

MICHIF LANGUAGE CELEBRATION GRANT

2026 – 2027 FUNDING GUIDE



1. SUMMARY

Métis Nation British Columbia's (MNBC) Ministry of Culture, Heritage and Language (MoCHL) is pleased to offer Michif Language Celebration Grants (MLCG) to increase Michif language awareness in Chartered Communities, as part of [Aan Michif Piikishkwaytaak: MNBC's 10-Year Michif Language Revitalization Plan](#).

Approved projects are eligible for grants up to **\$10,000**. Applications are due **March 31, 2026 at 4:30pm (PST)**. Grants will be delivered to successful applicants in three instalments, from April 2026 to March 2027. If you are interested in applying, you are encouraged to contact chl@mnbc.ca for help with planning and completing your application.

2. TERMINOLOGY

- MNBC: Métis Nation British Columbia, the Métis government in B.C.
- CHL: MNBC's Ministry of Culture, Heritage and Language
- Applicant: The [Chartered Community](#), applying for the grant
- Primary Contact or Grant Writer: The **individual** completing the application and subsequent reporting requirements on behalf of the applicant
- Project lead: The **individual** who will be responsible for running project activities
- Michif language(s): Southern/Heritage Michif, Northern Michif and/or Michif French

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this grant is to support Chartered Community gatherings and initiatives that highlight, educate and celebrate the importance of learning Michif languages. In valuing and creating awareness of Michif languages, communities can inspire new generations of Michif learners.

4. APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Submission of an application through the [Michif Grants Portal](#), which will also include two letters of support from members of the local Métis community where your project will take place. Sample work plan and budgets have been provided in Appendix A and B to assist you in completing your application. Please contact chl@mnbc.ca if you require support with the Michif Grants Portal.

5. TIMELINE

The 2026-2027 program year will run from April 2026 to March 2027, providing 12 months for projects and related spending. Below are key dates and deadlines:

- **March 31, 2026** – Grant applications due
- **April 2026** – Applications are processed and successful applicants notified

- **April/May 2026** – First grant installments are released (40% of total grant)
- **October 2026** – Interim reporting is due; second grant installments released pending interim reporting (40% of total grant)

6. APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for the MLCG, you must be the following:

- An MNBC [Chartered Community](#)
- In good standing with all MNBC ministries and departments, including being up to date with all reporting requirements of a previously awarded grants or funding

7. PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Eligible projects for this grant *must include hosting a community event or gathering that educates and raises awareness of Michif languages* for MNBC Citizens and must be offered free of cost.

Examples of eligible projects might include:

- Michif weekend camp
- Michif themed kitchen party/gatherings
- Michif community presentations

Ineligible Projects

The following projects are not eligible under this grant stream:

- Michif events or gatherings where participants are required to pay a registration fee
- Combining an event with another event where the main focus is not Michif
- Any event where the main theme and reason for gathering is not focused on raising awareness of Michif languages

8. ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

The following expenses are eligible as part of this grant stream:

- Project Coordinator/Contractor fees
- Elder/Speaker fees (Please see Appendix C. on how to budget for speaker fees)
- Elder honorariums
- Protocol gifts
- Contractor fees
- Administration fees (up to 10% of total grant)
- Space rental for program activities
- Supplies, materials and equipment for project activities
- Food and non-alcoholic beverages for project activities

- Travel expenses related to program activities (up to 25% of total grant)

Ineligible Expenses

The following expenses are ineligible:

- Administration fees exceeding 10% of the total grant amount
- Travel fees exceeding 25% of the total grant amount
- Alcoholic beverages
- Any fees, travel, or purchases exclusively supporting activities not proposed as part of your MLCG workplan or project
- Any expenses that take place before or after the grant period
- Any expenses that exclusively fund K-12 activities
- Any expenses that to produce materials for commercial purposes or resale
- Expenses that support the grant holder's personal business interests

9. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Interim and final reports are required for all grant recipients. Grant recipients are required to track all of their expenditures and provide expenditure updates and program updates as part of their interim and final reporting. Grant recipients will also be required to administer a participant survey at the end of their project.

