

Please note, the budget for this funding is now allocated. Applicants are welcome to submit an application for future consideration until November 30th.

Call for Grant Proposals

The not-for-profit Arts and Culture sector forms the heart of the creative economy. One aim of the [Creative Economy Strategy](#) is to maximize opportunities to showcase artists internationally in support of the Province's trade and investment objectives. The Ministry of International Trade (MIT) has identified seven key markets for export: China, Japan, Southeast Asia, South Korea, United States, India and Europe. Showcasing BC artists and organizations in global networks will underscore the province's strengths in innovation and creativity. It is intended that supports offered through the international presence strategy will shore up other actions of the Creative Economy Strategy, including: strengthening capacity and access for Indigenous artists; and supporting artists and cultural workers to be successful in their careers.

The foundation of international presence is effective cross-border relationships. Therefore, the underlying objective of this initiative is to create opportunities for new relationships to form between BC's arts and culture sector and its international counterparts.

There are three areas of focus for support:

1. Arts Promotion, Representation and Exposure:
 - Projects that expose the participants to new markets or to new relationship building opportunities.
 - Projects that improve the promotional capacity of the participants.
2. Incoming Presenters and Curators:
 - Projects that bring international presenters and curators to the province to increase their exposure to BC artists.
3. Artistic and Cultural Exchange:
 - Projects that are based in reciprocal, long-term relationships and result in cultural and artistic exchange, or unique collaborative or strategic opportunities.

Proposals can touch on one or more of these areas of focus. Projects must be industry-led and of significant scale (i.e. total project budget above \$50K). Priority will be given to projects that create links with the Ministry of International Trade's key markets and that are orchestrated by three or more partners (Note: this figure can include international partners.) Projects must be complete by March 31st, 2018.

Eligibility

- BC-based not-for profit organization(s) with an arts mandate
- Professional artist(s)
 - Must have worked in their discipline as a professional practitioner for at least two years following completion of basic studies and have a demonstrated body of previous work.
 - Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, readily identified as a professional British Columbia artist, and have lived in British Columbia for at least twelve months immediately prior to application.
- Representatives of not-for-profit arts organizations or professional artists

- Must have a contract in place with the organization or artist.

Submission

Please submit a two-page proposal outlining:

- Lead applicant and partners
- Current capacity and international experience of the participating members
- Project description and anticipated outcomes
- How the project contributes to growing international presence and cross-border relationship-building
- How the project contributes to the broader outcome of supporting trade and growing the creative economy

In addition to the two page overview, also include a:

- Project timeline
- Project budget (The total grant request must range between 50K and 100K. Eligible amounts for the grant are up to 75% of the total project budget.)

Note: A single applicant cannot be the lead applicant on more than one proposal.

Deadline

Please note applications have been reviewed continuously. **The budget for this funding is now allocated.** Applicants are welcome to submit an application for future consideration until November 30th. Submit proposals to Avril Nagel, Policy Analyst at avril.nagel@gov.bc.ca.

Process and Assessment

Once received, the proposals will be reviewed by Ministry staff. The proposals will be reviewed for:

- The strength of the applicants' international experience and international networks.
- The potential for the project to translate into further economic activity for the sector or BC's creative economy as a whole.
- The potential of the project to broker new relationships and increase access to international networks and markets.
- The potential of the project to meet other objectives of the Creative Economy Strategy, such as capacity building.

Ministry staff will then determine if the proposal or elements of proposals will be further explored. At that time a more detailed project plan may be requested. The hope is to support activities that promote expansion into new markets, increase the capacity of the sector and augment international relationships through a variety of projects within the three areas of focus.