

2023 OHSOTO'KINO Music Incubator Program Information

With support from TD, and building on groundwork laid in previous years, National Music Centre (NMC) is creating further opportunities for Indigenous artists to produce new music and develop career related skills, while amplifying the stories of Indigenous musicians and their contributions within Canadian culture. **OHSOTO'KINO** is a Blackfoot phrase, which means 'to recognize a voice of.' This title acknowledges both the Blackfoot people and the territory on which Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre resides. NMC's **National Indigenous Programming Advisory Committee** will lead the direction of the initiative designed to forge stronger bridges of understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

Six indigenous artists will be selected to converge at Studio Bell in Calgary, Alberta by NMC's **National Indigenous Programming Advisory Committee**. This program will take place from **Monday, September 11 to Friday September 15, 2023**.

OHSOTO'KINO Music Incubator is a five-day intensive for Indigenous artists in Canada, offering career guidance and mentorship designed by Indigenous music leaders. The goals of this program include:

- Providing mentorship from established Indigenous music industry leaders
- Increasing skills, capacity, knowledge, and confidence in participants
- Expanding artists' networks, and increasing connectivity to broader Indigenous and non-Indigenous music industries

The National Music Centre's OHSOTO'KINO Music Incubator at Studio Bell is made possible with support from TD.

Definition

The National Music Centre's OHSOTO'KINO Music Incubator program is designed for musicians, bands, ensembles, composers, songwriters, and producers who are launching their professional careers. Selected candidates will receive advanced training and mentorship from professionals within the music industry.

Application Process

Applications for 2023 OHSOTO'KINO Music Incubator program are now open. The deadline to apply is 11:59PM (MT), Friday April 28, 2023.

Program Dates & Location

This program will run from **Monday, September 11 to Friday, September 15, 2023**. It is an in-person program delivered at Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre, in Calgary, Alberta/Moh'kins'tsis on Treaty 7 territory.

Selection Criteria & Adjudication

Applications are open to artists of all genres. Canadian artists will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Open to individuals who are First Nations, Inuit, or Métis
- Demonstration of commercial and/or professional potential in their given genre
- Share potential positive outcomes that may be gained through the program for their career

The selection process will also be inclusive of achieving gender parity among the cohort, and diverse representation related to genre, geography, and cultures.

NMC's **National Indigenous Program Advisory Committee** will convene to review applicant submissions and select successful participants.

Indigenous Music Mentors

Throughout the week, participants will be engaged by Indigenous music mentors who represent a diverse complement of skills, knowledge, proficiency, with proven track records as leaders, innovators, and engaged members of the Indigenous music community.

Facilities

Participating artists will be using Studio Bell's facility throughout the week. These include classrooms, performance spaces, and recording facilities.

At the end of the week, each artist will showcase their music at Studio Bell Performance Hall in front of a live audience.

Travel, Housing and Meals

Transportation and accommodation are the responsibility of the artist, however, NMC will provide travel stipends of \$800 per person. Lunch and refreshments will be provided during each program day, however, participants are required to source other meals.

Additional Project Funding Opportunities

Indigenoumusic.ca provides a list of funders that may be of assistance to supporting your project.

Several sources to assist Indigenous music projects include FACTOR, a private non-profit dedicated to providing assistance toward the growth and development of the Canadian music industry. The Canada Council for the Arts provides support for the development of individuals, groups, small ensembles, orchestras, and other professionals working in the Canadian music community. The SOCAN Foundation is also dedicated to fostering musical creativity and promoting a better understanding of the role of music creators in today's society.

More details available here:

<https://www.indigenoumusic.ca/funding-programs>

Photo/Video/Media

All artists participating in this program are asked to provide a short video testimonial of their time spent at NMC and to allow for photo and video documentation of their session. This is to be used for promotional and archival purposes. NMC will receive appropriate credit on all recordings worked on or completed during their session. NMC will promote participating artists via media interviews, and digital content developed during the Incubator.

Instruments/Equipment

Artists are asked to bring any equipment, resources, devices and/or software that may be essential to their workflow/performance and specify these items at the time of application.