



Saskatchewan  
Parks and Recreation  
Association



# TRI-GLOBAL UPDATE 2020



# South West District for Culture, Recreation & Sport

## Annual General Meeting 2020

### 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 Sport, Culture and Recreation:

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

#### 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, 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.

Please remember to recognize **Sask Lotteries** for the funding you receive.

***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).***

### **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)**

### **Dream Brokers Continue to Support Families**

The Dream Brokers program is finding new ways to reach children and families during the pandemic. There are currently 10 Dream Brokers located in schools across the province who work to connect children and their families to sport, culture and recreation opportunities. With gatherings and social activities on pause, many children and youth who experience poverty are finding it difficult to stay connected due to the closure of schools and a lack of internet services. Dream Brokers have been putting together activity kits which they have been safely delivering to the homes of children and families they work with at their schools. The kits are made up of donations from partner service organizations, and they add some cheer and help the kids stay active during their time at home.

Stacey Laing, a Dream Broker, says, "It's just a little bit of cheer to keep the week going and hopefully get the kids active." As we all work to develop new ways forward during COVID-19, Dream Brokers are keeping their primary mission and vision at the forefront of their minds, which is to contribute to children and youth becoming healthy, active and successful members of their community. For more information on the Dream Brokers program, please contact Community Development Consultant and Provincial lead on the Dream Brokers program, Mitch Mercredi by email at [mmercredi@sasksport.ca](mailto:mmercredi@sasksport.ca) or visit [www.givekidsachancecharity.ca/about/programs/dreambrokers](http://www.givekidsachancecharity.ca/about/programs/dreambrokers).

# **Sask Sport Inc. Update**

## **Sask Sport Inc. Annual General Meeting**

Sask Sport Inc.'s 47<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> 2020. For the first time ever, it will be held via video conference because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Coaches Association of Saskatchewan offers Virtual Training**

The Coaches Association of Saskatchewan (CAS) is supporting the ongoing development of Saskatchewan coaches. Due to COVID-19, CAS transitioned to deliver all spring 2020 National Coaching Certification Programs (NCCP), online through Adobe Connect. The CAS Board of Directors passed a motion to offer free NCCP courses to all CAS member coaches until June 30<sup>th</sup>, which has increased the organization's membership, and resulted in a significant increase in registrations for coach education. This spring, over 30 NCCP courses have been offered, with all courses filled to capacity. CAS has been able to reach more coaches in more communities through online programming, with coaches from over 50 Saskatchewan communities accessing NCCP training.

David Robertson, Executive Director of CAS, said "I think the fact that so many Saskatchewan coaches are accessing NCCP training during this time speaks to the great passion that Saskatchewan has for sport and is a sign that Saskatchewan coaches continue to be dedicated to offering our Sask athletes with the highest quality training and development once sport is able to safely resume".

To learn more about NCCP training, becoming a CAS member or to access all Sask coach information please visit [www.saskcoach.ca](http://www.saskcoach.ca). CAS is also a key partner in the delivery of the Indigenous Coaches and Officials Program that works to connect Indigenous people with coach and official's training and development opportunities and support.

## **Key Multi-Sport Games Postponed Until 2021**

2020 was set to be a big year for multi-sport games with both the 2020 Saskatchewan Summer Games set to take place in Lloydminster and the 2020 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) in Halifax. Due to health and safety concerns surrounding COVID-19, these games have had to be postponed until 2021. Chef de Mission for Team Sask NAIG 2020 Mike Tanton says "Multi-sport games like NAIG and the Saskatchewan Summer Games are important and meaningful opportunities for Saskatchewan athletes. While the postponement of these games is disappointing as we are all looking forward to competing, having personal bests, and meeting friends new and old, the health and safety of all participants and spectators needs to be our number one priority. The good news is these games have not been cancelled, just postponed a year when it will be safer to gather and share in the magic that are multi-sport games".

The Saskatchewan Summer Games are now set to take place from July 18-24, 2021, still in Lloydminster. NAIG dates have not yet been announced however planning for the summer of 2021 is underway. Kevin Kusch, Chairperson, 2020 Saskatchewan Summer Games Host Society speaks to the difficult decision to postpone "From athletes to spectators, health and safety are of the utmost importance. The decision to postpone was not easy, but it is right. Now that a decision has been made, the athletes, coaches and support staff can focus on their well-being during this critical time while resetting and recalibrating for 2021".

