



**Lieutenant Governor's Heritage Awards**  
**Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage**

## **JURY GUIDELINES**

**Project Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Projects must have been completed within the last 3 years and have not previously received a Lieutenant Governor's Heritage Award. Awards should be measured in terms of the impact it had on the heritage of the neighbourhood, community of province.

Intangible cultural heritage (ICH) is the underlying fabric of our lives – stories, skills, traditions, ways of doing things, practices, representations, ways of speaking, and ways of interacting with each other and the environment. It does not always leave a material record behind, but rather is passed from person to person and from generation to generation. It is so deeply embedded in our cultural identities that we oftentimes take it for granted. ICH does not reside in the past. It is those elements of the past which continue in the present. It informs who we are and what we want to be. The value of such living cultural expressions is related to identity, memory and remembrances, belief and symbolism, nature and environment, knowledge system and sites.

- Submissions must meet at least one ICH goal to qualify
- Preference will be given to submissions that display excellent work in ICH (cover more than one ICH goal)
- The Jury has the discretion to award multiple projects in this category.

In the field of ICH, the term 'safeguarding' is used to characterize efforts to protect elements of ICH, without seeking to freeze them in some pure or authentic form. The identification, documentation, research, preservation, protection, promotion, enhancement, transmission of ICH, particularly through formal and non-formal education is necessary for the revitalization of our living heritage.

The key for safeguarding is transmission – ensuring that intangible cultural heritage is passed from generation to generation in a way that allows space for the natural evolution in our ways of doing and knowing.

## AWARD DESCRIPTION

The Jury will favour submissions that are exemplary of the safeguarding and continuation of ICH in communities in Saskatchewan as defined in the following ICH goals:

**Transmission & Revitalisation** – Recognising excellence in a project or program or person who embodies knowledge that promotes the safeguarding and continuation of ICH practices through activities like transmission, mentorship, workshops, and demonstrations. Transmission can be person to person, community to community, generation to generation, or within a cultural industry. This goal recognizes that ICH is not the same as history, and that it involves actions that keep heritage alive and active in the present and into the future.

**Celebration, Commemoration & Recognition** – Recognises excellence in a project or program (new or ongoing) that celebrates and recognises elements of intangible cultural heritage, as well as celebrations of traditional knowledge and knowledge keepers.

**Documentation** – Recognising an audio / visual / textual / photographic / digital project that records, inventories and/or identifies elements of intangible cultural heritage in a community or of an individual with the purpose of safeguarding ICH for the community and/or supports living traditions and transmission.

**Integrating ICH and Sustainable Development** - ICH plays a pivotal role in sustainable development by fostering social cohesion, economic growth, and environmental stewardship. By integrating ICH into development strategies, communities can leverage their cultural assets to promote sustainable tourism, enhance local economies, and preserve biodiversity.

### Domains of ICH

These are the five broad domains in which ICH is manifested and are included here as background.

**Oral traditions and expressions:** This can mean proverbs, riddles, tales, legends, myths, epic songs and poems, charms, chants, songs, and more.

**Performing arts:** This can include music, dance and theatre, pantomime, songs and other forms of artistic expression that are passed down from generation to generation.

**Social practices, rituals and festive events:** These are the activities that structure the lives of communities and are shared by members - for example, initiation rites, burial ceremonies, seasonal carnivals, and harvest celebrations.

**Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe:** These refer to know-how and skills that communities have developed by interacting with their natural environments, and may be expressed through language, memories, spirituality or worldviews. Traditional methods of architecture, agriculture, cattle-breeding, and cuisine are among the related elements.

**Traditional craftsmanship:** This may sound “tangible,” but it really refers to the skills and knowledge involved in craftsmanship, rather than the products themselves. Examples include pottery, woodwork, jewelry and precious stones, embroidery, carpet weaving, musical instrument production, weaving and fabric production, et cetera.

## JURY CONSIDERATIONS

Note that this is an award of excellence and while all the projects may be good work, not every project may be exemplary of ICH work, even if it is good historical writing or museology. Overall, consider all the submissions in good faith and be aware of the capacities of submissions. If a project seems intriguing but the submission leaves you with questions you can follow up with the main contact of that project.

Consider the following when making your decision:

- Does this submission demonstrate excellence in safeguarding ICH?
- Does the submission work to consciously identify and express the intangible values, beliefs, and teachings that inform traditions or practices in the community?
- Does this submission touch on more than one ICH goal? Special consideration should be given to submissions that touch on more than one goal; an ideal ICH project involves all the goals, not just one.
  - E.g. a project may demonstrate good documentation but may not demonstrate that the ICH documented is being transmitted or revitalized in the community
- Is there evidence of passing on knowledge and skills, especially inclusively (e.g. intergenerationally)?
- Will this submission have a positive impact on the wellbeing of its community?
- Does the submission demonstrate a broad and inclusive involvement of community?

## SCORE SHEET

Section A	Identification of stewardship and safeguarding of community ICH resources
Section B	Evidence of incorporation of one or more of the ICH goals
Section C	Demonstration that efforts made to involve or incorporate a broad and inclusive portion of the community
Section D.	Did the project provide evidence it has had a positive impact on the wellbeing of the community?
Section E	Evidence deserving of special recognition (evidence of contribution to the social, environmental, cultural, and/or economic wellbeing in the community)