

## Analysis of political parties' platforms and commitments - 2021 federal elections

2<sup>nd</sup> version - September 14, 2021

The CDCE asked its members to indicate their priorities for the campaign in order to analyze the parties' commitments in relation to these issues.

The CDCE sent a questionnaire to all parties including the priorities contained in this analysis, and requested a response by September 10. The Bloc Québécois, the Liberal Party and the Green Party completed the questionnaire and returned it on time.

If no source is given, the commitments are taken from the various party platforms:

- Liberal Party: [\*Forward. For Everyone\*](#), published on September 1st
- Conservative Party: [\*Canada's Recovery Plan\*](#), published on September 16th
- Bloc québécois: [\*Québécois\*](#), published on August 23rd
- New Democratic Party (NDP): [\*Ready for Better\*](#), published on August 12th
- Green Party: [\*Be Daring\*](#), Published on August 13th

Please report any omissions or errors!

## 1. Revision of the *Broadcasting Act*

### 1.1. Ensure that online platforms contribute to the development and financing of Canadian content



- Reintroduce legislation to reform the *Broadcasting Act*, within the first 100 days of a new mandate, to ensure that the web giants contribute to the creation and promotion of Canadian stories and music
  - The Liberal Party will not exclude through legislation one platform or the other. However, whether regulation applies to these platforms will need to be determined by the CRTC, based on whether any regulation would have a material impact on the attainment of the broadcasting policy objectives. For further clarity, the Liberal Party fully expect that video and music streaming services (such as Netflix, Amazon, Disney and Spotify) as well as video and music sharing platforms (such as TikTok and YouTube) will be subject to regulation. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
  - Draft the legislation so that any regulation in the future will be applied in a fair and equitable manner for all broadcasting undertakings. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Modernize the funding tools that support the Canadian audiovisual sector to make funding platforms agnostic and open to more traditionally underrepresented storytellers, while favouring Canadian productions over foreign ones and ensuring that Canadians are better equipped to own and benefit from the content they produce. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



- Simplify and reduce the regulatory burden on Canada's conventional broadcasters and cable companies, including CRTC license fees and contributions to the Canada Media Fund, with the loss of revenue offset by a portion of the revenue from the new digital services tax.
- Require large streaming services such as Netflix, Disney+ and Amazon Prime Video to reinvest a significant portion of their gross Canadian revenue in the production of original programming in Canada, a fixed portion of which will be in French.
  - If they fail to do so for one year, they will have to pay the difference to the Canada Media Fund.
  - The proportion chosen will vary depending on the nature of the service and will be determined by best practices in other countries, including Europe and Australia, and the nature of the Canadian market.



- Improve and re-table the broadcasting bill, including the Bloc's key amendments that ensured the protection of Canadian and Quebec content, the "discoverability" and promotion of Quebec arts and the production of francophone content.
- Request that the Yale Report's recommendations to address inequities caused by online businesses be implemented. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Introduce a bill so that the Canadian government recognizes the existence of a Quebec culture and promotes it to platforms such as Apple Music, Spotify or Netflix in order to give a greater place to our creators in their programming. This bill could include a provision asking for the transfer to Quebec of certain powers, notably that of determining the ratios (quotas) of francophone content on audiovisual broadcasting platforms and the visibility required for this content in Quebec. In other words, certain powers that a Quebec CRTC would have. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]

- Demand that the sums collected in taxes from the digital giants be redirected to a fund dedicated to the arts and culture of Quebec and to our media.



- Modernize the *Broadcasting Act* to create a fairer playing field for domestic and foreign broadcasters.
- Ensure that Netflix, Facebook, Google and other digital companies play by the same rules as Canadian broadcasters and pay taxes in Canada to support the production of Canadian content in both official languages.



- Regulate powerful streaming platforms and services through the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), as outlined in Bill C-10.