For more information on the Saskatchewan Summer Games, please visit [www.saskgames.ca](http://www.saskgames.ca) and for more information on the North American Indigenous Games please visit [www.teamsasknaig.ca](http://www.teamsasknaig.ca).

## Safe Sport in Saskatchewan

Sask Sport and the Government of Saskatchewan want to keep sport healthy, safe and fun for everyone. The partnership produced a campaign to promote various safe sport resources and the Respect Resource line—a free 24-hour, confidential phone line for anyone who may be experiencing bullying, abuse, harassment or discrimination in sport. The campaign ran during October/November of 2019 and February/March of 2020, and targeted coaches, parents and athletes. It featured social and earned media, as well as posters distributed to schools and sport facilities throughout Saskatchewan. The campaign resulted in a 50-per-cent increase in people visiting Sask Sport’s safe sport web pages to seek more information.

Sask Sport also continues to provide other safe sport resources to the community through initiatives including mandatory dispute resolution policies and practices, and the on-line Respect in Sport training program.

**If you see Bullying,  
Abuse, Harassment or  
Discrimination in sport  
Reach Out!**

Phone: 1-888-329-4009  
Text: 1-306-717-9636  
resourceline@respectgroupinc.com

*A safe and respectful sporting  
environment starts with you.*  
sasksport.ca/safesport

**SASK SPORT**

**Keep sport  
healthy,  
safe and fun**

Sask Sport has online resources available to assist in approaching and resolving different conflicts in sport.

**Learn more >**

## Key Sask Sport Inc. Programs and Services

Sask Sport Inc. has a wide variety of programming and services that support a thriving sport delivery system. Information on all programs and services can be accessed through the Sask Sport website [www.sasksport.ca](http://www.sasksport.ca).

Below is a list of program that may be of particular interest to districts.

- Υ **Respect in Sport**
- Υ **Canadian Sport for Life**
- Υ **KidSport**
- Υ **Adaptive Sport Equipment and Adaptive Club Development Grants**
- Υ **Community Sport Development Grant in Support of Indigenous Participants**
- Υ **NCCP Multi Sport Coach Training**
- Υ **Women in Sport**

# 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 also offered.

The Association also explores partnership opportunities to support coordination and delivery of the annual SPRA Conference. The two reasons most noted by members, for attending the Conference, are the learning opportunities and the social networking events.

Finally, this portfolio helps coordinate the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association Professional Development Program and the Harry Boothman Bursary.

## **Physical Activity and Fitness**

SPRA continues to train quality Fitness Leaders who are the cornerstones of healthy, active living and play an integral part in empowering their communities, friends and family to become physically active every day! 410 Fitness Leaders are increasing the physical activity levels of 35,998 individuals in Saskatchewan, helping Saskatchewan residents reach the goal 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 at the local level via online delivery. The SaskFit Conference is going ahead, with alternative delivery methods being investigated.

This year, the Indigenous Fitness Leadership Certification Program was offered in partnership with two hosts: South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District, in collaboration with Ochapowace First Nation - with 10 participants and the Lakeland District for Sport, Culture & Recreation, in collaboration with Prince Albert Grand Council - with 11 participants. A delivery model is being developed for this program. 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.

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

SPRA is committed to the delivery of physical activity programs that enhance the quality of life for older adults in the province. **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**

The Youth Engagement portfolio is responsible for coordination and delivery of programs including - Take the Lead!, HIGH FIVE and Play Leadership. Through SPRA's Youth Community Education through Recreation (YCER) initiative, these programs are presented as a continuum to provide youth with positive leadership opportunities as they age, allowing them to contribute to the overall wellbeing of their communities.

In Take the Lead!, this portfolio coordinates the continued offering of Youth Leader and Leadership Coach trainings, as well as the delivery of the Take the Lead! Training Assistance Program grant. This year, we trained 65 new Take the Lead! Leadership Coaches who have the capacity to sustain impact on youth physical activity levels and leadership development in their communities.

