



Large Arts Project Fund Application Guide

2026

Government of
Northwest Territories

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Overview

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Large Arts Project Fund provides \$15,000 and \$100,000 in funding to support arts and culture organizations undertaking large scale activities such as festivals, exhibitions, residencies, workshop series, etc.

This funding is to be used to support the costs of executing a large project such as paying coordinators, northern artists fees, venue and equipment rentals, material and supplies costs, etc. in the following disciplines:

- Dance
- Theatre Arts
- Literary Arts
- Film and Media Arts
- Digital Arts
- Music and Sound
- Visual Arts
- Crafts (Traditional and Fine)
- Fashion
- Multidisciplinary Arts (projects that include multiple disciplines)
- Other

What activities this funding supports

- The execution of large-scale art projects by NWT arts organizations.
- The public presentation of NWT artists, craftspeople, and performers.
- Projects that make arts programming accessible to NWT residents.
- Projects that provide creative and educational opportunities for artists and/or NWT residents.
- Projects that increase the capacity of NWT organizations enabling them to be able to access territorial and federal funding opportunities.

Who can apply

Organizations must meet all of the following criteria:

- Registered and in good standing under the [NWT Societies Act](#), have a mandate to support the arts, and have been in existence for at least one year prior to the deadline.

- At least one funded Medium Arts Project Grant project completed and reported on, or a history of activity in the arts sector.

Preference will be given to:

- Applications which use NWT resources and services in their projects.

What expenses this funding supports

Expenses that are **eligible** to receive funding include, but are not limited to:

- Artist, performer, and teaching fees
- Materials, supplies and exhibition costs
- Rental fees for equipment and venues
- Coordination fees (contractor to the project)
- Travel that is directly related to the project

What expenses this funding does not support

Expenses that are **not eligible** to receive funding include:

- Operational expenses
- Cost of tools, electronics, equipment, and other capital costs.
- Administration fees used to pay board members
- Projects/costs covered under other GNWT funding programs for the same costs.
- General (non-artistic) activities at receptions, carnivals, jamborees, festivals, or annual meetings.
- GST, HST or PST on eligible expenses.

Application Process

How to apply

- Once you have your project planned, fill out the [Large Arts Projects Fund application form](#).
- Submit your completed application and supporting documents in one of the following ways:
 - Online:
 - o [Submit using Filedrop](#)
 - o Before submitting your application and supporting documents please read on [how to submit files using a secure file transfer email](#)
 - In person by appointment:
 - o Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
 - o In Yellowknife, appointments can be made by contacting ArtsFunding@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9347 Ext. 71474.
 - o Outside Yellowknife, appointments can be made by contacting your [regional ITI Office](#).
 - By email:
 - o ArtsFunding@gov.nt.ca
 - By mail:
 - o Economic Diversification, Industry, Tourism and Investment, Government of the Northwest Territories, P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9
 - By fax:
 - o (867) 873-0101

Required supporting documents

Documents that must be included with applications are:

- Two signed letters of support from stakeholders, such as municipal or territorial government, stakeholder organizations, impacted community members.
- Proof of \$1 million liability insurance.
- Proof of Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission compliance (if you have employees).

- Organization background, including a list of Board of Directors.
- Most recent annual report, strategic plan, or similar documents.

Applicants must use the templates provided with the application package.

Do not include support materials that are not requested – they will not be considered.

Deadlines

- There is one intake deadline per year: **February 28**.
- Applications being submitted by email, mail or fax must be received by 5:00 pm on the deadline date.
- Applications being submitted in person must be received by 5:00 pm on the deadline date:
 - In Yellowknife: Economic Diversification office, 9th floor of the Scotia Centre
 - Outside Yellowknife: to your [regional ITI Office](#).
 - If the deadline falls on the weekend, applications must be delivered by 5:00 pm on the last weekday before the deadline date.
- Late applications will not be accepted.

If you have any questions and need advice in preparing your application, contact ArtsFunding@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9347 Ext. 71474.

