ANNUAL REPORT
2025 | 2026

MANITOBA ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DU MANITOBA

PHOTO CREDITS

COVER | Fred Penner performing at the 2025 Winnipeg Folk Festival in Birds Hill Provincial Park. Photo by Matt Duboff.

COVER | Natasha Bacchus in "Rebirth of Courage," February 26, 2026, presented by the Manitoba Cultural Society of the Deaf - Deaf Arts Manitoba. Photo by Leonardo Salgado.

COVER | Samuel Benson and Hera Nalam in "Tad and Birdie," January to February 2026, presented by the Manitoba Theatre for Young People. Photo by Leif Norman.

INSIDE COVER | Photo courtesy of the Winnipeg Film Group.

PAGE 1 | Manitoba Conservatory of Music & Arts' Intro to Musical Theatre group class for children. Photo by Dana Letkeman.

PAGE 2 | Takashi Iwasaki, "Halcyon" (exhibition view), Plug In Gallery 1, May 30 to July 26, 2025. Photo by Karen Asher.

PAGE 3 | Photo courtesy of Denise Meeches.

PAGE 4 | Manitoba Mobile Music violinist Trevor Kirczenow performing at Villa Youville in Ste Anne, April 21, 2026. Photo courtesy of Villa Youville staff.

PAGE 4 | Manitoba Mobile Music violist Elise Lavallée and cellist Alyssa Ramsay performing at Menno Home for the Aged in Grunthal, March 31, 2026. Photo courtesy of Menno Home staff.

PAGE 5 | Photo courtesy of Gimli Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Club.

PAGE 6 | Jasyn Lucas and Oswald Sawh in front of the former's new mural in Thompson. Photo courtesy of the Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation.

PAGE 7 | Photo courtesy of the Strathclair and District Theatre Committee.

PAGE 8 | Julianna Zwierciadlowska-Rhymer, "Farm Fresh," 2025. Ceramic. Photo by the Saskatchewan Craft Council.

PAGE 9 | Opeyemi Olukotun, "Echoes of Home II," 2024. Acrylic on canvas. 60 x 48 inches.

PAGE 10 | Sienna Denys-Peters and Emma Petit, performing work choreographed by Odette Heyn. Photo by Camryn Spyksma.

PAGE 10 | Photo courtesy of Union nationale métisse Saint-Joseph du Manitoba.

PAGE 11 | MAC Board Chair Katarina Kupca, Larry Desrochers, and Larry's nominator Robert Vineberg at a celebration of Larry's career at the Centennial Concert Hall in Winnipeg on July 14, 2026. Photo by Gin Ouskun.

PAGE 11 | Larry Desrochers at a 1999 Pan American Games rehearsal.

PAGE 11 | Larry Desrochers at age 29, executive director of the first Winnipeg Fringe Festival in 1988. Photo by Jeff De Booy for the Winnipeg Free Press.

PAGE 12 | Lavender performing at "SWIFT: In Motion II" at the Gas Station Arts Centre in Winnipeg on January 31, 2026. Photo by Silver and Pixel Photography.

PAGE 15 | Photo courtesy of Mentoring Artists for Women's Art.

PAGE 19 | Photo by Matt Duboff, courtesy of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

PAGE 20 | The cast of "The Martian and the Mound," written by Andraea Sartison, directed by Gwen Collins and produced by One Trunk Theatre, performing at the Gas Station Arts Centre in November 2025. Photo by PJ Jordan.

PAGE 21 | Artist Opeyemi Olukotun guides a student in his class, "Portrait Painting in a Big Way" in Fall 2025. Photo courtesy of the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba.

PAGE 22 | Performance of "CYCLES" (work-in-progress) at the Young Lungs Dance Exchange 20th Anniversary Festival. Choreographed and performed by Krystina Dejean. Photo by Pablo Riquelme.

PAGE 22 | Takashi Iwasaki, "Halcyon," Plug In Gallery 1, May 30 to July 26, 2025. Photo by Karen Asher.

PAGE 22 | Cheyenne Rain LeGrande performs at the opening reception for "Prairie Thunder" in the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba Main Gallery, April 2025. Curated by Stacey Koosel and Marie-Anne Redhead.

PAGE 22 | Photo courtesy of the Winnipeg Film Group.

BOARD DIRECTORS

Katarina Kupca, *Chair*
Dr. Ben Akoh, *Vice-Chair*
Dr. Lana Adeleye-Olusae
Kate Fenske
Carolyn Gwyer
Jean-Paul Hoe
Terèsa Lee
Sara Stasiuk
Vivian Thomson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Randy Joynt

STAFF

Audrey Dwyer, *Director of Granting*
Cathleen Enns, *Program Consultant*
Suzan Esteves, *Executive Coordinator*
Martine Friesen, *Program Consultant*
Bridget Hartwich, *Senior Accountant*
Violet Houssin, *Communications Specialist*
Teresa Kowalke, *Program Administrator (until August 2025)*
Tracey Longbottom, *Program Consultant*
Cheryl Miki, *Program Consultant*
Geneviève Rosset, *Program Administrator (as of June 2025)*
Elyse Saurette, *Communications Coordinator*
Amina Sebaa, *Granting & Data Analyst*
Diana Sefa, *Program Administrator*
Deirdre Tomkins, *Program Consultant*
Alaric Wiens, *Granting System Administrator*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Manitoba Arts Council carries out its work on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Anishininewuk, Dakota Oyate, Denesuline and Nehethowuk Nations, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We acknowledge that northern Manitoba includes ancestral lands of the Inuit. Our office is located on Treaty One territory, but our work extends throughout Treaties Two, Three, Four, and Five. We respect the Treaties made on these territories and remain committed to working in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of truth, reconciliation, and collaboration.

We recognize that Indigenous Peoples' knowledge of and relationship with the land, water, and air is key to a sustainable future for all.

At the Manitoba Arts Council we respect the distinct worldview and creative culture of Indigenous communities by prioritizing Indigenous artistic and cultural expression through our granting programs and initiatives.

CONSEIL DES ARTS DU MANITOBA
ARTS COUNCIL

LETTER TO THE PREMIER

September 30, 2026

The Honourable Wab Kinew
Premier and President of the Executive Council

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of *An Act to Establish the Manitoba Arts Council*, we present this report on behalf of the members of the Manitoba Arts Council, covering the activities of the Council from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

Sincerely,

Katarina Kupca, *Chair, Manitoba Arts Council*

VISION

A vibrant Manitoba where arts and culture are embraced by everyone, fueling creativity, connection, and provincewide prosperity.

PURPOSE

MAC invests so that all Manitobans benefit from arts and culture.

MANDATE

The Manitoba Arts Council is an arm's-length agency of the Province of Manitoba established in 1965, "to promote the study, enjoyment, production, and performance of works in the arts." MAC makes awards to professional arts organizations and individuals in all art forms including theatre, literature, dance, music, painting, sculpture, architecture or the graphic arts, and includes other similar creative or interpretative activity, including arts education.