HIGH FIVE and Play Leadership trainings continue to support a quality standard in recreation programming. This portfolio is involved in the strategic and administrative coordination of 10 trainings available in HIGH FIVE, including workshops designed to train individuals working in recreation environments with children (ages 4-12) or older adults. New delivery models and training options are in development by the HIGH FIVE National Group and will be communicated to members upon 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 just entering the second 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 procession in meeting our strategic goals.

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 has welcomed students into the organization to complete their practicum and fieldwork placements, including supporting a four - month University of Regina Kinesiology fieldwork in the fall of 2019 and a one-week practicum student from the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Recreation and Community Development program in March, 2020. 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**

Keeping the parks sector connected, SPRA takes its role as a resource and an advocate for parks and open spaces in the province very seriously. Through ongoing involvement with organizations such as the Saskatchewan Trails Association, Trans Canada Trail, Regional Parks Association, Association of Urban Parks and Conservation Agencies and more, we are doing our part to keep the sector connected. Regular support is provided to individuals and communities across the province who are looking for parks related information, expertise and best practices. In February 2020, SPRA was able to showcase the important role that Provincial Recreation Associations have in conservation of the province's natural environment, and through initiatives such as June is Recreation & Parks Month, we continue to ensure that everyone understands the benefits of parks and recreation - and can 'Live it Everyday!'.

SPRA continues to deliver the Communities in Bloom (CiB) program in Saskatchewan. Since 1997, the efforts of CiB volunteers and supporting staff has had a profound impact on the health of communities across the province. The program provided SPRA an opportunity to engage and educate schools, senior and communities as a whole on the topics of environmental responsibility, community development and the importance of green spaces.

Through partnerships with the Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts, Communities in Bloom presentations recently took place in Outlook and Cabri. In 2020, Communities in Bloom will continue to be a popular program in Saskatchewan - with volunteers and staff responsibly managing community initiatives across the province. SPRA, along with the national Communities in Bloom Foundation, will be offering a unique program featuring additional supports for both provincial and national Communities in Bloom participants.

SPRA has actively supported national parks sector initiatives such as the Parks for All Action Plan, which was officially endorsed in 2018 and released in partnership between the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) and the Canadian Parks Council (CPC). The Parks for All Action Plan brings together parks professionals, their many partners and engaged citizens under the shared goals of healthy nature and healthy people.

In 2020, SPRA was proud to be the first organization in Canada to directly support the Parks for All Action Plan with a grant program. The Parks for All Action Grant was recently awarded to 12 successful applicants whose projects will directly support parks and open spaces and the national Action Plan.

## **Inclusion and Access**

The Inclusion and Access portfolio is focused on consultation and liaison work with community members and local, provincial and national organizations with expertise in underrepresented individuals and groups.

Human and financial resources are dedicated to support a series of programs and operations - including Indigenous Fitness Leadership Certification, Cultural Engagement Strategies, Environments free from Harassment Strategies, Dream Brokers, annual funding reviews, grant opportunities, research, education and training, communications and other initiatives.

Efforts to explore web-based adult education opportunities, and potential training courses relating to topics of inclusion and access, will continue and will be made available to our membership. Additionally, resources to support members in addressing abuse, harassment and bullying are forthcoming.

## Grants and Funding

The Grants and Funding portfolio continues to administer annual funding to 33 Provincial Recreation Associations. These organizations include Saskatchewan Camps Association, Army Cadet League of Canada, Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism, Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association and Inclusion Saskatchewan, 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 representing the recreation industry.

SPRA dedicates funds through the Member's Initiative Grants to support the recreation industry. Grants recently offered include: First Nation Member's Recreation Development Grant, which assists members to develop recreation opportunities in First Nation Communities in 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. Two new grants were offered to support two national strategies, 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.

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

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

Subscribe to our newsletter, [Parks and Recreation Connection](#), interact with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) and join our [Member Community](#) on Facebook to stay connected to all things recreation!

## Field Services

The Field Services Team welcomed a new leader, Kerry Bailey, who became the Field Services Manager in February 2020. The Field Services Team continues to appreciate the opportunity to work with the Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts and jointly deliver some programs, such as community visitations and recreation board development. SPRA is looking at offering services differently post COVID-19.

