



Saskatchewan  
Parks and Recreation  
Association



# TRI-GLOBAL UPDATE 2021



## **South West District for Culture, Recreation & Sport Inc. Annual General Meeting 2021 Tri-Global Update**

### **Saskatchewan Districts for Sport, Culture and Recreation**

Sask Sport Inc., SaskCulture Inc., and The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc. are partners in the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. Together they help foster a thriving District system that enriches communities through sport, culture and recreation.

Saskatchewan Districts for Sports, Culture and Recreation:

- South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District
- South West District for Culture, Recreation & Sport Inc.
- Parkland Valley Sport, Culture & Recreation District
- Prairie Central District for Sport, Culture and Recreation Inc.
- Rivers West District for Sport, Culture & Recreation Inc.
- Lakeland District for Sport, Culture and Recreation
- Northern Sport, Culture & Recreation District Inc.

### **Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation**

***Through an agreement with the Government of Saskatchewan, proceeds from Sask Lotteries are dedicated to sport, culture and recreation organizations to benefit communities throughout the province.***

Proceeds from the sale of lottery products are placed in the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation (Trust Fund) for granting to eligible organizations as designated by the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport. Three volunteer-led non-profit organizations—Sask Sport, SaskCulture and The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association—are partners in the Trust Fund. Volunteer committees from sport, culture and recreation communities review and adjudicate all funding requests.

The funds are distributed to eligible Saskatchewan sport, culture and recreation organizations, including provincial organizations, Tribal Councils, Districts for Sport, Culture and Recreation, First Nation communities, Métis Communities and municipalities. More than 1,200 organizations receive direct funding, and through them, funds are distributed to more than 12,000 sport, culture and recreation groups. The funding helps nearly 1,000 Saskatchewan communities, supports participation opportunities for approximately 600,000 registered participants and impacts many more.

The lottery license agreement between Sask Sport, SaskCulture, The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association and the Government of Saskatchewan provides strategic funding priorities to the Trust Fund which include: supporting and promoting capacity and leadership engagement; engaging diverse populations and creating inclusive communities; contributing to quality programs and safe, welcoming, well-run facilities and environments; increasing accessibility; recognizing excellence and celebrating achievement; and encouraging individual well-being and healthy, active lifestyles.

By entrusting the volunteer community, Saskatchewan has nurtured a cost-effective and efficient delivery system. Most importantly, it has empowered volunteer groups to make decisions best for their communities and garnered widespread support at the grassroots level.

***Sask Lotteries is the main fundraiser for more than 12,000 sport, culture and recreation groups, offering a real and honest chance at winning and a guarantee of supporting your community. Learn more at [sasklotteries.ca](http://sasklotteries.ca).***



## FUNDING RECOGNITION

Thank you for your ongoing support in promoting the sale of Sask Lotteries products as the fundraiser for sport, culture and recreation.

All lottery-funded organizations are required to publicly recognize Sask Lotteries as their fundraiser. **This includes placement of the NEW Sask Lotteries logo on organizations websites and in ALL places sponsors and funders are listed.**

Materials to help organizations meet this funding requirement are available at [sasklotteries.ca/about-us/funding-recognition.htm](http://sasklotteries.ca/about-us/funding-recognition.htm). **There, you will find:**

**Logos:** The new Sask Lotteries logo, as well as guidelines for its proper use, are available for download.

**Beneficiary Materials Order Form:** A wide variety of promotional items, including banners for use at events, are available for order and loan.

**Other promotional materials:** Graphics designed for social media, email signatures, posters and other platforms are all available to assist organizations.

Questions about fundraiser recognition? Contact [communications@sasklotteries.ca](mailto:communications@sasklotteries.ca).



Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter!

Follow [@SaskLotteries](https://twitter.com/SaskLotteries) and help us share stories and messages about the positive impact of Saskatchewan's lottery-funded sport, culture and recreation platform.

### Tri-Globally Supported Programs

Sask Sport Inc., SaskCulture Inc., and The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association work collaboratively to support key initiatives and programs that benefit the sport, culture and recreation system and people and communities within Saskatchewan. Below is a list of programs and initiatives that the Globals continue to support.

If you are interested in more information, please contact District staff or a member of the District Coordination Committee.

- **Sask Lotteries Community Grant Program**
- **Dream Broker Program**

- **Northern Community and School Recreation Coordinator Program (NC&SRCP)**

### **Relationships Key to Dream Broker Program Longevity**

Connecting children and youth from select schools into sport, culture and recreation activities for the last 15 years is just the beginning for the 10 Dream Brokers in Saskatchewan communities.

With participation seen as a crucial element to positive mental and physical health for children and youth, Dream Brokers work tirelessly to make authentic connections and impressions with youth and caregivers, as well as develop and maintain strong long-lasting partnerships with organizations, schools and within communities.

