



August 31, 2006

The Hon. Bev Oda  
Minister of Canadian Heritage  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister of Canadian Heritage,

The Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) is Canada's oldest and largest arts advocacy and cultural policy development organization. In 2005, the CCA celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary; it currently represents the interests of over 250,000 Canadian artists, creators and arts professionals in matters of cultural policy.

The CCA makes a unique contribution to culture in that it brings together artists and institutions, profit and non profit, public and private, from music to visual arts, from dance to crafts, from publishing to broadcasting, from theatre to new media, and so on. It regroups self-employed artists and creators, unions and employers, performers and presenters, writers and publishers. The mission of such a diverse coalition of specific parties is to work to the common good.

The CCA's mandate is to nourish and provoke clear-headed debates on national and international policy issues affecting the whole Canadian cultural sector. The CCA defends the basic principles, policies and public institutions underpinning the existence of a healthy and thriving Canadian cultural sector. The CCA's constant preoccupation is to be the "pre-clearing house" for cultural policy debates, a mission it fulfills in an intellectually rigorous and non-partisan way, in both official languages.

It is our understanding that you will be meeting with your colleagues from the provinces and territories in Toronto in late September. We trust that you will engage your fellow culture Ministers in a constructive discussion about enacting and harmonizing policies that support the ability of artists and creators to earn a livelihood from their craft.

Many of the policy issues facing artists and the cultural sector in general fall under shared jurisdiction between the federal and provincial governments. It is therefore essential to the welfare of Canadian culture that both levels work as closely as possible to ensure the vitality of this important sector of Canadian society. Too many issues facing the sector have known progress at one level but not at the other, or not in all provincial jurisdictions.

The CCA believes that if the political will is there, there is a great potential for joint federal-provincial and territorial cooperation that would benefit not only the arts and culture sector, but Canadian audiences and arts supporters across the whole country. It is also our conviction that as Minister of Canadian Heritage, you have a particularly important role to play in establishing and sustaining such cooperation. Consultation with artists, creators and arts professionals across

Canada is just as essential, and would complement and refine the kind of undertakings most appropriate to their unique needs.

Without being privy to the agenda of your meeting, it is our hope that your discussions will cover important topics such as:

- Increasing sustained government funding to artists, creators and arts organizations;
- adopting measures similar to the federal Status of the artist legislation and its Québec equivalent to allow, amongst other things, self-employed artists to bargain collectively with their engagers;
- establishing harmonized tax exemptions to encourage artistic and creative work, including exempting income derived from copyright royalties and grants;
- reforming taxation to allow for some form of income averaging for self-employed workers;
- ensuring bankruptcy protection, benefits, health and safety, and fair procurement policies for artists and cultural workers;
- promoting the work of Canadian artists and creators through the development of a pan-national touring strategy supported by adequate funding levels;
- promoting and supporting the development of foreign audiences by artists, creators and arts organizations;
- developing and implementing a national arts education strategy that actively engages the talents of Canadian artists and creators.

The Board of Governors of the CCA counts on your commitment to the arts and on that of your provincial colleagues to address those crucial issues during your meeting. We wish you well in your deliberations and look forward to some significant political progress to be achieved under your collective leadership in the development and promotion of the Canadian contribution to the cultural diversity your government officially supports.

Yours sincerely,



Alain Pineau  
National Director

c.c. Hon. Stan Hagen, Minister of Tourism, Sport and the Arts (British Columbia)  
Hon. Denis Ducharme, Minister of Community Development (Alberta)  
Hon. Glenn Hagel, Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation (Saskatchewan)  
Hon. Eric Robinson, Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism (Manitoba)  
Hon. Caroline Di Cocco, Minister of Culture (Ontario)  
Mme Line Beauchamp, Ministre de la Culture et des Communications (Québec)  
Hon. Percy Mockler, Minister of Wellness, Culture and Sport (New Brunswick)  
Hon. Len Goucher, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Heritage (Nova Scotia)  
Hon. Tom Hedderson, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Newfoundland & Labrador)  
Hon. Elber MacFadyen, Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs (Prince Edward Island)  
Hon. Elaine Taylor, Minister of Tourism and Culture (Yukon)  
Hon. Charles Dent, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment (Northwest Territories)  
Hon. Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth (Nunavut)



August 31, 2006

The Hon. Bev Oda  
Minister of Canadian Heritage  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister of Canadian Heritage,

The Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) is Canada's oldest and largest arts advocacy and cultural policy development organization. In 2005, the CCA celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary; it currently represents the interests of over 250,000 Canadian artists, creators and arts professionals in matters of cultural policy.