VALUES

MAC strives for:

EQUITY: Funding, programs, and policies that are equitable for all. We recognize that some groups face barriers and that achieving equity for these groups may require targeted measures.

COLLABORATION: Partnerships to make efficient use of resources, achieve common goals, and maximize impact. We value a collaborative approach in our work and the work of funding recipients.

DIVERSITY: The diversity of Manitobans to be represented in work we support, within our organization, and through our partnerships.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Transparent decision-making on behalf of the citizens of Manitoba, informed by actively hearing stakeholders.

CREATIVITY: Supporting the original expression of ideas in our work and through our investments.

STEWARDSHIP: Maximizing benefit for citizens through our investment in arts and culture.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR & THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thank you to the Government of Manitoba for your continued investment in arts and culture, and for recognizing the profound difference they make in peoples' lives and in building strong communities.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Manitoba Arts Council (MAC), we are pleased to present the annual report for the year ending March 31, 2026.

The 1950s movement to support public investment in Canadian arts and culture was driven by a desire to cultivate a distinct identity in the face of American mass culture. The *Manitoba Arts Council Act*, passed in 1965, gave this goal a provincial dimension. Manitoba's stories have always been nurtured by cultural carriers and shaped by artists. Now, as affirming our unique identities is critical, we continue to turn to stories, voices, and creative expressions to connect us, reflect who we are, and inspire our future.

In the pages that follow, you will find just a few examples of the many projects that embody Manitoba's identity in every corner of our province.

Beyond their cultural impact, these artists, organizations, and cultural workers also power a dynamic sector that is a key driver of Manitoba's economy.

This was highlighted with the October 2025 release of a sector economic impact study. The study shows that arts and culture support 20,000+ jobs and contribute nearly $2 billion, or 3% of Manitoba's gross domestic product. Government investment through MAC is a catalyst, generating more than $10 for every dollar invested, while arts and culture tourism drives more than $477 million in visitor spending.

In 2025-2026 MAC invested, $12.16 million in the arts and cultural sector through 634 MAC grants. These ranged from $279 to support an artist's professional development to $900,000 for the operations of our largest arts institutions. Every recipient plays an essential role in an arts and cultural ecosystem that is a source of great pride for Manitobans. This pride was underscored in a MAC–commissioned *Arts Value* survey that shows arts and culture top the list of positive things Manitobans say about their community to non-residents.

With extraordinary support from the Government of Manitoba, MAC partnered with The Winnipeg Foundation to develop *Looking Forward*, a program to support arts and cultural organizations in adapting to a rapidly changing landscape. 21 organizations received support through the program's first deadline in October 2025, and we look forward to the outcomes of their explorations.

MAC also began looking at its own future and launched a strategic planning process with the consulting firm Leading4impact. Community input was essential to this planning, and we thank everyone who provided feedback on community needs, services, and the evolving roles of an arts funder. We look forward to working in partnership with the sector and broader community as the plan is implemented.

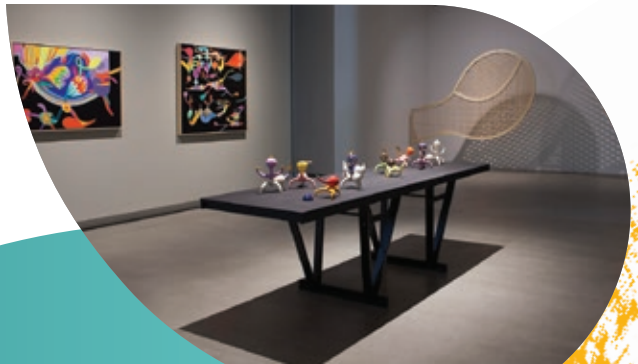
Arts and culture contribute to a healthy and prosperous province in many ways. They support physical and mental well-being, protect languages and cultures, inspire us to envision a strong future together, and build trade relationships through cultural diplomacy. Perhaps most importantly, in a world that can feel divided and isolating, the unique ability of arts and culture to bring people together is critical. Now is the time to support and celebrate those who foster understanding and our shared aspirations.

It is a privilege to be part of the creative community and we are continually inspired by the creativity, resilience, and dedication of Manitoba's artists, organizations, and cultural workers.

Thank you to the creators, supporters, and patrons whose work and engagement enrich all Manitobans' lives. We also extend our gratitude to the MAC Board and staff and our government colleagues for their dedication to ensuring all Manitobans have access to meaningful arts and cultural experiences. We look forward to the work ahead, together.

Katarina Kupca, *Chair, Manitoba Arts Council*

Randy Joynt, *Executive Director, Manitoba Arts Council*



ARTS & CULTURE ACROSS MANITOBA

Over the next several pages, you will find features on arts and culture in eight regions of our province, including statistics on the sector, spotlights on artists and organizations doing tremendous work in their communities, and MAC's investment in every corner of Manitoba.

Notes for regional statistics: The number of artists and arts/cultural professionals are taken from Hill Strategies Research's report "Professional artists in Manitoba in 2021," published in 2024. Applications and awards from a specific region are tied to the applicant's postal code (with the exception of Artists in Schools). This means that the funded activities may have taken place in a different region.

CENTRAL PLAINS

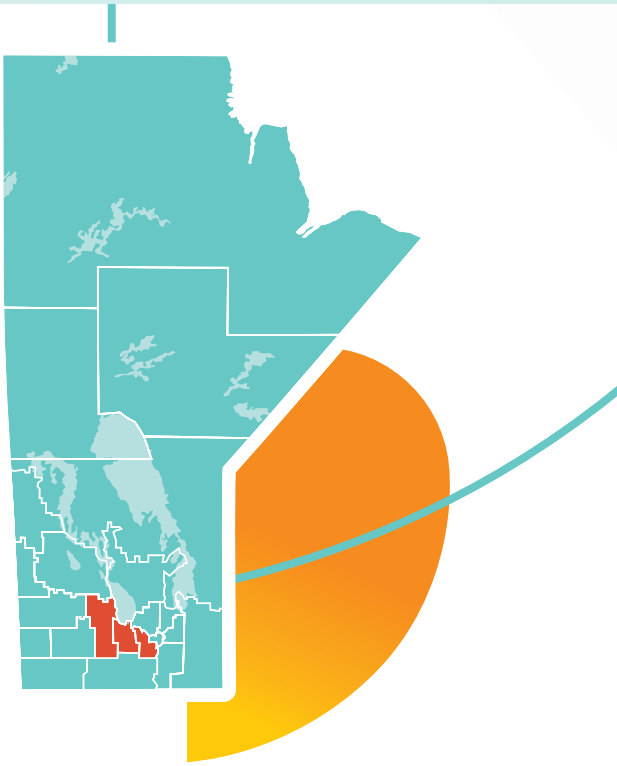
80 artists in the Central Plains Region (or 1 in every 333 local workers).

420 cultural workers in the Central Plains Region (or 1 in every 59 local workers).