The COVID-19 pandemic has not changed the importance or impact of the program. The strong and trusting relationships between the Dream Brokers, caregivers and children are foundational to ensuring positive influences on lives today and in future; some Dream Brokers call the work a “labour of love.”

“I do not stop my mindset as a Dream Broker when I get home,” said Sabrina Cote, who has been a Dream Broker for 12 years and works out of Regina’s Seven Stones Community School. “I am in Dream Broker mode 24/7. It has changed my life!”

Thanks to the trust built since inception in 2005, most sport, culture, and recreation organizations are eager and excited to work with the Dream Broker team. Without these vital partnerships, the Dream Brokers acknowledge that the program would not be as strong as it is today.

Those who have worked, or continue to work, as a Dream Broker develop strong leadership skills, are passionate and compassionate individuals, and bring a unique ability to connect. Some Dream Brokers have moved on to lead the Indigenous Coaches and Officials Program, become North American Indigenous Games Chef de Missions, lead hosting efforts for international FIBA 3x3 tournaments or pursue higher education.

For those Dream Brokers that have stayed, the decision was easy. The group has a sense of pride in the lasting benefits to the community and a true belief that *together* they are part of something bigger that helps to enrich the lives of others.

### **The Community of Stanley Mission Finds Ways to Have Fun Together, Even While Apart**

When children and youth in the community of Stanley Mission were required to keep their distance and keep connections to those within their household only, Robynn Dorion, a Northern Community & School Recreation Coordinator, decided to take on the challenge of finding ways to keep everyone active while also having fun.

“I was thinking, ‘What would I want to do if I were at home with my children?’” said Dorion, a mother of three. “I tried to come up with stuff for the whole family to be interactive.”

Dorion utilized social media sites and platforms such as Pinterest and Tik Tok to find activities that were fun, safe, engaging and easily done with at-home supplies. She amassed several ideas ranging from fort building in the living room to household item scavenger hunts, dance challenges, contests and more.

As families completed the challenges, they were encouraged to post their activities to the Stanley Mission Facebook page —the same place where Dorion was sharing the ideas. This gave other members of the community the opportunity to see the finalized projects and, in some cases, allowed community members to select winners by voting for their favourites.

For Dorion, the activities ended up creating a sense of togetherness within the community even though they weren't allowed to be physically together.

## Sask Sport Inc. Update

### Sask Sport Inc. Annual General Meeting

Sask Sport Inc.'s 48 Annual General Meeting will be held on June 17, 2021. The meeting will be held virtually. Any questions about the AGM can be directed to Lisa Stewart [lstewart@sasksport.ca](mailto:lstewart@sasksport.ca)

### Community Sport Development Grant for Indigenous Children and Youth

The Indigenous Community Sport Development Grant Program (ICSDBGP) is in place to provide greater sport participation and development opportunities for children and youth in Saskatchewan. The Grant can be accessed through your District for Sport, Culture and Recreation.

The Grant is designed to support the development and implementation of community sport programs. Support from the Grant can be used to access funding for needed equipment, renting space or community facilities, travel, nutrition or league fees.

The accompanying Community Sport for Children and Youth Planning Toolkit is a workbook and worksheets that can assist communities to plan for a successful community sport program. Completing the workbook and sheets will assist communities to apply for the Grant and will take leaders through four steps that help groups to plan, deliver and assess their sport programs.

For more information on the Grant please connect with your local District for Sport, Culture and Recreation and visit the Sask Sport website.

<https://www.sasksport.ca/funding-recognition/communities/indigenous-sport-community-grant/>

### Coach Development Opportunities

The Coaches Association of Saskatchewan (CAS) has a full slate of National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) virtual courses planned. For a full listing of offerings, visit: [Events Archive - Coaches Association of Saskatchewan \(saskcoach.ca\)](#).

CAS has also partnered with Human Kinetics to offer coaches further opportunities to maintain and obtain Professional Development (PD) Points. The opportunity offers more than 100 print or online courses. Learn more [PD & Certification Maintenance - Coaches Association of Saskatchewan \(saskcoach.ca\)](#).

The Indigenous Coaches and Officials Program offers reimbursement of fees associated with coach certification. Learn more [Indigenous Coaching - Coaches Association of Saskatchewan \(saskcoach.ca\)](#).

### Women & Leadership Training

Sask Sport and Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts offered virtual leadership training sessions throughout the past year. In 2019, Sask Sport invested in training workshop facilitators from eight of the nine Districts. Each facilitator made the transition to online delivery very quickly in 2020-2021 after Canadian Women & Sport provided additional virtual facilitation training. The organizations involved wanted to ensure they were being responsive to the needs of women and girls in sport throughout the global pandemic.

According to the [Canadian Women & Sport Rally Report](#), one in three girls drop out of sport in their late teens, compared to one of 10 boys. Reasons for that drop-out rate include barriers such as self-confidence, social constraints, and programs not being appropriately designed for girls, not enough positive role models and more.

