



Description: The 8th Annual Alberta Métis Fest is proud to present the “2026 Battle of the Bands Competition” highlighting Métis artists and bands aimed towards bring people together through music. The competition promises to create an energetic atmosphere encouraging crowd participation, dancing and community.

Eligibility:

1. At least one member of the band must be a citizen of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government.
2. Bands must consist of a **minimum of three (3) performing members**.
3. Bands may perform in any genre. However, please keep in mind this is a Métis Festival, and bands must be able to perform live music suitable for a festival audience.
4. Bands must be available for the Battle of the Bands Competition on Saturday, June 13th, 2026.
5. Employees of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, affiliates, service providers, judges and elected officials are not eligible to enter the Battle of the Bands competition.

Performance Format:

1. Each band receives a 30- minute performance with an additional 10-minute allocation for set-up in between sets. All backline will be provided with a shared drum kit.
2. Bands must perform live music. No backing tracks are allowed.
3. Music should be high-energy, danceable and family festival-friendly, encouraging the audience to dance and participate. No profanity will be tolerated.
4. Bands must stay within their assigned time limits to ensure the event runs smoothly.

Judging Criteria:

- Bands will be judged on the following:
 - **Crowd Engagement** – Ability to get the crowd dancing, clapping, participating
 - **Musicianship**- Skill level, rhythm, overall performance
 - **Stage Presence**- Energy, confidence, ability to entertain
 - **Creativity**- Sound, songwriting or performance style
 - **Cultural Expression**- Incorporation of Métis culture, or Métis musical influences





Registration:

- **Bands must submit a completed application form before the registration deadline of Friday, May 2nd, 2026, at 5 PM.**
- Applications require:
 - Band Name and Member List
 - Primary Contact Information
 - Short Band Bio
 - Genre of music played
 - Band Photo
 - Music sample or video submission
 - Otipemisiwak Métis Government Citizenship number for a **minimum of one band member**
 - **Optional:** Social media links

***The organizing committee reserves the right to select participating bands based on availability and suitability for Alberta Métis Fest. ***

Code of Conduct:

- Bands must adhere to the Otipemisiwak Métis Government Code of Conduct to provide a safe, positive, and inclusive environment for all attendees.
- Alberta Métis Fest is a dry, family-friendly event. The use, possession, or distribution of alcohol, drugs, or illicit substances is strictly prohibited from the event. Failure to comply will result in removal from the event and disqualification from the competition.
- The organizers reserve the right to disqualify participants for inappropriate conduct.



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Scoring & Prize Amounts:

- There will be a panel comprised of a minimum of two (2) Judges with additional votes submitted from festival attendees and the audience.
- The organizing committee has final authority regarding band scheduling, judging decisions, and interpretation of competition rules. **All judging decisions are final and binding and not subject to review of appeal.**
- There is a guaranteed pay-out for all bands.
 - 1st Place: \$5,000
 - 2nd Place: \$4,000
 - 3rd Place: \$3,000
 - Guaranteed Pay Out: \$1,000
 - BONUS PRIZE: Audience Favorite: \$2,500
- All prizes must be accepted as awarded in the above rules and cannot be transferred to another person or exchanged for any other prize. If for any reason, a band does not pick up any prize amount at the conclusion of the event on Saturday, June 13th, 2026, it will be forfeited.

Media & Promotions:

By entering the 2026 Battle of the Bands competition, bands grant permission for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government to photograph and record performances for promotional and documentation performances. **Please note, this event is live-streamed.** Bands retain ownership of their original music and intellectual property.

General Terms and Conditions:

By entering the Competition, entrants agree to abide by these Competition Rules and Regulations and authorize the Competition Administrators and, at the Competition Administrators' direction, their advertising and promotional agencies and their respective employees or other representatives to broadcast, publish and otherwise use Winner's name, photograph, image, video, statements regarding the Competition or any prize, place of residence and (or) voice for publicity purposes,



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without any form of remuneration, including without limitation, on any website operated by or on behalf of the Competition Administrators.

The validity of any Competition entry is subject to verification by the Competition Administrators.

If any entry information is found to be false or misleading, or if an entrant is otherwise ineligible to enter the Competition or to win a prize, the Competition Administrators reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to disqualify that entrant.

By entering or attempting to enter the Competition, each entrant and/or purported entrant agrees:

(i) to release, discharge, and forever hold harmless the Competition Group Entities, and their respective officers, directors, employees, shareholders, agents and other representatives (collectively, the “Releasees”) from any and all liability, claims, actions, damages, injuries, demands, manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, duties, accounts, bonds, covenants, warranties, indemnities, claims over, contracts and liabilities of whatever nature or kind arising out of, participation or attempted participation in the Competition, compliance or non-compliance with these Competition Rules and Regulations and acceptance of any prize. As noted above in these Rules and Regulations, prior to being declared a Winner, a Potential Winner must complete and return to the Competition Administrators a Declaration of Eligibility and Release in the form, and within the time, required by the Competition Administrators before declaring a Winner and receiving a prize. The Declaration of Eligibility and Release will, among other matters, grant the Competition Administrators permission to publish in print, broadcast or online, the Winner’s name and likeness without remuneration. By entering the Competition, an entrant agrees to the broadcasting of the entrant’s performance as provided in these Rules and Regulations.

Personal information gathered about Competition entrants in connection with this Competition will be kept in a secure and confidential database, will not be rented, or sold and will only be used as required/permitted by law or by these Rules and Regulations.

This Competition is subject to all applicable Federal, Provincial and Municipal laws. Void where prohibited.



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