



FRANCO-MANITOBAN POLICY

Approved by Council June 26, 2007

PREAMBLE

The Manitoba Arts Council Recognizes:

- French as an official language of Canada
- That Franco-Manitoban heritage has significantly shaped this province, and is a fundamental force in its present identity
- That the French language and Franco-Manitoban arts and culture exist in a minority context in Manitoba
- That Franco-Manitoban arts and culture should be supported and celebrated by the province of Manitoba
- That Franco-Manitoban arts and culture are an important manifestation of our linguistic duality in Manitoba and in Canada
- That the Franco-Manitoban arts are a unique, valued, and fundamental part of Manitoba's arts sector
- That the francophone reality in Manitoba reflects the fusing of a Franco-Manitoban identity with francophone cultures across the country and with la francophonie from around the world.

DEFINITION

For the purposes of determining eligibility for MAC's programs and services, a "Franco-Manitoban artist" is defined as a Manitoba resident artist who accesses MAC services in French and/or creates artistic work that includes a significant French-language component.

POLICY APPROACHES

- i. French language services
Provincial legislation requires that the francophone community in Manitoba and the institutions serving this community have access to comparable government services in French.
- ii. Cultural Significance of Franco-Manitobans
Franco-Manitoban arts and culture are recognized as a significant and fundamental part of Manitoban identity. Existing in a minority context in Manitoba, Franco-Manitoban arts and culture are to be promoted, preserved, and celebrated.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Manitoba Arts Council regards Franco-Manitobans as a fundamental presence in the province's linguistic, cultural and artistic identity.

The Council will:

1. Ensure that Franco-Manitoban artists have access to council information, programs, and services in French.
2. Develop, maintain, and measure the success of targeted strategies for promoting and nurturing the Franco-Manitoban arts and arts community, recognizing that they exist in an environment of linguistic and cultural minority.