Applications processing time and decisions

Applications are reviewed by a committee of representatives from the Economic Diversification division at headquarters and regional offices of Industry, Tourism and Investment.

The committee makes funding recommendations to the Assistant Deputy Minister, Economic Development, of Industry, Tourism and Investment for approval.

Applicants are notified by email about the status of their application within **60 days** of the deadline.

Funding decisions will be made based on the application, required supporting documents provided, and the considerations for factors such as, but not limited to:

- Applications must demonstrate how the proposed project has a **territorial, regional, or community scope**. This includes clearly identifying the geographic reach of the activities, the communities served, and the anticipated benefits beyond a single individual or group. Strong

applications will show how the project meaningfully contributes to arts development, cultural engagement, and economic impact at the territorial, regional, or community level.

- Applications must demonstrate how the proposed project supports **organizational development**. This may include strengthening governance, administrative capacity, financial sustainability, strategic planning, staff or volunteer development, and long-term operational effectiveness. Successful applications will clearly show how the project builds organizational resilience and positions the organization for sustained growth and impact beyond the funding period.
- Applications must outline the organization's **history of activities**, including past programs, projects, and achievements relevant to the proposed initiative. This should demonstrate the organization's experience, consistency of operations, and capacity to successfully deliver the project. Strong applications will show how past activities inform and support the proposed work, highlighting growth, community engagement, and demonstrated outcomes over time.
- Applications must describe the organization's **community engagement and membership**, including how it connects with, involves, and serves its members, participants, and broader community. This may include outreach activities, partnerships, volunteer involvement, audience development, and opportunities for community participation. Strong applications will demonstrate meaningful, ongoing relationships with the community and show how the project supports inclusive access, relevance, and community benefit.

All decisions are final; there is no appeal process.

Funding payment

Applicants approved for funding will be sent a contribution agreement by email that outlines the terms of funding, payment schedule and reporting requirements.

- Applicants must sign the contribution agreement and send it back to artsfunding@gov.nt.ca within **30 days** of receiving the contribution agreement.
- Applications must be approved before beginning the activity. Expenditures made prior to the date of application approval will not be considered.
- To receive the payment, an account with GNWT is required and must be in good standing.
- Payment will be processed to funding recipients within **14 to 30 days** of the GNWT receiving the signed contribution agreement.

Note: Funding provided by GNWT is considered income by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). In the following new year, funding recipients will receive a T4A slip from the CRA.

Funding conditions

Funding recipients must meet the following conditions:

- Funding must be used for the stated purposes in the contribution agreement, specifically the Appendix A – Payment Terms. If a situation arises where you cannot use the funds as proposed, contact artsfunding@gov.nt.ca for spending.
- Any changes in part or in full of the contribution agreement must be approved in writing by ITI prior to changes being made.
- Applicants must be registered and in good standing under the [NWT Societies Act](#), and in good standing with the GNWT.
- Applicants may only apply to this fund for one project at a time.
- All overdue reporting must be submitted and approved prior to applying for new arts funding.

Funding acknowledgement

Funding recipients must credit GNWT for financial support in any publicity prepared in relation to your activities, including electronic, print, or visual material.

Where the logo is unable to be used, the following message can be included in publicity related to the funded recipient's activities:

This project was made possible, in part, with funding from the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Funding reporting

Funding recipients must provide financial reporting using the templates provided within the **terms of their contribution agreement** after the completion of the project outlining how the funds have been used.

Reporting can be submitted by:

- In person by appointment:
 - Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

- o In Yellowknife, appointments can be made by contacting ArtsFunding@gov.nt.ca or 867-767-9347 Ext. 71474.
- o Outside Yellowknife, appointments can be made by contacting your [regional ITI Office](#).
- By email:
 - o ArtsFunding@gov.nt.ca
- By mail:
 - o Economic Diversification, Industry, Tourism and Investment, Government of the Northwest Territories, P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9