The CCA makes a unique contribution to culture in that it brings together artists and institutions, profit and non profit, public and private, from music to visual arts, from dance to crafts, from publishing to broadcasting, from theatre to new media, and so on. It regroups self-employed artists and creators, unions and employers, performers and presenters, writers and publishers. The mission of such a diverse coalition of specific parties is to work to the common good.

The CCA's mandate is to nourish and provoke clear-headed debates on national and international policy issues affecting the whole Canadian cultural sector. The CCA defends the basic principles, policies and public institutions underpinning the existence of a healthy and thriving Canadian cultural sector. The CCA's constant preoccupation is to be the "pre-clearing house" for cultural policy debates, a mission it fulfills in an intellectually rigorous and non-partisan way, in both official languages.

It is our understanding that you will be meeting with your colleagues from the provinces and territories in Toronto in late September. We trust that you will engage your fellow culture Ministers in a constructive discussion about enacting and harmonizing policies that support the ability of artists and creators to earn a livelihood from their craft.

Many of the policy issues facing artists and the cultural sector in general fall under shared jurisdiction between the federal and provincial governments. It is therefore essential to the welfare of Canadian culture that both levels work as closely as possible to ensure the vitality of this important sector of Canadian society. Too many issues facing the sector have known progress at one level but not at the other, or not in all provincial jurisdictions.

The CCA believes that if the political will is there, there is a great potential for joint federal-provincial and territorial cooperation that would benefit not only the arts and culture sector, but Canadian audiences and arts supporters across the whole country. It is also our conviction that as Minister of Canadian Heritage, you have a particularly important role to play in establishing and sustaining such cooperation. Consultation with artists, creators and arts professionals across

Canada is just as essential, and would complement and refine the kind of undertakings most appropriate to their unique needs.

Without being privy to the agenda of your meeting, it is our hope that your discussions will cover important topics such as:

- Increasing sustained government funding to artists, creators and arts organizations;
- adopting measures similar to the federal Status of the artist legislation and its Québec equivalent to allow, amongst other things, self-employed artists to bargain collectively with their engagers;
- establishing harmonized tax exemptions to encourage artistic and creative work, including exempting income derived from copyright royalties and grants;
- reforming taxation to allow for some form of income averaging for self-employed workers;
- ensuring bankruptcy protection, benefits, health and safety, and fair procurement policies for artists and cultural workers;
- promoting the work of Canadian artists and creators through the development of a pan-national touring strategy supported by adequate funding levels;
- promoting and supporting the development of foreign audiences by artists, creators and arts organizations;
- developing and implementing a national arts education strategy that actively engages the talents of Canadian artists and creators.

The Board of Governors of the CCA counts on your commitment to the arts and on that of your provincial colleagues to address those crucial issues during your meeting. We wish you well in your deliberations and look forward to some significant political progress to be achieved under your collective leadership in the development and promotion of the Canadian contribution to the cultural diversity your government officially supports.

Yours sincerely,



Alain Pineau  
National Director

c.c. Hon. Stan Hagen, Minister of Tourism, Sport and the Arts (British Columbia)  
Hon. Denis Ducharme, Minister of Community Development (Alberta)  
Hon. Glenn Hagel, Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation (Saskatchewan)  
Hon. Eric Robinson, Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism (Manitoba)  
Hon. Caroline Di Cocco, Minister of Culture (Ontario)  
Mme Line Beauchamp, Ministre de la Culture et des Communications (Québec)  
Hon. Percy Mockler, Minister of Wellness, Culture and Sport (New Brunswick)  
Hon. Len Goucher, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Heritage (Nova Scotia)  
Hon. Tom Hedderson, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Newfoundland & Labrador)  
Hon. Elber MacFadyen, Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs (Prince Edward Island)  
Hon. Elaine Taylor, Minister of Tourism and Culture (Yukon)  
Hon. Charles Dent, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment (Northwest Territories)  
Hon. Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth (Nunavut)



August 31, 2006

The Hon. Bev Oda  
Minister of Canadian Heritage  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister of Canadian Heritage,

The Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) is Canada's oldest and largest arts advocacy and cultural policy development organization. In 2005, the CCA celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary; it currently represents the interests of over 250,000 Canadian artists, creators and arts professionals in matters of cultural policy.

