

Equity for Saskatchewan Artists

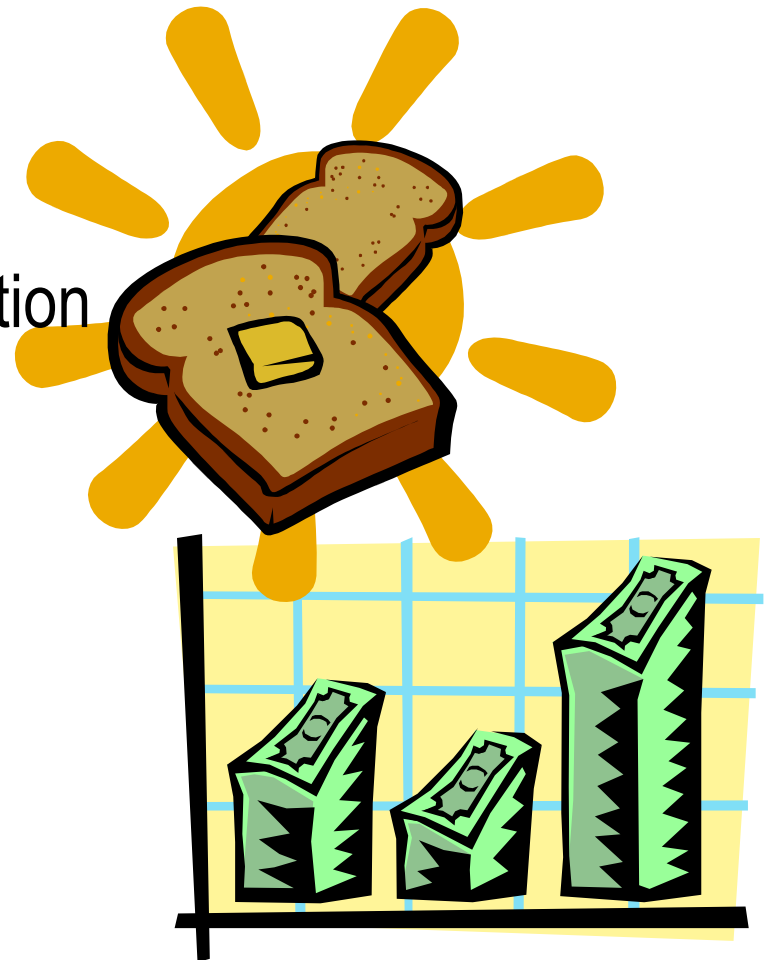


Saskatchewan
Arts Alliance

"A Collective Voice for
the Arts Community"

'Equity for Artists' – What Is It About?

- ✦ Bread and Butter for artists
- ✦ Social Benefits
- ✦ Economic Benefits
- ✦ Collective Rights and Protection
- ✦ Reform Initiatives
 - Taxation
 - Access
 - Training / Education
- ✦ Program Initiatives
 - Economic Development
 - Visibility





Visions of the 1993 Saskatchewan Report

✦ *Saskatchewan artists in all disciplines will be able to earn a living from the making of their art;*

✦ *Economic and social benefits available to other workers will be available to Saskatchewan artists;*

✦ *Resources for education and training will be widely available to Saskatchewan artists;*

✦ *Creations of Saskatchewan artists will be available to the public to the maximum extent possible.*

What Are The Problems Facing Artist Equity?

- ✦ Economic Insecurity / Income
- ✦ Equity Issues
 - Social Benefits Access
 - Lack of Protection
 - Lack of Collective Rights



What Are The Solutions?

- 💡 Legislation 
- 💡 Programs – reforms and innovations 
- 💡 Policy 
- 💡 Example 

Who Benefits From 'Artist Equity'?

- ✦ Professional artists
- ✦ Engagers / promoters
- ✦ Community
- ✦ Government



A Brief History

- ✦ UNESCO – 1976
- ✦ Task force – 1986
- ✦ Code – 1988
- ✦ Status Legislation in Canada
 - Quebec 1987 / 88
 - Federal 1992

✦ Sask Report 1993

✦ SAA Campaign 2001





1993 Report Recommendations

Basic Rights – A Saskatchewan Artists Code

1. “The treatment of the artist by society reflects its appreciation of the value of creativity, the right to self-expression, and the respect it holds for its cultural heritage and development.”



1993 Saskatchewan Report Recommendations (con't)

2. **“The contribution of the artist to society is manifest in economic, labour market, social and industrial terms, true value being evidenced in the quality of life and the maturity of the nation.”**
3. **“The fundamental role of the artist is the creative force behind all cultural industries warrants that the artists enjoy an equitable share of the profits and decisions in the sector.”**

Fourth Principle of the Saskatchewan Report

- ✶ “All people should have the broadest access to artists and their work through distribution, exhibition, and education. In particular, we believe Saskatchewan people must have full access to Saskatchewan arts and artist, including the work of indigenous artists, whose cultural and aesthetic traditions predate European contact and must be nurtured and encouraged.”

Basic Rights – Collective Bargaining

- ✧ Bargaining and Industry Standards
Legislation recognizing Artists
Organizations





Basic Rights – Industry Standards

Industry Standards:

- ✦ Contract Protections, Cancellations, Payment and Copyright
- ✦ Engagement Standards
- ✦ Health and Safety Standards
- ✦ Bankruptcy Protection



Basic Rights - Economic & Social Equity and Security

- ✧ Industry Standard Rates for Artists
- ✧ Access to Social Benefits and Programs
- ✧ Taxation Reform

Education and Training

- ✨ Improved Access
- ✨ Improved Training
- ✨ Arts in Education



Economic Development

- ✦ Support for Cultural Industries and Artists
- ✦ Grants and Research



Visibility, Legitimizing Artists' Work & Access to Art

- ✨ “Access To Art”
 - Making art available to the public through a variety of means.



Minority Rights

- ✦ Ensuring Access

- ✦ Ensuring Visibility





A Commission to Make it Happen

MISSION:

- ✦ To ensure equity for Artists becomes a reality
- ✦ Assist Access Equity programs
- ✦ Information and Promotion



Who Would Be Covered?

Professional artists.

Criteria included in the Saskatchewan proposals are:

- ✦ Receipt of compensation/income
- ✦ Peer recognition
- ✦ Exhibition / publication
- ✦ Representation
- ✦ Professional training
- ✦ Professional membership
- ✦ Copyright, marketing activity

What Can Be Achieved?



- ✦ Recognition for artists
- ✦ Benefits and rights for artists
- ✦ Benefits for the community and for engagers
- ✦ Benefits for government