

Edmonton Heritage Council 2022 Grant Recipients

Career Development

Jean Middleton, ICOM Conference Travel to Prague

Amount Awarded: \$4,000

Project Summary: From August 22nd to 28th, 2022 the International Council of Museums (ICOM) hosted its general conference in Prague, Czech Republic. ICOM's conferences are held every three years to encourage a global exchange of cultural ideas that can inspire action at a local scale. ICOM conferences address challenges facing contemporary museums and work toward innovative solutions. The 2022 conference theme was The Power of Museums, broken down into four topics: purpose, sustainability, vision, and delivery. Many of the sessions resonated with Middleton's work at the Alberta Aviation Museum (AAM). The conference examined ways for museums to recover from the challenges of recent years including, but not solely, the pandemic.

Edie Muldrew - Interpretation Canada 2022 National Conference

Amount Awarded: \$2,675

Summary: As a relatively new interpreter and museum professional at the Alberta Aviation Museum, Edie attended the *2022 Interpretation Canada Conference* to network with Canadian museums and museum professionals, gaining a great breadth of learning opportunities in one place and was given a better idea of the scope and application of interpretation techniques. The theme of storytelling yielded edifying talks and tours concerning the implications of how Canada's "story" are told and by whom on museum practice.

Jodi Calahoo Stonehouse – RSD II: Possibilities & Practices of Systemic Design

Amount Awarded: \$2,987

Summary: The Edmonton Shift Lab had an opportunity to share the groundbreaking work they are doing in social innovation, anti-racism and creating equity with systemic design theorists and practitioners from around the world at the *RSD 11 Symposium: Possibilities & Practices of Systemic Design*. This involved sharing the work of their prototypes, including the Exploring Wahkohtowin Treaty boardgame. The hope is that the event will bring new insights to their work and allow them to share and possibly even commercialize some of the "prototypes" that have been developed.

Sameer Singh – RSD II: Possibilities & Practices of Systemic Design

Amount Awarded: \$3,237

Summary: The Edmonton Shift Lab had an opportunity to share the ground-breaking work they are doing in social innovation, anti-racism and creating equity with systemic design theorists and practitioners from around the world at *the RSD 11 Symposium: Possibilities & Practices of Systemic Design*. This included sharing the work of Indigenous innovation that Singh's colleague, Jodi Calahoo Stonehouse, is doing across Canada.

**Miranda Jimmy – BC Museums Association & Heritage BC Joint Conference Act II
Amount Awarded: \$2,513**

Summary: This grant was for travel costs to participate in the *BC Museums Association & Heritage BC Joint Conference Act II* in Victoria, BC. The conference brought together Indigenous Knowledge Keepers, heritage practitioners, and museum professionals with a focus on leadership, redress, and the responsibilities of cultural heritage institutions. Through active participation in conference planning and delivery, Edmonton-focused stories on sites of consciousness, commemoration, and reconciliation within the heritage sector were shared.

Community Impact Project

**The Alberta Workers Association for Research and Education (AWARE), Surviving the Canadian Dream: Stories of Undocumented Families in Edmonton
Amount Awarded: \$19,669**

Project Summary: Audio recordings of the lives of families without immigration status (undocumented) in Edmonton will be collected. Each family will be paired with a comic artist to draw pictures of their story. To raise awareness of the situations of undocumented families in Edmonton, the audio clips and comics will form a website and become part of a traveling exhibition and podcast. This project aims to connect Edmontonians to the invisible families living in the shadows of our city and combat often racist stereotypes and stories of “illegal immigration”.

**Islamic Family and Social Services Alberta, Community on Treaty 6
Amount Awarded: \$10,000**

Project Summary: This project will document the histories, cultures, and experiences of Muslim communities on Treaty 6 territory, utilizing storytelling and artistic production. The project will create a new plaque at the historic site of North America's first built mosque in collaboration with inter-generational Muslim and Indigenous community members.

