

Aboriginal Program

The Aboriginal Program is designed to support Aboriginal-language independent production in Canada. This program is part of the Canada Media Fund's (CMF) Convergent Stream; thus, projects funded through this program must include content to be produced for distribution on at least two platforms, one of which must be television and the other, digital media. Funding from this program is allocated according to a selective process, using an evaluation grid.

As a result of past oversubscription on available program funding, the budget of the Aboriginal Program budget for development and production was increased to \$7.0 M in 2011–2012. Aboriginal-language projects received \$726 K in additional CMF funding from the Performance Envelope, English Production Incentive, and Northern Production Incentive programs.

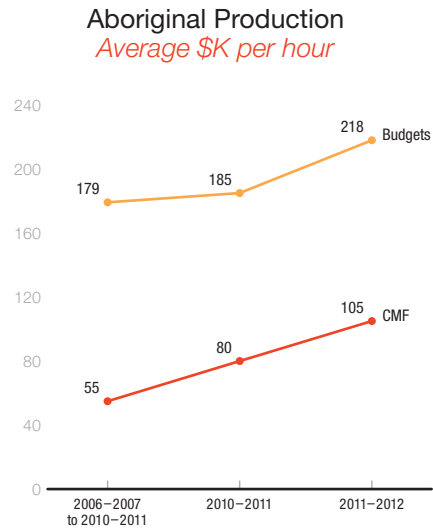
Aboriginal Program: Production

	2010–2011						2011–2012						5-year average		
	TV	DM	Total CMF \$K	#	Hours	Budgets \$K	TV	DM	Total CMF \$K	#	Hours	Budgets \$K	Total CMF \$K	Hours	Budgets \$K
Children's & Youth	1,255	351	1,606	4	20		1,029	351	1,380	4	14				
Documentary	2,888	576	3,464	11	41		3,587	414	4,001	11	37				
Drama	0	0	0	0	0		615	213	828	2	3				
Variety & Performing Arts	275	78	353	1	7		287	25	312	1	8				
Total	4,418	1,005	5,423	16	68	12,592	5,518	1,003	6,521	18	62	13,518	3,381	61	10,908

2006–2007 to 2010–2011

Aboriginal Program: Development

	2010–2011				2011–2012				5-year average	
	TV	DM	Total CMF \$K	#	TV	DM	Total CMF \$K	#	Total CMF \$K	
	418	159	577	18	326	68	394	15	371	



Aboriginal projects came from coast to coast to coast: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nunavut, Quebec, and New Brunswick. Documentaries received 61% of program funding and children’s and youth programs received 21% of funding. These proportions are similar to 2010–2011.

Television

In 2011–2012, APTN licensed 16 projects and Nunavut Independent Television Network licensed two. There were two new television dramas, a Movie of the Week (MOW) and a drama series pilot. The increase in funding to television triggered a rise in funding per hour and in budgets per hour. In 2011–2012, TV production budgets ranged from \$216 K for a documentary one-off to \$1.6 M for a children’s and youth series.

Digital Media

Digital media components of projects received 18% of convergent funding in this program. There were 17 digital components funded and the average digital media component budget was \$125 K.

Financing Sources

CMF funding provided over half of television production budgets in 2011–2012, and almost half of digital media budgets. Broadcasters provided over 10% of television budgets with the rest of financing coming from government sources. Producers and distributors together provided 30% of digital media component financing.

Aboriginal Program: Production Financing

	Television		Digital Media	
	\$K	%	\$K	%
CMF–AP	5,518	48	1,003	47
CMF–PE, EPI, NPI	726	68	0	0
CMF	6,244	55	1,003	47
Provincial Governments	2,234	20	213	10
Broadcasters	1,196	10	197	9
Federal Government	1,012	9	0	0
Private Funds	476	4	60	3
Producers	191	2	292	14
Distributors	20	0	345	16
Other	25	0	10	1
Total	11,398	100	2,120	100