Purpose

The purpose of the Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program is to assist in the development of sport, culture and recreation programs, and leadership opportunities for Aboriginal people through non-profit community organizations in designated urban centers.

This program is funded and managed through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. The Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program is guided by the following principles:

1) To distribute funds through local governments to non-profit community organizations serving Aboriginal people with the intention of increasing programs, voluntarism, and access to and participation in sport, culture and recreation initiatives.

2) To provide funds to decrease the barriers that inhibits participation by Aboriginal people by creating more flexibility in funding guidelines.

3) To increase leadership development and organizational abilities by having Aboriginal people involved in decision-making capacities and in establishing local priorities related to sport, culture and recreation initiatives.

What is the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation?

The Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation (SLTF) was created in 1974. The Trust Fund receives its revenue through the sale of Saskatchewan Lotteries products throughout the province. Sask Sport Inc. manages and administers Saskatchewan Lotteries through a license agreement with the Government of Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund funds sport, culture and recreation initiatives in over 800 communities, and to more than 12,000 volunteer groups through the global organizations of Sask Sport Inc., SaskCulture Inc. and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc.
How much Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program funding is available?

- Up to $15,000.00 is available for the Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program in Yorkton.

- The maximum funding level for a project is up to a maximum grant of $3000.00 per project per year.

- Organizations are permitted to apply for more than one project, however a separate application per project is recommended. If an organization is submitting more than one project proposal, they should be prioritized for the consideration of the Urban Aboriginal Adjudication Committee.

Who is eligible to apply for funding from the municipality?

- Organizations that provide services with Aboriginal people and are registered under the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Corporations Act are eligible to apply.

- Organizations must have been incorporated and in existence for a minimum of one year, and have appropriate levels of liability insurance covering directors and officers, and participants insurance covering programs, events and activities that fall under its sanction.

- Community groups and/or not-for-profit organizations that are not registered under the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Corporations Act may partner with eligible organizations to apply for support and deliver activities that meet the objectives of the program.

- Individuals may not apply for funding assistance through this program.

- Organizations unable to comply with grant guidelines (i.e. late or incomplete applications or follow-up reports) will not be considered eligible for funding.

What is the application process?

- Community organizations will be eligible to apply for funding by the following application deadlines:
  - April 1, 2006
  - October 1, 2006

- Organizations should send completed application forms to the following address:
  Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program
  City of Yorkton Leisure Services
  Box 400
  Yorkton, SK
  S3N 2W3
What are the application criteria for community organizations?

- Only organizations meeting established eligibility criteria will be allowed to apply and receive funding;

- The program grant period is between April 1 - March 31 annually. All activities and eligible expenditures must be from within this fiscal period. Retroactive funding for past or existing programs is not permissible.

- **Eligible programs** must meet one or more of the following **objectives**:

  - Aim to increase the number of sustainable sport, culture and recreation programs involving Aboriginal people, with a priority on children and youth, and to decrease the barriers that prohibit participation. Barriers to participation include:

    a) cost                                        g) health and nutrition issues
    b) transportation                              h) no one to go with
    c) not aware of activity                       i) don’t have necessary skills
    d) disability                                 j) lack of childcare support
    e) access to facilities/equipment             k) lack of cultural sensitivity
    f) lack of leaders and role models

  - Strive for gender equity, youth participation, and volunteer and parental involvement in identifying local priorities as well as program design and development.

  - Increase the number of Aboriginal people involved in leadership capacities for sport, culture and recreation initiatives.

  - Assist in retaining Aboriginal youth in school and using school facilities as a center for program activities.

  - Link program and leadership opportunities with provincial strategies such as found on pages 7 and 8.

- **Eligible programs** must demonstrate one or more of the following **planning initiatives**:

  - Focus on decreasing barriers to sport, culture and recreation activities and therefore improve the education, health and/or well-being of Aboriginal children, youth and families;
- Where possible, actively involve those to whom the programs and services are to be provided, in the development, management and delivery of the programs;
- Address community-identified needs;
- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity, reflecting input of the community; and,
- Where appropriate, be integrated and coordinated with other community programs and services of a similar nature.

- The majority of program participants must be of Aboriginal descent and directed at the residents of the municipality;

- **Eligible costs** include:
  - Direct program related costs, such as program materials, minor equipment, salaries for program personnel;
  - Rent and utilities specifically related to program delivery; and,

- **Ineligible costs** include:
  - Programs that duplicate existing programs and services;
  - Construction, renovation, retrofit and repairs to buildings/facilities (this includes fixing doors, shingling roofs, installing flooring, moving/hauling dirt, etc.);
  - Property taxes;
  - General director's and officer's liability and participants insurance is ineligible, however, additional insurance coverage required for special events or activities associated with the grant request may be considered as eligible;
  - Alcoholic beverages;
  - Donations;
  - Food purchases that do not relate directly to a program, and food items for resale; (food purchases directly related to a program are eligible to a limit of 20% of the total grant);
  - Cash prizes;
  - Out-of-province activities and travel;
- Subsidization of wages for full-time employees. Note: Eligible employment expenditures are less than 35 hours a week for no more than 90 days in a grant period (or 455 hours in a grant period);
- Personal items such as footwear, jackets and hats (uniforms are eligible if they remain the property of the organization);
- Federal or provincial government-delivered programs and services; and,
- Salaries or expenses for any federal, provincial or local government employees.

