



BULLETIN

Canadian Conference of the Arts ~ Conférence canadienne des arts

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

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CCA Sets the Stage

Ottawa, September 14, 2005 – On Tuesday 6 September, the Canadian Conference of the Arts delivered its Pre-Budget Submission to the Clerk of the Standing Committee on Finance. The CCA document, titled *Setting the Stage*, is based on widespread consultation with major subsectoral organizations. It addresses mainly those concerns which are widely held across the sector.

Setting the Stage makes six key recommendations concerning funding, accountability, taxation, and infrastructure. The executive summary is reprinted below, and the full text can be found on the CCA website at www.ccarts.ca/en/advocacy/publications/policy/index.html#Budget.

Executive Summary

The Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) is the national forum for the arts and cultural industries in Canada. The year 2005 marks the CCA's 60th anniversary — six decades of working to ensure that artists are valued for the essential role they play and the fundamental contribution they make to a creative, dynamic, and civil society.

The Canadian Conference of the Arts' pre-budget submission for 2005 contains six recommendations. These recommendations have come forward following extensive consultation with the arts and cultural sector in general, and with our members in particular. We sincerely hope the Standing Committee on Finance will be able to include these recommendations in its final report to the Department of Finance.

Recommendation 1

That the Standing Committee on Finance endorse the request of the Canadian Arts Coalition to increase per capita spending on the arts, through the Canada Council, by \$5.00.

Recommendation 2

That the Standing Committee on Finance identify the funding requirements of the Canadian Heritage Portfolio agencies and the Department of Canadian Heritage before the next federal budget.

Recommendation 3

That the Standing Committee on Finance request that the Treasury Board rethink the accountability measures and develop more effective tools to permit an appreciation of performance in the arts and culture sector.

Recommendation 4

That the Standing Committee on Finance recommend that the Canada Revenue Agency, in cooperation with the Canadian Conference of the Arts and other key arts and cultural organizations, develop a policy interpretation consistent with the objectives that all professional artists will be deemed to be carrying on a business for the purposes of their artistic income (independent contractor), unless:

- in the case where there is no collective bargaining relationship, an engager and the artist enter into a contract of service (employee/employer relationship) that is explicit and unambiguous,
- 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.

Recommendation 5

That the Standing Committee on Finance recommend to the Minister of Finance an increase in the arts promotion budget of the Department of Foreign Affairs in the 2006 Federal Budget.

Recommendation 6

That the Standing Committee on Finance urge the Minister of Finance to significantly address the infrastructure needs of our national museums in his next budget.