These workshops help people to identify barriers within themselves and their organizations and offer insights, tips and steps to address them and move forward to be more inclusive and equitable. In addition, many of the workshops are geared specifically to provide women with opportunities for professional development so they feel more confident in taking on leadership roles and become role models for the next generation.

Number of workshops hosted.	31
Total number of attendees.	727

### **Key Sask Sport Programs and Services**

Sask Sport has a variety of programming and services that supports Saskatchewan’s amateur sport community. Information on all programming and services can be found at [sasksport.ca](http://sasksport.ca).

Programs of interest to Districts:

- [Respect in Sport](#)
- [KidSport](#)
- [Community Sport Development Grant in Support of Indigenous Participants](#)
- [Indigenous Coaches and Officials Program](#)
- [NCCP Multisport Coach Training](#)
- [Women in Sport](#)
- [Cheer on Sask – Celebrating Saskatchewan’s Olympic and Paralympic Hopefuls and Games Contingent](#)

## Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Update

### Facilities and Training

One of the primary purposes of this portfolio is to provide members with training opportunities to improve the operation of their recreation facilities. Currently, there are about nine different facility related courses that are being offered by Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA). The courses range from Arena Operator Level 1 and Level 2, Building Maintenance Level 1 and 2, Ball Diamond and Sport Field Maintenance, Facility Management Health and Safety, Facility Management HR and Leadership, Facility Management, Asset Management and Electrical Preventative Maintenance.

Efforts continue to explore alternative adult learning options and a select number of online training courses will continue and be explored to be made available to our members.

Another purpose of this portfolio is to coordinate the delivery of two annual events. The Spring Education and Training Symposium offers five to six streams that focus on different aspects of recreation operations and supervision. Annual participation includes approximately 100 delegates representing various operations of indoor facility and park spaces. An equally relevant networking and training opportunity is being offered at this point. For 2021, the Symposium is replaced with the Industry Builder Learning Series (IBLS). The IBLS is comprised of 10, 1.5 hour sessions over the course of four weeks (April 27 – May 20). The recorded sessions will be available to registrants until the end of June, 2021.

The second annual event is the Conference. SPRA hosted its first virtual Conference in 2020. Attendance exceeded expectations showing the continued interest in engagement of our members and the industry. The 2021 Conference will be a virtual event as well, with more details coming in the fall. It is important to note, the two major reasons why members attend are the learning opportunities and the engagement opportunities provided through the event.

Finally, this portfolio helps coordinate the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association Professional Development Program and the Harry Boothman Bursary. Both provide an option for recognizing the development of professionals within the recreation industry.

### Physical Activity and Fitness

Through the Fitness Leadership Certification Program, SPRA continues to train and certify Fitness Leaders. These dedicated individuals are positioned as cornerstones of healthy, active living and play an integral part in empowering their communities, friends and family to become physically active every day! 375 Fitness Leaders in a season are recognized increasing the physical activity levels of 35,303 individuals in Saskatchewan. Their efforts help Saskatchewan residents reach goals as set out in the *Common Vision for increasing Physical Activity and Reducing Sedentary Behaviour in Canada: Let's Get Moving*. Recently, some community members are leading the way by offering fitness classes via online class delivery. Additionally, options for alternative and virtual delivery for the Fitness Leadership Certification courses are being explored.



The annual SaskFit Conference provides Fitness Leaders with inspiring and valuable professional development opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge. Participants are able to obtain 12 Continuing Education Credits (CECs) towards their fitness certification. Fitness leaders can apply this knowledge in their fitness classes with the goal of getting more people more active more often. The SaskFit Conference was held virtually in 2020 and was a great success with 229 participants. The event will again be offered virtually in 2021.

SPRA continues to address the need for the recreation sector to play a role in physical activity through ongoing SPRA programs/services and sharing of information and collaboration. An example remains the Indigenous Fitness Leadership Certification initiative. A goal is to educate individuals to deliver culturally relevant, safe, community-based fitness programs within Indigenous communities. This program supports the 89<sup>th</sup> Call to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, ensuring that barriers to participation in physical activity and fitness are reduced and fitness programs are inclusive of Indigenous Peoples. A variety of models exist in encouraging access to the program and remain reviewed based on support from participants and funding agencies.

### **Forever...in motion**

SPRA believes growing older doesn't have to mean slowing down! As a result, SPRA is dedicated to working with various organizations and communities to provide safe and fun physical activity opportunities for older adults and enhance their quality of life. **Forever...in motion** Leader Training continues to gain popularity and includes information on how to lead safe exercise programs for older adults, chronic conditions and prevention of falls - as well as a lot of practical hands-on experience.