## 1.2. Integrate social media into the broadcasting system to support the development of Canadian music, including francophone music, on major streaming platforms



- Make sure that companies like YouTube that stream professional music, in the same manner that a Spotify does, are included in the Broadcasting Act. This includes francophone music, and music in Indigenous languages. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]

See other party commitments in question 1.1



- Exempting content that Canadians upload from social media sites such as Facebook, YouTube and Tik Tok from regulation to encourage free expression.



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**1.3. Ensure maximum use of Canadian creators and the role of the independent producer and Canadian intellectual property in defining Canadian content, ensure that the CRTC can regulate the relationship between independent producers and broadcasting undertakings to level the playing field in negotiations**

 **Liberal**

- Ensure the maximum use of Canadian creators and preserve the role of independent producers in the definition of Canadian Content. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Make sure that independent producers are able to retain a reasonable portion of intellectual property, namely through the definition of Canadian Content. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]

 **CONSERVATEUR**

- Recognize and encourage partnerships with independent Canadian producers through content reinvestment requirements.

 **BLOC  
Québécois**

- Require that all broadcasting undertakings make maximum, and in all cases at least predominant, use of Canadian creative and other human resources in the creation, production and presentation of their programming. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Impose on the Web multinationals negotiations with Quebec and Canadian content creators in order to establish a fair sharing of revenues.

 **NPD**

- Rebalance the bargaining power of independent producers and the Canadian cultural sector and ensure that Canadian programs are locally owned.
- Give priority to partnerships with independent producers.

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- Ensure that the CRTC maintains and updates its Canadian content regulations and definitions.

#### 1.4. Consideration of the specific needs and realities of Francophone minority communities



- Ensuring that official language minority communities are both properly consulted during the drafting of the bill and in any future regulations, while making sure that the policy objectives in the Act reflect the desired fulfillment of these communities. . [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



See Conservative Party commitments in question 1.6.



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## 1.5. The prominence of original French-language and Native-language content on radio, as well as on conventional and online broadcasters



See Liberal Party commitments in the next question, and financial commitments in 3.2 and 3.3.



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See the Bloc Québécois commitments in question 3.3.



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## 1.6. Vision for CBC/Radio-Canada in terms of its funding, place and mandate



- Update CBC/Radio-Canada's mandate to meet the needs and expectations of today's Canadian audiences, with unique programming that stands out from private broadcasters.
- Reaffirm the role of the public broadcaster in protecting and promoting the French language and francophone cultures in Quebec and across the country.
- Increase national, regional and local news production.
- Strengthen Radio-Canada International, our voice for peace, democracy and universal human values on the world stage.
- Ensure that Native voices and cultures are present on our screens and radio stations.
- Bring Canadian film and television productions to the world stage.
- Provide \$400 million over four years to CBC/Radio-Canada to reduce its reliance on private advertising, with the goal of eliminating advertising during news and other public affairs programming



- Give the CBC a distinct legal and administrative structure to reflect its unique mandate to promote Francophone language and culture, while maintaining its funding and ensuring the ongoing sharing of resources and facilities, where appropriate.
- Reform the CBC Board of Directors to include representatives appointed by the Quebec government and representatives of francophone minority communities outside Quebec.
- Reform Radio-Canada so that it no longer charges user fees on its online broadcast services or operates branded services like Tandem in competition with private francophone media.
- Reform Radio Canada so that it offers more content representative of Francophone communities outside Quebec.
- Protect CBC Radio and CBC North.
- Review the mandate of CBC English Television, CBC News Network and CBC Online News to assess the viability of focusing services on a public interest model like PBS in the U.S., ensuring they no longer compete with Canadian digital service providers and private broadcasters.



- That CBC/Radio-Canada's funding be maintained and indexed to ensure its sustainability and predictability. [Response to the CDCE's questionnaire]



- Increase the budget of CBC/Radio-Canada so that it does not have to run ads [[Interview with Jagmeet Singh | The Leaders' Series](#)]
- Giving more autonomy to CBC/Radio-Canada's Board of Directors [[Interview with Jagmeet Singh | The Leaders' Series](#)]



- Provide stable core funding to the CBC so that it can continue to provide quality television and radio programming with Canadian content in both official languages, as well as programming in Native languages and encourage their learning.



