

Evaluation of the Provisions and Operations of the Status of the Artist Act

Introduction

- [Purpose of the evaluation](#)
- [Structure of the report](#)

The *Status of the Artist Act* (hereinafter known as the Act) received Royal Assent in June 1992 and was brought fully into force in May 1995. The legislation recognizes the importance of artists in Canadian society and establishes a framework to govern professional relations between artists and producers.

The *Status of the Artist Act* is comprised of two main parts. Part I establishes the Canadian Council on the Status of the Artist, whose purpose is to act as an advisory body to the Minister of Canadian Heritage. Broadly speaking, the Council is responsible for supporting and promoting the professional status of artists in Canada through such activities as information gathering, advising the Minister, and liaising with artists' associations. Part II of the Act establishes the Canadian Artists and Producers Professional Relations Tribunal (CAPPRT or the Tribunal), a labour board responsible for administering the provisions of the Act that govern relations between self-employed artists and producers in the Canadian cultural sector, within federal jurisdiction. The Tribunal reports to Parliament through the Minister of Labour. Responsibility for the cultural aspects of the Act (Part I) lies with the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Purpose of the evaluation

The Act contains a provision requiring that the Minister of Canadian Heritage, in consultation with the Minister of Labour, undertake a review of the legislation in the seventh year after its coming into force. The purpose of the review is to assess the effectiveness of both parts of the legislation and to identify what, if any, amendments are required.

Prairie Research Associates (PRA) Inc. was engaged by the Department of Canadian Heritage to undertake an evaluation of the Status of the Artist Act as a first step in this review. In designing and carrying out the research, we were guided by the evaluation framework in Appendix A (see Volume II of this report).

This report presents the evaluation findings, offers conclusions, and provides recommendations for legislative and operational changes.

Structure of the report

This report is divided into several sections. Section 2.0 describes the methodology we used to carry out the evaluation, while Section 3.0 describes the policy context that led to implementation of the Status of the Artist Act. The evaluation findings are presented in Section 4.0. Section 5.0 concludes and provides recommendations.

Four appendices accompany this report and have been bound separately in Volume II. These include the evaluation framework that guided the study, as well as three interim reports (Appendices B, C, and D) submitted over the course of the evaluation. The appendices are as follows:

- Appendix A -- Evaluation Framework
- Appendix B -- Document Review
- Appendix C -- Report on Interviews
- Appendix D -- Report on Surveys.

Although findings from the interim reports have been integrated to form the final report, the interim reports themselves should be consulted for more detailed information.