

Cultural Program Fund Policy



The Cultural Program Fund supports organizations and groups whose work aligns with the mission of BSNC. Priority will be given to initiatives that significantly impact on the Bering Strait region or actively support and preserve regional culture, heritage, and related activities. Funding may be provided to both tax-exempt and non-exempt organizations or groups. Preference and priority will be given to programs that are available to all BSNC shareholders and descendants.

AREAS OF SUPPORT:

The Cultural Fund focuses on the following areas:

- Cultural camps and festivals
- Traditional singing and dancing
- Language programs
- Workshops for preserving traditional skills and activities
- Community subsistence resources, including support for hunting and gathering activities
- Cultural programs and events
- Activities related to traditional food safety and security

FUNDING AND APPROVAL:

Annual Budget: During the annual budgeting process, the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees will approve the total funding budget. Requests for recurring or known funding can be requested during this process without requiring additional approval.

Limits of Approval:

- **Under \$10,000:** Funding of \$10,000 or less may be approved by the President.
- **Over \$10,000:** All funding exceeding \$10,000 must be approved by the Board of Directors or the Board of Trustees.
- **Exceeding the Annual Budget:** Board approval is required to exceed the annual budget for funding.

EXCLUSIONS:

The Cultural Fund will not support:

- Debt repayment
- Non-cultural pageants
- Individual sponsorships
- International organizations without proper vetting
- Religious organizations – funding should not be for religious purposes but may be given to a religious organization if funds are directly supporting one or more of the allowed areas of support.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:

The primary beneficiaries of contributions are groups and organizations in the Bering Strait region, including its shareholders, descendants and local communities.

Please allow at least two weeks for processing of applications and payment.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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