



December 15, 2006

Hon. James Flaherty
Minister of Finance
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Flaherty,

On behalf of the Board of Governors, membership and staff of the Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) I am submitting for your consideration some comments on the *Advantage Canada* initiative of your government.

The CCA congratulates you for a comprehensive and forward-looking framework for the continued development of the Canadian economy. We share your view that Canada is in the process of evolving from an industrial economy to one that is fueled by creativity, knowledge and information.

Over the past few months we have shared our ideas with the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance in the context of their pre-budget hearings. We have also prepared a brief to the Blue Ribbon Panel on the Child Tax Credit which we also shared with you and your officials.

The public consultation process on *Advantage Canada* provides the CCA with yet another opportunity to develop our ideas on moving forward into the new economy. Our observations are attached and it our collective hope that they help you and your officials bring further refinements to the *Advantage Canada* concept and also provide you with some ideas for the 2007 federal budget.

Should you or your colleagues have any further questions or require clarification on any point in any of the CCA submissions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 613.238.3561 ext. 12 or by email at alain.pineau@ccarts.ca.

Allow me to take this opportunity to extend our best wishes to you for a peaceful holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Yours sincerely,

Alain Pineau
National Director