

## 2011 Federal Election

### Common Electoral Platform Project

*“Imagine a world without music, without poetry, without books, without paintings on the walls, without photographs, without legends, without the movement and the energy of dance, without theatre, without cinema, without the kind of imagination and creations which would force us to live only the realities of day to day life, the economy, the politics... Arts and culture are the fourth dimension we need to be humans: a country without arts and culture would be a country without a soul and a nation without identity.”*

*Raymond Legault, President of Union des artistes*

Whereas:

- 1) According to the Conference Board of Canada, the overall economic footprint of the cultural sector reaches \$85 billion per year, which represents 7.4 % of the Canadian Gross Domestic Product;
- 2) Artists and cultural workers are an important and dynamic component of the Canadian creative economy;
- 3) The cultural sector provides direct employment to over 630,000 Canadians which is more than double the number of Canadians employed by either the forestry or banking sectors respectively;
- 4) According to the Department of Canadian Heritage, 94 % of Canadians agree that “live theatre companies, musicians, artists, festivals, and other cultural activities in a community make it a better place to live”;
- 5) Several studies show that arts and culture play an important part in developing our children and preparing them for a productive life;
- 6) Scientific research shows the beneficial impact of arts and culture not only on personal development but also on communities, noticeably in strengthening the sentiment of belonging, enhancing social solidarity and improving urban security;
- 7) Given the international successes that Canadian creators and producers have enjoyed in the cultural sector, disproportionately to the population of Canada and given that the Federal Government of Canada has played a significant role in the development of Canada’s cultural sector.

Consequently, the undersigned ask each of the federal parties to commit to implement the following measures concerning Canadian arts and culture:

1. Encourage the production of Canadian cultural content in the context of a national economic strategy through:
  - a. Increasing the budget of the Canada Council for the Arts to at least \$300 million by 2015;

- b. Modernizing the *Copyright Act* to ensure fair compensation for creators and other rights holders and to facilitate access of cultural works by Canadians without undermining existing rights;
  - c. Committing to increased and long-term funding for the CBC, the National Film Board, Telefilm Canada, and for various funds such as Canada Media Fund, the Music Fund, the Book Fund, the Periodical Fund, etc.;
  - d. Making internet and wireless service providers contribute financially to the production of Canadian cultural programs;
  - e. Adopting tax measures to address the realities of self-employed artists and creators;
  - f. Adopting tax incentives to encourage arts philanthropy and private investments in arts and cultural industries.
2. Dedicate \$40 million to increase access to Canadian artists and their works by Canadians and the international community.
  3. Reintroduce arts and culture as a component of Canadian foreign policy.
  4. Implement the National Museum Policy agreed to by all parties in 2005 with an injection of \$50 million a year.

Signed by:

Access Copyright, the Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency  
ACTRA

Alberta Craft Council

Alliance culturelle de l'Ontario

Independent Media Arts Alliance

Alliance for Arts and Culture (Greater Vancouver)

Artisti

Arts and Cultural Industries Association of Manitoba (ACI Manitoba)

Assembly of BC Arts Councils

Association acadienne des artistes professionnel.le.s du Nouveau-Brunswick (AAPNB)

Canadian Museums Association (CMA)

Association nationale des éditeurs de livres (ANEL)

Association of Canadian Publishers (ACP)

Association of Cultural Industries of Newfoundland and Labrador

Association des professionnels des arts de la scène du Québec (APASQ)

Association des réalisateurs et réalisatrices du Québec (ARRQ)

Canadian Arts Presenting Association (CAPACOA)

Canadian Artists Representation (CARFAC)

Canadian Craft Federation  
Canadian Dance Assembly (CDA)  
Canadian Actors' Equity Association (Equity)  
Canadian Educational Resources Council (CERC)  
Canadian Federation of Musicians (CFM)  
Canadian Freelance Union (CEP Local 2040)  
Canadian Independent Music Association (CIMA)  
Canadian Media Guild (CMG)  
Canadian Art Museum Directors Organization (CAMDO)  
Canadian Music Publishers Association (CMPA)  
Canadian Publishers' Council (CPC)  
Canadian Society of Children's Authors, Illustrators and Performers (CSCAIP)  
Capitol School of Performing Arts (New Brunswick)  
CARFAC British Columbia  
CARFAC Saskatchewan  
Centre de musique canadienne au Québec  
Conférence Internationale des Arts de la Scène (CINARS)  
Conseil culturel et artistique francophone de la C.-B.  
Conseil québécois des arts médiatiques (CQAM)  
Conseil québécois de la musique (CQM)  
Conseil québécois du théâtre (CQT)  
Copibec  
Craft Council of British Columbia  
Culture Montréal  
Directors' Guild of Canada (DGC)  
Fédération culturelle canadienne-française  
Friends of Canadian Broadcasting  
Front des réalisateurs indépendants du Canada (FRIC)  
Greater Vancouver Professional Theatre Alliance  
Guilde des musiciens et musiciennes du Québec (GMMQ)  
Music BC Industry Association  
Music Managers Forum Canada  
New Brunswick Arts Board  
Professional Writers Association of Canada (PWAC)  
Regroupement des artistes en arts visuels du Québec (RAAV)  
Regroupement des arts interdisciplinaires du Québec (RAIQ)  
Regroupement des centres d'artistes autogérés du Québec (RCAAQ)  
Regroupement québécois de la danse (RQD)  
RIDEAU Inc.  
Saskatchewan Arts Alliance  
Saskatchewan Publishers Group (SPG)  
Screen Composers Guild of Canada (SCGC)  
SOCAN  
Société civile des auteurs multimédia (SCAM)

Société de développement des périodiques culturels québécois (SODEP)  
Société des auteurs de radio, télévision et cinéma (SARTEC)  
Société des auteurs et compositeurs dramatiques (SACD)  
Société des directeurs des musées montréalais  
Société professionnelle des auteurs et des compositeurs du Québec (SPACQ)  
Station Arts Centre Cooperative (Saskatchewan)  
Union des artistes (UDA)  
Union des écrivaines et des écrivains québécois (UNEQ)  
Visual Artists Newfoundland and Labrador (VANL-CARFAC)  
Writers Federation of Nova Scotia  
Writers Guild of Canada (WGC)  
Writers Union of Canada (WUC)