CANADA MEDIA FUND
FONDS DES MÉDIAS DU CANADA

DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT FUNDING

GUIDELINES

2024-2025

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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Section 1 of the Linear Content – Core Development and Predevelopment Guidelines shall apply to the Development and Predevelopment Funding Guidelines, unless otherwise specified.

2. DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT FUNDING – OVERVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

In addition to the requirements set out in these Guidelines, Applicants must comply with (i) the rules and requirements of the Linear Content Programs – Core Development and Predevelopment Guidelines and (ii) the applicable policies and definitions in Appendix A and Appendix B.

While the respective budgets, applicable rules and deadlines will remain distinct, beginning in 2024-2025 the following Development and Predevelopment allocations are consolidated into this one (1) set of Guidelines:

i) the Racialized Community Development and Predevelopment allocation;
ii) the Indigenous Development and Predevelopment allocation;
iii) the Francophone Minority Development allocation;
iv) the Quebec French Regional Development allocation;
v) the Northern Development allocation; and
vi) the Predevelopment Funding allocation.

(collectively, **"Development and Predevelopment Funding"**)

Up to 15% of funds available for Indigenous Development, Racialized Community Development, Francophone Minority Development, and Quebec French Regional Development may be allocated to Broadcaster-Affiliated Programming and In-house Programming (as defined in Appendix A). There is no Broadcaster-Affiliated Programming/In-house Programming cap for the Northern Development allocation.

Broadcaster-Affiliated Programming and In-house Programming are not eligible for support for Predevelopment Funding.

Please note:

- Eligible Projects submitted for Predevelopment Funding must be new projects that have not received any previous CMF funding;
- Returning series are not eligible for Predevelopment Funding support; and
- Eligibility for Development or Predevelopment Funding does not guarantee Applicant or Project eligibility for further CMF development or production funding.

2.2 DEFINITIONS

Please see Appendix A for definitions on the following terms found in these Program Guidelines:

- Broadcaster-Affiliated Programming
- Canadian Broadcaster
- Diverse Community (Key Personnel) Project
- In-house Programming
- Racialized Community
- Region
- Regional Project (Predevelopment, Development and Conceptualization)

3. DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT FUNDING - ELIGIBILITY

3.1 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

An Eligible Applicant to Development and Predevelopment Funding must meet:

- The Eligible Applicant criteria in section 3.1 of the Linear Content – Core Development and Predevelopment Guidelines;
- Any applicable specific eligibility criteria noted in this section; and
- Any applicable further requirements/qualifications noted in Addendum A below.

a. An Eligible Applicant to **Racialized Community Development or Predevelopment funding** must meet the following criteria:

- Final control in all matters relating to the Applicant company[1] and the Project and at least 51% of the Applicant company's ownership and of the Project's copyright are retained by an individual producer (or multiple producers) that is a member of a Racialized Community (as defined in Appendix A) ("**Racialized Owner"**).

  For clarity, in cases where the Applicant company is comprised of multiple individual producers, the Racialized Owner must have final control and the largest amount of ownership of both the Applicant company and copyright in the Eligible Project.

- The Racialized Owner exercises full creative, executive, artistic, technical and financial control of the Eligible Project.

- The Racialized Owner initiates and continues to meaningfully participate in the Project's development.

For clarity, where the final control and central decision makers in both the Applicant company and the Project are not with the Racialized Owner(s) from the Applicant company, the Application will not be considered eligible for funding in the Racialized Community Development and Predevelopment allocation. The CMF reserves the right to request additional documentation (including by-laws and articles of incorporation) to ensure the ownership and control provisions are met.

b. An Eligible Applicant to **Indigenous Development or Predevelopment funding** must meet the following criteria:

- Final control in all matters relating to the Applicant company[2] and the Project, and at least 51% of the Applicant company's ownership and of the Project's copyright are retained by an individual producer (or multiple producers) that is a First Nations, Inuit, or Métis person ("**Indigenous Owner"**).

  For clarity, in addition to the Indigenous Owner(s) having final control and meeting this 51% ownership threshold, where an Applicant company is not 100% owned and controlled by an Indigenous Owner(s), no individual Indigenous Owner shall own and control less than 15% of both the Applicant company and copyright in the Eligible Project.

- The Indigenous Owner exercises full creative, executive, artistic, technical and financial control of the Eligible Project.