The CCA makes a unique contribution to culture in that it brings together artists and institutions, profit and non profit, public and private, from music to visual arts, from dance to crafts, from publishing to broadcasting, from theatre to new media, and so on. It regroups self-employed artists and creators, unions and employers, performers and presenters, writers and publishers. The mission of such a diverse coalition of specific parties is to work to the common good.

The CCA's mandate is to nourish and provoke clear-headed debates on national and international policy issues affecting the whole Canadian cultural sector. The CCA defends the basic principles, policies and public institutions underpinning the existence of a healthy and thriving Canadian cultural sector. The CCA's constant preoccupation is to be the "pre-clearing house" for cultural policy debates, a mission it fulfills in an intellectually rigorous and non-partisan way, in both official languages.

It is our understanding that you will be meeting with your colleagues from the provinces and territories in Toronto in late September. We trust that you will engage your fellow culture Ministers in a constructive discussion about enacting and harmonizing policies that support the ability of artists and creators to earn a livelihood from their craft.

Many of the policy issues facing artists and the cultural sector in general fall under shared jurisdiction between the federal and provincial governments. It is therefore essential to the welfare of Canadian culture that both levels work as closely as possible to ensure the vitality of this important sector of Canadian society. Too many issues facing the sector have known progress at one level but not at the other, or not in all provincial jurisdictions.

The CCA believes that if the political will is there, there is a great potential for joint federal-provincial and territorial cooperation that would benefit not only the arts and culture sector, but Canadian audiences and arts supporters across the whole country. It is also our conviction that as Minister of Canadian Heritage, you have a particularly important role to play in establishing and sustaining such cooperation. Consultation with artists, creators and arts professionals across

Canada is just as essential, and would complement and refine the kind of undertakings most appropriate to their unique needs.

Without being privy to the agenda of your meeting, it is our hope that your discussions will cover important topics such as:

- Increasing sustained government funding to artists, creators and arts organizations;
- adopting measures similar to the federal Status of the artist legislation and its Québec equivalent to allow, amongst other things, self-employed artists to bargain collectively with their engagers;
- establishing harmonized tax exemptions to encourage artistic and creative work, including exempting income derived from copyright royalties and grants;
- reforming taxation to allow for some form of income averaging for self-employed workers;
- ensuring bankruptcy protection, benefits, health and safety, and fair procurement policies for artists and cultural workers;
- promoting the work of Canadian artists and creators through the development of a pan-national touring strategy supported by adequate funding levels;
- promoting and supporting the development of foreign audiences by artists, creators and arts organizations;
- developing and implementing a national arts education strategy that actively engages the talents of Canadian artists and creators.

The Board of Governors of the CCA counts on your commitment to the arts and on that of your provincial colleagues to address those crucial issues during your meeting. We wish you well in your deliberations and look forward to some significant political progress to be achieved under your collective leadership in the development and promotion of the Canadian contribution to the cultural diversity your government officially supports.

Yours sincerely,



Alain Pineau  
National Director

c.c. Hon. Stan Hagen, Minister of Tourism, Sport and the Arts (British Columbia)  
Hon. Denis Ducharme, Minister of Community Development (Alberta)  
Hon. Glenn Hagel, Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation (Saskatchewan)  
Hon. Eric Robinson, Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism (Manitoba)  
Hon. Caroline Di Cocco, Minister of Culture (Ontario)  
Mme Line Beauchamp, Ministre de la Culture et des Communications (Québec)  
Hon. Percy Mockler, Minister of Wellness, Culture and Sport (New Brunswick)  
Hon. Len Goucher, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Heritage (Nova Scotia)  
Hon. Tom Hedderson, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Newfoundland & Labrador)  
Hon. Elber MacFadyen, Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs (Prince Edward Island)  
Hon. Elaine Taylor, Minister of Tourism and Culture (Yukon)  
Hon. Charles Dent, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment (Northwest Territories)  
Hon. Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth (Nunavut)