



Economic Impact of the First Peoples' Cultural Council's Operations & Activities

Briefing Note

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First Peoples' Cultural Council

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Purpose

Utilizing The Conference Board of Canada's proprietary Economic Impact Assessment (EIA) model, this study estimated the economic footprint of the First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC) in British Columbia (B.C.) and across the nation during the 2023-24 fiscal year. Specifically, the analysis includes the economic impact of FPCC's operations and investments across its three program areas: languages, arts, and heritage. Our findings highlight only the direct spending effects of these programs and do not account for the broader socio-economic impacts such as community well-being, cultural preservation, and skill development for First Nations.

Background

The FPCC is a provincial Crown corporation dedicated to supporting the revitalization of First Nations languages, arts, culture, and heritage in B.C. Specifically, FPCC funds programs dedicated to language preservation and revitalization of languages, the promotion and development of First Nations arts, and the safeguarding of cultural heritage. Through these efforts, FPCC aims to strengthen cultural identity and community resilience among First Nations peoples, ensuring that their rich cultural traditions are passed on to future generations.

Using The Conference Board of Canada's Economic Impact Assessment (EIA) model, we estimate the total, direct, indirect, and induced impacts across five economic variables: output, gross domestic product (GDP), employment, labour income (i.e. wages), and government revenues (i.e. taxes). These impacts are assessed for each grant program area (i.e. languages, arts, and heritage) as well as FPCC's operational activities based on data provided by FPCC. This scope of work involved aligning FPCC's grant program and operational expenditures with our EIA model. This was achieved using detailed program descriptions for each of FPCC's program areas (i.e. languages, arts, and heritage) to allocate funding across specific industry categories within The Conference Board's EIA model.

Key Findings

For the 2023-24 fiscal year, FPCC had total expenditures of \$60.3 million, with operational expenses accounting for approximately \$11.63 million. Grants provided by FPCC amounted to roughly \$48.65 million, with the language program receiving the largest amount at almost \$35.9 million, followed by the heritage program at \$7.3 million and the arts program at \$5.4 million.¹

¹ Note that the grant estimates do not align with FPCC's financial statements, as FPCC receives the following additional grants not included in the three program areas: Endangered Languages Program, Elders Gathering, and Knowledge Network. The expenditures for these additional grants were aligned with FPCC's program areas or operations where appropriate.

These expenditures provide significant economic benefits to B.C. and the Canadian economy in terms of output, GDP, employment, labour income, and government revenues.

- During the 2023-24 fiscal year, FPCC generated \$142.3 million in output within the Canadian economy through its administration of grants for revitalizing the languages, arts, cultures and heritage of B.C. First Nations. FPCC activities generated over \$103.8 million in output for the Province of B.C.
- The investment has a significant economic impact, generating an estimated \$69.0 million in gross domestic product (GDP) in B.C. and \$91.2 million in Canada. Thus, each dollar of revenue contributes \$1.52 to Canada's GDP and \$1.15 to B.C.'s GDP.
- Nearly 1,822 full-year jobs were created as a result of FPCC activities in 2023-24 across Canada, with 1,651 of those jobs being created in British Columbia. Full-year jobs represent the number of full-time jobs in a one-year period. In real terms, this could be one person working for a full year or four people working full-time for three months.
- The investment across program areas will generate \$69.3 million in labour income in Canada, with approximately \$56.9 million earned in British Columbia.
- FPCC's activities generated \$15.8 million in taxes in 2023-24, including \$8.7 million in federal taxes, \$5.4 million in provincial and territorial taxes, and \$1.7 million in municipal government revenues. FPCC is exempt from federal and provincial income taxes.

The economic benefits of investing in the revitalization of languages, arts, and heritage of B.C. First Nations extend well beyond the economic impacts presented above. The economic impact assessment only demonstrates the first-order effects of FPCC's direct spending. In this sense, the impacts only highlight the tip of the iceberg of the broader economic benefits that will benefit all Canadians by boosting productivity, fostering business growth, and increasing workforce participation.

