



# BULLETIN

Canadian Conference of the Arts ~ Conférence canadienne des arts

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## RIGHT HONOURABLE PAUL MARTIN AND HONOURABLE STEPHEN HARPER RESPOND TO CCA'S MAY 6TH OPEN LETTER

**Ottawa, July 6, 2005** - On May 6, the Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) sent an open letter to all the major political party leaders and the media. The letter asked the federal political parties to work together to ensure that key aspects of the budget, such as Tomorrow Starts Today, are passed before a federal election is called. In the past few weeks, NDP Leader Jack Layton and Conservative Party of Canada (CPC) Heritage Critic Bev Oda have sent responses detailing the positions of their respective parties vis à vis budget commitments made by the federal government.

Recently, the CCA received written responses from both the office of the Prime Minister and the office of the Official Opposition. In his letter, the Right Honourable Paul Martin emphasized his government's commitment to passing the federal budget, noting the valuable new funding for the *Tomorrow Starts Today* program. This letter arrived just prior to the budget passing third reading in the House of Commons, and on June 29th, after a brief debate in the Senate, the Liberal Budget was given Royal Assent.

The Honourable Stephen Harper, in his response, articulated the Conservative Party's support for Canada's arts and culture community. Outlining the Policy Declaration adopted by the CPC at its 2005 policy convention in Montreal, he explained how the party would act, if it formed a government, to strengthen and expand the work of the arts and culture community in Canada, including earmarking permanent funding for needed programs.

To read the letters from Prime Minister Martin, CPC Leader Stephen Harper, NDP Leader Jack Layton and CPC Heritage Critic Bev Oda, as well as other advocacy information related to this initiative, please visit the CCA website at <http://ccarts.ca/en/AdvocacyEfforts.htm>.

## USEFUL STATISTICS DOCUMENT ON STATUS OF ARTS AND CULTURE IN CANADA NOW AVAILABLE

The Canadian Conference of the Arts is committed to providing the sector and the public with timely and relevant research on Canada's arts and culture. The CCA has therefore revised and released its *Useful Statistics* document in order to provide everyone with more current data on the status of the arts and culture in Canada.

*Useful Statistics* (updated July 2005) is an extremely valuable advocacy tool. It is meant for anyone and everyone interested in concrete data that reflects the impact of arts, culture, cultural industries and heritage on our economy and on Canadian society.

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**In this document, you will find statistics on:**

- Economic dimensions of the culture sector
- Social dimensions of the culture sector
- Cultural subsectors, including:
  - o Cultural Industries
  - o Performing Arts
  - o Heritage Institutions

The full report is available by visiting the CCA web site at:

<http://www.ccarts.ca/en/advocacy/publications/toolkits/index.html#factsandfigures>

**REPORT FROM CCA'S 2004 NATIONAL POLICY CONFERENCE AVAILABLE ONLINE**

In mid-November 2004, 137 members of the cultural sector gathered at the CCA's National Policy Conference in Regina, Saskatchewan, to discuss issues relating to Status of the Artist (SofA). The conference was designed to permit a series of three "conversations" – moderated discussions between artists and producers from a broad cross-section of the cultural sector on a variety of topics – as well as interactive opportunities such as themed workshops for all participants.

Following the tradition of recent CCA conferences (Edmonton in 2002, Halifax in 2003), and in keeping with the CCA's core mandate, the Regina conference had a strong artistic component.

Conference objectives were threefold:

- To discuss how the existing federal legislation on SofA could be improved
- To review the need for a national council on Status of the Artist and discuss how it could be reinstated
- To act as a catalyst for the development of provincial SofA legislation outside Quebec

At the conclusion of the conference, the CCA undertook to take action on the following issues:

- Fair tax treatment for artists
- Canadian Council on Status of the Artist
- Provincial SofA legislation
- National meeting of Aboriginal cultural groups.

To view the complete report of the 2004 National Policy Conference, please visit the CCA website at

<http://www.ccarts.ca/en/advocacy/publications/conference/#npc>

**CULTURAL MANAGEMENT RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE**

The **Creative Management Project** was a collaborative effort of the Canadian Conference of the Arts, the Cultural Human Resources Council, the Canada Council for the Arts, and Canadian Heritage from 2002 to 2005. The objectives of this project were to foster professional renewal and reinvigoration of experienced cultural managers, and to attract new people into the field of cultural management and administration. Visit our website at <http://www.ccarts.ca/en/Creative.htm> to view the newly-posted tips, tools and papers resulting from this project.



### EXCITING NEW PROJECT LAUNCHED

Seven national organizations have come together to launch an innovative new project intended to raise awareness about the Canadian “voluntary sector”.

The purpose of the **Voluntary Sector Awareness Project** (funded by Social Development Canada and led by Imagine Canada ) is to generate dialogue and solicit feedback from a broad range of charities and non-profits and, over the summer of 2006, to launch a public awareness campaign to be delivered by the sector utilizing communications resources provided by the project.

The project offers a wonderful opportunity to challenge diverse and different voluntary organizations to consider commonality and to think about how speaking to Canadians through a shared vision-centered campaign may enhance their individual abilities to achieve goals.

To learn more about the Voluntary Sector Awareness Project visit the CCA website at <http://www.ccarts.ca/en/Awareness.htm>.

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The CCA wants to hear from its members! Send us your thoughts on what the CCA means to you, your profession, or the arts and culture community in general. Submit your quote, along with your name and organization, to [info@ccarts.ca](mailto:info@ccarts.ca) with the subject heading: QUOTE. Your statement could be featured in future CCA publications!

*Sixty years strong, the Canadian Conference of the Arts is the national forum for the arts and cultural community in Canada. It serves as a leader, authority, and catalyst to ensure that artists can contribute freely and fully to a creative, dynamic, and civil Canadian society.*

*For more information on the CCA 's current advocacy work, please visit our website at [www.ccarts.ca](http://www.ccarts.ca).*