## 1.7. Other proposals to regulate digital media and/or web giants, or to modernize the Broadcasting Act

### Liberal

- Introduce legislation within 100 days that would require digital platforms that earn revenue from news publishing to share a portion of their revenues with Canadian news organizations.
- Pass legislation within the first 100 days to address serious manifestations of toxic content online, particularly hate speech, terrorist content, content that incites violence, child pornography, and non-consensual distribution of intimate images.
- Create a Digital Policy Task Force, comprised of industry, academic and government experts, to integrate government-wide efforts and provide additional resources to make Canada a leader in the digital economy and shape the global governance of emerging technologies, including data and privacy rights, taxation, online violent extremism, ethical use of new technologies and the future of work.

### CONSERVATEUR

- Conduct a comprehensive review of the CRTC's mandate to ensure that it better reflects the needs of Canadians and does not impede Canadian broadcasters' ability to innovate and adapt to changes in the marketplace.
- Create a digital media royalty regime to ensure that Canadian media are fairly compensated for sharing their content on platforms like Google and Facebook.
- Significantly reduce the amount of money the government spends on advertising with large foreign technology firms such as Twitter and redirect federal funds to Canadian media, including weekly community publications, regional media and ethnic media.
- Establish a stronger legal requirement for social media platforms to remove illegal content, including content that incites violence.

### BLOC Québécois

- Repatriate all powers in the area of culture and create a Quebec organization to replace the CRTC.
- Create a Francophonie think tank on the promotion and protection of Francophone cultures on online platforms. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Demand a study of the Heritage Committee in order to come up with solutions to adequately support our aggrieved creators. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Set up *États généraux* on the future of the media with all the actors affected by the current crisis of the written media, the governments of Quebec and the provinces, and experts in order to find long-term solutions to ensure the survival of our press and all the broadcasters (general and specialized television and radio). [Answer to CDCE questionnaire]
- Enhance support for creators and creative sectors to help them adapt to new digital markets. [Answer to CDCE questionnaire]

### NPD

- Create a task force to combat online hate and protect public safety, and to ensure that social media are legally responsible for removing hateful and extremist content before it has a chance to do harm.



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## 2. Revision of the *Copyright Act*

### 2.1. Measures to better protect copyright and Canadian creators, and increase revenues for rights holders.



- Protect Canada's artists, creators and copyright holders by making amendments to the *Copyright Act*, including providing for the payment of resale royalties to artists.



- Recognize and correct the negative economic impact on creators and publishers of the unpaid use of their work in a manner consistent with the unanimous recommendations of the 2019 House Heritage Committee report [The [Shifting Paradigms Report](#)]



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- Ensure the protection of Indigenous intellectual and artistic property rights.

**2.2. Clarify the concept of fair dealing, including for educational purposes, as part of the revision of the *Copyright Act* to ensure fair compensation to Canadian creators and publishers by the education sector**



- Assess the impact of the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the case of Access Copyright vs. York University and determine whether changes are required to the Copyright Act to with respect to the nature of the tariffs certified by the Copyright Board. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



See the answer to the next question.



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### 2.3. Implementing the recommendations of the Shifting Paradigms report



- Take into account the recommendations of the [Shifting Paradigms](#) report as well as the consultation that took place over the last few months in its reform of the *Copyright Act*. [Answer to CDCE questionnaire]



- Recognize and correct the negative economic impact on creators and publishers of the unpaid use of their work in a manner consistent with the unanimous recommendations of the 2019 House Heritage Committee report [The [Shifting Paradigms Report](#)]



- Adopt the copyright reform as envisaged by the current report of the Heritage Commission.

#### **2.4. Extension of moral and economic rights to audiovisual performers**

None of the parties have communicated a commitment on this issue.

