



## MANITOBA ARTS COUNCIL

### PROTOCOLS FOR FRENCH LANGUAGE APPLICATIONS RATIFIED BY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2008

The following motion was approved by the Manitoba Arts Council at a special meeting held in Morden, MB, on September 27, 2008. The details outlined in this motion will be included in MAC's Peer Assessment Handbook, on MAC's website and in any other materials outlining MAC's grant assessment process.

That, as the Peer Assessment process is based on equal access and equitable assessment for all applicants, MAC will confirm that, in all materials regarding applications submitted in the French language, the following protocols will be followed:

- Artistic merit is the primary consideration in awarding a grant in any program.
- Suitable assessors\* will be sought for each program based on the individual characteristics of each artistic discipline and range of projects.
- Where an application is submitted in French, MAC will endeavour to confirm a bilingual assessor familiar with the discipline.
- Applications in French will be translated into English for use in the jury or panel process.
- Where a suitable assessor is not available, a written assessment in French will be completed by an outside bilingual assessor and translated into English, and both the French and English assessments will be made available to the jury or panel.
- Where the number of French applications warrants (two or more), MAC will endeavour to ensure that two or more bilingual assessors sit on the jury or panel considering these applications.
- Wherever possible, MAC will select bilingual assessors, considering the actual discipline-specific experience and knowledge required as well as the francophone community understanding and sensitivity necessary for the process.
- MAC will work to build a large and appropriate assessor database of bilingual and francophone artists from Manitoba and across Canada.
- Should French applications in a particular program comprise over 50% of the applications, MAC will endeavour to conduct the jury or panel in French.

In order to support this process, Council is placing a call for prospective bilingual assessors through arts organizations and arts service organizations in Manitoba and across Canada, as well as through public service announcements in various media.

\*The term "assessor" refers to individual members of juries, assessment panels, and independent/outside assessors.