### **Youth Engagement**

Through the Youth Engagement portfolio, SPRA coordinates the delivery of programs including Take the Lead!, HIGH FIVE® and Play Leadership. These trainings are presented as a continuum of leadership skill development and community education through the Youth Community Education through Recreation (YCER) initiative. YCER connects youth and young people to the recreation industry and build skills that can contribute to employability and engagement in the sector as they age.

Endorsed by Physical & Health Education (PHE) Canada, Take the Lead! is a program designed to build leadership skills and promote physical activity for youth ages 11-14 years. The Youth Engagement portfolio coordinates the delivery of the Youth Leader and Leadership Coach trainings. Additionally, we continue to offer the Take the Lead! Training Assistance Program Grant, which improves accessibility to training opportunities for groups seeking to build youth leadership.

HIGH FIVE® trainings continue to support a quality standard in recreation programming. This portfolio is responsible for the strategic and administrative coordination of nine trainings available in HIGH FIVE®, including workshops designed to train individuals working in recreation environments with children (ages 4-12) or older adults.

SPRA's Play Leadership is also within this portfolio's responsibility. Offered as a training to complement the HIGH FIVE® PHCD course, Play Leadership training provides Play Leaders with the knowledge and skills they need to plan and coordinate safe, accessible and fun play opportunities for children.

New virtual live, virtual on-demand and virtual hybrid courses have been released and are in development by the HIGH FIVE® National group. Additionally, this portfolio continues to explore alternative and virtual delivery options for other courses, including Play Leadership. Information will continue to be communicated as the revised delivery models become availability.

### **Leadership, Evaluation and Human Resources**

The focus of the Leadership, Evaluation and Human Resources portfolio is the recruitment, development and growth of SPRA staff, the development of SPRA's strategic direction, and reporting on our progress related to that direction.

SPRA is now entering the third year of our 2019 - 2024 Strategic Plan. This direction strengthens our commitment to grow Active and Engaged Communities, foster Sector Capacity and provide strong Leadership. Various tools are used to monitor the progression in meeting our strategic goals. It is anticipated SPRA will be conducting a mid-term evaluation of our Strategic Plan this fall.

SPRA is proud to support post-secondary students as they prepare to begin their careers within the parks and recreation community. In addition to offering scholarships to students, SPRA explores opportunities to welcome Saskatchewan Polytechnic and University of Regina students into the organization to complete their practicum and fieldwork placements. SPRA is available to assist Districts in connecting with students, if you have an interest to mentor and host future recreation practitioners.

### **Parks and Open Spaces**

SPRA takes its role as a resource and an advocate for parks and open spaces in the province very seriously. We strive to keep the Parks Sector connected and raise the profile of Parks and Open Spaces across the province. Through ongoing involvement with organizations such as the Saskatchewan Trails Association, Trans Canada Trail, Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association, the Association of Urban Parks and Conservation Agencies and more, we are doing our part to keep the sector connected through the sharing of experiences. Regular consultative support is provided to individuals and communities across the province who are looking for parks related information, expertise and best practices.

*June is Recreation & Parks Month (JRPM)* continues to be an initiative that both connects the sector and raises the profile of Parks and Recreation. The program continues in 2021 with a focus on its three key areas of Advocacy, Public Relations and Member Support. Through this celebration, we continue to encourage collaborations that enhances everyone understanding of the benefits of parks and recreation – “Live it Everyday!”.

SPRA also continues to deliver the Communities in Bloom (CiB) program in Saskatchewan. Since 1997, the program and its efforts by CiB volunteers and supporting staff has had a profound impact on the health of communities across the province. The program provides SPRA an opportunity to inspire the development of green spaces and recreational pursuits. A focus remains engaging in a manner that educate communities as a whole on the topics of environmental responsibility, community development and the importance of green spaces. One of our favourite mottos (coined by a Communities in Bloom participant volunteer and provincial judge) is: It's more than Planting Flowers... It's about Community Development!

Through partnerships with the Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts, parks and open spaces have been supported. Most recently this has included a virtual workshop, Growing Together with Communities in Bloom. This was a great example of a great partnership between SPRA and all the Districts that supported awareness by participants from across the province. Partnerships are key in the generating awareness for the great variety of recreational opportunities able to be experienced in our province. SPRA looks forward to continuing partnerships that achieve a greater understanding and valuation of Parks and Open Spaces.

SPRA actively supports the national parks sector as well, through initiatives such as the Parks for All Action Plan, the SPRA Parks for All Action Grant and participation in the CPRA Parks Task Force. We are proud to say that we were the first organization to directly support the Parks for All Action Plan with a very unique opportunity through the Parks for All Action Grant. Recipients for 2021 were recently notified following the adjudication process and SPRA looks forward to supporting this Grant in the future.

### **Inclusion and Access**

The Inclusion and Access portfolio is focused on consultation and liaison work with community members and local, provincial and national organizations. Through collaborative efforts, expertise support understanding of the barriers experienced by underrepresented individuals and groups in accessing recreational services.