- *Saskatchewan Lotteries* must be publicly acknowledged in all communications, correspondence and promotions as the source of funds for the program.

**How will the community applications be assessed?**

- Applications will be reviewed by the municipal fund administrator to ensure completeness of all required information, and then sent for review to the Urban Aboriginal Adjudication Committee established within the community.

- The adjudication of community projects and leadership initiatives should strive for the following: equitable distribution of funding between culture, sport and recreation initiatives; a reasonable balance of opportunities for male and female participants; and, leadership opportunities, in particular aimed at youth.

- The following adjudication criteria will be used by the panel in assessing the applications:

  1. The ability of the activity or program to address the objectives of the Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program.
  2. The quality of the proposed activity or program.
  3. The impact and benefit to the target individuals, group and target community.
  4. The impact or benefit to the Aboriginal community in terms of developing leadership skills and opportunities.
  5. The ability of the organization to undertake, manage and complete the proposed activity, project or event.
  6. The sustainability of sport, culture and recreation participation opportunities developed and the potential for lasting impacts.
  7. Consideration to a balance of Metis and First Nations applications; sport, culture and recreation initiatives; opportunities for male and female participants; and, youth development.
What can be expected once a decision is reached?

- Each community organization will be notified, in writing, of the outcome of its request for funding.

- If approved, 75% of the funds will be forwarded to the eligible organization.

- Community organizations must implement the program and manage and monitor financial controls as per the approved program and budget.

What is expected once the program is completed?

- Community organizations must complete a Follow-up Report for each project within 60 days following project completion.

- The Follow-up Report must provide a statement of actual expenditures verified with receipts or an audited financial statement prepared by a registered Certified Accountant/Certified General Accountant/Certified Management Accountant.

- The Follow-up Report will require a summary of programs supported, statistics regarding program participants, program accomplishments, and final program costs.

- The remaining 25% of the grant will be paid to the community organization upon the successful review and approval of the Follow-up Report.

- Unused funds, or funds used for purposes other than what was approved, must be returned to the *Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund*. 
Key strategies associated with Aboriginal Access to Sport, Culture and Recreation

1. Increased Well-being Through Participation and Physical Activity

To develop and implement new opportunities that increase physical activity levels of Aboriginal people, including youth, by providing access to sport, culture and recreation programming. Program strategies should also address barriers to access, such as limited program opportunities, lack of facility access and equipment, transportation issues, leadership and volunteer training, and cultural sensitivities in program design.

2. Community-School Enhancement

To facilitate program opportunities and partnerships that will link children and youth, as well as parents and other community members, to school settings. Through these efforts, youth will have greater access to school facilities, equipment and resources and be encouraged to spend more time on skill development and healthy lifestyle choices, such as physical activity opportunities and other community-based cultural, heritage, or recreation programs. Using school facilities as the center for program activities assists in retaining youth in the school system. Communities to designate themselves as In Motion communities and include daily physical activity to a level that achieves health benefits.

3. Primary Prevention of Diabetes

To provide a variety of opportunities in the area of physical activity, including sport and recreation, for the primary prevention of Type II Diabetes in the Aboriginal community. Physical activity initiatives are particularly needed among children and youth, but strategies for inactive adults and older adults will also be encouraged.

4. Building Volunteer Capacity

To increase the number of Aboriginal people with the skills and training to work with and support sport, culture and recreation directed programming. Investment in volunteer development such as workshops, seminars and conferences will increase the level of voluntarism in Aboriginal communities and encourage involvement and commitment in other decision-making or advisory capacities beneficial to the community.

Organizational and leadership development strategies will assist volunteers to acquire skills needed to assess community needs, build community linkages, and effectively plan and implement programs and action plans, while understanding cultural needs and sensitivities.
5. **Youth Leadership Development**

To provide youth with opportunities to develop leadership skills and increase their sense of accomplishment, their capacity for teamwork, and their influence on healthy lifestyle choices.

6. **Culture and Heritage**

To provide the Aboriginal community with the opportunity to promote and protect cultural lifestyles and values. Culture is an important base for values and traditions within the Aboriginal community, as well as a respected healing and learning mechanism. Sport, culture and recreation programs are important vehicles to be used in the promotion of cultural awareness and understanding.