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<https://mn.gov/indianaffairs/>

### AT A GLANCE

- The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (“MIAC” or “Council”) established under MN Stat. 3.922 serves as a liaison between the state enterprise and the eleven Tribal Nations that share geography.
- The Council board is comprised of elected Tribal Leaders, the Governor’s Office, members of the State Legislature, and State Agency Commissioners.
- The Council oversees and provides support for a six-member Urban Indian Advisory Board (“UIAB”) that advises the Council on issues specific to the urban American Indian communities in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Bemidji, and Duluth.
- According to the 2020 Census there are approximately 69,000 American Indians in Minnesota residing both on and off reservation.
- MIAC has ten (10) full-time staff and two offices located in St. Paul and Bemidji.

### PURPOSE

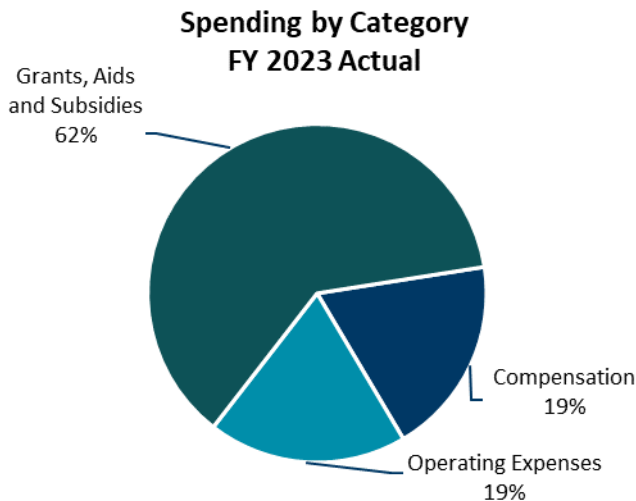
The mission of Minnesota Indian Affairs Council – *To protect the sovereignty of the eleven Minnesota tribes and ensure the well-being of all American Indian citizens throughout the state of Minnesota.*

The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council’s vision is - *To strive for social, economic, and political justice for all American Indian people living in Minnesota, while embracing our traditional, cultural, and spiritual values.*

The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council mission, vision, and duties align and contribute to advancing the One Minnesota Plan in all areas with a special emphasis in reducing Native American disparities through partnerships and collaborations with Tribal Nation partners and the Urban Indian Community.

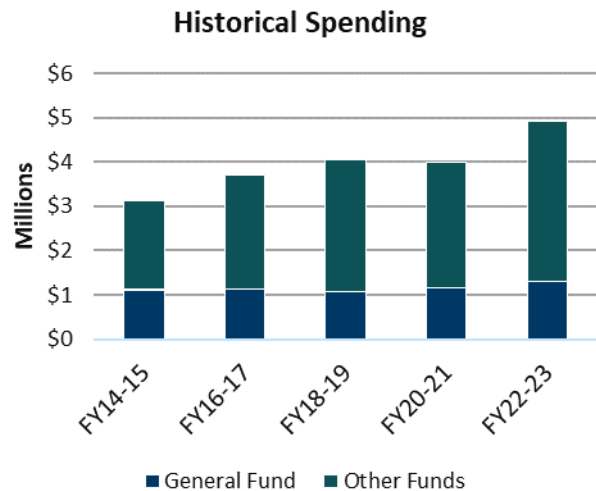
In the “Strategies” section of this profile, MIAC highlights the tactics employed to achieve both the mission and vision of the agency while contributing to the One Minnesota Plan. MIAC is committed to ending discrimination and reducing social disparities within Minnesota and Indian Country. This commitment extends to areas identified by the Governor’s One Minnesota Plan including Children and Families, Educational Opportunities, Housing, Workforce development, Health, Equity and Inclusion, Environment, and Education.

## BUDGET



*Grants, Aids, and Subsidies are the appropriations from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for Language Revitalization and Cultural Resources.*

*Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)*



*Note: After FY14-15 MIAC has not received any federal funds*

*Source: Consolidated Fund Statement*

The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council has a total biennial appropriation of approximately \$7.3 million for the FY 2024-25 biennium. The biennial General Fund support is approximately \$2.7 million. Funding from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund, consisting of grants to communities and tribal nations for Dakota and Ojibwe Language Revitalization, is approximately \$4.6 million.

