



## **Indigenous Initiatives Fund Call for Proposals 2023**

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The University of Manitoba (UM) is committed to advancing Indigenous achievement and engagement, addressing anti-Indigenous racism, and responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action. The UM's Indigenous Initiatives Fund was created to further advance the Indigenous achievement and engagement goals as stated in our [Strategic Plan](#). Submissions are invited in support of these goals and priorities.

### **1.0 Purpose**

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The purpose of the Indigenous Initiatives Fund is to support unit-based projects that reflect the UM's goals and priorities associated with Indigenous achievement and engagement. These funds will be distributed on a competitive basis to faculties, schools, colleges, libraries, and administrative units ('units').

### **2.0 Eligibility**

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All full-time faculty and staff in academic and administrative units at the University of Manitoba are invited to apply. Proposals must be reviewed and endorsed by the applicable Dean/Director/University Librarian/Administrative Unit Head prior to submission. If more than one unit is involved (e.g., partnership between units), signatures from all associated Deans/Directors/University Librarians/Administrative Unit Heads are required, and a lead unit identified to receive the funds and be responsible for reporting.

UM student groups, associations, clubs, and alliances are eligible to apply for the Indigenous Initiatives Fund, including those that are UMSU-recognized; department or faculty-based; and/or part of co-curricular, experiential, or community-engaged learning. Student groups must have a UM staff or faculty member included as a project co-lead/advisor.

Applicants who have received funding in the past must have completed and submitted their Indigenous Initiatives Fund Report(s) to be considered for the 2023 Indigenous Initiatives Fund.

Applications are encouraged that align with the goals and priorities of the Strategic Plan, the commitments in the Manitoba Collaborative Indigenous Education Blueprint, the

Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action, and the implementation of the Indigenous Senior Leadership Report, in particular:

- Developing or revising curriculum/courses to better incorporate Indigenous knowledges and perspectives;
- Creating opportunities for students to graduate with a better understanding of the importance of the contributions of Indigenous peoples in Manitoba and Canada;
- Creating a culturally rich, safe, and supportive learning environment in which an increased number of Indigenous students, staff and faculty succeed;
- Fostering engagement between Indigenous organizations, groups, communities, and the University of Manitoba;
- Developing teaching and learning innovations or approaches that enhance the success of Indigenous students;
- Creating pathway programs that engage students in the K-12 system;
- Encouraging more Indigenous students and staff to study and work at the University of Manitoba, particularly in the areas/fields where they are most underrepresented;
- Developing methods, materials, or programs to ensure Indigenous cultures, languages and symbols are visible throughout our campus; and/or
- Increasing labour market opportunities for Indigenous graduates.

Please review the previously funded Indigenous Initiatives to avoid duplication of similar projects. <http://umanitoba.ca/indigenous/reconciliation/indigenous-initiatives-fund>

### **3.0 Funding:**

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One-time funding is available to support projects or serve as seed funding for initiatives that will continue to be funded by the unit. Cost-shared initiatives are welcomed. Proposals are invited in three categories:

**Category 1 – One-Time Impact Projects (projects that normally require 12 months to complete) with a funding limit of \$15,000.**

Projects of limited duration designed to advance understanding, honour contributions, strengthen policies or practices, and/or contribute in substantive ways to Indigenous achievement and a culture of inclusive excellence. For example:

- Hosting conferences, strategic gatherings, workshops, celebratory events, etc.
- Collecting, assessing, and evaluation of current policies, strategies, resources and/or curriculum.
- Enhancing the visibility of Indigenous cultures, languages, and symbols throughout our campuses.
- Implementing a pilot project that tests a new idea, initiative, or promising practice.

**Category 2 – Unit Impact Projects (projects that may require up to 24 months to complete and that may require additional funds from the unit) with a funding limit of \$30,000 per project**

Seed funding for new initiatives that will advance the faculty or unit's Indigenous achievement and enhancement goals. For example:

- Developing new policies, strategies, and practices.
- Furthering the faculty and staff perspectives and understanding of Indigenous histories, knowledges and worldviews.
- Developing and designing curricula and programs that advance UM Indigenous Achievement strategic priorities.

