Community
Engagement,
Partnerships, and
Advocacy













What We Do

Council Advocacy

Advocacy and community development have been the focus for the Ottawa Arts Council since its inception. Often working in collaboration with partners, we have consulted, represented, educated, and coordinated actions at times of crisis and times of opportunity.

Ottawa Cultural Alliance

To strengthen our advocacy at the municipal level, we work in partnership with members of the Ottawa Cultural Alliance, composed of the Ottawa Museum Network, Heritage Ottawa, Capital Heritage Connexion, Arts Network Ottawa and Ottawa Festival Network, and collaborate with Ottawa Music Industry Coalition (OMIC).

Most recently, we reached out to Mayor Sutcliffe and our City Councillors to make a strong case for greater inclusion of arts, culture and heritage in the Council's new term priorities.

The response was shared by the Alliance with the Mayor and all City Councillors, and we are pleased with the positive responses we received. At the July 12/23 Council meeting, Councillor King proposed a motion for more culture inclusion, which was carried.

Council Advocacy

Ottawa Arts Initiative

Prior to the municipal and provincial elections in 2022, we created a joint advocacy team with Arts Network Ottawa, entitled the Ottawa Arts Initiative, advocating for increased local and provincial arts community funding and addressing accomplishments and gaps. This campaign featured a Mayoral Candidate Town Hall for the Arts in October 2022. Most recently, we advocated against provincial government cuts to the Ontario Arts Council and were successful!

Alliance of Arts Councils of Ontario

We partner with 24 municipal and regional arts councils from across Ontario as part of the Alliance of Arts Councils of Ontario. The Alliance collectively represents tens of thousands of artists, cultural workers and arts groups in every discipline, as well as large and small businesses invested in partnering with the arts sector to rebuild our arts communities, our regions and our province. This partnership strengthens the Council's advocacy at the provincial level, in addition to providing shared resources between the Councils.

Our advocacy work is a crucial part of what the Council does, and we will continue to advocate for more importance to be placed on arts and culture.

Advocacy Focus





Inclusivity

Diversity





Equity

Accessibility



The Ottawa Arts Council actively supports the arts community. The Council prides itself on participating in community events, and supporting partnerships. Want to see what we're up to? Staff and Board post pictures of themselves at local arts events using the hashtag #CouncilOnTheRoad and then share them on social media.



Check out their exhibition from May 2 to August 1!

#CouncilOnTheRoad #ConseilSurLaRoute

Ottawa Arts Council @ArtsOttawa · May 12

#CouncilOnTheRoad - Two more chances to see the @TACTICSeries' production of "Shorelines," written by award-winning playwright Mishka Lavigne. Tonight and tomorrow afternoon at LabO!

Visit tacticsottawa.com for more info and to purchase tickets!





Ottawa Arts Council @ArtsOttawa · Jun 21

We love @ottawafringe! Visit @artscourt until the 25th for great shows like Foul Play produced by @deadunicornink and starring our very own @axandre__ ottawafringe.com/show/foul-play/

#CouncilOnTheRoad





Arts Court Neighbourhood



Local Events



Local Theatres

Engagement Focus





Raise Awareness

Idea Exchange





Make Connections

Build Trust



Partnerships



Beyond Sponsorship

The work the Council does, advocating for artists and Ottawa's cultural industry, is vital to the city. Supporting the arts increases tourism, creates new jobs and helps our economy thrive. The arts are uplifting, improving our mental health by combating social isolation and anxiety.

We believe in the social and economic importance of a strong local cultural sector, and the many ways the arts are intrinsically linked to our quality of life in Ottawa.

Donations to help with operating expenses are also needed.

Gifts of Tangible Personal Property

A gift is a voluntary transfer of property without consideration. Tangible property could includes art works and collections. A tax receipt may be issued for the fair market value.

Donation Matching

Individuals or corporations can offer to match individual donations over a defined period of time. A focused fundraising campaign, for even a week, could be bolstered with donation matching (capped at a chosen amount).

Volunteering

By volunteering, or encouraging your employees to volunteer, you can develop new networking opportunities; meet opinion-makers and community leaders; and become more engaged in community activities. At the same time, you'll be helping the Council augment their management and professional skills and reduce their operating expenses.

Patron of the Arts

Individuals and Corporations are invited to show your support for the Council and become an Arts Patron. Associate yourself with excellence and contribute to a strong and diverse arts community.

Financial Donations

A financial donation to the Council can be directed according to your giving priorities:

- micro-grants for artists
- operating expenses
- professional development workshops

In-Kind Donations

By donating products and services to the Council, your business can broaden its brand awareness, develop networking opportunities and generate sales. Your contributions could be in the form of:

- translation services
- catering and beverages
- print services
- web development
- marketing
- event space

Join Us!

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Stay Social







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Building Back Better: English and French Theatre Community Consultations