Human and financial resources are dedicated to support a series of programs and operations. Those focused on by SPRA include: Cultural Engagement Strategies, Environments free from Harassment Strategies, Dream Brokers, Truth and Reconciliation, Indigenous Engagement, youth leadership development opportunities, Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders, annual funding reviews, grant opportunities, research supported by education and training, communications in enhancing the network, and other initiatives.

Efforts to engage and support our membership through virtual adult education opportunities, conference sessions and training courses relating to topics of inclusion and access, will continue to be made available.

### **Grants and Funding**

The Grants and Funding portfolio administers annual funding to 33 Provincial Recreation Associations. These organizations include Canadian Ski Patrol – Saskatchewan Division, Lifesaving Society, Saskatchewan 4-H Council, Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association and SaskOutdoors, to name a few. The Provincial Recreation Associations all provide grassroots recreation opportunities throughout the province. SPRA continues to work with the organizations on their funding allocations ensuring they're meeting the priorities and outcomes of the Recreation Section Strategic Plan, as well as recognition for their representation in Saskatchewan's recreation industry.

SPRA dedicates funds through the Member's Initiative Grants to support the recreation industry.

Grants recently offered include: First Nation Recreation Development Grant, which assists members to develop recreation opportunities for First Nation people of Saskatchewan. The **Forever... in motion** Grant supports the development, implementation and delivery of a **Forever... in motion** program. The Leadership Development Grant encourages members to develop human resources needed to continue building community capacity that will advance recreational opportunities. The Community Cultural Diversity Inclusion Grant assists members to develop new or enhance existing recreation programs or events targeting the diverse population in communities. The Métis Recreation Development Grant assists members to develop recreation opportunities for Métis people of Saskatchewan. The Framework in Action Grant supports initiatives that address one of the goals of the Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015 – Pathways to Wellbeing. The Parks for All Action Grant is committed to the National Parks for All Action Plan and supports initiatives that address one of the strategic directions: collaborate, connect, conserve or lead. All of the Member's Initiatives Grants are adjudicated by peers in the recreation industry.

### **Connect, Educate and Inspire through Recreation**

Are you passionate about engaging your community or organization through recreation? We have a variety of resources for you to build your capacity, support community development and help you stay connected to what is happening across Saskatchewan's Recreation Industry, including:

- Professional development and employment opportunities
- Upcoming grants and funding deadlines
- Industry research, trends and promising practices

Subscribe to our newsletter, [Parks and Recreation Connection](#), follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and join our [Member Community on Facebook](#). Together, let's continue our journey towards a healthier, more active and engaged Saskatchewan!

### **Field Services Team**

The Field Services Team continues to be a resource for communities, members and organizations in the recreation industry across the province. Field Consultants work to meet communities "where they are" and to provide information and resources that are based on the community's unique situation or needs. Over the past year, the Field Services Team has adapted how it delivers consultation services. Service areas for each Field Consultant have expanded to ensure coverage for the Rivers West and Parkland Valley Districts, communities and stakeholders. In addition, there has been a shift from in-person consultations to more virtual and electronic communications based on the pandemic. This has allowed the Team to stay connected with members, organizations, communities and groups resulting in the Team connecting with hundreds of people.

The Field Services Team continues to connect with external stakeholders to ensure they are aware of the value of the recreation sector and value of having SPRA as a partner. Typically, SPRA has representation at the Municipalities of Saskatchewan Convention Tradeshow and Regional Meetings, Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities Convention Tradeshow and the Urban Municipalities Association of Saskatchewan Convention Tradeshow through involvement of Field Consultants.

The Field Services Team updates and shares the SPRA Grants and Funding Guide on an annual basis. The intent of the Guide is to aid practitioners and volunteers within the parks and recreation industry

searching for funding. The Guide contains over 200 unique funding opportunities in support of parks and recreation. It includes tips on writing grants, searching for government and corporate grants and how to stay up to date on new opportunities. It also identifies infrastructure grants available.

The Field Services Team continues to promote and raise awareness of the Framework for Recreation in Canada. They are involved in the administration of the SPRA Framework in Action Grant. This Grant supports initiatives by members that show alignment with one of the five goals of the Framework for Recreation in Canada, and addresses a priority within that goal. This year, 14 members were approved for funding amounting to \$24,566. Some projects the Grant is supporting include learn to clinics for horseshoes, development of cross country ski trails, youth drop in recreational opportunities, keeping seniors active, and encouraging families to use local walking trails.

In 2020-21, the District Memorandum of Understand (MOU) process transitioned into the Framework in Action Grant – Districts. This Grant supports multiple initiatives by Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts that show alignment with one or more goals of the Framework for Recreation in Canada. The Field Services Team adjudicates the Grant and provides assistance to Districts on the granting process.

