



Editorial Guidelines

MN Channel programming is produced in partnership with nonprofit and other public service organizations that share **tpt**'s mission and values. The station is, however, held responsible by the Federal Communications Commission for each program it broadcasts. We have established the following editorial and production guidelines to guide us in assessing potential projects.

Programming on the MN Channel will...

1. *Never mislead our audiences*
All Minnesota Channel content will be as truthful and complete as possible. We will never deliberately mislead our audiences.
2. *Always provide full disclosure of partner interests*
We will always tell viewers who is shaping the content of a program. We will make clear that this programming is not related to **tpt**'s news and public affairs programs.
3. *Respect the vital and exclusive role of our partners*
As co-producers, our nonprofit partners play a vital role in shaping content. This special relationship is limited to our partners and can NOT extend to any other individuals or groups, including the funders of any project. Timely communication between **tpt** and the partner for each project will be essential to avoid problems and cost overruns.
4. *Not be used for simple self-promotion*
While **tpt**, its production partners, and any funders of each program deserve appropriate credit and visibility for producing and presenting valuable content, that content must never be largely self-promotional.
5. *Not be used for advocacy on issues of controversy*
MN Channel programming may sometimes deal with matters of public controversy, but it must never be used for one-sided advocacy related to such issues. We must assure that alternative viewpoints are acknowledged and fairly characterized. This special care should extend to history programming, for which **tpt** will seek the advice of respected academic advisors.
6. *Not Allow Payment for Interviews*
Because of the perception (or reality) of inappropriate influence in shaping the views of interview subjects, we should not pay for interviews. On occasion, some partners may choose to compensate participants for other roles they may perform but we would ask that this be discussed with us in advance.
7. *Take special care in producing ongoing series*
The station (and its partners) must take special care whenever dealing with regularly scheduled series because of the ongoing obligation implied. We will need to agree on written goals and guidelines for each series.

*Obviously, many of these guidelines are subjective. Current events, changes in the law, and other matters may impact content on the MN Channel. The FCC requires that sole authority for approving broadcast of any completed program is held by **tpt**. For the MN Channel these decisions fall under the direction of the executive vice president of Minnesota Productions.*

education

arts

business

cultures

environment

faith

health

history

politics

science

world

technology