

## Northwestel Community TV Micro-Fund

The Northwestel Community TV Micro-Fund is a focused funding stream designed to spark creativity, support emerging filmmakers, and strengthen local production capacity. This program provides \$3,500 to create a 2-to-5-minute film within 3 months.

This program is built to encourage quick turnaround, community minded filmmaking that showcases the people, places, and perspectives of the North. It's ideal for new creators testing an idea, experienced filmmakers experimenting with form, or anyone eager to tell a concise, compelling story.

### Funding Requirements

- **Grant amount:** \$3,500
- **Film length:** 2-5 minutes
- **Timeline:** Must be completed within 3 months of approval
- **Spending rule:** 100% of the funds must be spent in the North, including:
  - Local cast and crew
  - Northern equipment rentals
  - Northern based services (locations, catering, transportation, etc.)
  - Any post-production work done within the territories
- **Artificial Intelligence:** All projects supported through this micro-fund must be created without the use of AI generated scripts, imagery, audio, editing, visual effects, or any automated creative outputs. All creative and technical work must be performed by human artists, technicians, and Northern based professionals to ensure authenticity, uphold community broadcast standards, and maintain the integrity of locally produced content. (Closed Caption services notwithstanding)
- No more than 25% of the budget to be allocated to one individual contributor as a labour cost.

### Creative Scope

- Any genre is welcome; documentary, comedy, drama, experimental, animation, or anything in between. (music videos, promotional & client-driven projects are prohibited.)

- Stories may be fictional or factual, personal or community focused, artistic or informational.
- All content must comply with **Northwestel Community TV Broadcast Standards (Link)**
  - Be suitable for community broadcast
  - Avoid explicit, harmful, or discriminatory content
  - Reflect or engage Northern communities in a respectful way
  - Contribute positively to local storytelling and representation

### **Production Expectations**

Projects should be simple, achievable, and ready to move quickly. Filmmakers are expected to:

- Communicate monthly with Community TV on the status of the project, with meetings to be arranged by the creator
- Deliver a polished, broadcast-ready film with closed captions
- Demonstrate meaningful Northern involvement both on-screen and behind the scenes

### **Working with Northwestel Community TV**

- This fund acts as a broadcast licence for the final product to be exploited across the Northwestel Community TV Network indefinitely.
- Final film will be made available at no extra charge to all Northwestel TV Subscribers in Yukon, Northwest Territories, Northern British Columbia and Northern Alberta.
- Northwestel Community TV takes no ownership or exclusivity of the film and will work collaboratively with the creators to ensure all festival runs are complete before going to broadcast.

### **2026 Timeline**

**Opening:** Submissions open Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and close Friday May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 at 5pm

**Selections:** First round selections will occur by May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**Interviews:** Interviews will be held in-person, or online depending on availability, May 11-15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Recipients Notified/Announced:** Fund recipients to be announced May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**Project Delivery:** Final delivery of the project no later than August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Failure to meet the deadline may result in financial penalties as related to the fund amount.

## **Submission requirements**

### **1. Project Overview**

- Working title
- Logline (1–2 sentences)
- Brief synopsis (max 150 words)
- Why do you want to tell this story?

### **2. Creative Materials**

- Script or treatment for the 2-minute film
- Any visual references or comparables

### **3. Production Plan**

- Proposed timeline demonstrating completion within 3 months
- Key creative team list (director, producer, writer, etc.)

### **4. Budget**

- A simple, itemized budget showing how the \$3,500 will be spent
  - Notes on local vendors, rentals, and services to be used encouraged

### **5. Eligibility & Compliance**

- Statement confirming the project will meet **Northwestel Community TV Broadcast Standards [link]**
- Applicants must be residents of either Yukon Territory, or the Northwest Territories.
- Agreement to deliver a broadcast ready file by the project delivery date.
- Declaration that no AI tools will be used in the creation of creative materials for either the submission or the final product.

### **6. Applicant Information**

- Contact details (name, email, phone)
- Short bio of the applicant or team
- Links to previous work (if available)