This year, the provincial government reinstated the Community Rink Affordability Grant (CRAG) and SPRA was approached to administer the Grant. A maximum of \$2,500 was available per ice surface to help offset the expenses in eligible indoor skating and curling rinks for the 2020-21 operating season. The Field Services Team took a lead role on administering the Grant and successfully administered \$1,465,000 to 373 facility owners for 586 ice surfaces.

## **SaskCulture Update**

### **SaskCulture AGM**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, SaskCulture postponed its 2020 Annual General Meeting last year and held it online on September 11, 2020. This year SaskCulture will have its AGM online (zoom) on June 18, 2021. More details will be shared in the weeks to come.

### **Pandemic Support for Groups**

Over the course of the past year, SaskCulture has continued to provide updates and guidance to cultural groups on the impact of COVID-19. During this time, SaskCulture maintained a website area of updates, tools and leading practices of interest to those groups working through public health restrictions and programming challenges. SaskCulture also worked with its partners to bring community issues forward to the Business Response Team, by organizing meetings and highlighting key concerns and questions about restrictions on different cultural activities.

SaskCulture continued to offer and promote grant deadlines over the past year, as well as working with funding recipients, supporting those who have had to adjust to offer public activities during this time.

### **Culture Days 2020/21**

After much uncertainty in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Culture Days National Operating Committee (NOC), in consultation with its partners, made the decision to proceed with Culture Days in fall 2020. Special adaptations were made to programming to mitigate risks to event organizers, volunteers and audiences. These changes included introducing a new programming option for virtual/online, DIY and self-guided activities, as well as extending Culture Days to four-weeks – from September 25 to October 25 - so that in-person events and activities could be held multiple times, with smaller, pre-registered audiences, while making scheduling more flexible for virtual activities.

On the provincial side, SaskCulture altered its programming to offer a Culture Days Hub Sponsorships designed to help key organizers keep communities engaged, particularly during the unprecedented challenges of a global pandemic. SaskCulture's Hub Sponsorship provided up to \$5,000 to support hubs of two or more community organizations working together to offer COVID-safe, arts and cultural activities during Culture Days. The application process was streamlined for the Online Grant Platform, and focused on community size, the strength of the community hub partnerships, and the quality, nature and safety of the planned activities.

As a result, ten community hubs in the province received a total of \$41,212 in hub sponsorship support for a range of virtual and small, safe in person Culture Days activities:

- City of Prince Albert
- City of Weyburn
- Listen to Dis' Community Arts Organization (Regina)
- Gravelbourg & District Museum
- Lloydminster Cultural & Science Centre
- Art Gallery of Regina
- Nutrien Wonderhub

- Association of Manitou Arts & Cultures
- City of Yorkton
- City of Warman

Over the month-long celebration, it's estimated that approximately 20,000 people participated in about 160 Culture Days in Saskatchewan activities that were hosted by an estimated 17 communities.

SaskCulture also worked in partnership with the Northern District for Sport, Culture and Recreation (NDSCR) on a Cultural Program Legacy Development pilot project to engage more northerners in Culture Days and cultural activities; demonstrate the benefits of participating in organized cultural activity; and cultivate relationships that lead to future cultural programming in northern communities. The project supported northern cultural leaders in two communities, who provided online workshops in cultural activities of their choice. Activity kits, of materials needed for the workshops, were mailed to registered participants, and weekly workshops provided participants step-by-step instructions throughout the summer. Elders played an important role in both, guiding and supporting the instructors while sharing traditional knowledge with the young participants. The communities and projects supported were:

- Senator Myles Venne School - Lac La Ronge Indian Band
  - moose hide gauntlets – six participants
  - beaded dreamcatchers – 78 participants
- Ile-à-la-Croix Friendship Centre
  - Traditional drum making – 14 participants

### **Online Cultural Events Calendar**

Although it had a short hiatus as events and activities transition, the Events Calendar, located on SaskCulture's website, is back up and running. A new category of virtual events has been added. All groups are encouraged to promote cultural activities on this site. SaskCulture will be increasing its public advertising for this site.

### **Updates to Logo Use**

Due to the changes made to the Sask Lotteries logo and branding, SaskCulture has been going through a process to help funded groups utilize appropriate lottery recognition, as well as updating its own promotional materials. This process includes updates to recognition materials available on the SaskCulture website, as well as redesigning key promotional materials including advertisements, promo items, informational flyers, displays/banners, as well as letterhead and business cards.

### **Public Awareness Survey Results**

In May 2020, SaskCulture worked with its partner SK Arts on a survey of Saskatchewan residents on their awareness and participation in arts and cultural activity. Over 1,400 respondents were surveyed by Inshgtrix in April 2020, right at the beginning of COVID-19 outbreak. The questions were based on respondents' pre-COVID awareness and participation levels. Results are considered accurate to 95% +/- 3% of population. While no key information has been shared at this point, we can say that over 80% of the population believe arts and culture are important to Saskatchewan. Some of the key findings will be presented in SaskCulture's 2020-21 Year in Review.