## **2.5. Clarification of the binding nature of tariffs certified by the Copyright Board**

None of the parties have communicated a commitment on this issue.

## 2.6. Modernize the private copy regime by making it technology-neutral and extending it to all sectors



- Study the issue of private copying regime modernization closely. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



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- Modify private copy levies to make the law technology neutral. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Propose a levy of just \$3 (the European average) on the sale of tablets and phones to generate some \$40 million a year - to help Canadian creators continue to produce music. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



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## 2.7. Remedy the poor remuneration of music artists for streaming their music on YouTube and other platforms such as Spotify



- Ensure that the copyright market in Canada is well balanced, including with the major streaming platforms. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



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- Review, with the cultural community, the Copyright Board's royalty rules for access to online music to find ways to ensure fair compensation for artists. [Answer to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Review exceptions and exemption laws to ensure that ISPs are accountable for their role in content delivery while increasing efforts to combat piracy and enforce copyright to ensure that raw material is adequately compensated for its content. [Answer to CDCE's questionnaire]



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### 3. Financial measures

#### 3.1. Extension of Employment Insurance Coverage to the Self-Employed



- Ensure that the realities of artists and cultural workers are taken into account in future reforms to the Employment Insurance (EI) system.
- Create a new EI benefit for self-employed Canadians, within the tax system, to provide assistance comparable to EI that could extend over 26 weeks. Assistance could be as high as almost \$15,500, in a situation of greatest need.
- Ensure that self-employed Canadians who want to take advantage of the benefit would only be required to pay the portion that would normally be reimbursed if they were employed in a salaried position.
- Bring forward a vision for a new and modern EI system that covers all workers, including workers in seasonal employment, and which is simpler and more responsive for both workers and employers [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



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- Comprehensive EI reform that will protect all workers and take into account the increasingly compelling realities of self-employed or special status workers and seasonal work.



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### 3.2. Increased funding to the National Film Board / Canada Media Fund / Telefilm Canada / Canada Book Fund / Canada Music Fund / Canada Council for the Arts

#### Liberal

- Increase Telefilm Canada's funding by \$50 million on a permanent basis.
- Modernize Telefilm Canada's current suite of programs (\$105M) [[Comparateur de plateformes | Radio-Canada](#)]
- Double the government's contribution to the Canada Media Fund over three years.
- Increase the annual contribution to the Canada Music Fund to \$50 million by 2024-2025.
- Increase funding to support Canadian authors and publishers by 50% through the Canada Book Fund, the Canada Council for the Arts and the Public Lending Right program (invest \$43 million per year).
- Create a \$50 million fund to empower diverse communities, including journalists and creators in BIPOC communities.



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- Increase the budget of Telefilm Canada and the Canada Media Fund [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Increase the budgets of the National Film Board, then index them, with sums drawn from the additional revenues generated by the taxation of the Web giants [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Revise the way the Canada Media Fund is funded, which is determined by cable revenues, which have been declining since the arrival of the web giants. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Maintain, and then index, the Canada Council's budget at a floor of \$300 million, including support for international promotion. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Increase funding to the Canada Arts Presentation Fund by \$8 million per year and to Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage by \$7 million per year. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Create an indexing mechanism for the various programs for the next five years that takes into account inflation and the growing number of festivals and events to be supported [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



- Increase funding to Telefilm Canada.
- Strengthen financial support for the Canada Media Fund.
- To financially support the National Arts Centre's Indigenous Theatre as part of our commitment to honour and support Indigenous arts and cultures.



- Increase funding to \$1 billion over 3 years for all Canadian arts and cultural organizations, including the Canada Council for the Arts, Telefilm Canada, orchestras, theaters, galleries and publishers.
- Increase funding to all federal agencies, including the Canada Council for the Arts, the National Film Board and Telefilm Canada, to launch programs to support creative programming that addresses the climate crisis.
- Provide \$100 million in funding and incentives over three years for the creation and preservation of Indigenous art forms, particularly creative knowledge that is passed on from generation to generation.
- Establish a dedicated national funding program, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples and the Canadian Museums Association, for commemorative projects on the theme of reconciliation.
- Provide funding and incentives for artists to travel to Indigenous communities to foster young artists, as one of the original goals of the Professional Native Indian Artists Incorporation (PNIAI).
- Provide funds to promote and encourage artists and arts events to visit rural Canada, as well as to provide financial incentives to support artists in rural communities.

