

# MAS Stickers of Excellence 2024

## Standards based recognition of achievement in Saskatchewan museums.

The Museums Association of Saskatchewan (MAS) wishes to celebrate the excellent work within our membership and to help encourage tourism and community pride.

MAS member museums are invited to submit applications for recognition, with accompanying evidence, for evaluation. The evaluation criteria are based on the [Standards for Saskatchewan Museums, Sixth Edition](#) three main pillars: Governance and Management, Collections, and Communications, as well as recognition of work on Reconciliation and IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity Equity & Access).

Applicants will be notified by MAS via email once the application(s) has been processed, and whether they meet the criteria to receive a “Sticker of Excellence”.

*\*Please be aware this is a pilot year for MAS Stickers of Excellence, and that limitations on applications or deadlines may change due to capacity.*

## Collections: Conservation and Storage

[Standards for Saskatchewan Museums](#), Collections, “Conservation” (pg. 75- 85) and “Storage” (pg. 85-89).

Conservation strives to prevent or minimize the effects of the agents of deterioration that can affect collections during handling, research, exhibit, and storage.

Preventative conservation is achieved through policies, procedures and guidelines that help to implement acceptable standards for all aspects of collections care. This includes storage, handling, exhibit, access, environmental conditions, transportation, interpretation, pest control, disaster management and security.

### Evaluation metrics: Grading scale 1(Poor) - 5(Excellent) for each point of evaluation (5):

- **Exhibition and Storage Environment:**
  1. The museum ensures it follows established guidelines and standards to maintain appropriate environmental conditions and conservation for the artefacts in its collections:
    - Storage and exhibition spaces are monitored and controlled for environmental considerations, based on established guidelines and the needs of the collection (cleanliness, UV, RH, temperature, etc);
- **Collections Storage Security:**

2. The museum's buildings and collections are secured at all times from theft, vandalism, arson, and other forms of destruction:
  - The museum takes measures to ensure the security of visitors and staff, as well as the artefacts, and outline the objectives and procedures required to assess risks and manage their impact;
- **Considerations for Culturally Sensitive and Sacred objects:**
3. The museum has considerations for culturally sensitive and sacred objects held in its collection:
  - The museum has a written policy that identifies artefacts that may be considered sacred or culturally sensitive;
  - These policies and procedures are developed in collaboration with representatives from the originating community;
  - The museum stores these artefacts in an appropriate manner, with consultation of representatives from the originating community;
  - The museum restricts access to sacred or culturally sensitive items to traditional practitioners and/or to those approved by the originating community;
- **Organization and Management:**
4. The Museum has proper planning and organization of a dedicated storage area:
  - The museum ensures the safety and preservation of artefacts in storage;
  - Considerations are made for the appropriate storage of ethnographic collections, which align to the cultural practices of the originating community, including the access to cultural heritage in storage;
- **Seasonally Operated Considerations:**
5. The Museum has established procedures in place to ensure the security and longevity of collections:
  - Seasonally operated museums have opening and closing procedures in place;
  - There are considerations of 'off' season around environmental control (plumbing, heating, humidity, etc) and pest control;
  - Grounds and buildings are monitored routinely and maintained, if at all possible, while not open to the public;

Examples of evidence for evaluation include:

- Collections and Storage policies
- Videos or photographs of building(s), storage, and exhibition spaces;
- HOB0 printouts, photos of dehumidifiers, monitors, equipment related to environmental monitoring
- Policies surrounding access, ceremony, and general care and storage of Indigenous materials;
- Protocols outlining restricted and authorized access to collection storage area;
- Procedure and training documents;
- Communication, MOU's, letters of support;

- Location mapping evidence;
- Opening and closing procedures;