Michelle Lavoie, Edmonton Queer History: Researching and Documenting Old Strathcona

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: This project will support 2SLGBTQ community researchers to find, document, and create written records of 20 sites of 2SLGBTQ history in Edmonton’s Old Strathcona. Documents, photographs, and records will be sought to contextualize the writeups. These stories, documents, and images will be added to a publicly accessible website, which will map these histories to present physical locations in Edmonton.

Marlon Wilson, Edmonton Cricket Documentary

Amount Awarded: \$20,000

Project Summary: This documentary will explore Edmonton’s Caribbean cricket history and the community that shaped it. The primary purpose of the project is to restore the memory and preserve the stories of the elders in the cricket community. Their ages are a signal that some of their stories may be lost forever if they are not documented soon.

Operational Grant

Recipient:	Amount Awarded:
Alberta Aviation Museum	\$ 168,710
Alberta Genealogical Society	\$ 26,964
Alberta Labour History Institute	\$ 9,399
Alberta Pioneer Railway Association	\$ 22,995
Edmonton Chinatown Chinese Library	\$ 23,720
Edmonton and District Historical Society	\$ 8,094.59
Edmonton Radial Railway Society	\$ 16,074
Société Généalogique du Nord Ouest	\$ 10,765.75
Société historique francophone de l’Alberta	\$ 38,426

Project Accelerator

Jordon Hon, A Portrait of Chinatown

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary:

“A Portrait of Chinatown” looks at Edmonton’s Chinatown through a historical and contemporary lens using the mediums of video interviews, photography, book making, large format printing, and an exhibition to spotlight different voices in and around the Chinatown community. This grant will help to support the organization and programming of an exhibition event in Edmonton's Chinatown. The hope is to gather the people to photograph and interview at the event, as well as the general public, to start and continue conversations around our local Chinatown.

Navjot Kaur, Creating New Stories Multicultural Learning Circle

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: This project will provide opportunity for Indigenous friends and advocates to “see” or experience protocols of new immigrant communities via visits to local heritage sites including mosques, gurdwara, and mandirs. The project responds to the expressed desire of Indigenous community members to better understand new waves of immigrant settlers and their values, stories, and experiences in culturally appropriate and safe ways. This project is rooted in anti-racism and anti-discrimination; it will engage in meaningful reconciliation through relationship-building. This is directly correlated with the respective communities (Indigenous, Muslim, Sikh) seeking meaningful ways to deal with prejudice and experiences of discrimination within the City of Edmonton. For immigrant communities, learning how to host Indigenous community members with authenticity and truthfulness is a crucial step in understanding reconciliation. The team hopes to create meaningful opportunities for exchanges and to document these experiences to promote education and demystification of the communities to each other.

Miriam Mahaffy, Land-based Learning programming expansion

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: The project builds on work that started during early COVID-19 with a mostly volunteer team, to curate a monthly Curiosity Club in which families received a package of artistic educational resources to help them embark on a self-guided outing at an Edmonton park. On the outing, they explored evidence of the land’s heritage (early

coal mines, signs of homesteads, areas with important Indigenous significance...), and learned about the plants, animals, and humans that live on the land. Last spring, the volunteer team received a previous (Research & Planning) HCIP grant to make similar land-based outdoor learning experiences accessible to more Edmontonians, including under-served populations. They piloted and evaluated different formats for the Curiosity Kit approach, reached out to organizations serving vulnerable families and newcomers, and identified the Edmonton Forest School Society, Edmonton Public Library, and Boys and Girls Club as partners. The vision is to deepen and extend existing programs to make outdoor land-connected learning experiences accessible to diverse Edmontonians.

