



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL

Service Plan

2006/07 – 2008/09

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Letter from the Chair

Honorable Olga Ilich
Minister of Tourism,
Sport and the Arts

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the Service Plan of the British Columbia Arts Council.

The Arts Council was established by provincial legislation to support arts and cultural activity throughout the province. It meets this mandate by developing policy and programs in support of the sector, by distributing funds allocated by the legislature and by representing the interests of the arts and cultural community. The Council has identified six goals in support of this mandate:

- Artistic excellence, creativity and innovation are recognized and encouraged.
- Arts and cultural organizations are healthy and sustainable.
- Opportunities to participate in arts and cultural activities are available throughout the province.
- Diversity in cultural traditions is recognized and supported, and new art forms are encouraged.
- A range of markets exist for artists and arts and cultural organizations.
- Effective and efficient administrative, evaluative and policy development processes are maintained.

To ensure that these goals continue to be relevant, the Council has completed a strategic priorities review. This review has confirmed Council objectives and focused the approach that Council will take in developing and delivering its programs.

The Council has also taken note of the provincial government's strategic plan and the goals government has identified for the next decade. The Council believes that the arts and cultural sector and the programs of the Arts Council can contribute significantly to the achievement of the province's goals and these will be taken into account as the Council establishes its program and funding priorities in coming years.

Included in the 2005/06 provincial budget was a \$3 million addition to the base of the British Columbia Arts Council. These funds will allow the Council to begin addressing the priorities that were confirmed through its strategic review process. Also announced was the establishment of the \$25 million Arts Renaissance Fund to be administered by the Vancouver Foundation. The Renaissance Fund will assist arts and cultural organizations to

