



CIRCUITWEST

FIRST NATIONS FOCUS TOOLKIT

This First Nations Focus Toolkit outlines pathways, priorities and solutions for venues and presenters to improve engagement with First Peoples of your community. Developed through conversations with First Nations leaders and artists, it aims to guide you in creating culturally safe environments for touring First Nations artists.

The Toolkit is presented as a series of reflective questions to help you explore, learn, and take meaningful action in your engagement with First Peoples.

First Nations Focus

1. Do you know the country or countries you present performing arts on? Do you acknowledge this anywhere – and are there opportunities to do more to acknowledge this?
2. Do you know who your local community members and/or elders are? Can you connect with your local community members and /or elders. If not, what are the barriers?
3. What are considerations and thoughts for your performing space for presenting First Nations work? Assess your values/purpose for presenting work – why do you present and for who? Are there ways you can show audiences you value them?
4. Do you program First Nations work? Please have a think about the reason for your answer to this question- why? If you have presented First Nations work – what did you learn from this? What might need to change?
5. Can you invest in cultural intelligence – awareness, competency and intelligence?
6. Have you protocols for working with First Nations artists, companies and audiences – or do you need to develop these?
7. How can you provide space in your performing space for skills development and opportunities for your community to gather and create?
8. Are there opportunities for employing First Nations people in your team and/ board (because of their skills not just because they are First Nations)? Is it possible to consider having an Elder in Residence?

The First Nations Focus Toolkit was created and generously gifted to all delegates at WA Showcase 2022 and CircuitWest.