

(Please complete this form & return it with your project proposal)

February 8, 2019

Innovation Grant

Northern Mordor First Nation Graphic Novel Collective

Mordor Library Service – North

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The goal of the is to engage 29 Indigenous communities in Northern Mordor, Canada through the First Nation public library system. Engagement strategies includes reading and discussing a unique

* : The terms and *Indigenous* and *First Nations* are used interchangeably throughout the grant. Both terms refer to the cultural group also known as Native American.



We propose to purchase a unique collection of graphic novels that have been produced by Indigenous authors and illustrators to distribute to 29 First Nation public libraries in Northern Mordor, Canada. The collection will be used to deliver a reading group, storytelling group, and final group project in each participating First Nation public library. The required graphic novel-themed event funds will be used to host a workshop with two Indigenous artists in one First Nation public library. The project findings will be presented at a library-focused public gathering in Mordor such as the *First Nation Spring Gathering* (May) or during the *First Nation Public Library Week* (October).

Due to the vast geography of Northern Mordor, the recognition ceremony will take place virtually. One of the 29 First Nation public libraries who have successfully completed *phases two through five* will have an opportunity to host a workshop with Galadriel (~~b- Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve~~) and Algonquin illustrator and comic artist Bronweg. The workshop will be virtually available for other First Nation public libraries to access through our online LearnHQ resource.

The following phases ensures the project is properly executed and documented:

- Phase One – Initiating the Project (Administration and Logistics) πη86(η)–5.071.53622.536

We believe it is important to purchase an all-Indigenous graphic novel collection because Indigenous characters have been historically misrepresented in popular culture. Graphic novelists and visual artists have been breaking down cultural barriers to ensure Indigenous characters are represented appropriately in their work (see *list of work in phase one*). Large movements such as Indigenous Comic-Con in the United States have elevated Indigenous comic illustrators and artists into mainstream media, and have opened an inclusive outlet for Indigenous storytellers and illustrators.

Not all First Nation public libraries have a graphic novel collection. For the few libraries that do carry graphic novels, it is evident that patrons are enjoying the literary materials. For example, patrons of Osgiliath Public Library (Gondor) have access to a collection of 156 graphic novels. Since 2000, the graphic novels have circulated 225 times. For a community that has the population 2,500 people, that means 9% of the population was interested enough in a graphic novel to take it home. Albeit this may seem like a small number, this is a significant number for First Nation public libraries circulation statistics.

Many of the First Nation public libraries are located in rural areas with aging library collections and resources. In Mordor, Indigenous youth are the fastest growing population. It is essential to engage with the communities from a young age to

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are available for purchase:

- xxxx
- Coordinate international shipping details and exchange rates.



<p>Create Programming Support Materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a DIY comic strip template in-house. Also include the steps necessary to complete the photography component and DIY speech bubbles. • Create comic book templates for individual storylines.
	
<p><i>Description</i></p>	<p><i>Tasks</i></p>
<p>Shipping collections to clients</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory the shipment from Diamond Comics Distributors and the Will Eisner Library and Will Eisner Awards at Comic-Con collections. • Coordinate the delivery of the collections to each First Nation public library.
<p>Cataloguing the collections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OLS – North First Nation Skills Advisor will assist with cataloguing the collections via telephone if needed.
<p>Promoting the collections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carryout the marketing and promotion plan. Send social media templates to the clients. • Ensure there are printable invitations available for community newsletters and bulletin boards. • Include a hardcopy poster that has a blank area to write the reading group date and time.
	
<p><i>Description</i></p>	<p><i>Tasks</i></p>
<p>First Nation librarians facilitate the reading groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the marketing strategy and supplementary materials to activate the reading program. • Use the discussion guide. • Librarians will report on successes or failures of the program. Feedback will be used to enhance and alter the final project outline. The length of the reading groups may vary depending on the reading group size, interest in the materials, and on-reserve population.
<p>First Nation librarians report on the reading group to OLS – North facilitator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The feedback will influence the next steps of the project. If patrons enjoyed specific graphic novels over others, this will influence

	the outcome of the interactive component.
	
<i>Description</i>	<i>Tasks</i>
First Nation librarians facilitate	

	<p>photograph.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This process will be repeated until the group is satisfied with the outcome of each image. • Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prepare storyline (4 weeks). ○ Prepare scenes (2 weeks). ○ Photography tutorial (2 weeks). ○ Live-action photoshoot (4-6 weeks). ○ Edit photos (6-8 weeks).
Group consultations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Nations Capacity Building Advisor consults with library groups on photography requirements, storyline editing, and program marketing.
Photography editing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final photography files are sent to First Nation Capacity Building Advisor for image editing. • Final images will be compiled into a professional-looking comic strip.

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<p>Recognition Ceremony</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Nation Capacity Building Advisor will determine whether the recognition will be at the First Nations Spring Gathering or at the First Nations Public Library Week launch. • Ensure proper logos are on marketing materials, including invitations. • Complete the final recognition report, presentation, and slideshow.
<p>Submit Final Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The First Nations Capacity Building Advisor will complete a thorough final report.



- Currencies have been converted from USD to CAN.
- \$xxxx is considered in-kind because the wages and professional development (conference) fees would have been covered by OLS – North regardless of grant outcome.