

1. Program Overview

The CMF's Sector Development Support program is a selective, project-based program to support industry initiatives that demonstrate the potential to positively impact Canada's screen sector ecosystem by addressing gaps in distinct and identified areas, with priority being given to projects led by, and addressing the needs of, Indigenous, Equity-Deserving, and Regional communities. **Successful projects must lead to measurable, tangible benefits** (i.e. career advancement, skills building, mentorship, training, sales, promotion, export, financing or other related results) **for multiple members of the screen-based sector and cannot primarily benefit any one creator, organization or company.**

2. Definitions Applicable to Sector Development Support

As defined by the Canada Media Fund in [Appendix A](#), the terms Indigenous, Equity-Deserving, and Regional Communities will be used for Sector Development Support in 2025-2026 as follows:

Indigenous peoples in Canada:

- First Nations;
- Inuit;
- Métis.

Equity-Deserving Communities:

a) Black and Racialized Communities:

- Black people: people who trace their roots to Sub-Saharan Africa, including those with origins in the United States, Caribbean and Latin America;
- People of colour: people who are not white or of European descent who are descendants from one or more of the following communities:
 - Central or North Asian
 - Latin American
 - Middle Eastern, West Asian or North African
 - South Asian
 - Southeast Asian
 - East Asian
 - Indigenous Peoples from outside Canada

b) Women or gender-diverse individuals

c) 2SLGBTQ+: In the context of the Canada Media Fund, the acronym 2SLGBTQ+ refers to individuals who openly identify as Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and other sexual orientations and gender identities outside heterosexual and cisgender identities

d) Disabled persons or a person with disabilities are someone living with one or more physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, sensory or communicational, conditions or functional limitations that, in interaction with a social, policy or environmental barrier, presently hinders their full and equal participation in society. These conditions or functional limitations – evident or not – may be permanent, temporary or episodic in nature.

e) Official Language Minority Communities:

- English-language communities in Quebec;
- French-language communities in Canada outside of Quebec

f) Regional Communities:

- any part of Canada more than 150 km by the shortest reasonable roadway route from Toronto for English projects;
- any part of Canada more than 150 km by the shortest reasonable roadway route from Montreal for French projects.