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SEPTEMBER 2009

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## **CAPACOA Urges You to Support BCTC and the BC Arts Community**

Dear Colleagues,

British Columbia's arts and culture community needs your help! Many of you know we are at the beginning of serious regressive action by the Provincial government.

Drastic and unexpected cuts have been made to arts funding administered by the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch (Direct Access). We do not yet know yet how many groups have been affected, but it is expected the impact is widespread and serious.

On top of those cuts, the BC Arts Council (BCAC) is facing a 40% reduction in funding. The Province's projected budget provides funds for the Council's administration to operate, but at this time there are no funds allocated for granting services.

The Province has implemented numerous unexplained changes to policies and procedures that have created considerable confusion among artists and administrators, agencies and funders, and even politicians. Grants normally provided through tax-based funding (BCAC) have inexplicably been routed through a non-tax-based agency (Gaming), signaling a potentially dynamic shift in funding philosophy.

If the present is troubling, the future is bleak. Based on current information, Spencer Herbert, NDP MLA and Opposition Critic for Arts and Culture, predicts arts cuts as deep as 92%.

BC arts organizations and cultural workers have been swift to act, but more action is needed. The BC Touring Council wants to enlist the support of the regional and national presenting and artist networks.

We are asking you to write two letters: one from senior staff and one from the organization's board. We have provided a sample letter, [available on the CAPACOA website here](#).

The people who need to hear from you:

Hon. Kevin Krueger  
Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts  
124 – Parliament Bldg  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9E2  
[kevin.krueger.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:kevin.krueger.mla@leg.bc.ca)

Hon. Rich Coleman

Minister of Housing and Social Development  
PO Box 9058  
STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria BC  
V8W 9E1  
[rich.coleman.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:rich.coleman.mla@leg.bc.ca)

Premier Gordon Campbell  
PO BOX 9041 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria BC  
V8W9E1  
CANADA  
[premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)

We also invite you to forward our message and letter to your colleagues.

We thank you for your contribution to our cause. Please let us know what action you take as we are working with other BC arts agencies and we want to keep them informed. Please visit Alliance for Arts and Culture for you additional information

Please feel free to contact us:

Joanna Maratta, ED for BC Touring Council: [fyi@bctouring.org](mailto:fyi@bctouring.org)  
Paul Gravett, Chair for BC Touring Council: [paul@kaymeekcentre.com](mailto:paul@kaymeekcentre.com)

Sincerely,

Joanna Maratta  
Paul Gravett

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## CAPACOA vous demande de supporter BCTC et BC Arts Community

Une version française de cette lettre sera affichée sur le site web de CAPACOA aussitôt que possible.  
[Cliquez ici pour le lien à la lettre.](#)

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Looking for one "go-to" location for a listing of Canadian performers, presenters, and decision-makers?

[DISCOVER OUR MEMBERS LIST HERE.](#) Your one-stop solution to your performing arts needs.

Pour un accès direct aux professionnels canadiens des arts de la scène, visitez [capacoa.ca](http://capacoa.ca) et découvrez notre liste des membres [ICI](#)

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CAPACOA would like to thank the following organizations for their ongoing support:  
CAPACOA aimerait remercier les organisations suivantes pour leur support continu:



Canadian  
Heritage

Patrimoine  
canadien



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO



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