

ŚW,ÇENENITEL Winter Grant Categories 2022

The new Grant Categories of the ŚW,ÇENENITEL Initiative are based on our traditional roles and responsibilities to our shared territories. We are here to encourage this framework of serving the land and people, not to replace traditional roles or responsibilities. The Grant Categories are separated like this to show how proposals can be composed.

Research, education and/or resource development can be a component or the main focus of your grant, where time and funds can be dedicated, in any category or size of grant. We encourage applicants to highlight any desire for intergenerational knowledge sharing and transferring, including mentorship opportunities. We are also very interested in collaborative research with families and communities, along with the development of resources.

This entire Grant Process, including reviewing requirements and examples, can be done orally (phone or video) or in writing. Do not feel discouraged if you have never applied for a grant before or have led a project before. We want to hear about your ideas and support the vision of our relations. Please reach out with questions or feedback - grants@indigenousfoodsinitiative.com and submit your application on the [Google Form](#).

You can find specific information about each category below:

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ŚW,ÇENENITEL Grant Categories:

Reflecting how we work together as Indigenous peoples

We have created four Grant Categories that represent ŚW,ÇENENITEL which are rooted in serving the land, ie. local Indigenous food systems. These Categories are place based, and demonstrate the possibilities of granting directly to people and communities.

Proposals that incorporate local Indigenous language and culture, land-based activities, or ancestral connections and obligations will have a higher chance of approval. The proposals that prioritize collaboration, that are oriented towards long-term impacts, and that show leadership by example also have a higher chance of success. Proposals of mentorship initiatives, educational activities or resource development, and/or research partnerships and projects will be considered in every Grant Category.

We are looking to fund or support projects, however, there are opportunities for long-term partnerships that work on initiatives together. We are open to other ideas that follow the themes and the intentions of the ŚW,ÇENENITEL Grant Categories so please don't feel limited by these examples. See *Indigenous-led Place Based Granting* for more information and history. See the *ŚW,ÇENENITEL Foundational Document* for our mandate and guiding principles.

Grant Category 1 - Fill Your Basket + Community Harvest: Sharing the Responsibility and Working Together

This grant provides funds for food initiatives or harvesting equipment that meet the needs of current and future generations, honouring the gifts and responsibilities given to us by our ancestors and XA,EL,S | náas. We have decided to offer this grant again to fulfill the needs of community members preparing for the seasons to come. There is destruction across our territories that directly interferes with our societies and responsibilities as x^wilŋəx^w | hwulmuhw | quuʔas, but we continue to be resilient and adaptive. Working together to feed our families and communities allows us to share the responsibility of caring for the land, and each other. This grant aims to support our immediate needs and to facilitate opportunities for new skills or continuing the practice of the peoples that came before us.

Examples of Working Together to Fill Our Baskets (Harvesting):

- A) Gathering and collecting food to share with families and community members
 - Ex. Collecting foods/medicines from our territories, following the seasons and protocols (hunting, fishing, foraging, etc.) to share or offer to communities, or provide for families
 - Ex. Gardening, growing, etc. - to provide food, and should include Indigenous plants
- B) Building capacity and resources with community to have sustainable food sources
 - Ex. Learning new skills or approaches to collecting or growing (can include combination of ancestral and non-local ways)
- C) Materials or supplies for harvesting or growing
 - Ex. Hunting, fishing or collecting supplies or equipment
 - Ex. Travel costs or honoraria

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Grant Category 2 - Maintenance + Restoration: Cleaning and Caring for the Land

This grant makes funds available for maintaining the integrity of the *téjəxʷ* | *tumulhw* | *nismá* (earth) and restoring balance to our ecosystems. *honouring the gifts and responsibilities given to us by our ancestors and XA,EL,S | náas.* Cleaning and caring for the land shapes who we are through our cultures, languages, and knowledge systems. We as *xʷiljəxʷ* | *hwulmuhw* | *quuʔas*, especially of these local territories, stand strong in our ways and we need to be practicing who we are in relation to the land. We can work together to demonstrate what is possible when Indigenous people lead with our relationships to the land as our family. We are looking for proposals that seek to restore balance to the land, to our families, and to our connections across our shared lands and waters.