Omar Mouallem, Feature-length documentary: Lebanese Burger Mafia

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: *The Lebanese Burger Mafia*, which is currently in post-production, is a new aspect of *The Last Baron*, a 44-minute TV documentary Omar Mouallem directed, wrote and co-produced last year with Back Road Productions, CBC and financial support from the HCIP Project Accelerator Grant. Even before its release, the fanfare surrounding the project inspired the project team to begin planning to rework it into a 90-minute feature film for international audiences, especially in North Africa and the Middle East. The goal is to take the heartfelt, comedic, and proudly local feature film to major festivals like Sundance or SXSW, and, ultimately, the world stage. In addition, the EHC grant will allow the team to upgrade the current website, burgerbaronmovie.com, to include a historical timeline of the company and interactive map of Burger Barons past and present, which will surely become a useful resource for Edmontonians and Albertans interested in their local history.

Amy Skrocki, Artists with Invisible Disabilities video series

Amount Awarded: \$5,000

Project Summary: This project is to create a 9-episode video series about Edmonton craft artists working at a professional level (or near to) while struggling with invisible disabilities. The intention of this project is to bring attention to the contributions of those suffering from invisible disabilities by showing what they have done in spite of the extra struggles they face. The project will show that artists/crafters with invisible disabilities are just like everyone in the arts with the same kinds of dreams, career aspirations, and the desire to express themselves through their work. Once completed, the series will air on TELUS OPTIK TV to an audience of 200k+ and be uploaded to TELUS's YouTube channel to ensure equitable access to those unable to watch the series through OPTIK TV.

John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights, Creating Dignity: Shifting Narratives through Public Art, Popular Theatre and Storytelling

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Summary: Building off the success of past collaborative work with the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights (JHC) through the Paint the Rails project, this work will bring together diverse artists to create mural panels that tell the stories of the land on which Edmonton is situated from the perspective of their own communities. John Humphrey Centre's goal with this project is to build a team of emerging artists representing diversity in gender, orientation, ability, race and ethnicity, thus representing a wide diversity of community members. A series of three sessions will root the team, providing them space to build solidarity and share their perspectives of the natural world's significance to Edmonton's history and present, while creating a beautiful art piece that will place the pedway on the map in Edmonton.

Azimuth Theatre, In Process Podcast, Season 2 - Festival Series

Amount Awarded: \$9,000

Summary: Funds will be distributed to professionals involved in the production of the In Process Podcast Season 2, a key project of the Traversing the Azimuth Multimedia Branch initiative. The "Festival Series" incorporates select episodes of the season recorded live at Edmonton's many festivals and community events. This work aims to garner a larger audience and create reciprocal relationships with companies, producing bodies, and individual artists across the city. The conversations all share a common theme of process, positionality, and heritage with each artist bringing a different take for each episode.

Institute of African Advancement, Africa Families Migration Succession

Amount Awarded: \$8,000

Summary: African Families' Migration Succession is a project designed to collect migration stories of people of African descent through recorded conversation, interviews including oral history that will be digitalized and produced for the purpose of documenting and preserving the migration succession journey of African families from the period of 2000 to 2022 to Edmonton. The project will work to increase understanding between present and future generations by recognizing, understanding, and tracking ancestry to promote a greater knowledge of and respect for the diverse heritage,

culture, and contributions of people of African descent to the development of Edmontonian society.

**Alberta Local and International Education Association (ALIEA), Myrna Kostash
Documentary Film Project**

Amount Awarded: \$8,000

Summary: ALIEA intends to create a 15-minute interview-based documentary that highlights how Myrna Kostash's work in journalism and creative nonfiction over the last 50 years has drawn attention to understudied areas of local histories. This includes the multi-layered history of place, specifically Edmonton. This can cover the political and cultural complexity of Ukrainian immigration to Edmonton and Alberta from 1892-post World War II; the history of feminism and the New Left in Canada; and events in Indigenous-settler history, including the Frog Lake Massacre and The Battle at Seven Oaks. ALIEA envisions the documentary exploring narratives within Kostash's body of work that pertain to the history of Ukrainians and Indigenous-Ukrainian relations in Edmonton and rural Alberta. The documentary will provide general synopses of Kostash's research through stories that share the history of Edmonton and other areas of rural Alberta with an audience unfamiliar with Kostash's work.