## STRATEGIES

**The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council employs the following strategies to meet both the MIAC mission statement and the One Minnesota Plan:**

- Convene quarterly board meetings attended by elected Tribal Leaders (executive board), State Agency Commissioners, State of Minnesota elected and appointed officials, key agency program staff, and members of the public.
- Analyze and offer recommendations to Tribal Elected Leaders, members of the Legislature, and the Governor on programs, proposals, and projects of importance to Tribal Nations and non-Tribal Indian organizations.
- Establish, develop, and maintain community relationships by engaging in community activities.
- Educate state agencies, local governments, and the public on issues important to Tribal Nations and Native American population.
- Educate state agencies and the public on “Why Treaties Matter” exhibit and how this connects to state work and projects.
- Offer technical support to various state task forces engaging in the work that would have tribal implications.
- Assist members of the legislature on language revision, review, and recommendation for proposed legislation that could have tribal implications.
- Create, develop, and maintain a Native American profile for purposes of guiding, directing, and recommending proposed policy and legislation.
- Work with state agencies to review current or future delivery of services to Tribal Nations and Native American population.

- Assist and collaborate with state agencies in establishing advisory councils, boards, and committees that deliver services to Tribal Nations in Minnesota.
- Promote, develop, and advance the revitalization and preservation of the Dakota and Ojibwe Languages through the Language Grants department supported by the Legacy Amendment.
- Direct and regulate repatriation and burial recovery efforts of Native American remains and artifacts through a respectful and culturally competent manner.
- Collaborate with state agencies, the Army Corp of Engineers, state and local governments, Tribal Historic Preservations Officers, and elected Tribal Officials to ensure repatriation efforts remain in compliance with MN Stat. 307.08 (The Private Cemeteries Act), MN Stat. 138.31-42 (The Field Archeology Act), and the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.
- Coordinate with state agency Tribal Liaisons to offer technical assistance and coordination under MN Stat. 10.65 – Government to Government Relationship with Tribal Governments.
- Partner with Tribal Nations and state agencies to plan and facilitate the Tribal-State Relations Training.
- Offer technical assistance in establishing means of delivery of services to Tribal Nations and the urban Native American community.
- Plan, support, and coordinate the Annual Tribal Nation Summit for Elected Tribal Leaders, Legislative members, and the Governor.

In 2024, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council has undergone significant agency growth to better meet the needs of the Tribal Nations and Native American population. This growth includes the addition of two Cultural Resource (“CR”) managers, a Communications Manager, and a Legislative Director. From FY2023 to FY2024, the Cultural Resource department has seen a sixty-two percent (62%) increase in requests for review from both state agencies and private landowners. The addition of the two CR managers has boosted the capacity and efficacy of MIAC response to these requests. The additional CR managers have also established, developed, and maintained amicable relationships with Tribal partners, state agencies, Office of State Archeology (OSA), Hamline university, and many other entities.

The duty of the Legislative Director ensures the much needed and revered technical assistance for the members of the legislature is ready and available based on priorities set by Tribal Nations and Urban Indian Organizations. The Communications Manager ensures timely correspondence with all our partners including within the state enterprise, the eleven sovereign Tribal Nations, the Urban Indian community, and the public.

Representation is a priority for the One Minnesota Plan and MIAC prioritizes the voices of Tribal Governments within the legislative process and offers analysis of outcomes that will have tribal implications. In addition to the items listed above, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council continues to fulfill its statutory duties in accordance with MN Stat. 3.922. The MIAC coordination and technical assistance in areas of Health, Commerce, Education, Housing, Economic Development, Cannabis Management, Human Services, Corrections, Transportation, and Veteran Affairs has led to equitable outcomes for all of Minnesota.