The SPRA Grants and Funding Opportunities Guide continues to be updated by the Field Services Team and is distributed to communities and organizations across the province.

The Framework in Action Grant was administered for the first time this year by SPRA and will provide financial assistance to help communities connect their recreation delivery system to the pillars of the Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015 – Pathways to Wellbeing.

# SaskCulture Update

## Leadership Change at SaskCulture

SaskCulture's long serving CEO, Rose Gilks has retired. SaskCulture is thankful to the decades of work Rose dedicated to the cultural sector. Our new CEO, Dean Kush, is now leading the organization and he is looking forward to working with the sector through the years ahead.

## SaskCulture AGM and Education Session

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, SaskCulture has postponed its Annual General Meeting, originally scheduled for June 14, 2020, until September 11, 2020. SaskCulture initially hoped it would be able to hold an in-person AGM in September but it is reasonable to assume the meeting will be done through Zoom. The amount of change taking place at this time makes it prudent for existing board members to remain on the board to help ensure consistency during the pandemic and during the CEO transition.

Over the course of 2019-20, the SaskCulture Board along with staff began the process to build a new Strategic Plan for the organization. In October 2019, the Board held a planning retreat in Regina to discuss the current state of the cultural sector, and key needs going forward based on information collected from members and community consultations. From these discussions, the board updated its Board Ends, strategic directions and strategic priorities for the year. The new plan will be in place from 2020 to 2025 and will outline the key directions for the organization going forward, which include:

- **Strategic Direction:** SaskCulture's funding model is sustainable and adaptive to changing needs in order to support relevant cultural programming and activities in Saskatchewan.
  - o To maximize the impact of lottery dollars to better serve the needs of Saskatchewan people; and
  - o Adapt the Creative kids program to improve its long-term sustainability.
- **Strategic Directions:** Cultural programs, activities and experiences are more inclusive, diverse, equitable and accessible.
  - o Improve the inclusivity, diversity, equity and accessibility of cultural programming and activities supported by the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund, by ensuring:
    - A greater diversity of new and existing cultural programs are reaching underserved participants in the province;
    - Cultural programming, activities and experiences are more available in the North;
    - SaskCulture's network is active in the process of Truth and Reconciliation; and
    - Leaders in the cultural sector reflects diversity, equity and inclusion.

## Culture Days 2019

Culture Days, which took place September 27 – 29, 2019, marked its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year with the launch of a fresh new brand identity, a streamlined registration site, and a new website. It also introduced *Creativity, Culture, Arts, and Well-being* as its programming theme, aimed at sharing the many ways arts and culture connect to the well-being of individuals and the vitality of communities.

Culture Days in Saskatchewan continued to draw audiences to the myriad of hands-on and interactive arts and culture experiences and activities, while building awareness of culture, SaskCulture and Sask Lotteries in the province. Throughout the three-day Culture Days weekend, approximately 26,000 people participated in an estimated 330 cultural activities, held in 43 Saskatchewan communities. Seven communities in particular – Creighton, Lloydminster, Melfort, Regina, Saskatoon, Weyburn and Yorkton - were recognized by Culture Days, as well as the Province of Saskatchewan, for their ongoing participation since 2010.

LIVE Arts Saskatchewan participated in Culture Days for the second year in a row with programming that featured Janelle Pewapsconias, aka ecoaborijanelle, a nehiyaw spoken word poet from Little Pine First Nation. Janelle led 2,600 students in 31 communities through spoken word exercises to nurture their own unique creative expression; the session also supported the Culture Days programming theme.

For the third year in a row, SaskCulture worked with Districts for Sport, Culture and Recreation to offer the Culture Days Animateur program, which was designed to reach new communities. In 2019, six new communities joined the Culture Days initiative: Deschambault Lake, Rabbit Lake, Wynyard, Gull Lake, Lemberg, and Pierceland.