### 3.3. Increase the proportion of funding allocated to original French-language audiovisual content in existing funds (CMF, Telefilm)



- Increase the proportion of funding for French-language audiovisual content with Telefilm Canada and the Canada Media Fund from 33% to 40% to encourage a greater presence of French-language productions. [[Comparateur de plateformes | Radio-Canada](#)]



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- The Bloc believes that the government should increase the budget allocated to Telefilm Canada for the creation of online series, while ensuring that French-language productions receive 40% of the Media Fund. [[Comparateur de plateformes | Radio-Canada](#)]



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### 3.4. Implementation of a guaranteed basic income for creators and artists

 **Liberal**

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 **CONSERVATEUR**

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 **BLOC**  
Québécois

- Support the implementation of consultations aimed at setting up a form of guaranteed basic income for artists, the terms of which would be determined during discussions between the various actors involved. The program should be implemented by Quebec and not by Ottawa. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]

 **NPD**

- Immediately create a guaranteed minimum income for all people here.

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- Establish a Guaranteed Living Income (GLI) program for everyone in Canada.

### 3.5. Establish targeted support for cultural infrastructure that is at risk of deterioration or closure for economic reasons



- The Canadian Heritage Recovery Fund will provide \$16 million over two years (2021-22 and 2022-23) to the Canada Cultural Space Fund to support existing recipients who have been approved for funding for an ongoing project, and who have experienced cost overruns or lost revenue due to the pandemic. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]



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- Increase support for community arts programs and facilities across Canada by establishing stable core funding at a fixed percentage of the federal budget.

### **3.6. Compensation for loss of charitable income if philanthropic giving to culture decreases significantly**

None of the parties have communicated a commitment on this issue.



### 3.7. Ensure tax fairness between Canadian and international businesses



- Apply a 3% tax to web giants with gross revenues of at least C\$1.13 billion (including Google, Apple, Facebook, and Amazon) beginning January 1, 2022 and until an acceptable multilateral approach replaces it. [[Comparateur de plateformes | Radio-Canada](#)]



- Create a digital services tax of 3% of gross income in Canada so that the web giants pay their share. *See question 1.7, where the Conservatives suggest that a portion of these revenues be used to fund the Canada Media Fund to offset the reduction in broadcasters' contributions to the Canada Media Fund.*
- Form a working group within the Competition Bureau to determine whether the dominance and anti-competitive conduct of large technology firms is harming Canadian industry. Examine how algorithms and data give these firms an advantage over Canadian firms, and how financial and new technologies could improve competition.



- Insist on taxing the income of digital giants at a 3% rate until we succeed in our cause.
- Require that this 3% digital services tax (DST) also apply to online companies with subscription-based business models, such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, Spotify and Disney+. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Require multinational Internet companies to pay taxes on their Canadian operations, collect the GST and contribute to a new fund to support news media, production and artistic and cultural dissemination. [[Comparateur de plateformes | Radio-Canada](#)]



- Ensure that web giants like Facebook, Google and Amazon pay their fair share of taxes, like all other businesses.