10. APPLICATION SUPPORT

The Ministry of Culture, Heritage and Language is eager to support you in preparing a successful application. Staff can assist with reviewing your completed application, ensuring budgets are balanced, discussing ideas for your application, and more. If you'd like support, please contact us at chl@mnbc.ca.

Appendices

APPENDIX A – EXAMPLE WORKPLAN

Start Date	End Date	Task Description
April 2026	May 2026	Complete community callout for speakers and presenters for a Michif themed weekend gathering.
May 2026	June 2026	Complete bookings: community centre to host kitchen party, catering for shared dinner, fiddler and jigger for after dinner entertainment
June 2026	July 2026	Send out invitations for guest speakers, presenters and facilitators.
July 2026	August 2026	Confirm tables, chairs, decor. Gather Michif resources and information to give to community. Create Michif bingo and other fun games using Michif. Advertise event on social media.
August 2026	August 25, 2026	Host event Distribute attendee survey Write final report for MNBC

APPENDIX B – EXAMPLE BUDGET

Expense Type	Expense Details	Cost (Written as: \$XXX.00)
	Please explain how the expenses are being calculated. For example: <i>Teaching fees = 2hr session X \$50/hr x 3 sessions = \$300</i>	
Staff Wages	Part time project wages = 2hr/week X \$30/hr X 20 weeks = \$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Elder/Speaker Honoraria	Speaker fees = \$200 per speaker X 2 speakers = \$400	\$400
Honoraria for Elder Support	Elder support person for event = \$200	\$200.00
Participant Honoraria	Door prizes = 4 prizes X \$50 = \$200.00	\$200.00
Contractor Fees (Max 30% of total budget)	Fiddler and Jigger fees	\$500
Administration Fees (Max 10% of total budget)	10% of total budget	\$600
Space Rental	Community hall rental	\$250
Supplies & Equipment	AV rental	\$400.00
Food/Beverage	Dinner catering = \$25 per person X 50 people = 1,250.00	\$1,250.00
Acquisition or Licensing Fees	None	
Subscription Fees	None	
Travel Expenses (Max 25% of total budget)	None	
Other Expenses	Protocol gifts and medicines = \$200 X 5 presenters (Elder + teacher) = \$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

Other Expenses		
Other Expenses		
TOTAL COST OF PROJECT:		\$6,000
ANY IN-KIND FUNDS/OTHER FUNDING BEING CONTRIBUTED (IF APPLICABLE)		\$0
TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT BEING REQUESTED AS PART OF THE MICHIF LEARNING INITIATIVES GRANT		\$6,000

APPENDIX C – MICHIF SPEAKER COMPENSATION BUDGETING

The following table has been developed to support applicants in budgeting for work with first language Michif speakers. This is **not** a definitive guide for compensating speakers. The below ranges are just suggested ranges; however, speakers may request more or less depending on their personal preferences.

It is important that first language Michif speakers be properly compensated for the expertise that they bring as language carriers. This table **does not** apply to second language Michif speakers or facilitators contracted to support fluent speakers, as their rates should typically be less than that of a first language speaker. The Ministry may request alterations to program budgets where it appears that first language speakers are being under compensated.

	Transcription/ resource review or development	Video or audio Recording	Zoom teaching	Opening/ closing prayer honorarium	In person facilitation (does not include travel costs)
Mother tongue/ First language Speaker	\$50 - \$100/hr	\$150 - \$200/hr	\$150 - \$200/hr	\$200 flat rate	\$150 - \$300/hr

The following definitions have been developed to assist you in understanding the difference between a first language Michif speaker and other types of speakers or contractors that might be involved in your project.

Mother-tongue speaker/First language speaker

- A mother tongue/first language speaker of Michif (i.e., someone who learned Michif in the home/spoke it regularly in the early years of their life)
- Can speak in the Michif language in a broad range of topics (what many would consider fully fluent).

Second language/Emerging speaker

- Does not have Michif as their first language
- May have intermediate to advanced language competency
- Is still learning or seeks mentorship from first language speakers
- May act as a facilitator or teacher with guidance from first language speakers
- Teaching or facilitating may be limited to specific topics or beginner level programming

Facilitator/Helper

- Coordinates and/or co-presents on calls or teaching activities with the speaker
- May assist in developing lesson plans or resources
- Manages speaker invoicing and communications
- Provides general support to the speaker