**United Cultures of Canada Association, Celebrating Diversity in Edmonton's
Spiritual Heritage**

Amount Awarded: \$5,000

Summary: UCCA will develop a 35–40-page resource on faith centres of minority religions followed by newcomers living in Edmonton. These include Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Ismaili, Bahai, and other religions practiced in Edmonton. The resource will include photographs of the temples, mosques, gurudwaras, and other religious buildings, with an eye to structure, architecture, and building history. Along with the photographs, it will provide a brief introduction to the religion or faith and its followers in Edmonton. The information details will be collected from the organizational head of these religious centres or an expert and corroborated by research. The book will be available on United Cultures of Canada Association's website for review and download. A few printed copies will be used for showcasing the project through partners and at appropriate avenues.

Research and Planning

Arts on the Ave, Edmonton Culinary History Project

Amount Awarded: \$5,000

Project Summary: The purpose of this project is to forward research into the interplay between cultural communities and the businesses and creative enterprises that anchor them, leveraging more than a decade of collaboration and community involvement in the process. AOTA is uniquely positioned to collect, share, and synthesize qualitative storytelling centring the heritage reflected by Alberta Avenue's vibrant business community. It is important to note that this community is made up of successive waves of Indigenous and newcomer populations, with both intergenerational and newfound enterprises acting as cultural anchors for largely underserved communities. Among them, this includes the Francophone, African, Ukrainian, Metis and First Nations communities that our festivals are founded on. In recent years, 2SLGBTQ+ and global newcomer communities have also taken on greater prominence.

Tyson Boyce and Colette Bachand, Documenting Mural Stories in Old Strathcona

Amount Awarded: \$2,500

Summary: The project team noticed that while the location and artists of Old Strathcona murals are readily available, the stories and meanings of each mural are not really known. This project will document and share those stories before they are lost. This would be accomplished by interviewing artists responsible and those who commissioned each artwork as a precursor to creating mediums in which to tell those stories (books, websites, plaques) in a future project. As part of the research process, the team will also conduct outreach to existing mural proponents and identify new ones to ascertain their interest in helping share the stories we document.

Bellevue Community League, Building Community Through Arts and Heritage

Amount Awarded: \$2,500

Summary: The focus of this study will be to identify the conservation needs of the Bellevue Community Centre, preparing priorities for community support through engagement strategies. The restoration and repairs in conjunction with designation as a municipal historic resource will be available when BCL has secured the needed community support. BCL hopes to utilize a micro-campaign to poll the community and engage the plan to share the questions and concerns of the conservation plan. This study will help BCL learn about how neighborhoods are reflecting on their built environment.

Société historique francophone de l'Alberta, Édifice La Survivance **Amount Awarded: \$2,500**

Summary: Édifice La Survivance (10010 109 Street, NW) is the original Edmonton Francophone community centre (est. 1930) in the original French Quarter of Edmonton (South Oliver), which includes the Hôpital Général, St. Joachim Parish, LeMarchand Mansion, to name but a few Franco-Albertan landmarks in that neighbourhood. It housed the Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta (est. 1926), the near centenarian political spokes-organization for the provincial Franco-Albertan community, the near centenarian provincial Francophone newspaper Le Franco (est. 1928) and printing press, as well as the original radio station, CHFA, (est. 1949), which would become French CBC in 1976. Despite its historical significance, it is a relatively unknown and poorly maintained building; it is not on the City of Edmonton's inventory of historic resources. This project seeks to document the history of the people and civic organizations that worked in the Édifice La Survivance.

Funding Indigenous Resurgence Edmonton (FIRE)

Meghan Eaker, Edmonton Indigenous Poetry Reading Series **Amount Awarded: \$9,200**

Project Summary: This project is a monthly series of open mic style sharing circles, where Indigenous community members and allies can gather in community to support each other by sharing stories, poetry, and art as medicine. The circle is guided by nehiyaw-informed story sharing approach called e-mamawiniâcimowinân (we share our stories all together), grounded in nehiyaw teachings including wahkowntowin (kinship/we are all related), miyo-wîcihitowin (living harmony together), and miyopimatisiwin (a good life). The miyo pimatisiwin story sharing circle is a way of responding to the urgency of the need for Indigenous community mutual aid, empowered healing, and the co-creation of joyful and just futures for people and communities in this time of colonialism. Each circle brings together community members, an elder, a 'supportive listening auntie', organizers, and guest readers. Circles include an opening smudge/prayer and presentation of community guidelines for respectful engagement, introductions, about an hour for participant sharing (open-mic style), the guest's reading (15-20 min), and a closing.

