

Canadian Arts Coalition Gearing Up for Lobby Day on the Hill

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.

Sixty years strong, the

For more information on the CCA 's current advocacy work, please visit our website at www.ccarts.ca

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Ottawa, October 24, 2005 – The Canadian Arts Coalition is gearing up for an active day of lobbying on Parliament Hill on October 25. The goal is a \$5 per capita increase in federal funding for the arts, with new funds to go to the Canada Council for the Arts.

Coalescing around a core group of national arts and culture organizations, the Coalition has been active since May of this year. The Canadian Conference of the Arts was a founding member of the Coalition, which now includes 26 national, provincial, and local organizations. A complete list of current members can be found below.

The rapidly expanding activities of the Coalition have already borne fruit. The Minister of Canadian Heritage, the Hon. Liza Frulla, has stated publicly, on several occasions, that she supports an increase for the Canada Council, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2006. Her position received unanimous endorsement from the provincial and territorial ministers of culture who met with her in Banff in September. A number of Canadian cities have passed resolutions in support of the increase, with more in the works.

While the signs so far are positive, there is still much work to be done to convince cabinet and MPs that a \$5 per capita increase is both desirable and affordable. That's why, on October 25, a group of about 80 Coalition activists from across the country will visit with parliamentarians and their staff. Representing the widest possible range of organizations, institutions, and artistic disciplines, this deeply committed group will make the case for a substantial additional investment in the creative life of Canada.

The CCA will be there, represented by President Robert Spickler, Board member Bastien Gilbert, and Interim National Director Andrew David Terris. Watch for a CCA Bulletin later this week on what happened on the Hill.

Current Members of the Canadian Arts Coalition ~ Association nationale des éditeurs de livres ~ Association of Canadian Publishers ~ Book and Periodical Council ~ Canadian Art Museum Directors Organization ~ Canadian Arts Summit/Sommet Canadien des Arts ~ Canadian Artists Representation/Le front des artistes canadiens ~ Canadian Conference of the Arts/Conférence canadienne des arts ~ Canadian Crafts Federation/Federation canadienne des metiers d'art ~ Canadian Dance Assembly/Assemblée canadienne de la danse ~ Canadian League of Composers/Ligue canadienne de compositeurs ~ Canadian Museums Association/Association des musées canadiens ~ Conseil québécois du théâtre ~ Greater Vancouver Alliance for Arts and Culture ~ Independent Media Arts Alliance/Alliance des arts médiatiques indépendants ~ Magazines Canada ~ Le Mouvement pour les arts et les lettres ~ Opera.ca ~ Orchestras Canada/Orchestres Canada ~ Periodical Writers Association of Canadia ~ Playwrights Guild of Canada ~ Professional Association of Canadian Theatres ~ Regroupement québécois de la danse ~ Union des écrivaines et écrivains québécois ~ The Writers' Union of Canada ~ Société de développement des périodiques culturels québécois ~ Société des musées québécois