



# 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](http://www.ccarts.ca)

For more information:  
Alain Pineau  
National Director  
804 - 130 Albert Street  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5G4  
(613) 238 3561 ext.12  
Fax (613) 238 4849  
[info@ccarts.ca](mailto:info@ccarts.ca)  
[www.ccarts.ca](http://www.ccarts.ca)

47/05

Please post and/or distribute. When reprinting CCA Bulletins, please give appropriate credit.

*Bulletins are provided as a benefit to our members. If you would like to receive the CCA Bulletin directly, please visit our membership page at [www.ccarts.ca](http://www.ccarts.ca) and become a member of the CCA.*

## Holiday Season Comes Early for the Canada Council for the Arts

**Ottawa, November 23, 2005** – Today in Montréal, the Minister of Canadian Heritage the Hon. Liza Frulla, presented a big gift-wrapped package by announcing that the budget of the Canada Council for the Arts will be significantly increased over the next three fiscal years.

The Minister has succeeded in convincing her Cabinet colleagues to approve a stepped increase to the budget of the Canada Council, \$ 56.5 million in 2006-07, \$ 100 million in 2007-08, and \$ 150 million in 2008-09, for a total of \$306.5 in new funding over the next three fiscal years. This package would effectively double the current budget of the Council by the end of the third year of the funding increase.

"This is indeed a great day for the arts in Canada," says Alain Pineau, CCA National Director, "and the CCA congratulates its partners in the Canadian Arts Coalition, as well as the Minister, her Department officials, and the government for a job well done."

Additional funding increases were also announced today for Foreign Affairs' International Touring Program, the National Arts Centre, National Arts Training Contribution Program, and the Confederation Centre of the Arts (see DCH backgrounder below).

The new funding will have to pass through the various Parliamentary hoops and will be reflected in the 2006-07 federal budget's Main Estimates, which also have to be approved by the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage and the House of Commons. The CCA hopes that all political parties will endorse the need for, and value of, this increased investment in the arts whenever the measure comes before Parliament.

"Brilliant visual artists, inspired writers and gifted performers capture the stories of our country in works of art, literary works and song. The artistic excellence of which Canadians are so richly capable must be saluted and celebrated," said Minister Frulla, in the Department of Canadian Heritage's news release. "Today I am proud to demonstrate to Canadians the Government of Canada's commitment to artists and the arts."

The DCH news release indicates that portions of the increase in funding was to be directed at "major centres of excellence in the arts", such as the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton, the National Ballet of Canada, les Grands Ballets Canadiens, and the Canadian Opera Company.

Today's good news comes at a time where there is a litany of other cultural policy developments that the Minister has on her "to do list". Another key priority is her public commitment to a new museums policy, and speculation in Ottawa is that an announcement is imminent. At the press conference in Montreal, the Minister added that there were other major cultural issues to deal with in the near future, including reviewing the CBC mandate, pulling together a Canadian cultural policy, and working on the status of the artist in Canada.

It is the collective hope of the CCA and its members that whatever the timing and the outcome of the next federal election, the new government will honour this commitment, which is so vital to the health and sustainability of the arts in Canada.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Excerpt from the Department of Canadian Heritage Backgrounder, "Details of New Investment in the Arts", November 23 2005, which is available at:  
[www.pch.gc.ca/newsroom/news\\_e.cfm?Action=Display&code=5N0325E](http://www.pch.gc.ca/newsroom/news_e.cfm?Action=Display&code=5N0325E)**

This investment in the arts will double the Canada Council for the Arts' funding by 2008 and will provide the arts sector with much improved financial stability.

These new resources will enable the Council to significantly increase its support for artistic creation, national and international touring, and the Public Lending Right Program, which compensates authors for access to their works provided by public libraries. This investment will also:

- " enable Foreign Affairs Canada to increase the presence of Canadian artists abroad
- " enable the National Arts Centre to enhance its Regional Scenes series, as well as its touring and educational activities
- " enable the Department of Canadian Heritage to better support high-calibre arts training institutions, and further the national mandate of the Confederation Centre of the Arts in Charlottetown.

Funding will be allocated as follows:

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	Total 2006-2011			
Canada Council for the Arts		\$56.5 M	\$100 M	\$150 M	\$306.5 M		
Foreign Affairs Canada -- International Touring				\$2 M	\$4 M	\$5 M	\$11 M
National Arts Centre	\$1.5 M	\$2 M	\$3 M	\$6.5 M			
National Arts Training Contribution Program				\$2 M	\$4 M	\$6 M	\$12 M
Confederation Centre of the Arts	\$1 M	\$2 M	\$2.8 M	\$5.8 M			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$63 M</b>	<b>\$112 M</b>	<b>\$166.8 M</b>	<b>\$341.8 M</b>			

#### Backgrounder

##### Canada Council for the Arts

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	
Existing resources		\$151 M	\$151 M	\$151 M
New resources	\$56.5 M	\$100 M	\$150 M	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$207.5 M</b>	<b>\$251 M</b>	<b>\$301 M</b>	

With these new resources, the Canada Council for the Arts will be able to:

- " better support our most creative arts organizations of all sizes in all regions
- " greatly increase resources for domestic and international touring
- " expand support for the work of individual artists in more communities across the country
- " increase the resources of the Public Lending Right Program, which compensates authors for access to their works provided by public libraries
- " better honour the highest achievements of Canadian artists

Canada's arts sector enriches our communities and projects an image of a creative and innovative country to audiences around the world. This investment will play a key role in building and stabilizing Canada's arts sector, enabling it to invest in the creative activity essential for artistic excellence.

The role of the Canada Council for the Arts, which was created in 1957, is to foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in, the arts. The Canada Council is the principal means through which the federal government provides support for professional artists and non-profit arts organizations through a broad range of grants and services in music, theatre, writing and publishing, visual arts, dance, media arts, and interdisciplinary and performance art.

The Canada Council for the Arts is overseen by an eleven-member Board appointed by the Government of Canada. The Council relies heavily on the advice of artists and arts professionals from all parts of Canada. It reports to Parliament through the Minister of Canadian Heritage.