$77,625 in funding was received by applicants in the Central Plains Region.

1 organization received operating funding.

5 projects were funded.



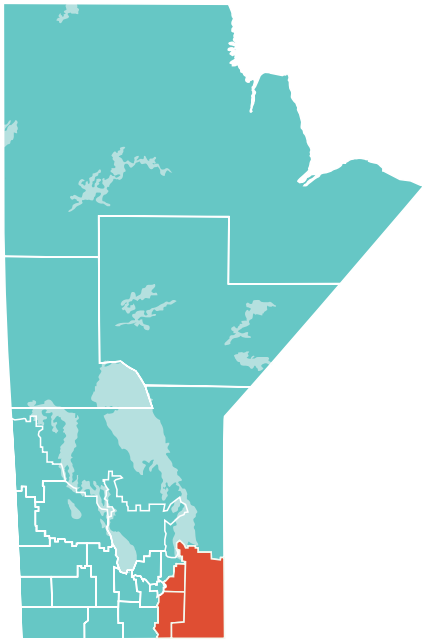
Denise Meeches

In the beginning of 2026, Portage la Prairie-based Anishinaabe fashion designer, artist, and educator Denise Meeches launched the "Matriarchs in Bloom: Reviving Ojibwe Language Through Regalia" project.

Over the course of four months, supported by an Indigenous 360 grant, Denise and her family brought together community members of Long Plain First Nation for a series of workshops in Anishinaabe regalia-making and Anishinaabemowin language classes. The result was a body of work that reflects their teaching, identity, and the living connection between art, language, and spirit.

"For my artistic career, this project represents an evolution of my practice – expanding from individual design to collective creation and deepening my role as both artist and cultural educator. It allows me to continue building pathways where language, story, and art come together to strengthen our identity and inspire future generations."

DENISE MEECHES



EASTMAN

420 artists in the Eastman Region (or 1 in every 162 local workers).

1,700 cultural workers in the Eastman Region (or 1 in every 41 local workers).

$232,056 in funding was received by applicants in the Eastman Region.

1 organization received operating funding.

33 projects were funded.

1,840 students and **14** schools benefitted from Artists in Schools projects.

Manitoba Mobile Music

Founded in 2025, Manitoba Mobile Music is a non-profit group of professional musicians dedicated to bringing high-quality concerts and programming to underserved communities in rural Manitoba.

Between February and May of 2026, funded by an Artists in Communities grant, Manitoba Mobile Music performed 21 concerts in care homes and seniors' residences in Eastman, bringing contemporary and classical music to over 1,000 seniors and care home staff.

"Everywhere we performed, care home residents told us how much they appreciated our music and how much they wish live music could be a regular part of their lives. At several of our concerts, residents were in tears when it was time for us to leave, asking when we could come play for them again."

TREVOR KIRCZENOW, CO-FOUNDER, MANITOBA MOBILE MUSIC

INTERLAKE

270 artists in the Interlake Region (or 1 in every 188 local workers).

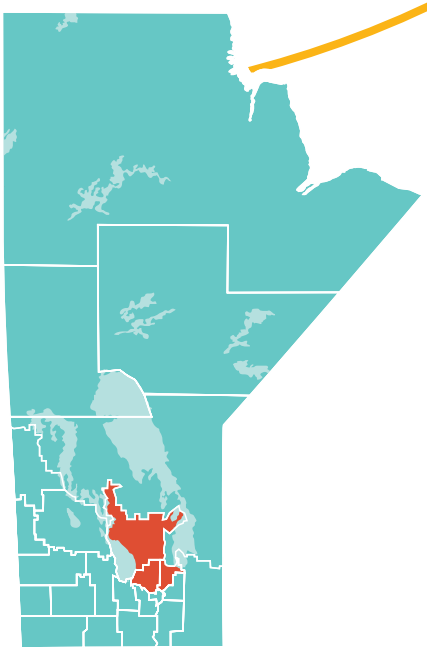
1,200 cultural workers in the Interlake Region (or 1 in every 45 local workers).

$176,142 in funding was received by applicants in the Interlake Region.

2 organizations received operating funding.

25 projects were funded.

989 students and **9** schools benefitted from Artists in Schools projects.



Gimli Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Club

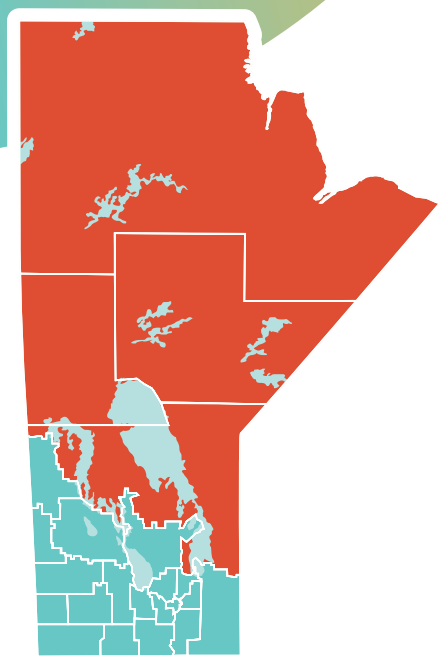
Established in 1980, the Gimli Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Club is dedicated to celebrating and sharing Ukrainian culture in the Interlake region through traditional dance and costumes.

This year, funded by a Community Impact grant, Barvinok held two major annual performances: Malanka, its Ukrainian New Year celebration, and the Spring Concert, where dancers demonstrated their growth, dedication, and accomplishments throughout the 2025-2026 season.

Additionally, Barvinok participated in the Manitoba Ukrainian Dance Festival and performed at several community events, including for residents at the Betel Home Foundation personal care home.

"With the assistance of this grant, Barnivok Ukrainian Dance Club continued to strengthen its presence within the Gimli community and beyond through performances, cultural celebrations, and growing community engagement. Our events welcomed audiences from across Manitoba, bringing together families, friends, and supporters to celebrate Ukrainian culture and the joy of dance."

JULIA PATRICK, BOARD MEMBER, GIMLI BARVINOK UKRAINIAN DANCE CLUB



NORMAN

70 artists in the Norman Region (or 1 in every 468 local workers).

470 cultural workers in the Norman Region (or 1 in every 70 local workers).

$215,342 in funding was received by applicants in the Norman Region.

3 organizations received operating funding.

16 projects were funded.

758 students and **3** schools benefitted from Artists in Schools projects.

Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation

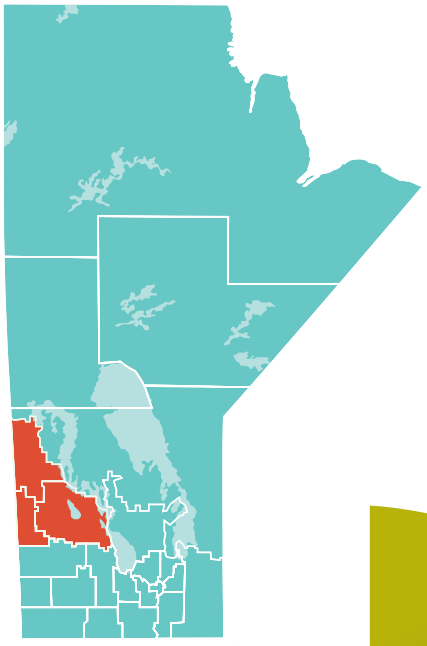
Funded in part by an Artists in Communities grant, the Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation (TNRC) partnered with the City of Thompson to launch a mural initiative. Renowned local artist Jasyn Lucas refreshed the infamous "Tansi" sign at the entrance to Downtown Thompson and created three new murals across the city.

These new murals paid tribute to Northern Indigenous veterans, the lynx and Sasagiu Rapids, and the Northern Lights. Jasyn was helped by members of the Northern Circle of Youth, a community initiative that provides resources for Indigenous youth in the area.

"Jasyn was able to not only create three great murals but was able to also mentor the other artists as well that assisted him. It was a very positive experience for all."

OSWALD SAWH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THOMPSON NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL CORPORATION

PARKLAND



40 artists (approximately) in the Parkland Region.

340 cultural workers in the Parkland Region (or 1 in every 61 local workers).

$226,238 in funding was received by applicants in the Parkland Region.

5 organizations received operating funding.

23 projects were funded.

738 students and **7** schools benefitted from Artists in Schools projects.

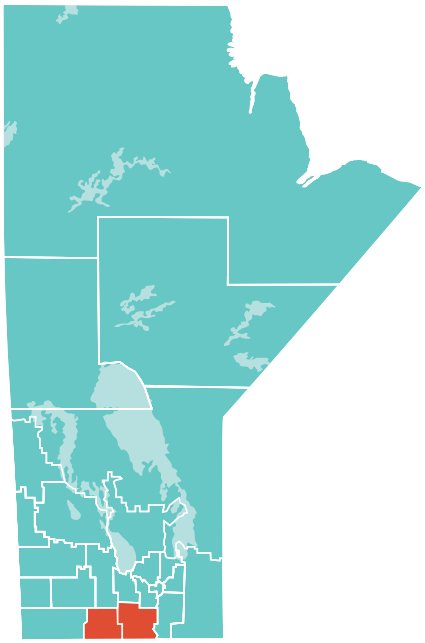
Strathclair and District Theatre Committee

Since 1987, the Strathclair and District Theatre Committee has brought performing arts experiences to the Parkland region by hosting theatre performances, concerts, recitals, and film screenings at the Bend Theatre.

Funded by a Community Impact grant, their 2025-2026 season included concerts by local acts and choirs, the Strathclair Drama Club's musical theatre production of "Big," and the touring MTC play "Hockey Mom, Hockey Dad."

"Community support is evident when you see how an abandoned movie theatre has been restored and turned into a first-class centre. The theatre provides an opportunity for community members, local and extended, to perform and develop their craft."

BRAD MCDONALD, DIRECTOR, STRATHCLAIR AND DISTRICT THEATRE COMMITTEE



PEMBINA VALLEY

180 artists in the Pembina Valley Region (or 1 in every 189 local workers).

930 cultural workers in the Pembina Valley Region (or 1 in every 38 local workers).

$166,932 in funding was received by applicants in the Pembina Valley Region.

4 organizations received operating funding.

20 projects were funded.

375 students and **7** schools benefitted from Artists in Schools projects.

Julianna Zwierciadlowska-Rhymer

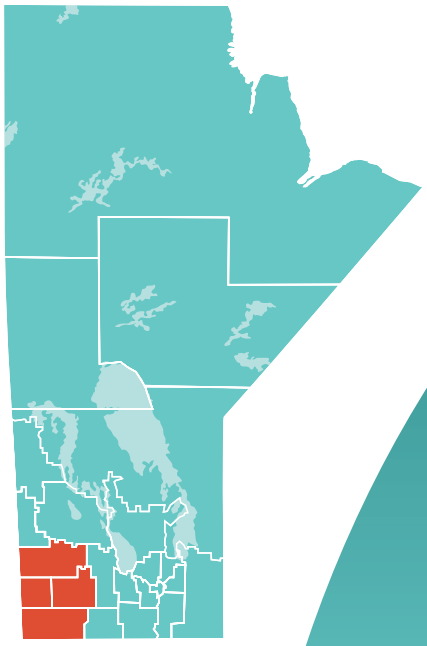
Throughout 2025, Morris-based artist Julianna Zwierciadlowska-Rhymer created a series of ceramic sculptures for her solo exhibition, “Guilty Pleasures,” at the Saskatchewan Craft Council.

Supported by a Create grant, some of this work was created at Medalta Potteries in Medicine Hat, Alberta, where Julianna studied mold-making with artist Jocelyn Reid.

“My ceramic practice focuses on sculptural work with conceptual ideas about our food system, questioning what we are consuming, the indulgences we crave, and what our food is made of. The elaborate detail and extravagant sculptures seduce the viewer into closer inspection, but the disturbing and grotesque reality is quickly revealed.”

JULIANNA ZWIERCIADLOWSKA-RHYMER

WESTMAN



310 artists in the Westman Region (or 1 in every 211 local workers).

1,200 cultural workers in the Westman Region (or 1 in every 54 local workers).

$433,997 in funding was received by applicants in the Westman Region.

5 organizations received operating funding.

38 projects were funded.

977 students and **9** schools benefitted from Artists in Schools projects.

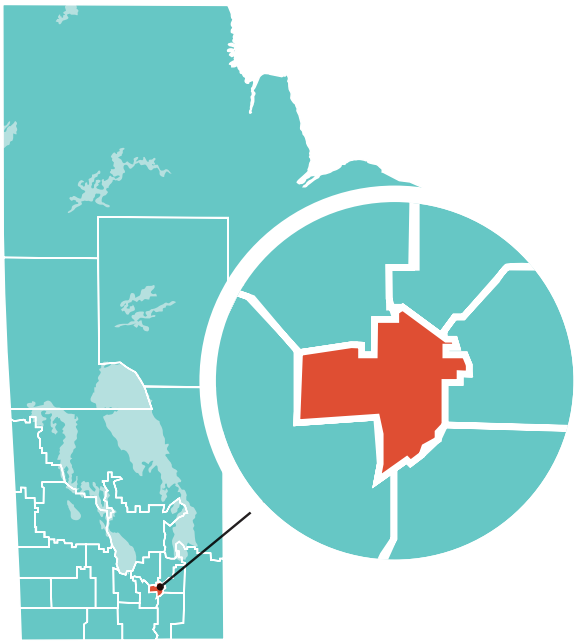
Opeyemi Olukotun

Brandon-based visual artist Opeyemi Olukotun's exhibition, "Through my window, there is a view," explored the facets of his experience as a Nigerian immigrant to Manitoba – including regret, uncertainty, loneliness, and profound grief. The show ran from June to September 2025 at the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba in Brandon.

