

New Four-Stream Funding Model

In 2014/15 the BC Arts Council began a process of program review to re-assess ways to deliver funding more effectively and efficiently, while responding to the emerging realities of arts organizations across the province. The BC Arts Council will continue to review programs and implement the results of the program review to ensure that funding streams and programs meet the needs of arts and cultural community.

Overview of the Funding Model:

Following a series of consultations with artists, arts organizations and community members throughout British Columbia, the BC Arts Council has developed a new Four-Stream Funding Model to describe the categories of its funding support. The model includes Professional Arts, Community Arts, Strategic Initiatives, and Partnerships.

The Strategic Initiatives stream reflects the priorities of the BC Arts Council Board and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. Programs within this stream respond to key priorities.

The new model:

- maintains the core delivery of funding to support ongoing and time-limited artistic development and engagement activities in Professional Arts and Community Arts;
- reflects the need for flexibility in responding to current priorities of the BC Arts Council and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, such as youth engagement and professional development for early career practitioners, through programs within Strategic Initiatives;
- upholds the importance of funding partnerships which support activities across all three through Partnerships.

Although some programs, such as Innovations and Capacity and Sustainability, are being phased out as a result of the program review, the new framework itself does not affect program offerings or priorities but rather provides a descriptive structure and organization for Council's programs.

About the Funding Streams:

1) Professional Arts Funding

Provides both time-limited and sustained funding to support the activities of professional individual artists and arts organizations in the creation, production and dissemination of artistic works; the advancement of artistic practice across disciplines; the provision of artistic programs and public engagement opportunities; and access to skills, training and development opportunities for arts professionals at all stages of their artistic careers.

2) Community Arts Funding

Provides both time-limited and sustained funding to support the activities of volunteer-run and community arts organizations in the production, presentation, development and dissemination of community-based artistic work; the provision of public and community access to a range of

quality artistic and cultural activities; and the development of leadership, support and engagement with arts and culture at the community level.

3) Strategic Initiatives Funding

Provides funding to the arts and culture sector in response to specific strategic goals and policy directives originating from both Council and ministry/government priorities. Program initiatives, supports and services not tied to specific granting opportunities may be offered in alignment with the strategic goals and priorities of Council and/or delivered by Council on behalf of government.

4) Partnerships Funding

Maximizes specific areas of expertise and program delivery in support of Council’s strategic priorities. Current partnership programs are delivered through First Peoples’ Cultural Council, BC Touring Council, Creative BC and ArtStarts in Schools. Program initiatives delivered through partnership agreements align across Professional, Community and Strategic Funding streams.

Program Streams			
Professional Arts Funding	Strategic Initiatives Funding	Community Arts Funding	Partnerships Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating Assistance – Annual and Extended Cycle • Professional Project Assistance • Individual Arts Awards • Scholarships • Publishing • Professional Development • Touring Initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced Capacity* • Interim Special Project Assistance* • Capacity and Sustainability* • Innovations* • Early Career Development • Youth Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Arts Councils • Community Arts Development • Community Arts Festivals • Arts-Based Community Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Peoples’ Cultural Council: Aboriginal Arts Development Awards and youth funding • BC Touring Council: Community Presenters and youth funding • ArtStarts in Schools: Artists in the Classroom, Artists in Education funding • Creative BC

*Capacity and Sustainability and Innovations programs were suspended following 2015/16 intake; Enhanced Capacity and Interim Special Project Assistance to be introduced beginning 2016/17