**Category 3 – Institutional Impact Projects (projects that may require up to 36 months to complete and that may require additional funds from the unit) with a funding limit of \$60,000 per project.**

Funding for initiatives that have the potential for university-wide impact and projects that could be sustained after the Indigenous Initiatives funding period by the requesting unit. For example:

- Advancing the university's commitment to Indigenous Achievement and to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action (TRC, 2015).
- Supporting university-wide Indigenous curriculum, pedagogy, development, advising, and supports.
- Supporting Indigenous student recruitment, retention, and success.
- Creating Indigenous specific learning workshops, modules, educational materials.
- Initiating projects in partnership with Indigenous communities and/or organizations.

Approved funding must be used within the timeframe of the respective categories. Exceptions may be considered by the Vice-President (Indigenous).

#### **4.0 Eligible/Ineligible Expenses:**

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Eligible:

- Minor capital expenditures will only be considered if accompanied by a rationale that clearly indicates that a) the expenditure is required for the success of the program, and b) funding is not available from other sources.
- Project or contract positions and/or teaching buyout to explore the development program and curriculum enhancements and to integrate Indigenous perspectives and knowledges.
- Artistic and design inclusion projects.
- Development of education workshops and conferences.

- Enrichment and exposure initiatives for K-12 students to prepare students for university experiences.
- Expenses relating to the promotion and development of partnership strategies.

Ineligible:

- Major capital expenditures related to renovations or additions to the physical infrastructure.
- Research activities, including community-based research activities, community engagement for research purposes, equipment, etc. (please see the University of Manitoba's Office of Research Services for more information on the University Indigenous Research Program).

**5.0 Criteria:**

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Priority will be given to the following:

1. An initiative that will further the University's goals and priorities associated with Indigenous achievement and engagement.
2. A project that will result in sustainable benefits to faculty, staff, and/or students, and/or communities.
3. A project that includes outcome-based criteria that will be used to evaluate the project's success.
4. A project that is most likely to achieve a large impact at either the local or the institutional level relative to the funding investment.
5. A project that represents an innovative new or substantially modified activity.
6. A project that can achieve the desired outcomes in a limited duration, or at least provide a pilot/test of a new program. For ongoing initiatives, applicants must attest to long-term funding plans.
7. A proposed budget that is reasonable, justified, and aligned with the objectives of the project.
8. Projects that are a collaboration between units/faculties/colleges/school/libraries.

**6.0 Application Process:**

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STEP 1: APPLICANTS to complete the PDF fillable application form (with attachments if applicable). 'Save' the file and email the application package to their Dean/Director/University Librarian/Administrative Unit Head for review and approval.

STEP 2: Dean/Director/University Librarian/Administrative Unit Head to review and approve proposal/s and electronically sign off. Multiple proposals from units *may* be ranked by the Dean/Director/University Librarian/Administrative Unit Head. If provided, these rankings will be considered in determining allocations and rank, if applicable.

STEP 3: Dean/Director/University Librarian/Administrative Unit Head to SUBMIT electronic applications to the Vice-President (Indigenous) Office via [vpindigenous@umanitoba.ca](mailto:vpindigenous@umanitoba.ca)

### **7.0 Deadline:**

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Applications must be received by: **Monday, May 15, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.**

### **8.0 Decisions:**

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Proposals will be vetted and ranked by a committee that will include the Vice- President (Indigenous), Associate Vice-President (Indigenous) Students, Community and Cultural Integration, Associate Vice-President (Indigenous) Research, Scholarship and Curriculum, Director of Indigenous Engagement and Communications, and other relevant individuals as determined by the Vice-President (Indigenous).

### **9.0 Progress and Final Reporting**

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**Progress Reporting:** For projects beyond one year, progress reports are required on April 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025 in addition to the final report.

Any changes to the project lead(s) or location (unit, department, faculty) of the project must immediately be reported to the Office of the Vice-President (Indigenous)

**Final Reporting:** Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report that outlines the project's accomplishments, an overview of the outcomes/benefits, a financial summary and, if applicable, the sustainability of the project.

Progress and Final Report forms will be provided to successful applicants.

**Celebrating and Sharing:** Successful applications can be expected to have their work highlighted on the UM website, through other UM communiques, and sharing and learning forums.