- The Indigenous Owner initiates and continues to meaningfully participate in the project's development.

For clarity, where the final control and central decision makers in both the Applicant company and the Project are not with the Indigenous Owner(s) from the Applicant company, the Application will not be considered eligible for funding in the Indigenous Development and Predevelopment allocation. The CMF reserves the right to request additional documentation (including by-laws and articles of incorporation) to ensure the ownership and control provisions are met.

[1]Including the Applicant company's Board of Directors.
[2]Including the Applicant company's Board of Directors.

c. An Eligible Applicant to **Francophone Minority Development funding** must meet the following criteria:

- Must operate and have its head office outside the province of Quebec for at least three (3) years (unless the company is an emerging one) and with all its shareholders residing outside the province of Quebec for at least three (3) years prior to the date the CMF funding application is submitted.

- Must use French as the original language of production for the majority of its development and production slate.

- Must initiate and meaningfully participate in the Eligible Project's development. Furthermore, the Applicant must exercise full control of the creative, artistic, technical, and financial aspects of the Project and hold all copyrights to the Eligible Project.

- Must hold all copyrights to the Project on a permanent basis and retain an ongoing financial interest in the Eligible Project.

In the case of coproductions with a company not eligible for Francophone Minority Development funding, the eligible Applicant must have initiated and meaningfully participated in the Eligible Project's development and must own at least 51% of the Project's copyright. The amount of the CMF contribution will be calculated on the portion of the Eligible Costs associated with the Eligible Applicant.

d. An Eligible Applicant to **(i) the Quebec French Regional Development allocation** or **(ii) the Northern Development allocation** must meet the following criteria:

- Must apply with an Eligible Project that meets the CMF's definition of a Regional Project (Predevelopment, Development and Conceptualization) (as defined in Appendix A); and

- Must meet the additional Program-specific Region requirements noted in Addendum A below.

3.2 ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

An Eligible Project to Development and Predevelopment Funding must meet:

- The Eligible Project criteria in section 3.2 of the Linear Content – Core Development and Predevelopment Guidelines;
- Any applicable specific eligibility criteria noted in this section; and
- Any applicable further requirements/qualifications noted in Addendum A below.

4. DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT FUNDING – CMF CONTRIBUTION

A CMF Contribution to an Eligible Project will follow:

- The criteria in section 4 of the Linear Content – Core Development and Predevelopment Guidelines; and
- Any applicable specific criteria noted in this section.

4.1 AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION

The Maximum Contribution by the CMF to an Eligible Project receiving Development or Predevelopment Funding is outlined in Addendum A below.

If applicable, the Canadian Broadcaster's entire Development Fee and any other confirmed sources of development financing must be included within the financial structure prior to confirmation of the CMF contribution amount, up to the Maximum Contribution level.

For clarity, the Maximum Contribution Amount will be calculated on the project's Eligible Costs in the applicable budget.

5. DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT FUNDING – DECISION PROCESS

For allocations covered by these Guidelines, Eligible Projects are awarded funding on a first-come, first-served basis until resources for the applicable Program are depleted or until the applicable Program Closing Date, whichever comes first.

In the event that a large number of projects are submitted on the same date, creating oversubscription, the CMF may distribute funding to those projects deemed eligible on a proportional (pro-rated) basis, designate how many submitted projects (per Applicant) will receive funding, or elect to distribute funding in some other equitable manner, to be determined in the CMF's sole discretion.

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ADDENDUM A
ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
2024-2025

DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT FUNDING ALLOCATION	ADDITIONAL ELIGIBLE APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS[3]	MAXIMUM CMF CONTRIBUTION	ELIGIBLE TRIGGERING COMMITMENT AND THRESHOLD	OTHER
PREDEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION	• Each Canadian Broadcaster and participating eligible provincial or territorial funding agency is limited to the number of Projects it can trigger, to a maximum of two (2) Projects. • Eligible Applicants may apply with a maximum of one (1) Eligible Project per fiscal year.	• Lesser of 84% of Eligible Costs or $35,000.	• Letter of Interest from either a ○ Canadian Broadcaster; or ○ Participating and eligible provincial or territorial funding agency[4]	• At least 40% of the Predevelopment Program's budget is exclusively reserved for Projects that meet the definition of a "**Regional Project (Predevelopment, Development and Conceptualization)"** in Appendix A. • At least 25% of the Predevelopment Program's budget is exclusively reserved for Projects that meet the definition of a "**Diverse Community (Key Personnel) Project**" in Appendix A. • Language of Creative Materials: ○ English or French
INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION	• Eligible Applicants may apply with a maximum of one (1) Eligible Project in each of Predevelopment and Development per fiscal year.	• PREDEVELOPMENT: Lesser of 84% of Eligible Costs or $35,000 • DEVELOPMENT: Lesser of 75% of Eligible Costs or $100,000 • Maximum $200,000 for all combined development activities and phases.	• PREDEVELOPMENT: Letter of Interest from either a: ○ Canadian Broadcaster; or ○ Digital Distributor as deemed eligible by CMF[5] • DEVELOPMENT: Development Fee of 10% of Eligible Costs from either a: ○ Canadian Broadcaster; or ○ Digital Distributor as deemed eligible by CMF[5]	• Language of Creative Materials: ○ English, French or an Indigenous[6] language
RACIALIZED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PREDEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION	• Applicants that received funding from Racialized Community Predevelopment in 2023-2024 are ineligible to apply for Predevelopment funding in 2024-2025. • Eligible Applicants may apply with a maximum of one (1) Eligible Project in each of Predevelopment and Development per fiscal year. • Canadian Broadcaster caps: ○ Each Canadian Broadcaster is limited to the number of Projects they can trigger, to a maximum of two (2) Projects in Predevelopment and five (5) Projects in Development.	• PREDEVELOPMENT: Lesser of 84% of Eligible Costs or $35,000 • DEVELOPMENT: Lesser of 75% of Eligible Costs or $100,000 • Maximum $200,000 for all combined development activities and phases.	• PREDEVELOPMENT: Letter of Interest from a Canadian Broadcaster • DEVELOPMENT: Development Fee of 10% of Eligible Costs from a Canadian Broadcaster.	• Language of Creative Materials: ○ English or French

[3] In addition to section 3.1.
[4] Alberta Film, Creative Saskatchewan, Innovation PEI. Manitoba Film and Music, New Brunswick Tourism, Heritage and Culture, Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, Northwest Territories Film Commission.
[5] For Indigenous Development, as a pilot initiative, the CMF may consider a digital distributor to be a Canadian Broadcaster for the purposes of providing a commitment for financial participation, if the CMF determines that the digital distributor is a company that is Canadian-controlled (as determined in sections 26 to 28 of the *Investment Canada Act*). The CMF will decide case-by-case whether a digital distributor qualifies for this initiative.
[6] First Nations, Inuit, or Métis

FRANCOPHONE MINORITY DEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION	• Eligible Applicants may apply with a maximum of two (2) Eligible Projects per fiscal year.	• Lesser of 75% of Eligible Costs or $100,000 • Maximum $200,000 for all combined development activities and phases.	• Development Fee from a Canadian Broadcaster for the following amounts: ○ Drama (and pilots of all genres): 25% of Eligible Costs; ○ Documentary, Children and Youth, Variety and Performing Arts: 15% of Eligible Costs	• Language of Creative Materials: ○ French • Either the screenwriter or director of the Project must reside outside of Quebec. If no director has been attached to the Project at the Development stage, the screenwriter must fulfill this requirement.
NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION	• Eligible Regions for Northern Development funding include the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Nunavik, or the Yukon. • Eligible Applicants may apply with a maximum of two (2) Eligible Projects per fiscal year.	• Lesser of 75% of Eligible Costs or $50,000 • Maximum $200,000 for all combined development activities and phases.	• Development Fee of 15% of Eligible Costs from a: ○ Canadian Broadcaster; or ○ CMF-approved community channel operating in Nunavut, Nunavik, the Yukon Territory, or the Northwest Territories can trigger financing, but no minimum Eligible Triggering Commitment is required	• Language of Creative Materials: ○ English or French
QUEBEC FRENCH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION	• Eligible Region is the province of Quebec. • Eligible Applicants may apply with a maximum of two (2) Eligible Projects per fiscal year. • Where an Applicant receives funding for two (2) Projects in a fiscal year, only one (1) may be a returning series.	• Lesser of 75% of Eligible Costs or $100,000 • Maximum $200,000 for all combined development activities and phases.	• Development Fee of 10% of Eligible Costs from a Canadian Broadcaster	• Language of Creative Materials: ○ French