

represented more than half (52%) the total revenue of performing arts organizations in 1981. Governments at all levels are the major benefactors. In 1981, 75% of all subsidies to the performing arts flowed from the public coffers. Of these 40% were federal, 27% provincial and 8% municipal. The remaining 25% came from the private sector. As government purse-strings tighten, private sector support is gaining attention. Main sources of private funds are foundations, corporations, individuals, fund raising campaigns by volunteer committees, bequests and endowments, bank interest and returns on investments. Nationally, the greatest private sector support in 1981 was from individuals, followed closely by corporations.

15.3.1 National Arts Centre (NAC)

Parliament passed the National Arts Centre Act in 1966 creating a corporation to operate and maintain the centre, to develop the performing arts in the national capital area, and to assist the Canada Council in the development of the performing arts elsewhere in Canada. The centre, opened to the public in May 1969, stands on Confederation Square in the heart of Ottawa, a series of hexagonal halls built on landscaped terraces along the Rideau Canal.

The NAC has three main halls. The Opera, with 2,300 seats, was designed primarily for opera and ballet, with a full-size orchestra pit and advanced sound, lighting and other technical equipment. Its stage is one of the largest in the world, 56.7 by 33 metres, and its facilities can handle the most complicated changes required by touring companies. The 950-seat Theatre is ideal for Greek, Elizabethan or contemporary plays, and its stage can be adjusted from the conventional to the thrust stage style used for Shakespearean drama. Like the Opera, it is equipped for television, simultaneous translation and film projection, and its technical facilities are among the best available. The Studio is hexagonal and can seat up to 350 persons in a variety of seating plans. It is used for theatre productions, conferences and cabarets.

Other NAC facilities include: the Salon, a small hall seating up to 150 persons and used for chamber concerts, poetry readings and receptions; a 900-car indoor garage; Le Restaurant, a restaurant and bar; Le Café, a smaller restaurant which in summer overflows to the sidewalks along the Rideau Canal; and several large rehearsal halls. On the terraces outside, the NAC plays host to art fairs, craft markets and summer band concerts.

The 46-member National Arts Centre orchestra gives concerts in the centre and on tours in Canada and abroad. Music programming includes about 80 concerts a year, featuring soloists and guest orchestras from Canada and around the world.

The theatre department has offered more than 600 performances of live theatre annually at the centre

and on tour. Some plays represent Canada's regional theatre or come from outside the country.

The dance and variety department brings in some 100 different shows a year. The NAC is the only centre in Canada where every major Canadian dance company appears. It has been a showcase for performers from every part of the country. Each July a festival of mainly musical entertainment is presented. Altogether, in about 900 performances annually the NAC entertains over 700,000 people.

15.4 Support for the arts

15.4.1 Federal support to the arts

The federal government spent about \$1.3 billion on culture, in 1981-82 representing approximately 1.8% of total expenditures. The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. (CBC) alone accounted for almost two-thirds of this amount. Discounting inflation, the federal spending on culture was up about 1% in real terms. In constant dollars, spending on film and literary arts decreased while heritage resources, visual arts, crafts and sound recording reported increases.

The environment department had the second largest budget for culture (7.1% of the total). Most of the funds were spent on historic parks and sites. In descending order the National Film Board at 5.3%, National Museums of Canada at 4.8%, and the Canada Council at 4.6% reported the next largest budgets of culture expenditures.

The communications department was the only other department to have a significant budget for culture (2.6%).

15.4.2 The Canada Council

The Canada Council was created in 1957 by an act of Parliament to foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Under the provisions of the Government Organization (Scientific Activities) Act passed by Parliament in June 1977, the council's work in the humanities and social sciences became the responsibility of a new body, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, in April 1978.

The Canada Council offers financial assistance and services to individuals and organizations in the arts including the maintenance of a touring office and an art bank, which purchases and rents Canadian art for use in offices of government and non-profit organizations. The council's Explorations program funds innovative projects which address new needs or investigate new directions in art forms. The council administers the Killam program, based on a bequest from Mrs. Dorothy J. Killam. This program provides an annual Izaak Walton Killam prize of \$50,000 and the I.W. Killam research fellowships given to scholars of exceptional ability engaged in projects of cultural significance.