

THE HONOURABLE PATRICIA BOVEY, FRSA, FCMA
SENATOR – MANITOBA



L'HONORABLE PATRICIA BOVEY, MSRA, MAMC
SÉNATRICE – MANITOBA

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CANADA

April 17, 2020

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you are all faring as well as can be expected as this crisis continues. This message is a short update from this morning's announcement by the Prime Minister. One again, the need for the arts and artists by and throughout society was underlined, that need being even more important during dark times.

\$500 million is being given to Heritage Canada to assist the arts, sport and cultural organizations which are not eligible for the initiatives announced earlier. I think this is critical support. I really hope it allows regional, rural and northern arts and heritage organizations, as well as those in our urban centres, to continue their important work of connecting audiences and communities to creative and innovative experiences. It is those experiences which in so many ways define who we are as human beings, as regions and as a nation.

Minister Guilbeault noted that he will be working with the sector to fine tune the Heritage financial aid to assist with wage and fixed costs needs.

It is critical that Canada's arts and culture sectors not only survive, but that they can do so with stability.

May you all have a good weekend and I will continue to update you with information as I receive it. In the meantime, I thank you again for your comments, calls, and emails, and please be assured that I DO take the issues forward.

All the best,

Pat Bovey

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia E. Bovey".

Patricia Bovey, FRSA, FCMA
Independent Senator from Manitoba