

# Premier's Council on Arts and Culture

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## *Terms of Reference*

### **BACKGROUND**

In January 2008 the Government of Alberta launched *The Spirit of Alberta*, Alberta's cultural policy (the Policy). In April 2008, the Cultural Policy Initiative was established within Alberta Culture and Community Spirit (the Ministry) to work with other ministries, governments, and cultural organizations to implement, communicate, and evaluate the Policy. Part of the mandate of the Minister of Culture and Community Spirit (the Minister) is to promote and support culture in Alberta by working with partners to implement *The Spirit of Alberta* and establishing a Premier's Council on Arts and Culture (the Council) to ensure an effective liaison between the government and cultural stakeholders in Alberta as the Policy is implemented.

### **MANDATE**

The Council is to assist with championing *The Spirit of Alberta* and advising the government on significant matters pertaining to culture.

The Council will:

- Explore opportunities to enhance partnerships among all levels of government, the private sector, non-profit organizations, cultural and educational institutions and individuals for the promotion and support of culture in Alberta;
- In consultation with the Minister, set the strategic direction for Council activities and monitor progress to ensure consistency with the mission and vision of *The Spirit of Alberta*;
- Be active in championing the development of grassroots cultural initiatives across the province;
- Provide information and guidance to the Government of Alberta (particularly Alberta Culture and Community Spirit) that will further the mandate of the Minister and the objectives of the Policy;
- Champion *The Spirit of Alberta* in government and in the community; and
- Advise the Minister on the implementation, communication and evaluation of the Policy.

### **ESTABLISHMENT AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council is a government-appointed body, established by Ministerial Order, that reports to the Minister of Culture and Community Spirit. It is comprised of up to eleven community leaders and people of influence who represent Alberta geographically, as well as by age, gender, and ethnic and socio-economic background. Council members will have a demonstrated commitment to, and experience in, culture.

The Council Chair and Vice-chair will be appointed by the Minister.

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### **SELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMEBERS**

The selection panel will consist of:

- The Premier's Council on Arts and Culture Chair or his/her designate from the Council;
- The Deputy Minister of Alberta Culture and Community Spirit or her/his designate; and
- The Executive Director or Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for the Cultural Policy Initiative.

Final selection of Council members recommended for appointment will be made by the Minister of Alberta Culture and Community Spirit.

Council members will be appointed by Ministerial Order for terms of up to three years. No more than one-third of the members' terms will expire at the same time. Members may be reappointed once, and no member will serve on the Council for more than six consecutive years.

Council members will be identified through a transparent, competency-based recruitment process with an open call for applications. Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta will be invited to advise constituents of the process.

Applicants must meet the following broadly based eligibility criteria:

- Be a respected community leader and person of influence;
- Have knowledge, expertise and a demonstrated commitment to culture, broadly defined to include the arts, heritage, recreation, sports and volunteer sectors;
- Contribute to a regional membership representative and inclusive of the diverse and varied backgrounds of Albertans, drawn from such broad areas as:
  - Private Sector
  - Not-for-profit
  - Public Institutions
  - Youth (under 30); and
- Have been a permanent resident of Alberta for at least two years prior to appointment.

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### **MEETINGS**

The Council will meet at least twice each fiscal year or more frequently if required by the Minister.

### **REMUNERATION FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Members will receive remuneration for attendance at Council meetings as per the Part-Time Committee Remuneration Order, Schedule 2, Part A as amended from time to time.

The Chair and members of the Council are entitled to be paid travel and living expenses in accordance with the Public Service Subsistence, Travel and Moving Expenses Regulation made by Ministerial Order, as amended, or any order made in substitution thereof.

### **SUPPORT FOR THE COUNCIL**

The Cultural Policy Initiative will provide support to the Council ensuring meetings are scheduled, timely information is provided and accurate records are maintained.