With funding from a Create grant, Opeyemi painted 16 portraits of newcomers to Canada, expressing both the universality and specificity of each sitter's experience.

"This body of work is important not just because of my own personal experience, but because it has been the plight of most immigrants without much documentation of their struggles and challenges settling into a different environment. This exhibition shall serve as a form of awareness for the future immigrants as a message for preparedness, bearing in mind what to experience and how to survive these times."

OPEYEMI OLUKOTUN



WINNIPEG

3,800 artists in Winnipeg (or 1 in every 112 workers).

17,700 cultural workers in Winnipeg (or 1 in every 24 local workers).

$10,662,940 in funding was received by applicants in Winnipeg.

82 organizations received operating funding.

474 projects were funded.

3,108 students and **20** schools benefitted from Artists in Schools projects.

Sienna Denys-Peters

In 2025, Winnipeg-based dance artist Sienna Denys-Peters completed her Bachelor of Arts in Dance through The School of Contemporary Dancers' (SCD) Senior Professional Program.

With funding from a Scholarships grant, Sienna learned and performed works by contemporary choreographers, worked with the SCD's artist-in-residence Andrea Pivatto, and developed and produced her own dance production.

"Movement has always been a way of expression for me. Whether I am conveying myself or a choreographer's story and feelings, I am brought to such awe of how powerful movement is. I want to make people feel something through my performance."

SIENNA DENYS-PETERS

Union nationale métisse Saint-Joseph du Manitoba

Union nationale métisse Saint-Joseph du Manitoba (UNMSJ), operating since 1887, was established to share and preserve the culture, heritage, and traditional knowledge of the Francophone Métis, as well as promote their history.

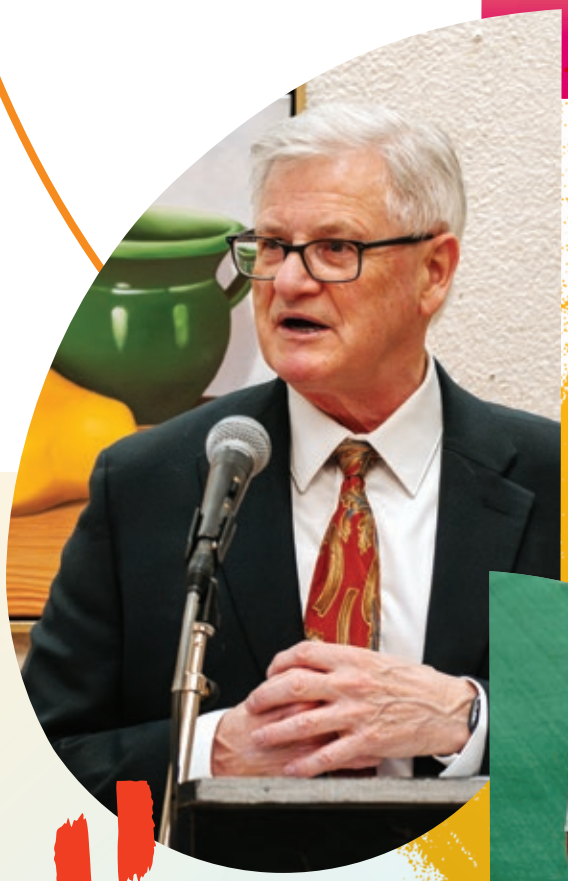
In the summer of 2025, funded by an Indigenous 360 grant, UNMSJ offered its three flagship events: Camp Terre et tradition, an intergenerational camp; Canot à St. Malo, a canoeing camp; and an ice fishing camp. These camps created a space to cultivate intergenerational relationships and the transmission of Métis traditions through storytelling, knowledge of nature, and teaching the Michif language.

"These camps are essential to our community as they provide greater knowledge and appreciation of Métis traditions and strengthen intergenerational relationships within the community, while encouraging our pride in identity."

RICHARD TURENNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
UNION NATIONALE MÉTISSE SAINT-JOSEPH DU MANITOBA

MANITOBA ARTS AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Larry Desrochers was awarded the 2026 Manitoba Arts Award of Distinction.



Beyond his impressive 25-year tenure as CEO & General Director of Manitoba Opera, Larry has also worked as a producer and administrator in theatre, festivals, film, and large-scale cultural events, often at the forefront of significant change in Canada's arts and culture sector. Larry was the inaugural executive director of the Winnipeg Fringe Festival, which has become the second largest of its kind in North America. He was a founding board member of Manitobans for the Arts, an organization that advocates for arts, culture, and heritage in Manitoba. Larry also produced and directed the 1999 Pan American Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies, the largest live-broadcast outdoor stadium event in Canadian history at the time.

"I am truly honoured to receive this award. The Manitoba Arts Council has been an important part of my career, from the founding of the Winnipeg Fringe Festival through to my leadership of Manitoba Opera, and I am especially grateful for the MAC's enduring commitment to nurturing artists, strengthening organizations, and sustaining the creative life of our province."

LARRY DESROCHERS

ABOUT THE MANITOBA ARTS AWARD OF DISTINCTION

This $30,000 prize is awarded annually to a professional artist, arts/cultural professional, or Indigenous Knowledge Keeper in recognition of the highest level of artistic excellence and contribution to the development of the arts in Manitoba.

The nominations for this award were reviewed by a multidisciplinary panel of peers who make their decision based on the artistic excellence of the candidate's work and their contribution to the development of the arts in Manitoba. Previous Award of Distinction recipients include Ken Gregory (2025), Jennine Krauchi (2024), Di Brandt (2023), Daina Warren (2022), and Alan Greyeyes (2020).

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements of the Manitoba Arts Council (the "Council") are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Board of Directors.

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards prescribed for governments as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada and as such, include amounts that are the best estimates and judgments of management.

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of these statements and for implementing and maintaining a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that reliable financial information is produced.

The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the financial statements.

The Finance and Audit Committee reviews the Council's financial statements and recommends their approval to the Board of Directors. Finance and Audit Committee meet periodically with management, as well as the external auditors, to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues, to satisfy themselves that each party is properly discharging their responsibilities, to review the financial statements and the external auditor's report.

The external auditors, Fort Group Chartered Professional Accountants Inc., conduct an independent examination in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, and express their opinion on the financial statements. The external auditors have full and free access to the financial management of Manitoba Arts Council and meet when required.

Randy Joynt
Executive Director

Bridget Hartwich
Senior Accountant

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MANITOBA ARTS COUNCIL

OPINION

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Manitoba Arts Council (the "Council"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2026, and the statements of operations, changes in net financial assets and cash flow for the period then ended, and the notes to financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Manitoba Arts Council as at March 31, 2026, and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the period then ended, in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Fort Group

Chartered Professional Accountants Inc.