Appendix A: Data Tables

Table A1:

Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on output, British Columbia
(Output contributions, 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	11,434.0	35,835.1	5,376.9	7,293.9	59,939.9
Indirect	6,172.1	5,507.5	1,205.5	2,488.4	15,373.6
Induced	3,088.0	20,996.6	1,935.7	2,480.0	28,500.3
Total	20,694.2	62,339.3	8,518.0	12,262.3	103,813.8

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A2:

Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on output, Canada
(Output contributions, 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	11,434.0	35,835.1	5,376.9	7,293.9	59,939.9
Indirect	7,904.3	8,226.4	1,795.6	3,409.8	21,336.2
Induced	6,542.6	46,449.8	3,845.9	4,197.0	61,035.3
Total	25,880.9	90,511.3	11,018.4	14,900.7	142,311.3

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A3:

Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on GDP, British Columbia
(GDP contributions, 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	5,703.0	29,728.1	3,981.3	4,127.5	43,539.9
Indirect	3,315.5	2,959.2	599.0	1,309.9	8,183.6
Induced	1,869.9	12,714.4	1,172.1	1,501.7	17,258.2
Total	10,888.4	45,401.7	5,752.5	6,939.2	68,981.8

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A4:
Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on GDP, Canada
 (GDP contributions, 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	5,703.0	29,728.1	3,981.3	4,127.5	43,539.9
Indirect	4,344.1	4,354.2	876.2	1,758.5	11,333.0
Induced	3,885.1	27,623.2	2,288.9	2,499.5	36,296.7
Total	13,932.2	61,705.4	7,146.5	8,385.4	91,169.5

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A5:
Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on employment, British Columbia
 (Employment contributions, full-year jobs, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	62	1,116	157	93	1,429
Indirect	25	42	10	13	90
Induced	14	97	9	12	133
Total	101	1,256	176	118	1,651

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A6:
Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on employment, Canada
 (Employment contributions, full-year jobs, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	62	1,116	157	93	1,429
Indirect	33	55	13	16	116
Induced	29	210	18	20	277
Total	124	1,381	187	130	1,822

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A7:
Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on wages, British Columbia
(Labour income contributions, 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	5,703.0	28,505.0	3,857.8	3,529.4	41,595.2
Indirect	2,604.5	2,292.2	478.1	899.7	6,274.5
Induced	1,356.2	6,377.3	587.9	753.2	9,074.7
Total	9,663.7	37,174.6	4,923.8	5,182.3	56,944.5

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A8:
Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on wages, Canada
(Labour income contributions, 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Direct	5,703.0	28,505.0	3,857.8	3,529.4	41,595.2
Indirect	3,385.1	3,251.4	669.7	1,183.9	8,490.2
Induced	2,740.1	13,989.1	1,164.2	1,285.9	19,179.3
Total	11,828.2	45,745.5	5,691.7	5,999.3	69,264.6

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A9:
Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on taxes, British Columbia
(Total government revenues (sum of direct, indirect, and induced), 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Federal	1,478.2	2,951.9	403.8	592.6	5,426.5
Provincial	695.1	1,633.8	209.1	305.6	2,843.7
Municipal	90.6	492.8	58.0	107.6	748.9
Total	2,263.9	5,078.5	670.9	1,005.8	9,019.1

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Table A10:**Economic impact of FPCC's operations and grant programs on taxes, Canada**

(Total government revenues (sum of direct, indirect, and induced), 2023 \$ thousands, 2023–24 fiscal year)

	Operations	Language	Arts	Heritage	Total
Federal	1,998.3	5,312.8	613.0	809.4	8,733.5
Provincial	1,090.0	3,446.7	369.0	465.4	5,371.1
Municipal	200.3	1,211.3	115.4	160.7	1,687.7
Total	3,288.6	9,970.9	1,097.3	1,435.5	15,792.4

*Numbers may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: The Conference Board of Canada.

Appendix B: Methodology

This study employed The Conference Board of Canada's Economic Impact Assessment (EIA) model at the national and provincial levels to measure the impacts of FPCC's operations and grant distributions for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This involved customizing The Conference Board's proprietary EIA model for FPCC's operations and three grant program areas (i.e., languages, arts, and heritage). This customization aligned each EIA run with the relevant Statistics Canada Input-Output (I/O) model and corresponding supply-use tables (SUTs).²

The economic impacts of each grant program area are based on the funding associated with each area and its relevant sub-grant programs. The total economic impact on the B.C. and Canadian economies is the sum of the direct, indirect, and induced impacts described below.