- Apply a corporate tax to transnational e-commerce companies doing business in Canada by requiring the foreign seller to register, collect and remit taxes where the product or service is consumed. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Prohibit Canadian businesses from deducting the cost of advertising on foreign-owned sites such as Google and Facebook, which now account for 80% of all advertising spending in Canada. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Work with our international partners to implement a global minimum tax so that the world's largest companies cannot escape the taxes they owe here in Canada. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]

## 4. COVID and Stimulus Measures

### 4.1. Extend financial support to artists, artisans, creators, writers and cultural workers or establish a new program to provide them with additional income

#### Liberal

- Providing \$50 million to the Canada Council for the Arts to implement a transitional support program, managed in collaboration with third parties and not-for-profit organizations, that will provide access to emergency support for artists, artisans, creators and writers. [\*Supporting our Businesses and Hardest Hit Sectors\*](#)
- Enhance the Canada Workers' Allowance to support approximately 1 million more Canadians working in low-wage jobs, and increase benefits for the most vulnerable Canadians to \$1,400 per year.
- Ensure that eligible Canadians are automatically enrolled, and that benefits are provided quarterly.
- Strengthen rights for workers employed by digital platforms so that they are entitled to job protections under the Canada Labour Code and establish new provisions in the Income Tax Act to ensure this work counts toward EI and CPP while also making these platforms pay associated contributions as any employer would. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Allow secondary earners, especially women, to exclude up to \$14,000 of their earnings when calculating income for the Canada Child Tax Benefit, so that families can receive up to \$2,400.

#### CONSERVATEUR

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#### BLOC Québécois

- Sit down over the next year with the various groups in the cultural sector in order to take note of the various emergency measures and programs offered to organizations, particularly through the Arts, Culture, Heritage and Sport Stimulus Fund, which has received an increase in funding announced at the end of June 2021. The Bloc will want to look specifically at the eligibility criteria for accessing these funds, and the effectiveness of these funds in helping cultural organizations through this precarious period. [Answer to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Maintain the Canada Emergency Benefit for carefully targeted sectors and job categories where recovery remains slow, such as the cultural sector.

#### NPD

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- Provide \$25 million in additional funding to help museums and cultural organizations reopen after a pandemic and continue to provide accessible digital offerings.
- Increase support for indoor and outdoor arts performances that need to adapt to comply with COVID regulations.
- Ensure the sustainability of our cultural infrastructure in consultation with arts service organizations, professional associations, trade associations and creative sector unions.
- Reform the Canada Revenue Act to allow arts and culture workers to benefit from a tax averaging plan that recognizes that lean years often precede and follow a good year when a performance is produced, a book is published or a grant or award is won.
- Establish permanent funding for festivals and events that celebrate Canadian heritage.

## 4.2. Implementing federal tax credits to support live performance

 Liberal

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 CONSERVATEUR

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 BLOC  
Québécois

- Propose the implementation of a refundable tax credit for entertainment consumers representing 20% of tickets and fees for arts and culture activities to a maximum of \$200.

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### 4.3. Compensation for the loss of ticket revenue for organizations and businesses



- Launch the Arts and Culture Stimulus Program, which will double the amount of ticket revenue from performing arts and other cultural institutions through May 2022 to compensate for reduced capacity. [\*Supporting our Businesses and Hardest Hit Sectors\*](#)



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#### **4.4. Inclusion of festival staff salaries in cultural event and festival support programs**

None of the parties have communicated a commitment on this issue.

#### 4.5. Extension of insurance coverage for COVID-related audiovisual production stoppages



- Extend insurance coverage for COVID-related downtime to support 150,000 Canadian jobs. March 31, 2022 to December 31, 2022. [[Supporting our Businesses and Hardest Hit Sectors](#)]



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#### 4.6 Other measures to help content creators and cultural enterprises recover from the worst of the pandemic



- Hold a summit, within its first 100 days, on plans to revitalize the arts and culture sector.
- Extend the Canadian Economic Recovery Hiring Program to March 31, 2022.
- Increase the maximum loan amount from \$350,000 to \$500,000 and extend the loan term from 10 years to 15 years for equipment and leasehold improvements.
- Expand borrower eligibility to include non-profit and charitable social enterprises.
- Supporting bookstores to increase their online sales (\$32 million) [[Comparateur de plateformes](#) | [Radio-Canada](#)]



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- Ensure the sustainability and predictability of cultural and tourism programs and grants as the sector, its creators, presenters and events, continue to be impacted by the pandemic over the next few years.
- Propose changes to business assistance programs to ensure the vitality of our overall SME model.