May 26, 2026, Winnipeg, Canada

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2026

	2026	2025
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 250,848	$ 152,559
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	841	2,889
Portfolio investments (Note 4)	1,524,954	1,542,266
Recoverable from the Province of Manitoba (Note 7)	36,000	36,000
	1,812,643	1,733,714
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	141,106	151,839
Commitments for grants and programs	771,585	819,199
Deferred grant revenue (Note 6)	136,271	40,000
Employee future benefits (Note 7)	155,252	156,307
	1,204,214	1,167,345
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	608,429	566,369
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Note 8)	154,038	201,806
Prepaid expenses	16,474	3,564
	170,512	205,370
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	$ 778,941	$ 771,739

Designated assets (Note 7) · Collections (Note 9) · Commitments (Note 10)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Board Chair

Board Vice-Chair

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2026

	2026 Budget	2026 Actual	2025 Actual
REVENUES			
Province of Manitoba - operating grant	$ 13,704,400	$ 13,704,400	$ 13,704,400
Province of Manitoba - Looking Forward	250,000	250,000	-
Partnerships and other contributions	20,000	189,254	20,050
Investment income	85,000	97,258	126,635
	14,059,400	14,240,912	13,851,085
EXPENSES			
Grants			
Create (Schedule 1)	800,000	805,853	842,460
Share (Schedule 1)	1,430,000	1,406,356	1,429,630
Support (Schedule 1)	9,247,000	9,325,759	9,010,040
Learn (Schedule 1)	150,000	159,714	166,693
Indigenous 360 (Schedule 1)	400,000	395,649	405,350
Recognize (Schedule 1)	75,000	73,941	79,932
	12,102,000	12,162,272	11,934,105
Decline with merit (Note 2(h))	-	(4,805)	11,924
	12,102,000	12,162,467	11,946,029
Arts community services (Schedule 2)	159,000	193,628	186,511
Administration (Schedule 2)	1,798,400	1,877,615	1,708,736
	14,059,400	14,233,710	13,841,276
NET OPERATING SURPLUS	-	7,202	9,809
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	771,739	771,739	761,930
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR	$ 771,739	$ 778,941	$ 771,739

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

Year ended March 31, 2026

	2026 Budget	2026 Actual	2025 Actual
NET OPERATING SURPLUS	$ -	$ 7,202	$ 9,809
Tangible capital assets			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	(1,831)	(27,323)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	50,000	49,599	52,330
	50,000	47,768	25,007
Other non-financial assets			
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	-	(12,910)	8,985
CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	50,000	42,060	43,801
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	566,369	566,369	522,568
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, END OF YEAR	$ 616,369	$ 608,429	$ 566,369

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flow

Year ended March 31, 2026

Cash provided by (used in):	2026	2025
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net operating surplus	$ 7,202	$ 9,809
Add back non-cash item(s):		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	49,599	52,330
	56,801	62,139
Change in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	2,048	8,311
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(10,733)	9,649
Commitments for grants and programs	(47,614)	52,277
Deferred grant revenue	96,271	40,000
Employee future benefits	(1,055)	12,755
Prepaid expenses	(12,910)	8,985
	82,808	194,116
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of portfolio investments	(36,393,411)	(26,896,416)
Proceeds on maturity of portfolio investments	36,410,723	25,885,615
	17,312	(1,010,801)
CAPITAL ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(1,831)	(27,323)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	98,289	(844,008)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	152,559	996,567
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	$ 250,848	$ 152,559

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2026

1. NATURE OF ORGANIZATION

The *Arts Council Act* established the Manitoba Arts Council (the "Council") in 1965 as an arm's length agency of the Province of Manitoba to "promote the study, enjoyment, production, and performance of works in the arts." The Council provides awards to professional arts organizations and individuals in all art forms, including theatre, literature, music, dance, painting, sculpture, architecture or the graphic arts and includes other similar creative or interpretative activities, including arts education.

The Council is a registered charity (Public Foundation) and, as such, is exempt from income taxes pursuant to the Income Tax Act (Canada).

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards, which are Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for the public sector as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board.

(b) Revenue recognition

Government transfers

Government transfers without eligibility criteria or stipulations are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized.

Government transfers with eligibility criteria but without stipulations are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized and all eligibility criteria have been met.

Government transfers with or without eligibility criteria but with stipulations are recognized as revenue in the period the transfer is authorized, and all eligibility criteria have been met, except when and to the extent that the transfer gives rise to liability.

Partnerships and other contributions

Revenue from partnerships and other contributions is recognized on an accrual basis in accordance with the underlying agreements.

Investment income

Investment income is recognized in the period to which it relates.

(c) Expenses

All expenses incurred for goods and services are recorded on an accrual basis when the related goods or services are received.

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include balances with banks, cash on hand, and the cash held in investment portfolios.

(e) Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value. An allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded when there is uncertainty about whether the amounts will be collected.

(f) Portfolio investments

Portfolio investments consist of investment savings accounts and GICs.

(g) Liabilities

Liabilities are present obligations as a result of transactions and events occurring at or prior to the end of the fiscal year, the settlement of which will result in the future transfer or use of assets or other form of settlement. Liabilities are recognized when there is an appropriate basis of measurement and a reasonable estimate can be made of the amount involved.

(h) Commitments for grants and programs

Grants and program commitments are recognized as expenses when the awards are formally approved and committed by the Council. Cancellations of prior year grant expenses are separately presented as a decline with merit grants on the Statement of Operations.

(i) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recognized at cost. Cost includes the purchase price as well as other acquisition costs. The costs of tangible capital assets, less any residual value, are amortized over their estimated useful life using the straight line method as follows:

- Office furniture and equipment — 5-10 years
- Computer hardware and software — 3 years
- Leasehold improvements — Term of lease

(j) Prepaid expenses

Prepaid expenses are payments for goods or services which will provide economic benefits in future periods. The prepaid amount is recognized as an expense in the period the goods or services are consumed.

(k) Collections of musical instruments and works of visual art

Prior to March 31, 2025, the Council had collections of musical instruments and works of visual art which were not recognized in these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. See Note 9 for information relating to the Council's collection and subsequent disposal.

(l) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and adjustments are recognized in the period they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(m) Financial instruments

Financial instruments held by the Organization include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, portfolio investments recoverable from the Province of Manitoba, accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The Council recognizes its financial instruments when the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. All financial instruments are initially recorded at their fair value. At initial recognition, the Council may irrevocably elect to subsequently measure any financial instrument at fair value. Except for those instruments designated at fair value, all other financial assets and liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method.

Transaction costs directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance, or assumption of financial instruments subsequently measured at fair value are immediately recognized in operating surplus. Conversely, transaction costs are added to the carrying amount for those financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

All financial assets except derivatives are tested annually for impairment. Management considers whether the investee has

experienced continued losses for a period of years or recent collection experience for the loan, such as a default or delinquency in interest or principal payments, in determining whether objective evidence of impairment exists. Any impairment, which is not considered temporary, is recorded in the statement of operations. Write downs of financial assets measured at cost and/or amortized cost to reflect losses in value are not reversed for subsequent increases in value.