## RESULTS

Measure name	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend	Most recent data (FY 2024)
Growth in the Language Grants Department	Quantity	Awards for each fiscal year.	The Indian Affairs Council has come to be a trusted partner in statewide protection, preservation, and revitalization of the endangered Dakota and Ojibwe languages.	Competitive Grants
				American Indian OIC   \$74,677.53
				Dakhota Iapi           \$100,500.00
				Grand Portage           \$66,032.52
				Minneapolis American Indian Center   \$100,500.00
				Manidoo Ogitigaan   \$57,800.60
				University of Minnesota   \$91,883.80
				White Earth Tribal Community College   \$82,586.21
				Immersion Grants
				Bois Forte               \$110,876.00
				Fond du Lac Tribal Community College   \$149,755.75
				Lower Sioux Immersion School   \$147,446.00
				Niigaane Immersion   \$100,000.00
				Red Lake Immersion   \$129,000.00
				There is a separate fund that is split equally between the eleven tribal nations. Each nation that participated received \$80,750 for fiscal year 2024.
Growth in the Language Grants Department through the Annual Dakota and Ojibwe Language Symposium	Quantity	Online Registrations	MIAC hosted the very first statewide Dakota and Ojibwe Language Symposium in 2022 virtually. It has been held annually since, with a growing number of interested parties both in attendance, presenter requests, and variety in topics addressed.	2022 – held virtually 2023- 90 attendees 2024- 115 attendees  *MIAC had to close registration due to the amount of interest and capacity to host more than 115 attendees. The trend was the same with presentation requests.

<b>Measure name</b>	<b>Measure type</b>	<b>Measure data source</b>	<b>Historical trend</b>	<b>Most recent data (FY 2024)</b>
Number of Cultural Resource reviews, archaeology licenses, EAW's, statewide survey proposals, and information requests	Quantity	Cultural Resource Staff Reports <a href="https://mn.gov/indian-affairs/about-us/miac-board-meetings/board-meeting-updates.jsp">https://mn.gov/indian-affairs/about-us/miac-board-meetings/board-meeting-updates.jsp</a>	MIAC cultural resources staff conducts reviews including MS 307.08 reviews, archaeology licenses, Environmental Assessment Worksheets, statewide survey proposals, and information requests pursuant to MIAC's responsibilities under both the Private Cemeteries and Field Archaeology Acts. The number of reviews nearly doubled between the first and fourth quarters of FY 24.	FY24 Q1 – 120 Reviews FY24 Q2 – 150 Reviews FY24 Q3 – 145 Reviews FY24 Q4 – 235 Reviews

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The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council's legal authority comes from MS 3.922 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=3.922>).

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Actual FY24	Estimate FY25	Forecast Base FY26 FY27		Governor's Recommendation FY26 FY27	
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### Expenditures by Fund

1000 - General	511	787	1,137	1,560	1,361	1,361	1,381	1,402
2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue	314	11	26	24				
2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue	18	24	33	60				
2301 - Arts & Cultural Heritage	1,446	1,812	2,327	2,949				
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>4,593</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>1,402</b>
Biennial Change				3,193		(5,395)		(5,334)
Biennial % Change				65		(66)		(66)
Governor's Change from Base								61
Governor's % Change from Base								2

### Expenditures by Program

Indian Affairs Council	2,290	2,634	3,524	4,593	1,361	1,361	1,381	1,402
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>4,593</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>1,402</b>

### Expenditures by Category

Compensation	406	503	849	1,086	1,053	1,088	1,073	1,129
Operating Expenses	589	483	644	887	303	268	303	268
Grants, Aids and Subsidies	1,291	1,636	2,025	2,615				
Other Financial Transaction	3	11	6	5	5	5	5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>4,593</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>1,402</b>

### Full-Time Equivalents

<b>4.62</b>	<b>5.93</b>	<b>8.45</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>9.00</b>
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(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY26	FY27
1000 - General								
Balance Forward In		377		200				
Direct Appropriation	855	864	1,337	1,360	1,361	1,361	1,381	1,402
Cancellations		453						
Balance Forward Out	344		200					
Expenditures	511	787	1,137	1,560	1,361	1,361	1,381	1,402
Biennial Change in Expenditures				1,398		25		86
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				108		1		3
Governor's Change from Base								61
Governor's % Change from Base								2
Full-Time Equivalents	3.35	4.62	7.15	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00

