

Carolyn Warren  
Director General, Arts Granting Services  
Canada Council for the Arts  
150 Elgin Street, PO Box 1047  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5V8

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Dear Carolyn,

We are in receipt of your letter dated April 3, 2019.

Our correspondence dated March 12, 2019 included 3 informational briefs and an analysis of existing policies based on publicly available Canada Council data. It demonstrated evidence of regional and cultural inequities in grant outcomes and irregularities in jury selection. These concerns are not unique to Toronto; our case demonstrates how other parts of the country, and some minority groups, are being underserved by Canada's most important public arts funder. This situation can, and we humbly submit must, be remedied. These issues of accountability, transparency and equity can be resolved.

Please be advised that TAPA has received much positive feedback from across the country. Francophones outside of Quebec, Allophones in Quebec, People of colour, Albertans, British Columbians, Atlantic Canadians, Ontarians, Calgarians and Torontonians in particular – but not exclusively – are very concerned about these ongoing issues with the Canada Council.

We invite the Canada Council for the Arts to view this as an opportunity to reach more Canadians. At this moment, the Council could correct the remaining inequities it has not yet addressed. **TAPA hopes to see a more considered response to our concerns from the Canada Council for the Arts.** This may also provide an opportunity to develop concrete and specific plans that will ensure equity of outcomes for all provinces, territories and major cities, as well as minority communities.

We are pleased the Canada Council has scheduled a series of outreach activities and workshops planned for the last week of June in Toronto, and we look forward to seeing you then. We hope this may become a biannual event. We also hope you will be able to join us for the *40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dora Mavor Moore Awards* on Tuesday, June 25. A formal invitation will be emailed in the coming weeks.

On behalf of the TAPA Board of Directors,



Régine Cadet  
President, Board of Directors



Jacoba Knaapen  
Executive Director

**TAPA**  
401 Richmond St. W.  
Suite 350  
Toronto, ON M5V 3A8  
tel.416.536.6468  
fax.416.536.3463  
tapa.ca

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Cc: Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada  
Hon. Pablo Rodriguez, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism  
Hon. Mélanie Joly, Minister of Official Languages and Tourism  
All Toronto MPs  
Simon Brault, Director & CEO, Canada Council for the Arts  
Pierre Lassonde, Chair, Canada Council for the Arts and all Board members  
Michelle Chawla, Director General, Strategy and Public Affairs, Canada Council for the Arts  
Kate Cornell, Co-Chair, and Renuka Bauri, Vice Chair, Canadian Arts Coalition  
Boomer Stacey, Interim Executive Director, PACT (Professional Association of Canadian Theatres)  
Nancy Matthews, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport  
Kevin Finnerty, Assistant Deputy Minister, Culture Division, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport  
Peter Caldwell, Director and CEO, Ontario Arts Council  
Rosslyn Jacob Edwards, Chair, PASO-OPSA Coalition  
Charles Smith, Chair, Ontarians for the Arts  
His Worship Mayor John Tory, City of Toronto  
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Claire Hopkinson, Director and CEO, Toronto Arts Council  
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