

Cultural Activities Program

Introduction

The presence of cultural activities in our communities contributes significantly to our well-being and enriches the experiences of visitors to our province. The purpose of the Cultural Activities Program is to help build communities through community arts and cultural activities.

Communities can include geographic locales, as well as communities of interest such as those involved in visual arts, music or crafts. Participation in the arts and cultural activities not only entertains, but teaches us more about who we are. Cultural activity in many forms also provides those involved in the culture sector the opportunity to develop skills and share ideas. It is through this sharing that relationships within and among communities are strengthened and developed, making our communities more vibrant and sustainable.

Program goals

The Cultural Activities Program supports the following goals of the Culture Division:

Community cultural development

The division recognizes that involvement in cultural activities contributes to the social, economic, educational and spiritual life of a community. The division aims to support opportunities for people to participate in and build community cultural life. The Culture Division's goals in the area of community cultural development are to:

- develop new and strengthen existing relationships among groups and organizations engaged in cultural activities
- encourage more cultural activities that explore and/or celebrate a community's or a cultural sub-sector's identity
- encourage more participation in and access to cultural activities
- encourage the development of Nova Scotia's cultural diversity
- support activity that contributes to the long-term development of the cultural sector.

Artistic development

Government has a long history as patron of the arts. It recognizes, supports, and celebrates the creative work of artists and the diversity of artistic expression within the cultural community, which includes fine crafts, literary, visual, media, and performing arts. Artistic creation and expression are fundamental because they reflect who we are. The work of artists lies at the foundation of the culture sector. The Culture Division's goals in the area of artistic development are to:

- support people at all levels of artistic involvement
- support artistic expression and the pursuit of excellence and innovation
- promote learning in the arts for people of all ages through education and participation
- develop new audiences for the arts and maintain existing audiences.

Activities assisted

Under the Cultural Activities Program, government offers assistance to activities that develop or enhance the production or appreciation of community arts and cultural activities. Specifically, support is offered to:

- *Performing Arts Festivals or Competitions* ~ amateur festivals and competitions in which Nova Scotians participate to share their work and/or have it assessed by adjudicators or animateurs
- *Community Cultural Events* ~ activities and events which have a strong arts and/or heritage focus that bring people together around issues of cultural identity and planning. Priority will be given to activities that build relationships within communities, particularly between arts and non-arts based organizations
- *Cultural Workshops* ~ hands-on learning and skills development in community arts, crafts, and heritage
- *Community Cultural Projects* ~ activities that promote and display community arts and/or heritage and explore or celebrate a community's or a cultural sub-sector's identity.

Eligibility

An eligible applicant is a community organization or agency. Activities which are eligible for support under the Culture Division's program, *Project Assistance to Organizations and Small Groups*, are not eligible under this program.

Level of funding

The department's contribution will not exceed 50 per cent of eligible costs and normally will not exceed a maximum of \$5,000. As well, the combination of provincial and federal funding for the project should not exceed 75% of project costs.

Capital building development costs and equipment purchase costs will not be considered eligible in determining the funding level.

Fundraising events are not eligible for support.

An applicant normally will receive funding for the same activity for no more than two consecutive years.

Application procedure

It is strongly recommended that an application be submitted to a deadline which is at least 8 weeks prior to the start date of the proposed activity.

People applying to the program for the first time are strongly encouraged to call the Culture Division to discuss their proposed activity and the requirements for application before completing the application form.

It is recommended that those preparing the application involve other members of their organization in the process of developing and writing their proposal.

Completed application forms must be signed, preferably by the chair of the organization, and dated. Applications post-marked on the deadline date are acceptable.

Application assessment

Activities will be assessed against their ability to support the Culture Division's goals for Community Development and Artistic Development as stated on page one and the following factors:

- the potential of the activity to fulfil the mandate of the organization
- the ability of the applicant to successfully complete the project based on the knowledge and experience of the people involved.

Program evaluation

The Culture Division will measure the success of the Cultural Activities Program and the activities it supports through review of evaluation forms completed by funded organizations following the conclusion of their activities. The division is looking to achieve the following outcomes:

- increased skills and knowledge of people active in community cultural activities
- increased quality of cultural activity, artistically and/or socially
- increased number and quality of partnerships or relationships within or among communities
- increased access to cultural resources and participation in cultural activities.

Application deadlines and activity start dates

Activities can start no earlier than the deadline date, with the exception of the February 15 deadline for which activity can start no earlier than April 1.

Deadlines for applications are May 15, August 15, November 15 and February 15.

Applications must be postmarked on or prior to the deadline date to be eligible. If the deadline date should fall on a weekend or holiday, applications that are received or postmarked for the following business day will be accepted.

Send applications to: Cultural Activities Program, Culture Division, PO Box 456, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2R5. For more information, call **(902) 424-4179**.



Tourism, Culture and Heritage

Culture Division

World Trade and Convention Centre
1800 Argyle Street
PO Box 456
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3J 2R5

Bus: 902 424-64179
Fax: 902 424-0710

Our File Number:

Cultural Activities Program Application Form

Specify type of activity:

- checkbox Festival, checkbox Event, checkbox Workshop, checkbox Project

Name of Organization/Applicant: _____

Society Registration #: (if applicable) _____

Chairperson: _____

Contact person (if not chair) _____

Mailing address: _____

County: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: Chairperson: Work: _____ Home: _____

Phone: Contact person Work: _____ Home: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail/Website: _____

Project name _____

Location of Activity _____

Start Date (month/year) / End Date (month/year) /

Total project costs _____ Amount requested _____

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Please complete all parts of the application form in the space provided. You may provide your responses on separate pages and attach them to the application form but be sure to clearly indicate to which question you are responding.

1. Has this activity been funded previously under the Cultural Activities Program? Yes No

If yes, when? _____

2. Provide a short description of the project (1 or 2 sentences)

Three horizontal lines for project description.

9. Budget: **All applicants are required to complete the budget form below.**

For activities with budgets greater than \$10,000, please also attach your own detailed budget.

Projected Revenues

Earned from registration fees, admissions, concessions, sales, etc.

Sponsorships, donations and/or fundraising

Other government support

Specify:

Contribution from applicant

Other sources

Total Revenues

% of total revenues that will come from combined provincial and federal sources:

%

Projected Expenses

Equipment and materials

Venue or hall rental

Staff cost or resource person fees & expenses

Promotion/Publicity

Administration

Other

Specify:

Total Expenses

Surplus (Shortfall)

Amount requested

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