



CANADIAN CONFERENCE
OF THE ARTS

CONFÉRENCE CANADIENNE
DES ARTS

CCA's Federal Election Advocacy 2006

1) Investing in Canada's Arts and Culture at Home and Around the World: Honouring our Commitment to Diversity

- a) Will your party ensure that new federal funding for the arts and culture announced on November 23, which included an increase to the budget of the Canada Council for the Arts and other key investments, will be reflected in the 2006 Federal Budget?
- b) Does your party support a review of Canada's new international policy statement to restore arts and culture as a key aspect of public diplomacy? Would your party support increased financing for the Department of Foreign Affairs' cultural programs?
- c) Does your party intend to extend the Department of Canadian Heritage's "Tomorrow Starts Today" funding package beyond the current timetable? Would your party increase financial commitments to its component programs?

2) Equitable Treatment for Canadian Artists and Creators

- a) Does your party support the objectives of CCA's "Fair Tax Treatment of Professional Artists Campaign", which are:
 - To establish a policy that all professional artists will be deemed to be carrying on a business for purposes of their artistic income (independent contractor status) unless
 - in the case where there is no collective bargaining relationship, an engager and the artist enter into a contract of service (employer-employee relationship) that is explicit and unambiguous, or
 - an engager and an association representing a group of artists negotiate a provision that artists governed by a collective agreement are in a contract of service relationship.
 - To have a community-agreed test of "professionalism" replace the "reasonable expectation of profit" test now used by the Canada Revenue Agency.
- b) Does your party support the development of a program by which self-employed workers, dependent contractors, and Canadians in other non-standard work could access full social benefits without the loss of their self-employment status?
- c) Does your party intend to introduce further revisions to the *Copyright Act*? Will your party commit to enacting legislation that enhances the moral and economic rights of creators and copyright owners?

3) Canada's Broadcasting and Communications Systems in the 21st Century

- a) Does your party support CBC's request for new monies for regional and local services and for Canadian television drama? Would your party provide long-term, stable funding for the CBC?
- b) Will your party ensure that the cultural objectives of the *Broadcasting Act* are respected in the face of challenges posed by new communications technologies, such as: Internet, satellite radio, pod-casting, and television-enabled cellular phones?
- c) What are your party's plans to ensure a more transparent and guaranteed revenue flow from all media, but particularly from digital media, to the owners and licensees of copyright materials?

4) Sustaining Distinctive Canadian Cultural Industries

- a) Will your party commit to maintain the current level of 53 % Canadian ownership rules in our media, broadcasting, and telecommunications systems, and ensure that Canadians will always own our own airwaves?
- b) What is your party's position on the concentration of ownership in Canada's cultural industries? What quantifiable limits to the concentration of ownership and vertical integration within the various cultural industries will your party propose?
- c) Given that Canada recently ratified the UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, will your party develop policies to encourage more domestic investment in our cultural industries? What would those be?

5) Honouring Canada's Past, Looking to Our Future

- a) Does your party support the development of a new Canadian museums policy, which would include the investment of new monies in sustained, multi-year, predictable programs?
- b) What are your party's specific plans to provide incentives and opportunities for young Canadians to become more active in the arts and culture?
- c) Would your party commit to a national mentorship strategy to facilitate skills development for Canadians who want to pursue careers in the arts and cultural labour force?