## Emerging Partnerships

In 2020-2021, SaskCulture and numerous cultural organization have initiated numerous key partnerships as a means to advance priorities in SaskCulture's current strategic plan.

- **Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) partnership – Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program (ILCP)**

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre and SaskCulture have completed three years of partnership in support of the Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program, formerly known as the Aboriginal Languages Initiative (ALI) program. For 2021, SICC will no longer be the third party delivery agent for the Canadian Heritage Indigenous Languages Initiative. Future applicants are directed to apply to Canadian Heritage Directly. For 2021, SaskCulture and SICC will continue to develop partnership towards our collective purposes with a change of focus resulting with the changes that have taken place at a federal level. More details will be shared as things develop.

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre exists to protect, preserve and promote the languages and cultures of the eight language groups of what is now known as Saskatchewan: Plains Cree, Swampy Cree, Woodland Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakoda and Lakota.

- **Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Partnership- Métis Cultural Development Fund**

The Gabriel Dumont Institute and SaskCulture are in the process of developing a partnership for the shared delivery of the [Métis Cultural Development Fund](#) in 2021. It is anticipated that by the fall of 2021, GDI will be the primary point of contact for grant consultation for this specific fund and for communities seeking to apply. SaskCulture will continue to support the program through grants administration and technology with the Online Grant Platform.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute exists to promote the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and distribution of those materials and the design, development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.

- **Northern Sport Culture and Recreation District (NSCRD) Partnership- Creative Kids Northern Culture Fund**

NSCRD and SaskCulture have entered into a partnership agreement for shared delivery of the [Creative Kids Northern Cultural Fund](#). For the upcoming June 1, 2021 deadline, NSCRD will be the primary point of contact for grant consultation for this specific fund and for communities seeking to apply. SaskCulture will continue to support the program through grants administration and technology with the Online Grant Platform.

- **Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) Partnership**

SaskCulture and the Office of the Treaty Commissioner have entered into a partnership towards facilitating the creation and implementation of an action plan for Truth, Reconciliation and Treaty Implementation in the culture sector of Saskatchewan. OTC and SaskCulture intend to develop a framework that will support SaskCulture's ability to objectively assess where an organization is in its journey to implementing reconciliation and Treaty implementation and identify what is needed for further progress. It is anticipated that the partnership will lead to the development of indicators and strategies for data collection and analysis. This will allow



SaskCulture to know if and when it is making progress in supporting broad truth and reconciliation efforts throughout the cultural sector of the province, while facilitating learning and ongoing improvement.

OTC has supported the development of several reconciliation committees across the province. Among them are Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current, Yorkton, Prince Albert, Prairie Rivers, Battlefords and the Heart of Treaty 6. The SaskCulture Multicultural Initiatives Fund (MIF) has been supporting several of these networks over the last year.

### **Creative Kids**

Fewer families applied to Creative Kids in 2020 due to uncertainty and safety concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic (1,206 applications, compared to 1,800 in a typical year). Thankfully, many service providers adjusted their activities to online lessons or smaller, socially distanced classes as health restrictions allowed and continued to provide children with artistic and cultural opportunities.

Even with a smaller uptake, Creative Kids granted \$445,646.83 this year, supporting 923 children and youth in the province. Creative Kids granted its \$5 millionth dollar in January, 2021. Our first grant was issued in the fall of 2010.

In 2020-21, the Culture Section of the Trust also provided \$15,000 for a continued Creative Kids Dream Brokers Program Grant. The Dream Brokers adapted well to the changing COVID-19 restrictions in the school and 224 children participated in a variety of activities such as beading, drama, pottery, tipi teachings, and growing and identifying traditional First Nations medicines.

Seven volunteer committees across the province continue to make the funding decisions for individual Creative Kids applications, one in partnership with the Lakeland District for Sport, Culture and Recreation office. These seven committees supported children and youth from all corners of the province. A Creative Kids progress report is in development with specifics for each District that will be shared once it is prepared.

Additionally, the Creative Kids Northern Cultural Fund (CKNCF) supported four cultural programs, investing \$23,800 for cultural activity in the Northern District. For 2021-22, SaskCulture and NSCRD entered into a shared partnership agreement for the delivery of CKNCF, similar to the way the Indigenous Community Sport Development Grant is delivered.

