



**The Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA)
invites you to register now for its
Symposium on the Role of Arts and Culture in Canadian Public Diplomacy**

Ottawa, September 20, 2007 – The Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) invites everyone interested in cultural diplomacy issues to its Symposium on the Role of Arts and Culture in Canadian Public Diplomacy. The Symposium will be held on November 22, 2007, at the Sherbrooke Pavilion of the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), located at 200 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal.

This discussion takes place at a crucial time in the history of Canadian cultural diplomacy. In many Western democracies, including the United States, governments are investing time and money in the arts and culture sectors, as an integral part of their foreign policy. In Canada, on the contrary, there has been a clear decrease since 2005 in the resources devoted to this matter. Why is this? What is the role of the arts and culture in foreign policy? Who is raising our cultural profile on the international scene? How do we adapt to the new forms of diplomacy emerging from international networks and the Internet?

In order to get to the heart of this matter, which is causing concern in the cultural sector, the CCA will gather specialists (diplomats, academics, cultural workers and artists) from Canada and abroad. The artistic and cultural community is invited to consider the best strategies to reposition Canadian culture on the world stage and in the public discourse.

The day will end with the presentation of the **Keith Kelly Award for Cultural Leadership** and the **Canadian Conference of the Arts' Diplôme d'honneur**.

Registrations are being accepted, starting today. Information about the Symposium, including documents, schedules and registration forms, is available on the CCA's website at www.ccarts.ca. Take advantage of the **Early Bird Special, only until October 2**. Don't wait, as spaces are limited!

The Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) is the national forum for the arts and cultural community in Canada. It provides research and analysis, and serves as a consultant body, on public policies affecting the arts and Canadian cultural institutions and industries. The CCA fosters informed public debate on policy issues and seeks to advance the cultural rights of Canadians.

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