000
J. Application Submission
- Applications and supporting materials must be mailed and postmarked by October 18, 2019.
- Under normal circumstances, we will not accept faxed or emailed applications.
- Please send printed material on unstapled, single-sided, 8 ½ x11 white paper, with a minimum font size of 12.
- Under normal circumstances, proposals will only be discussed with the named contact person.
- FPCC is not responsible for loss of or damage to submitted materials. Do not send originals or only existing copies of support materials.

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE
There will be one deadline for applications in 2019:

October 18, 2019
Application and materials must be postmarked or couriered by this date.
Late proposals will be considered ineligible.

K. Adjudication Process
- Submitting a proposal does not guarantee funding.
- Applications will be reviewed for completeness and clarity. A Peer Review Committee (PRC) will review and judge eligible proposals according to the Program Objectives listed above, the feasibility of the timeline, and budget presented.
- Funds available to this program are limited; therefore, projects that demonstrate financial need will receive priority.
- Please do not contact staff regarding the status of your application. All applicants will be advised of jury decisions approximately 4 weeks after the application deadline.
- FPCC reserves the right to require confirmation of other sources of funding prior to releasing funds, to request access to financial records related to the project, and to require receipts for project expenses.

L. Funding Acknowledgements
- Successful applicants must acknowledge the support of the First Peoples’ Cultural Council and Indigenous Services Canada in all materials produced in relation to the funded project. Approved logos will be provided for use.
M. Reporting Requirements

- Final reports with financial information are due on **May 30th, 2020**.
- A Final Report Form Template will be provided in February 2020.
- You will be expected to report on:
  - What activities you did (including images or videos of your activities where possible)
  - When and where the activities took place
  - Who was involved
  - Positive outcomes and next steps
  - How the SPP grant funding was spent