Kyla Pascal, Métis Matriarchs Storytelling Project **Amount Awarded: \$10,000**

Project Summary: This is a two-pronged project. The first half of the project will be dedicated to gathering stories and visiting with Métis community members. In the second half of this project, the applicant will work with Métis artists to curate an art show that will take place in Edmonton. This show will be a place to share stories, ideas, passions, and histories. The art show will include an exhibit as well as a zine. The art will focus on the stories of women in a multi-media, intergenerational, diverse forum featuring new/emerging artists in addition to artists who have been creating for years. The zine will contain stories and illustrations collected from her time travelling and researching the histories of Métis women, as well as submissions from Métis women writers and illustrators.

Red Road Healing Society, Shoonka Wakan Youth Memorial Horseback Ride program Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: Red Road Healing Society, with the assistance of Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society and Ben Calf Robe Society, plus the support of Enoch Cree Nation, will provide the Shoonka Wakan Youth Memorial Horseback Ride program. Indigenous youth experiencing homelessness, youth in government care or transitioning out of care, LGBTQ2S+, and youth with mental health and addiction challenges will benefit from traditional healing ceremonies and group therapy supported by equine therapy. The Shoonka Wakan Youth Memorial Horseback Ride is a more in-depth and longer duration pilot program the organizers plan to offer annually, where youth have direct access to ceremonial teachings, stories from Elders and trained counsellors, and each other in a group atmosphere.

Jessica Sanderson-Barry, Storytelling Through Resurgence of Urban Moose Hide Tanning

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: This project takes place in amiskwaciwaskahikan at the Stanley A. Milner Library. This safe space will allow folks who do not have access to land-based learning or transportation to attend ceremony or hide camps outside of the Edmonton area an opportunity to do so at PÎYÊSÎW WÂSKÂHIKAN. The applicant will share her knowledge through storytelling by tanning this hide alongside the guidance of Elder Jo-Ann Saddleback. Hide tanning is a form of reclamation, sovereignty, and cultural resurgence, providing healing toward the revitalization of these traditional practices with Indigenous kin in the amiskwaciwaskahikan area, to continue to tell the stories of who they are and where they come from. There will be an opportunity to try moose meat,

flesh and scrape a moose hide, work with finished smoked moose hide and make themselves a pair of small hide earrings.

Heather Shillinglaw, my mind digs the soil like a turtle
Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: The project lead's mother, Shirley Norris-Shillinglaw from the LeGoff Indian Reserve, provided teachings of ᑭᓄᓇᑦ ᑭᓄᓇᑦ ᑭᓄᓇᑦ Ministik Mihkinâhk-turtle island in Nehiyaw /Cree language. Those teachings inspired her work, ᑭᓄᓇᑦ ᑭᓄᓇᑦ ᑭᓄᓇᑦ mâtitonêyhçikan kotâwîw - my mind digs in the soil like a turtle, wherein Heather stitched out landscapes examining lost creeks, ponds, and lakes in the Edmonton river valley, which she refers to as 'ghosts'. Through oral histories, ethnobotany and harvesting ancestral lands, along with a connection to a friend, Ruth McConnell an ethnologist/genealogy, Heather further investigates recorded history. The blended teachings reflect women's measure of time/land. Layered within the panels will be the words of respected/awarded poet Marilyn Dumont, stitched into lakes, rivers and ponds. In this project, Heather will work with Dr. Shantel Koenig Sr Landscape Ecologist & GIS Specialist to learn about water loss while comparing historical maps to create designs of our landscapes throughout time. This grant will help Heather research/design 3 panels.