(n) Employee future benefits

Eligible employees of the Council are members of the Civil Service Superannuation Fund pension plan (the "Plan"), a multi employer, defined benefit pension plan. As individual entities within the Plan are not able to identify their share of the underlying assets and liabilities, the Council is accounting for the Plan as a defined contribution plan. The cost of the Plan is recognized based on contributions required to be made during each period. The Council's liability under the Plan is limited to the contributions required during the year. Retirement entitlement obligations, severance and vacation entitlement benefits, if any, are accrued as employees earn the benefits.

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	2026	2025
Accrued interest	$ 841	$ -
Other receivables	-	2,889
	$ 841	$ 2,889

4. PORTFOLIO INVESTMENTS

Portfolio investments consist of investment savings accounts and GICs. At March 31, 2026, the market value was equal to the book value of the portfolio investments in the amount of $1,524,954 (2025 - $1,542,266).

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2026	2025
Accrued vacation entitlements	$ 103,440	$ 98,723
Wages payable	7,560	28,346
Trade payables and accrued liabilities	28,722	22,364
Accrued overtime entitlements	1,384	2,406
	$ 141,106	$ 151,839

6. DEFERRED GRANT REVENUE

Deferred revenue represents unspent resources externally restricted for specific use in the current period. Changes in the deferred revenue balances are as follows:

	Opening Balance	Contributions Received	Revenue Recognized	Returned to Funder	Closing Balance
Canada Council of the Arts	$ 40,000	$ -	$ (34,863)	$ (5,137)	$ -
The Winnipeg Foundation	-	250,000	(113,729)	-	136,271
	$ 40,000	$ 250,000	$ (148,592)	$ (5,137)	$ 136,271

During the prior year, the Council received a contribution of $40,000 from the Canada Council for the Arts on behalf of the Canadian Public Arts Funders' Secretariat. The contribution was provided to support the 2025 Gathering of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Arts and Cultures Administrators, which was organized and hosted by the Council. Of this amount, $34,863 was recognized as revenue in the year ended March 31, 2026. The unspent balance of $5,137 was returned to the funder in July 2025.

During the year, the Council and The Winnipeg Foundation (the "Foundation") entered into a partnership agreement to deliver the Looking Forward program, which supports Manitoba based arts and cultural organizations in exploring and implementing significant organizational change to prepare for the future and achieve their objectives. The agreement covers the period from April 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026. For the year ended March 31, 2026, each party contributed $250,000. As at March 31, 2026, $113,729 of the contribution received from the Foundation has been recognized as revenue and expended on administrative and grant program costs.

7. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS

Pension benefits

Eligible employees of the Council are members of the Civil Service Superannuation Act pension plan (the "Plan"), a multi employer, defined benefit pension plan. The Plan is accounted for as a defined contribution plan since the Council has insufficient information to apply defined benefit plan accounting. The Plan specifies the amount of the retirement benefit to be received by the employees based on the length of service and rates of pay. The Council participates on a fully funded basis and its contributions of $80,443 (2025 - $77,081) represent the total pension expense for the year. Contribution rates for the Council are at 7.1% (2025 - 7.1%) of pensionable earnings up to the yearly maximum pensionable earnings limit (YMPE) and 9.0% (2025 - 9.0%) on earnings in excess of the YMPE.

Severance Liability

Effective March 31, 1999, Manitoba Arts Council, as an Agency organization, is required to record a severance liability. The Province of Manitoba has recognized an opening liability of $36,000 as at April 1, 1998, and the Council has recorded a corresponding recoverable from the Province. This recoverable from the Province is designated for future severance obligations of the Council. Any subsequent changes to the severance liability are the responsibility of the Council.

As at March 31, 2026, the Council recorded a severance liability of $155,252 (2025 - $156,307) based on the provisions of its Employee Handbook and management's best assumptions regarding severance rates and compensation increases. The assumptions used parallel those used by the Province of Manitoba and include a 4.25% (2025 - 4.25%) rate of return and 3.50% (2025 - 3.50%) annual salary increases. The liability is based on actuarial calculations and is updated annually based on a formula included in the most recent actuarial valuation dated December 31, 2022. The periodic actuarial valuations of this liability may determine that adjustments are needed when actual experience is different than expected or when there are changes in the actuarial assumptions used. The resulting actuarial gains or losses are amortized over the expected average remaining service life of the employee group of 15 years (2025 - 15 years).

The severance liability as at March 31 includes the following components:

	2026	2025
Severance liability, beginning of year	$ 150,022	$ 134,838
Interest cost	5,515	4,869
Current service cost	10,998	10,315
Less: severance benefits paid	(15,138)	-
	151,397	150,022
Plus: unamortized actuarial gains	3,855	6,285
Severance liability, end of year	$ 155,252	$ 156,307

Total severance benefits paid during the year ended March 31, 2026, was $15,138 (2025 - $nil).

8. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	2026			
	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Closing balance
COST				
Office furniture and equipment	$ 181,241	$ 1,831	$ -	$ 183,072
Computer hardware and software	147,508	-	-	147,508
Leasehold improvements	285,740	-	-	285,740
	$ 614,489	$ 1,831	$ -	$ 616,320
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION				
Office furniture and equipment	$ (163,109)	$ (15,959)	$ -	$ (179,068)
Computer hardware and software	(138,427)	(4,541)	-	(142,968)
Leasehold improvements	(111,147)	(29,099)	-	(140,246)
	$ (412,683)	$ (49,599)	$ -	$ (462,282)
	$ 201,806	$ (47,768)	$ -	$ 154,038

	2025			
	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals(i)	Closing balance
COST				
Office furniture and equipment	$ 179,242	$ 1,999	$ -	$ 181,241
Computer hardware and software	144,920	13,624	(11,036)	147,508
Leasehold improvements	274,040	11,700	-	285,740
	$ 598,202	$ 27,323	$ (11,036)	$ 614,489
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION				
Office furniture and equipment	$ (147,517)	$ (15,592)	$ -	$ (163,109)
Computer hardware and software	(141,824)	(7,639)	11,036	(138,427)
Leasehold improvements	(82,048)	(29,099)	-	(111,147)
	$ (371,389)	$ (52,330)	$ 11,036	$ (412,683)
	$ 226,813	$ (25,007)	$ -	$ 201,806

(i) During the 2025 year end, the Council derecognized tangible capital assets that were no longer available for use. All disposals in the continuity schedule above pertain to this derecognition.

9. COLLECTIONS

Works of visual art

The Council's collection of works of visual art is comprised of 399 pieces of art currently in the care of the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba in Brandon, Manitoba and at the Council's Winnipeg, Manitoba office. There were no acquisitions or disposals of collection items during the year (2025 - $nil). Total expenditures on collection items during the year amounted to $nil (2025 - $nil). The most recent appraisal of the Council's visual art collection was completed in 2005, indicating a market value of $449,222. No amounts relating to these collection items are recognized in these financial statements.

