



Strengthening Urban Indigenous Presence in Montreal's Cultural Development Policy 2025-2030

About Us

Our Mission

As an umbrella organization, the Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK is in a unique position to connect various segments of urban Indigenous communities by supporting Indigenous and Indigenous-serving organizations working directly with community members in and around Tiohtià:ke/Montreal.

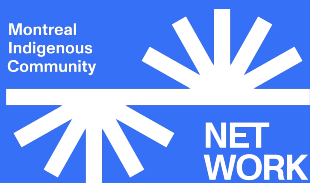
Our Vision

The Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK envisions an urban setting where the well-being and growth of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities throughout Tiohtià:ke/Montreal are led by Indigenous communities.

The NETWORK contributes to establishing and fostering an environment centered on relationship-building and community connections that ensure safe and abundant access to culturally relevant information, services, and resources. We are working towards an urban setting which honours, respects and celebrates the diversity of Indigenous knowledge, cultures and innovation.

Our Values

- Indigenous Led - Led and created by and for urban Indigenous communities.
- Community Oriented - Priorities and solutions identified and developed by the community.
- Strategic Partnership - Building and nurturing relationships between the community sector and strong allies.
- Collective Heartbeat - Working together for the betterment and empowerment of Indigenous communities.



Why the NETWORK Matters to the Policy

The NETWORK commends the City of Montreal's Cultural Development Policy 2025-2030 for its commitment to Indigenous inclusion and collaboration. By advancing priorities that amplify Indigenous cultural, linguistic, political, and economic presence, the policy fosters a city where Indigenous perspectives thrive and supports the vital work of cultural revitalization.

The NETWORK, with its established community connections and expertise in mobilizing partnerships, offers unique value in supporting the City to achieve these goals. By working together, we can ensure that cultural and heritage projects reflect Indigenous values and leadership, creating a vibrant cultural landscape that resonates with all Montrealers.

Priority Axes and Recommendations

Orientation: Indigenous Commitments and Inclusion

Recommendation: Establish a formal partnership program with the NETWORK and Indigenous arts organizations to support Indigenous-led cultural initiatives and events.

Rationale: This initiative addresses systemic gaps in representation and provides cultural organizations with tools to meet reconciliation objectives.

Orientation: Accessibility and Equity

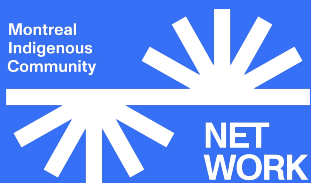
Recommendation: Allocate dedicated funding streams for Indigenous organizations to develop and host cultural programming.

Rationale: Empowering Indigenous communities through funding ensures the creation and sustainability of culturally significant events on their own terms.

Orientation: Research and Capacity-Building

Recommendation: Collaborate with the NETWORK to conduct audience research on Indigenous participation in Montreal's cultural life, developing targeted outreach strategies.

Rationale: This research would enhance understanding of Indigenous community needs and strengthen cultural connections.



Orientation: Collaboration and Networking

Recommendation: Develop a networking initiative connecting Indigenous organizations with cultural institutions to foster co-created projects and shared resources.

Rationale: Collaborative projects promote mutual learning and establish sustainable partnerships.

Next Steps

The NETWORK invites the City of Montreal to leverage its expertise and established relationships to co-develop strategies aligned with the Cultural Development Policy. By formalizing collaborations and prioritizing Indigenous inclusion, we can amplify Indigenous voices, foster equity, and strengthen Montreal's cultural ecosystem.