Direct impacts: These are the economic impacts directly resulting from investing in language, arts, and heritage grant programs as well as FPCC's operations. Direct impacts include the contributions to output, GDP, employment, wages, and government revenue as a result of the direct outlays of spending.

Indirect impacts: The indirect, or supply-chain, effects measure the value added that the "direct impact firms" generate through their demand for intermediate inputs or other support services. These impacts measure the contribution to output, GDP, employment, wages, and government revenue associated with the direct spending on intermediate inputs and support services. For example, improving First Nations cultural and heritage sites requires building materials, which creates higher GDP and employment and generates wages and government revenues in the corresponding non-residential construction industry.

Induced impacts: Induced impacts are derived when employees of the directly and indirectly affected industries spend their earnings and owners spend their profits. These purchases contribute to output, GDP, employment, wages, and tax revenues, and are typically felt across a wide array of consumer-oriented industries. For example, language instructors will spend some of their wages on food purchased at restaurants, resulting in higher GDP and employment, and generating wages and government revenue in the food services industry.

This project utilizes Statistics Canada's 2019 detailed input-output tables and multipliers. While the most recent multipliers are from 2020, the 2019 multipliers better represent the structure of the economy compared to those observed during the pandemic.

² SUTs describe an entire economy by industry by tracing the production of products by domestic industries, combined with imports, through their use as intermediate inputs or as final consumption, investment, or exports. The Canadian SUTs break down the economy into 236 industries, 278 categories of final demand, and 496 product groups.



Appendix B: Methodology

The methodological approach for the four distinct EIA runs is as follows:

1) FPCC's Operations

The economic impact of FPCC's operations and activities is estimated using the operating expenses and overhead from the FPCC's fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 financial statement. These expenditures include salaries, purchased services, office overhead, and other operating costs, totalling \$11.6 million. However, only \$11.4 million was used to calculate the economic impacts as amortization expenses of \$200,000 and the \$50,000 returned from the Knowledge Network are excluded from the economic impact analysis. (See Table B1.) Further, this cost data was aligned with the 'Grant-making, civic, and professional and similar organizations' industry classification.

Table B1:
First Peoples' Cultural Choice Operational Costs, Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Program		Funding	Share
Salaries	\$	5,703,000.00	49.9%
Purchased Services	\$	3,277,000.00	28.7%
Office Overhead and Operating Coasts	\$	953,000.00	8.3%
Community Resources, R&D, and Jury Costs	\$	671,000.00	5.9%
Professional Fees	\$	568,000.00	5.0%
Facilities Rent, Heating and Maintenance	\$	168,000.00	1.5%
Board and Advisory	\$	94,000.00	0.8%
Total	\$	11,434,000.00	100.0%

*Percentages may not add to the total due to rounding.
Source: First People's Cultural Council.

2) Language Program Grants

The economic impact of the language program grants is estimated by mapping the total grant expenditures across programs, amounting to approximately \$35.9 million. These programs include the Mentor-Apprentice Program, Reclaiming My Language, and the Pathways to Language Vitality, among others. However, only \$35.8 million was used to calculate the economic impacts. (See Table B2.) An estimated 30 per cent of the spending on the Endangered Languages Program is not spent domestically (i.e. the amount of spending leaks out of the Canadian economy). As a result, \$90,000 (30 per cent of \$300,000) has been removed from the total reported in Table B2 in calculating the economic impacts. Informed by the detailed program descriptions provided by FPCC, these grant expenditures were allocated to industry classifications, including educational services, computer systems design and related services, sound recording industries, and motion picture and video industries, among others.

**Table B2:
Language Program Grants Funding, Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Program		Funding	Share
Reclaiming My Language	\$	517,586.63	1.4%
Language Technology Program	\$	7,481,682.52	20.8%
Language Revitalization Planning	\$	3,483,151.99	9.7%
Pathways to Language Vitality	\$	21,190,828.96	59.0%
Mentor Apprentice Program	\$	1,953,914.88	5.4%
Youth Empowered Speakers Program	\$	682,620.17	1.9%
Summer Institute	\$	117,299.36	0.3%
Adult Immersion Program	\$	198,032.12	0.6%
Endangered Languages Program	\$	210,000.00	0.8%
Total	\$	35,835,116.63	100.0%

*Percentages may not add to the total due to rounding.
Source: First People's Cultural Council.