Musical instruments

In the prior year, the Council gifted their portion of jointly owned stringed instruments, valued at $33,500, to the Brandon University School of Music (SOM). No amounts relating to these collection items were previously recognized in these financial statements. As of March 31, 2025, the Council no longer owned a collection of stringed instruments.

10. COMMITMENTS

The Council has entered into a 10 year lease expiring February 28, 2031, for its office space and a 5 year lease for a photocopier. The future annual lease commitments (excluding certain occupancy charges and property taxes) for the next 5 years are as follows.

2026-27	$ 117,870
2027-28	117,870
2028-29	117,225
2029-30	115,290
2030-31	105,683
	$ 573,938

11. RISK MANAGEMENT

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument fails to discharge an obligation and causes financial loss to another party. Financial instruments which potentially subject the Council to credit risk are cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, recoverable from the Province of Manitoba and portfolio investments.

The maximum exposure of the Council to credit risk at March 31 is:

	2026	2025
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 250,848	$ 152,559
Accounts receivable	841	2,889
Portfolio investments	1,542,954	1,542,266
Recoverable from the Province of Manitoba	36,000	36,000
	$ 1,812,643	$ 1,733,714

Cash and cash equivalents and portfolio investments:

The Council is not exposed to significant credit risk as these amounts are held by a reputable Canadian financial institution and by the Minister of Finance.

Accounts receivable:

The Council is not exposed to significant credit risk as the balance consists of accrued interest on investments.

The Council establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts that represents its estimate of potential credit losses. The allowance for doubtful accounts is based on management's estimates and assumptions regarding current market conditions, customer analysis and historical payment trends. These factors are considered when determining whether past due accounts are allowed for or written off. The balance of the allowance for doubtful accounts as at March 31, 2026, is $nil (2025 - $nil).

As at March 31, 2026, the aging of accounts receivable balances is $841 current (2025 - $2,889 current).

Recoverable from the Province of Manitoba:

The Council is not exposed to significant credit risk as the balance is guaranteed from The Province of Manitoba.

(b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they come due.

The Council manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate cash balances and by review from the Province of Manitoba to ensure adequate funding will be received to meet its obligations.

(c) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that a financial instrument's fair value or future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The interest rate exposures relate to cash and cash equivalents and portfolio investments.

The interest rate risk on cash and cash equivalents is considered to be low as the deposits are reinvested at a fixed rate.

(d) Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that a financial instrument's fair value or future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Council is not exposed to significant foreign currency risk as it does not have any significant financial instruments denominated in a foreign currency.

Schedule of Grant Expenses (Schedule 1)

Year ended March 31, 2026

	2026 Budget	2026 Actual	2025 Actual
CREATE	$ 800,000	$ 805,853	$ 842,460
SHARE			
Present	320,000	319,444	324,771
Artists in Communities	480,000	487,686	499,430
Tour	280,000	276,002	280,001
Artists in Schools	350,000	323,224	325,428
	1,430,000	1,406,356	1,429,630
SUPPORT			
Operate	8,347,000	8,347,000	8,360,000
Strengthen	80,000	79,865	79,920
Community Impact	240,000	220,497	240,120
Looking Forward	250,000	348,397	-
ACSF Organizations	330,000	330,000	330,000
	9,247,000	9,325,759	9,010,040
LEARN			
Residencies	20,000	20,000	20,000
Travel and Professional Development	80,000	89,714	94,693
Scholarships	50,000	50,000	52,000
	150,000	159,714	166,693
INDIGENOUS 360	400,000	395,649	405,350
RECOGNIZE			
Prizes	30,000	30,000	30,000
Competitions	45,000	43,941	49,932
	75,000	73,941	79,932
	$12,102,000	$12,167,272	$11,934,105

Schedule of Arts Community Services and Administration Expenses (Schedule 2)

Year ended March 31, 2026

	2026 Budget	2026 Actual	2025 Actual
ARTS COMMUNITY SERVICES			
Peer assessment fees and expenses	$ 95,000	$ 102,300	$ 105,517
Looking Forward	-	41,764	-
Art bank	15,000	15,000	15,000
Accessibility costs	15,000	17,325	16,928
Northern remote allowance	12,000	9,000	10,500
Outreach	15,000	2,423	31,567
Residency support	5,000	4,966	5,967
Research	2,000	850	1,032
	$ 159,000	$ 193,628	$ 186,511
ADMINISTRATION			
Salaries and benefits	$ 1,318,000	$ 1,336,468	$ 1,267,034
Rent and renovations	136,000	134,305	135,314
IT licensing and support	68,000	71,215	61,175
Communications and public events	50,000	103,587	47,163
Office expenses	45,000	40,741	40,987
Amortization of tangible capital assets	50,000	49,599	52,330
Membership and subscriptions	36,000	37,624	38,998
Professional fees	27,000	39,951	33,229
Board meetings and expenses	50,000	49,459	13,636
Executive director expenses	5,000	2,079	2,724
Staff expenses	13,400	12,587	16,146
	$ 1,798,400	$ 1,877,615	$ 1,708,736

CONSEIL DES ARTS DU MANITOBA
ARTS COUNCIL

YEAR AT A GLANCE 2025 | 2026

Here are some key data points from the last year. To see a full breakdown of all the awards MAC made last year, take a look at the 2025-2026 Grants Listing at **artscouncil.mb.ca/about-us/plans-policies-and-reports**

634 GRANTS AWARDED FOR A TOTAL OF $12.2M[1]

276 GRANTS

TO ORGANIZATIONS & GROUPS FOR A TOTAL OF **$10.3M**

358 GRANTS

TO INDIVIDUALS[2] FOR A TOTAL OF **$1.8M**

OF THE AWARDED INDIVIDUALS[3]:

- **27%** are Black or People of Colour
- **22%** are First Nations, Métis, or Inuit
- **21%** are Deaf/living with disability
- **13%** are Francophone
- **28%** are 2SLGBTQ+

475 applicants submitted **1,475** grant applications and requested a total of **$18.7M**[4].

MAC hired **120** external assessors, who served on **33** assessment panels.

NOTES: All numbers reflect applications processed during the 2025-2026 fiscal year. For more information, see artscouncil.mb.ca/grants/grant-results/. Data about self-identification of MAC applicants is based on profile information shared by individual applicants on a strictly voluntary basis. This information is not available to assessors who review applications. Because sharing this information with MAC is optional, we do not have a complete picture of the diversity represented by the applicants and we may be underestimating the true number of applicants in these categories. **1.** This number does not include $ 28,805 from rescinded grants. **2.** This includes all grants awarded to individual professional artists, Indigenous Knowledge Keepers, arts/cultural professionals, and students of the arts. **3.** Based on 358 awards made to individuals in 2025-2026 of which 172 went to BIPOC applicants (including 77 awards to First Nations, Métis, or Inuit applicants), 76 went to applicants who are D/deaf or living with a disability, 48 went to Francophone applicants, and 102 went to 2SLGBTQ+ applicants. **4.** This number does not include withdrawn applications.