**2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue**

Balance Forward In	325	37	51	24		
Balance Forward Out	11	26	24			
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>		
Biennial Change in Expenditures				(275)	(50)	(50)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				(84)	(100)	(100)
Governor's Change from Base						0
Governor's % Change from Base						

**2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue**

Receipts	18	24	33	60		
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>60</b>		
Biennial Change in Expenditures				51	(93)	(93)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				121	(100)	(100)
Governor's Change from Base						0
Governor's % Change from Base						
Full-Time Equivalents	0.23	0.26	0.30			

**2301 - Arts & Cultural Heritage**

Balance Forward In	1,065	1,367	1,140	649				
Direct Appropriation	2,000	2,000	2,300	2,300	0	0	0	0
Cancellations	299	577	464					



(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Actual FY24	Estimate FY25	Forecast Base FY26 FY27		Governor's Recommendation FY26 FY27	
Balance Forward Out	1,320	978	649					
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>1,446</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>2,327</b>	<b>2,949</b>				
Biennial Change in Expenditures				2,019		(5,276)		(5,276)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				62		(100)		(100)
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								
Full-Time Equivalents	1.04	1.05	1.00	1.00				

**2403 - Gift**

Balance Forward In	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Receipts	0	0	0					
Balance Forward Out	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	Biennium 2026-27
<b>Direct</b>				
<b>Fund: 1000 - General</b>				
FY2025 Appropriations	1,360	1,360	1,360	2,720
Base Adjustments				
Minnesota Paid Leave Allocation		1	1	2
Forecast Base	1,360	1,361	1,361	2,722
Change Items				
Operating Adjustment		20	41	61
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>1,360</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>2,783</b>
<b>Fund: 2301 - Arts &amp; Cultural Heritage</b>				
FY2025 Appropriations	2,300	2,300	2,300	4,600
Base Adjustments				
One-Time Legacy Fund Appropriations		(2,300)	(2,300)	(4,600)
Forecast Base	2,300			
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>2,300</b>			
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Planned Spending	24			
Forecast Base	24			
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>24</b>			
<b>Fund: 2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Planned Spending	60			
Forecast Base	60			
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>60</b>			
<b>Revenue Change Summary</b>				
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Forecast Revenues	60			
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>60</b>			

# Indian Affairs Council

## FY 2026-27 Biennial Budget Change Item

### Change Item Title: Operating Adjustment

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Fund				
Expenditures	20	41	41	41
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	20	41	41	41
FTEs	0	0	0	0

### Recommendation:

The Governor recommends additional funding of \$20,000 in FY 2026 and \$41,000 in each subsequent year from the general fund to help address operating cost increases at the Indian Affairs Council.

### Rationale/Background:

The cost of operations rises each year due to increases in employer-paid health care contributions, FICA and Medicare, along with other salary and compensation-related costs. Other operating costs, like rent and lease, fuel and utilities, and IT and legal services also grow. This cost growth puts pressure on agency operating budgets that remain flat year to year.

Agencies face challenging decisions to manage these rising costs within existing budgets, while maintaining the services Minnesotans expect. From year to year, agencies find ways to become more efficient with existing resources. For FY 2026-27, agencies will need to continue to find additional efficiencies and leverage management tools to help address budget pressures. Holding open vacancies in certain programs or delaying hiring in other programs are examples of ways agencies manage through constrained operating budgets. Such decisions are difficult and must be weighed against a program's ability to conduct business with less staffing and its impact to service delivery.

This recommendation provides additional resources to help address these cost pressures and pay for agency operations.

### Proposal:

The Governor recommends increasing agency operating budgets to support current services. For the Indian Affairs Council, this funding will help cover expected growth in employee compensation and insurance, rising rents, and other operating costs.

### Dollars in Thousands

Net Impact by Fund	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26-27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 28-29
General Fund	20	41	61	41	41	82
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>82</b>

Fund	Component Description	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26-27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 28-29
GF	Operating Costs	20	41	61	41	41	82

**Results:**

This recommendation is intended to help the Indian Affairs Council address rising cost pressures and mitigate impacts to current levels of service and information to the public.