

ACTRA MANITOBA

Member Initiated Production (MIP) Incentive Grant Policy

2026-2027

MIP (MEMBER INITIATED PRODUCTION) AGREEMENT:

Members of ACTRA who are thinking about making a MIP should review the MIP Ownership Agreement and the Manitoba MIP Guidelines before engaging in the production process, and before applying for an ACTRA Manitoba MIP Incentive Grant. However, MIPs that started photography after March 1, 2026, and prior to the Call for Applications will be considered by the jury.

AVAILABLE GRANTS:

Seven (7) grants are available to support MIP makers through this program. The applications are assessed through a juried process.

At least **three (3)** of the available grants will be ear-marked and awarded to emerging MIP Makers. "Emerging MIP Maker" is defined as:

- 1. a member who has not been a previous recipient of a MIP Grant; and*
- 2. a member who has produced or held the role of one of the Key Creatives (producer, director, writer) on one or fewer MIPs prior to application.*

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA:

Applicants who have received MIP grants 2 years in a row in the 2 years immediately prior to the current year will not be considered for granting purposes.*

**The exception to these criteria is where the Applicant is an Official Committee of ACTRA Manitoba, as defined in the By-Laws of ACTRA Manitoba.*

Applicants and/or production teams may only submit one script per granting year for consideration.**

***The exception to this, as set out above, is that if an individual applicant and/or production team is a party to an Application submitted by an Official Committee of ACTRA Manitoba, as that term is defined in the By-Laws of ACTRA Manitoba, then that individual and/or production team is entitled to submit another Application in their individual or personal capacity without risking disqualification.*

DEIB Prize: One (1) additional grant of \$1,000, OR two (2) additional grants of \$500 will be awarded to selected projects which are created with and reflect the stories of marginalized individuals or groups.

Indigenous Prize: One (1) additional grant of \$2,000, comprising \$1,000 in cash from Eagle Vision and \$1,000 in in-kind services (location equipment, sets, props, and wardrobe) from Talon Production Services. In addition, there would be a one-hour mentorship/advisory session with Rebecca Gibson and the successful applicant. This prize will be awarded to a selected project which is created with and reflects the stories of Indigenous people. (sponsored by *Eagle Vision*).

GRANT PROCEDURE:

ACTRA Manitoba will award \$1,250.00 to help offset production expenses for seven (7) selected MIP projects. \$100.00 of this grant will be applied to the cost of Liability Insurance which is sponsored by Hub Insurance with additional support from ACTRA Manitoba and is a requirement for all MIPS who receive grants.

To be considered, MIP Makers must submit an application package by **April 17, 2026** including:

- completed MIP Grant Application form
- script (updates to scripts to be supplied to ACTRA)
- proposed budget
- List of Key Creatives including but not limited to Lead Performer(s), Writer(s), Producer(s), & Director.
- Anticipated Production date(s)

Applicants should be informed of the status of their grant by **May 4, 2026**.

PAYMENT:

The selected MIP Makers will receive their grant in two (2) installments*:

1. The first half, at completion of principal photography, and submission of eligible expenses on or before **November 1, 2026**. You may be asked to submit receipts for production expenses.
2. The second half, at delivery of the final cut of the film, along with eligible expenses, on or before **March 1, 2027**.

*ACTRA Manitoba's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion grant will be dispersed in this installment schedule. Eagle Vision's Indigenous Production Grant will be awarded at the end of production upon delivery of the final cut of the film.

If a selected MIP Maker is unable to complete their MIP by the deadlines outlined herein, the grant is forfeited and an alternate MIP applicant may take its place.

GRANT SELECTION PROCESS:

All submissions will be reviewed by an impartial ACTRA-assembled jury who will assess the projects based on criteria that include:

- Strength of story
- Strength of concept
- Strength of writing
- Feasibility of completion based on the budget and artistic team
- Adherence to the MIP guidelines.

The first seven (7) in priority order will be selected for the Grants.

Once principal photography is completed, the ACTRA MIP committee will review the project(s) to consider for programming in the MIP Showcase. ACTRA Manitoba reserves the right to include all Grant recipients' MIPs in the MIP showcase.

ACTRA MANITOBA SHOWCASE:

The showcase is our opportunity to view the MIPs produced through the preceding year with the film makers, members and our family and friends. The next showcase is tentatively scheduled for April 2027. Admission is free.

****IMPORTANT:** Be advised that MIPs longer than twelve (13) minutes in total length, will not be accepted for screening. If your MIP is longer than 13 minutes (including credits), you must make an edited 13 min (or less) version to be considered for the MIP Showcase. Any MIP running over the allotted time, will be cut off at the 13 minute mark during the Showcase and consideration for the awards will be based on screened version, rather than the complete MIP.

AWARDS:

Selected Films that screen as part of the MIP Showcase are eligible for the following awards:

The Robert Macklin Audience Choice Award: Selected by audience vote at the MIP Showcase.

The Golden Boy Award: Selected by an independent jury and presented at the MIP Showcase.