For 2020, it has been decided nationally that Culture Days will take place for an entire month, running from September 25 to October 25, in order to accommodate a high number of cultural activities to take place either virtually or in small group experiences (where public health restrictions allow). The Animateur opportunity, along with the Culture Days Funding Assistance program, are paused for 2020 as SaskCulture explores safe and viable ways to support communities and organizers wanting to hold events for Culture Days.

Please stay tuned for updates and check out [Culture Days Sask](#) website for more information.

### **COVID-19**

Due to COVID 19, SaskCulture has been following provincial guidelines and working to support our members. SaskCulture regularly posts [COVID 19 Updates](#) and [COVID 19 Response](#) updates on our website. We have surveyed members and have received insight into trends in the culture sector and have supported network meetings online to discuss the impacts of COVID on the sector.

In addition, SaskCulture grants with deadlines in the spring have been postponed to provide additional time for submissions. Fall deadlines are planned to continue as scheduled. SaskCulture is also working with current funding recipients to support those who have had to cancel events, postpone activities or transitioned projects completely to an online format.

### **Online Events Calendar**

SaskCulture worked with its partners SK Arts, Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, Saskatchewan Arts Alliance and City of Saskatoon, to identify options to promote arts and cultural events in the province. In January, the new Online Events Calendar was launched and groups were encouraged to include their content. The Events Calendar was promoted widely through social media and paid Facebook and print advertising. By March 2020, the Events Calendar had over 1,200 page views of different cultural activities from around the province. Following the COVID-19 restrictions on groups and gatherings, promotion of the events calendar has been reduced; however, work is underway to resume promotions along with upgrades to highlight Online Events.

### **Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (SICC) partnership – Indigenous Languages and Cultures (ILC) Program**

The Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre and SaskCulture have entered into their third year of partnership in support of the Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program, formerly known as the Aboriginal Languages Initiative (ALI) program. The partnership is a unique relationship in the country, where SICC has become a third party delivery agent of Canadian Heritage federal funding, with a local provincial cultural organization as a delivery partner. The arrangement has seen an increase in applications from 14 submissions back in 2017, when SICC first became the third party delivery agent, to 60 in 2019. This past year, Dominga Robinson, Outreach Consultant, left SaskCulture for a one-year leave to work with SICC directly in the development and delivery of the ILC program in Saskatchewan. SaskCulture continues to support in its capacity as a grants administrator.

### **Wichitowin 2019**

In 2019, several SaskCulture staff and board members attended the Wichitowin Conference, held October 18 & 19, in Saskatoon. Supporting staff training of this nature has been important to SaskCulture and it continues to ensure that each staff member has the opportunity to attend Indigenous engagement events such as Wichitowin, as well as the Language Keepers Conference held in November.

### **Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC)**

At last year's AGM, SaskCulture worked with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) to provide members with an opportunity to explore their reconciliation plans through a group Reconciliation Mapping Exercise. The data gathered was somewhat positive and showed that progress was being made. Many groups appear to be working to build a shared understanding of history (124 activities identified) while others were developing systems that benefit all, which includes diversity strategies and equitable board and changes to policy (64 activities). Only 60% of the activities appeared actionable, while the rest were aspirational. Follow-up discussions noted that groups should not be complacent and should strive to build upon the work being done. SaskCulture was planning to have a follow up conversation on the mapping exercise with members at its AGM. Given the current situation, we will attempt to find another avenue to share the information from the mapping session and foster further discussion.

### **e-miciminayakik Museum Gathering**

In May 2019, Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre hosted a special gathering of Indigenous heritage professionals and participants to discuss and share issues, ideas and solutions for First Nations museums, cultural centres, archives and libraries. SaskCulture was pleased to support this initiative that enabled a lot of good discussion on key issues impacting those working with Indigenous collections across the country.

### **Creative Kids**

Creative Kids had a challenging year. With an ever-growing amount of applications into the program, Creative Kids had to make some tough decisions on its direction and its growth. Creative Kids re-evaluated its fundraising efforts and began to focus more on grant applications and major gifts than large fundraising events. Now, the addition of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic further complicates Creative Kids' success in receiving grants, corporate donations and holding fundraising events.

