

PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

ADVANCING EQUITABLE FUNDING FOR ARTS AND ARTISTS IN CANADA

Whereas:

- Arts and artists enhance community health and well-being by promoting social inclusion, improving mental health, and supporting underrepresented communities through advocacy, visibility, and intercultural dialogue
- Arts and culture contributed \$54.8 billion to Canada’s GDP and 914,000 jobs, representing 4.4% of all Canadian workers in 2021
- Consistent, reliable, and long-term funding empowers organizations and artists to better strategize and plan for their future endeavors
- Public data reveals substantial regional inequities in federal funding provided through the Canada Council for the Arts
- The Regional Development Agency model has proven successful in other areas of government funding, and could serve to ensure a more equitable geographic distribution of federal arts resources
- Artists from underrepresented and equity-deserving groups face numerous barriers in accessing funding, and public funding is integral to their success

We, the undersigned call upon the Government of Canada to:

- Restore the Canada Council for the Arts' granting budget to \$500 million annually to use towards ensuring a more equitable distribution of resources while maintaining existing funding commitments
- Amend the Canada Council for the Arts Act to adopt the use of the Regional Development Agency model to ensure equitable regional funding
- Meaningfully consult with diverse and historically underfunded communities to ensure equitable regional funding nationwide is balanced with increased funding accessibility for artists and arts organizations from underrepresented and equity-deserving backgrounds

SIGNATURE (Canadian citizens or residents only) Sign your name, do not print	ADDRESS Full home address with postal code

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Petition Guidelines

1. Petitions must not be altered or have any text added.
2. Petitions can be either double-sided or have a blank back page.
3. A petition should contain signatures of residents of Canada only.
4. There is no minimum age requirement for anyone signing a petition.
5. Each petitioner must sign, not print, their name directly on the petition.
6. If a petitioner cannot sign because of illness or a disability, this must be noted on the petition and the note signed by a witness. Aside from this exception, you can only sign for yourself.
7. A petition must contain original signatures written directly on the document and not pasted, taped, photocopied or otherwise transferred to it.
8. No photocopies, scans, e-mails etc. as petitions are only admissible in hardcopy. Please return all original signed petitions, postage free, to:

Mike Morrice, M.P.
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6