

Arts at the Assembly 2009 “Key Messages”

"Arts at the Assembly" is an opportunity for professional artists and arts administrators to expand relationships with Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. This advocacy initiative is being spearheaded by the Professional Arts Coalition of Edmonton (P.A.C.E.) and involves the participation of: *Alberta Craft Council, Alberta Dance Alliance, Alberta Magazine Publishers Association, Alberta Media Arts Alliance Society, Alberta Music Industry Association, Arts Touring Alliance of Alberta, Book Publishers Association of Alberta, Calgary Professional Arts Alliance, Edmonton Arts Council, Film and Video Arts Society- Alberta, Regroupement artistique francophone de l'Alberta, Theatre Alberta Society, The Writers Guild of Alberta and Visual Arts Alberta Association.*

The participating organizations wish to share the following “key messages”:

Message #1

We acknowledge the recent progress the government has made in advancing the arts in Alberta. (*Initiatives such as: Spirit of Alberta, Cultural Policy Premier’s Council for Art and Culture, Dept. of Culture and Community Spirit, Additional 8 million to the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and Alberta Arts Days*)

Message #2

We encourage MLA’s to stay the course and continue showing strong support for investment in arts and culture, especially artists and cultural organizations in your community.

Over 3,500 Albertans owe their full-time job to the operations of the arts sector with total salaries equaling \$106.8 million.

Message #3

We encourage you to recognize the significance of the social benefits of arts and cultural education and outreach programs in our community.

Arts and cultural education programs foster creativity, innovative thinking, build leadership, self confidence and respect and provide a basis for a strong professional arts and culture industry.

Message #4

We would like the government to recognize and promote arts and culture as an industry in Alberta.

Arts and culture industries are knowledge based skill intensive, green jobs that help to diversify the economy, promote tourism and strengthen community spirit.