With limited funding and the program becoming more widely known in the province, we have had to say "no" to more families. In 2019, the financial resources were significantly less than the requests for funding. Creative Kids had a funding gap of more than \$303,400 and declined 491 eligible applications. While efforts were made to re-fund kids, funding was provided to the families with the greatest financial need.

That being said, the impact of Creative Kids is tremendous in Saskatchewan. There were 1,242 kids funded in 2019, and since 2010, Creative Kids has funded over 9,800 applicants and granted over \$4.5 million to Saskatchewan children and youth, to 232 Saskatchewan communities and supported 477 music, dance, theatre, art and cultural instructors, and we have over 5,000 Facebook followers.

In 2019-20, the Culture Section of the Trust also provided a \$25,000 special Dream Brokers Program grant that gave an additional 230 kids a chance to participate in cultural programming. In addition, the CST topped up Cameco Corporation's \$20,000 contribution with another \$15,000 to deliver the Cameco Creative Kids Northern Cultural Fund – six cultural programs were delivered to kids in Northern Saskatchewan.

Creative Kids continues to co-ordinate seven volunteer committees across the province, with one hosted in-kind by the Lakeland District office. The Rivers West District office continued to accept applications through 2019, but is no longer providing in-kind administrative services from their office.

In late 2019, Creative Kids launched its online application process, which has helped encourage applicants and streamline internal processes. Beginning 2020-21, Creative Kids has reduced its annual application deadlines from 5 to 3 (May, August, December).

Creative Kids supported kids in every District throughout Saskatchewan:  
Please review the [Creative Kids Progress Report](#) for more specifics.

### **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 volunteers and staff of non-profits, funders and consultants. 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 several workshops and hosting presentations.

In June 2019, SaskCulture wrapped up a Capacity Building Cohort with three cultural organizations. The 15-month Lifecycle Capacity Program matched each organization with an independent consultant and followed a process to conduct self-assessment, debrief with the consultant, develop a capacity building plan and conduct an evaluation of the Program.

Starting in the fall of 2020, SaskCulture will be offering a new program, the Lifecycle Lab. The Lab will feature six sessions and each organization will conduct a self-assessment and develop a capacity building plan to strengthen their organization. For those interested, SaskCulture has a supply of the Lifecycles books by Susan Kenny Stevens for \$30 plus shipping costs, as well as a new resource, the Nonprofit Lifecycles Assessment “Selfie” booklet for \$5 plus shipping costs.

Any questions about this program 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 Nonprofit Lifecycle Institute website <https://nonprofitlifecycles.com/>

### **Annual Global Funding (AGF)**

The AGF was adjudicated in March for 29 Eligible Cultural Organizations (ECOs) for the next 3 year cycle from 2020-2022.

### **Organizational Diversity Planning**

Twenty-five Eligible Cultural Organizations (ECOs) have now completed their organizational diversity plans. SaskCulture, in conjunction with our Tri- Global partners, also supported South East and Rivers West Districts in the development of their own organizational diversity plans this past year.

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

Museums are in Year 2 of their MGP operational grant and are currently submitting follow-up reports for their second payment. Due to the COVID-19 situation, planning for summer 2020 has been challenging for museums, as seen in the attached Impact Survey recently completed by the Museums Association of Saskatchewan (MAS). MAS has been coordinating weekly community Zoom meetings on Wednesday mornings that provide museums with a culture-sector hangout to catch up, chat, ask questions and seek advice. Some District staff are attending these Zoom meetings and their presence is appreciated. Many museums are trying to find ways to move exhibits and

programming online, or at least engage their community through social media channels. Museums are scheduled to be part of Phase 4 in the re-opening plan, although many are advocating to open up sooner in Phase 3. MAS recently released three resources to help museums during this time:

Considerations When Re-Opening Museums: <https://saskmuseums.org/blog/entry/considerations-when-re-opening-museums>

Social Media during COVID-19: <https://saskmuseums.org/blog/entry/social-media-during-covid-19>

Supporting Seasonal Staff during COVID-19: <https://saskmuseums.org/blog/entry/supporting-seasonal-staff-during-covid-19>

The next Museum Grant Program deadline will be on November 30, 2020. There has been quite a bit of turnover with museum volunteers, so holding grant writing workshops prior to the deadline may be prudent.