3) Arts Program Grants

The economic impact of the arts program grants was generated by mapping the total grant expenditures across programs, totalling roughly \$5.4 million. These programs include First Nations Music Recording, Community Arts Infrastructure, and Emerging Music Industry Professionals, among others. (See Table B3.) Informed by the detailed program descriptions provided by FPCC, these grant expenditures were allocated to industry classifications including, performing arts, spectator sports and related industries, and heritage institutions; educational services; and motion picture and video industries, among others.

**Table B3:
Arts Program Grants Funding, Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Program		Funding	Share
Arts Program: Arts Administrator Internships and Mentorship	\$	80,000.00	1.5%
Arts Program: Community Art Spaces	\$	599,625.00	11.2%
Arts Program: Art Scholarships	\$	769,152.09	14.3%
Arts Program: Individual Arts	\$	1,341,918.22	25.0%
Arts Program: Organizations and Collectives	\$	588,858.41	11.0%
Arts Program: Sharing Traditional Arts Across Generations	\$	1,216,239.42	22.6%
Music Grants	\$	541,084.99	10.1%
Music Industry Professionals	\$	239,974.00	4.5%
Total	\$	5,376,852.13	100.0%

*Percentages may not add to the total due to rounding.
Source: First People's Cultural Council.

4) Heritage Program Grants

The economic impact of the heritage program grants was estimated by mapping the total grant expenditures across programs, totalling approximately \$7.3 million. (See Table B4.) These programs include the Braided Knowledge Grant, Sense of Place, and the Heritage Infrastructure Program, among others. Informed by the detailed program descriptions provided by FPCC, these grant expenditures were allocated to industry classifications including, performing arts, spectator sports and related industries, and heritage institutions; educational services; and non-residential construction industries, among others.

Table B4:
Heritage Program Grants Funding, Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Program		Funding	Share
Braided Knowledge	\$	773,610.81	10.6%
Heritage Infrastructure Program	\$	4,385,582.78	60.1%
Cultural Heritage Stewardship	-\$	2,050.00	0.0%
Braided Infrastructure	\$	1,661,778.63	22.8%
Endangered Languages Program	\$	375,000.00	5.1%
Elders Gathering	\$	100,000.00	1.4%
Total	\$	7,293,922.22	100.0%

*Percentages may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: First People's Cultural Council.

The grants allocated to FPCC's three program areas (languages, arts, and heritage) that were included in the economic impact totalled \$48.5 million while the amount allocated to FPCC's operations totalled \$11.4 million. All together the amount of expenditures included in this economic impact study totalled to \$59.9 million.

Appendix C: Glossary of Terms

Corporate taxes: Taxes collected by federal and provincial governments on corporations' and other similar legal entities' profits.

Gross domestic product (GDP): A measure of the overall economic activity (value of goods and services produced) within an economy. It is a value-added measure of economic activity, expressed in terms of actual prices paid by a purchaser after taxes.

GDP multiplier: The GDP multiplier captures the net economic impact of total expenditures. It is the ratio between the total GDP impact for British Columbia or Canada and the corresponding expenditure (FPCC's operations and funding for grant programs). It is calculated as the amount of GDP generated from \$1 of spending.

Indirect impacts: Indirect impacts measure the value added that the "direct impact firms" generate through their demand for intermediate inputs or other support services.

Induced impacts: Induced impacts are derived when employees of the directly and indirectly affected industries spend their earnings and employers spend their profits. These purchases lead to another round of employment, wages, income, and tax revenues, and are typically felt across a wide array of consumer-oriented industries.

Municipal taxes: Taxes collected from firms and individuals by the municipality in which they reside.

Output: Output measures the value of all economic activity, including the buying and selling of intermediate goods.

Output multiplier: The output multiplier captures the total/gross economic impact of total investment. It is the ratio between the total output impact for British Columbia or Canada and the total amount of expenditures (FPCC's operations and funding for grant programs). It is calculated as the amount of output generated from \$1 of spending.

Personal income taxes: Taxes collected by federal and provincial governments on individuals' income.

Sales tax: Taxes collected by both federal and provincial governments on the purchase of goods and services.

Wages: Monetary compensation to wage earners and salary earners. Wages are presented in gross terms before taxes and other deductions.



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