Examples of Working Together to Restore Balance (“ecological restoration”):

- A) Invasive Species Removal
 - Ex. From backyard projects to entire sections of territories
 - Ex. Collaborative efforts with schools or organizations to follow protocols of ancestral title holders
- B) Re-introducing Indigenous Plants, Creatures
 - Ex. Indigenous plant nurseries
- C) Contamination Clean Up
 - Ex. Restoring wetlands area
- D) Preserving, Documenting, Sharing, or Revitalizing Traditional Practices
 - Ex. Restoring or re-establishing clam bed gardens
- E) Protecting Land, Water, and Other Relatives
 - Ex. Reoccupying parts of territory for environmental monitoring

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Grant Category 3 - Storytelling: Echoing the Land and Ancestors

This grant option focuses on echoing the stories of the ténəxʷ | tumulhw | nis̓há (earth) and our ancestors where the visions of our peoples can be heard, seen and felt together, honouring the gifts and responsibilities given to us by our ancestors and XA,EL,S | náas. We see the lack of representation of our territories, stories, and leadership in the media but can see how that can be changed. We value the integrity of the stories, experiences, and histories that our peoples and communities hold, and know that they echo the message from our ancestors. There can be outside influence on these voices, from colonial views, but our voices are bold and loud. There should be more artistic and creative content being produced by the people from these lands that accurately communicates who we are. This grant can be used to tell or show our stories - from Creation to present, and what our future can look like when we grow together. We want to see this grant supporting all types of artistic components, and all types of voices.

Examples Working Together to Tell Our Stories:

- A) Media creation
 - Ex. Video or audio recording - documentaries, language speakers, music, etc.
- B) Creative projects
 - Ex. Public art, murals
 - Ex. Writing short stories, comics, plays, etc.
- C) Publishing and content creation
 - Ex. Online or printed content (books, posters, magazines, etc.)
 - Ex. Podcasts or radio shows
- D) Art and traditional practices
 - Ex. Canoe carving
 - Ex. Place based coastal design and storytelling
 - Ex. Drumming and singing groups

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Grant Category 4 - Transformation and Transition: Carrying the Legacy of Innovation and Creativity

This grant option seeks to promote innovation and creativity in our communities that hold up the knowledge of the land and our experiences as xʷil̓ḡəxʷ | hwulmuhw | quuʔas, honouring the gifts and responsibilities given to us by our ancestors and XA,EL,S | ḡaas. We as peoples believe that our actions in the present are interlinked with our ancestors and with our future generations. This informs our legacies and can set our direction of working together to invest in who we are. The violent disruptions of colonial occupations (destruction of land, Indian Act, residential school, etc.) and distractions of colonialism (foreign currencies and economies, racist narratives and stereotypes, etc.) try to take our time and energy away from being xʷil̓ḡəxʷ | hwulmuhw | quuʔas. We have resisted and have transformed instead. We would like to see proposals that can equip our families and communities with tools, skills, or experiences that can transition us toward a future of self-determination and sovereignty once again.

Examples of Working Together to Transform and Transition:

- A) Leadership and training
 - Ex. Project or community planning and management, Indigenous-led
- B) Skills building
 - Ex. Reef net fishing
 - Ex. Public speaking - in Indigenous language; representing families/communities
- C) Mentorship/Cohort creation
 - Ex. Elder and youth groups - sharing knowledge and vision
 - Ex. Local Indigenous protocols and responsibilities to land/water
- D) Technology and communication
 - Ex. GIS mapping of ancestral territories and traditional foods systems

Research, education and/or resource development can be a component or the main focus of your grant, where time and funds can be dedicated.