### **LIVE Arts**

LIVE Arts brings arts into the classroom. LIVE (Live Interactive Video Education) Arts is a dynamic distance education arts program designed for Saskatchewan students in grades 1 through 9. The program supports the Saskatchewan arts education curricula, and it is delivered via the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education LIVE Satellite Network. This season, Live Arts is set up to offer ON DEMAND arts programming that work well into GK-8 curriculum and over 50 programs are available to teachers and students on ROVER. Recent online classes in 2021 include:

- Making One Page Comics with Allan Dotson (Grades 1-8)
- What's the Difference Between Me & You? with Kris Alvarez (Grades 4-8)

- Bringing Back the Buffalo Teachings with Lorne KequahtooWay and Joely BigEagle-KequahtooWay (Grades 1 – 8)
- Spontaneous Story with Jayden Pfeifer (Grades 1 – 8)
- Eekwol’s Rhythm and Rap Show ft. Lindsay Knight (Grades 3 – 8)
- Flow Poetry with ecoaborijanelle (Grades 1 – 8)

LIVE Arts Saskatchewan is supported through the collaboration of Saskatchewan Arts Board, Government of Saskatchewan, Ministry of Education, SaskCulture, and financial support from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. More information can be found on the Live Arts website: <https://www.liveartsaskatchewan.com/>

### **Building Cultural Organization Capacity through the Lifecycles Approach**

Since June 2017, SaskCulture has been providing learning and funding opportunities to increase non-profit capacity utilizing the Non-profit Lifecycle Model developed by Susan Kenny Stevens. Workshops, meetings and roundtable discussions have been held for non-profit volunteers and staff, funders and consultants over the past four years. In addition to the workshops and roundtable discussions, SaskCulture staff have conducted two Introduction to Lifecycles Workshops. The interest has been overwhelming with participation by more than 300 individuals from over 100 organizations in at least one of the Lifecycles learning opportunities. Throughout the Non-profit Lifecycles journey, District Board and staff have been very supportive by attending workshops, hosting presentations and promoting Non-profit Lifecycles.

In September 2020, SaskCulture launched its second Lifecycle program, ***Lifecycles Capacity Lab***. Due to the pandemic, all sessions were virtual. About 75 participants (Board members and staff) represented 15 organizations in a six-month schedule participating in seven learning sessions. A learning coach was matched with each organization to assist with facilitating discussions. Organizations began the Lab by conducting a “selfie” self-assessment and that was followed up with the development of a capacity building plan to strengthen their organization.

A Lifecycle Capacity Lab 2.0 with a Consultant Practicum will begin in September 2021. Approximately 10 – 12 consultants and non-profit cultural organizations will be involved in this program.

For those interested in Non-profit Lifecycles, SaskCulture has a supply of the Lifecycles books by Susan Kenny Stevens for \$30 plus shipping costs, as well as a new resource, the Non-profit Lifecycles Assessment “Selfie” booklet for \$5 plus shipping costs.

Any questions about the Non-profit Lifecycle Approach can be directed to Dennis Garreck at SaskCulture [dgarreck@saskculture.ca](mailto:dgarreck@saskculture.ca). Additional information is available on the SaskCulture website <https://www.saskculture.ca/programs/organizational-support/organizational-resources?resource=14> or check out the Non-profit Lifecycle Institute website <https://nonprofitlifecycles.com/>.

### **Eligible Cultural Organizations (ECO)**

Regular meetings of ECOs have been held via Zoom every 2-3 months for the past year to support collective issues in dealing with COVID-19 and provide updates on new initiatives have helped groups overcome isolation.

## **Museum Grant Program (MGP)**

The Museum Grant Program (MGP) provides operational funding to help foster strong, vibrant, community-based Saskatchewan museums that are valued and supported by society. MGP operates on a 2-year cycle, providing two years of funding to successful applicants. The program fund 116 museums and has three funding stream levels, each with a separate application form. See attached report for a full listing of museums.

The MGP application deadline was scheduled for November 30, 2020. A few months prior to the deadline, a survey was sent to all MGP recipients to assess whether they had the capacity to do a full application due to the impact of COVID-19 on the museum sector. Over 70% of applicants responded that they would prefer interim funding over the full adjudication process due to capacity issues, so it was decided to provide them with an additional Year 3 of Interim Funding. One issue with providing interim funding is that it didn't take into account museums who were planning to apply to MGP and who didn't receive funding at the last adjudication. A mini adjudication took place for these museums and six museums were approved for funding for one year. The next full MGP deadline will be November 30, 2021 for all museums. Museums will likely be looking for grant writing workshops and assistance in fall 2021.

Due to the impact of COVID-19, museums are facing a significant decrease in revenue through admissions, donations, and fundraisers. Many were closed in summer 2020 and current restrictions (as of April 2021) do not allow for museums to be open at this time. Many museums are trying to find ways to move exhibits and programming online, or at least to engage their community through social media channels. Others continue to remain closed and are not doing other activities at this time.

The Museums Association of Saskatchewan has been coordinating bi-weekly community Zoom meetings on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. that provide museums with a culture-sector hangout to catch up, chat, ask questions and seek advice. Upcoming presentation topics and the Zoom link can be found here: <https://saskmuseums.org/news/entry/mas-community-chat>