Emily Riddle and Jo-Ann Saddleback, Documentary Film
Amount awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: The applicants would like to create a short documentary film about Jo-Ann's Capan (age 3) connecting to the ceremony, creating her regalia, and her being initiated into being a dancer. As part of this project, they will invite people to participate in conversations and teachings about Cree parenting and host sewing workshops for people to create their own regalia while supporting a Cree toddler. Once this film is complete, they would like to show it at festivals and use it as a teaching resource. The project is to hold parenting and sewing circles, ceremonies to begin the project, and to storyboard and plan the film. The film will follow Capan in discovering her identity as a First Nations person, of expressing her indigeneity and claiming her own. We learn our little ones learn fast and demand their place in expressing their own humanity within the Indigenous context.

Cindy Paul, Theatre Performance of Nikawiy
Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: Nikawiy will be a series of both contemporary and traditional songs, storytelling, art and dance that explores the relationship between ourselves, our mothers, our grandmothers, and Mother Earth; how they are all connected to each other, to Indigenous culture and to the land. The performance will explore how society has lost its way and how we can create solutions and action to get back to a circle of care and connection to our Matriarchy and the land. Nikawiy will celebrate the strength and resilience of our mothers sharing cultural awareness and truths. It will be performed at SkirtsAfire Festival March 8 to 12, 2023. The artists are Nipisiy (a women's Indigenous traditional drumming and singing group), Stephanie Harpe (a storyteller and activist), an elder to offer opening prayer and a youth traditional dancer. Stories, music, and dance will be woven into the songs and each artistic element will reflect both traditional and contemporary artistic expression as a way of marrying our past with our present to work towards healing and reconnecting.

Arthur Martel, Drum Making, Playing, Hand Games

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: This project is to make ten drums for 8-9 Indigenous youth, both men and women, to learn to make drums, learn to play them, and learn the method of playing hand games. The applicant will also keep mentoring this group to compete in hand game tournaments.

Danielle Paradis, Métis Finger Sash Weaving

Amount Awarded: \$5,248.80

Project Summary: In collaboration with Kalyn Kodiak, who runs Kodiak Herbal Métis Culture, the applicant is building a workshop for Indigenous youth and others affected by the legacy of residential schools. This will be a finger weaving workshop over a two-day session. Métis finger weaving is a fun wearable and cultural art experience. Exploring a traditional art, the participants will also learn the history of the Métis sash and its importance in the Métis culture as well as a celebration of beauty. At the downtown Edmonton Public Library, they will gather 15 youth and people affected by the legacy of residential schools to learn about Michif culture in Edmonton. For two full-day workshops, they will gather and explore the rich cultural background of the Métis people and exchange their stories while participating in the ancient tradition of finger weaving. They will work with an Elder to gather traditional Métis stories about the sash, the meaning of the traditional colours and other seasonably appropriate teachings for the

workshop. Participants will leave with a mini sash, a new skill, and new stories about their culture.

Nadia Houle, Indigenous Birth Stories “Carrying our Grandmother’s Songs”

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Project Summary: This project is called “Carrying Our Grandmother’s Songs” about Indigenous midwifery and the journey of motherhood. They were hoping to share storytelling around different birth stories, use storytelling from community to share experiences, create resources and a space for community learning about traditional birthing practices.

Kiki Twinn (Repeat Applicant), Audio Narrative: KOKUM GETS A DICK PIC

Amount Awarded: \$5,550

Project Summary: This project will be an audio narrative told by two voice actors called KOKUM GETS A DICK PIC. It tells the story of Rose (A.K.A KOKUM) who is amused to receive a dick pic from a young uncle on her cell phone. When Rose realizes it was sent to her intentionally, the dick pic prompts an exploration of consent, ageism, Rose’s own desires, and what a Decolonized Sexuality would look like. This will be a fictional rendering tying together historical/traditional knowledge of sex, sexuality, and gender.