

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: Research

[Standards for Saskatchewan Museums](#), Collections, “Research” (pg. 89-91).

As public institutions, museums have a responsibility to create and advance knowledge and understanding about their collections. Equally important is ensuring this knowledge is made available to the communities the museum serves.

Research activities can be undertaken by museum staff and volunteers as well as outside researchers. Regardless of how it is conducted, research must be grounded in best practices and adhere to ethical guidelines.

Evaluation metrics: Grading scale 1(Poor) - 5(Excellent) for each point of evaluation (4):

- **Research Policy:**

1. The museum has a written Research Policy, and adheres to established code of ethics to guide the conduct and practices of researchers:
 - Research is done in support of the museums mandate;
 - The museum researches and interprets significant stories and themes, in accordance with its mandate, from a range of perspectives, with consultation with diverse community groups;
 - The museum ensures that the results of internal research are made publicly accessible;
 - Provides a place to accommodate visiting researchers in a safe, secure manner;

- **Oral History Policy:**

2. The museum has an Oral History and Fieldwork Policy or oral history and fieldwork activities are included in the museum's Research Policy:
 - Oral history projects are based on current principles and standards and the museum ensures that they are conducted in the spirit of critical inquiry and social responsibility;
 - Obtains signed release forms from each oral history interviewee ensuring the museum has the right to use the information for public purposes;
 - The museum treats any recordings produced as part of an oral history or fieldwork project as acquisitions and they are catalogued accordingly;

- **Collections Research:**

3. The museum's research is grounded in best practices and adheres to ethical guidelines as well as appropriate handling standards for artefacts in the collection:
 - Museums with ethnographic materials ensures any research contains prior free and informed consent from the originating community:
 - Research conducted on the ethnographic collection by the museum must be shared with the originating community;

- **Community Access for Research:**

4. The museum makes considerations in policy for external researchers accessing collections and materials (e.g, visiting academics, community genealogical research, etc):
 - The museum provides a place to accommodate visiting researchers in a safe, secure manner;
 - The museum gives visiting researchers physical access to artefacts at the discretion of the curator, or other designated person, and only under supervision;
 - Access to ethnographic collections for external research must obtain consent from the originating community;

Examples of evidence for evaluation include:

- Policies;
- Publications (academic journals, newspaper articles, blogs, podcasts, youtube videos, interviews with artists, documentaries, etc.);
- Exhibition catalogues;
- Curatorial essays;
- Community programs (lecture series, workshops, demonstrations, etc)
- Exhibitions (interpretive panels, timelines, etc)