



**Independent  
Media Arts Alliance**  
**Alliance des arts  
médiatiques indépendants**

December 17<sup>th</sup> 2010

The Honourable Stephanie Cadieux  
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
PO Box 9056  
STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Cadieux,

The Independent Media Arts Alliance (IMAA) applauds the BC Government's decision to restore \$7 million of the \$10 million cut from the British Columbia Arts Council in the 2009/10 fiscal.

This is a positive first step towards rectifying the devastating blunder that left the BC arts and cultural community in a dire predicament. Since the 2009 cuts, we have witnessed the collapse of arts organizations and observed the negative impact that the cuts had on the larger cultural community.

The IMAA would like to underline what many arts groups in BC have been stating: that BC needs arts funding on a par with all other provinces in Canada. Even now, BC is at the bottom of provincial funding levels in per capita funding.

The IMAA urges the BC Government to immediately reinstate arts funding to 2008/2009 levels, as recommended by BC Government's Standing Committee on Finance in November, 2010.

Given that the BC Arts Council funds were partially restored, this proves that the BC Government understands the significance of arts funding. In view of this, we fully expect that the BC Government will reinstate the gaming grants as the next step with its renewed commitment to the BC cultural community.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dörner  
National Director

Cc: The Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage

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