- Supporting, with a dedicated rebuilding program, the performing arts, theater, festivals and other art forms that have been hardest hit by the pandemic.
- Ensure that arts and cultural institutions receive stable, long-term funding to strengthen and promote the diverse cultures and histories of our country.
- Implement taxable income averaging for artists and cultural workers
- Maintain the emergency wage subsidy and emergency rent subsidy for small businesses until they are able to fully reopen their doors.



See party commitments in question 4.1



## 5. Francophonie, OLMC and official languages

### 5.1. Review of the *Official Languages Act*, and link to the cultural sector



- Fully implement the legislative and administrative measures outlined in the reform document and work with official language communities to adopt, within 100 days, the bill to achieve substantive equality of English and French and strengthen the *Official Languages Act*.
- Implement the legislative and administrative measures outlined in the [English and French: Towards a substantive equality of official languages in Canada](#) report.



- Introduce, within our first 100 days in government, legislation to modernize the *Official Languages Act*.
- Give the Treasury Board the authority and responsibility to ensure the application of the Act to all federal departments.
- Increase the powers of the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- Create an Official Languages Administrative Tribunal to deal with complaints from citizens.
- Add more stringent formal requirements to Part VII of the Act.



- The Bloc Québécois will use all its resources to ensure that the federal *Official Languages Act* no longer applies to private companies in Quebec. The Quebec Charter of the French Language must be applied everywhere on our territory.
- Do everything in its power to ensure that the application of the new reform presented in June by Minister Joly (several articles of which protect the rights of Anglophones, aim to strengthen the vitality of English-language institutions and will prevent Quebec from applying Bill 101 to enterprises under federal jurisdiction) is done everywhere except on Quebec territory. [Response to the CDCE's questionnaire]
- Ensure that any bill, regulatory amendment, or other project takes into account the French aspect. [Response to the CDCE's questionnaire]
- The Bloc Québécois will fight with Acadians and Franco-Canadians to ensure that the reform of the *Official Languages Act* serves as a priority the ability of these communities to live and work in French.



- Modernize the *Official Languages Act* to strengthen oversight and accountability, expand the scope of language rights and ensure that minority language communities are consulted on decisions that affect them. We will ensure that everyone has access to justice in the language of their choice and that Supreme Court judges are bilingual. We will also adopt the principle of asymmetry, which recognizes that as a minority official language, French requires special protection and promotion.

- In the first year of the next Parliament, promote and implement a modernized Official Languages Act to protect both national languages, in consultation with minority language communities.

## 5.2. Commitments regarding official language minority communities



- Ensure the preservation and vitality of official language minority communities by contributing to the construction, renovation and redevelopment of educational and community spaces for these communities.
- Increase funding for post-secondary institutions in official language minority communities to \$80 million per year on a permanent basis.
- Create a strategy to support entrepreneurs in official language minority communities to ensure their vitality through regional development organizations.



- Create more robust mechanisms for consultation with official language minorities.



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### 5.3. Taking action to support the Francophonie in Canada and elsewhere



- Promote the French language in all diplomatic missions and in the work to transform the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie.
- Counter the loss of demographic weight of Francophones in Canada by adopting an ambitious national strategy to encourage Francophone immigration outside Quebec.
- Invest \$120 million to ensure that federal funding is sustainable and used to improve access to French immersion and French second language programs across the country.



- Create a new envelope of \$30 million per year to provide federal funding to Francophone minority post-secondary institutions and participate significantly in their future funding, in collaboration with the provinces.
- Increase support for Francophone primary and elementary education through the Official Languages in Education Program to reflect the growing demographic of Francophone minority students.
- Increase Francophone immigration from outside Quebec to ensure that the demographic weight of Francophone minorities is maintained.



- Introduce a bill to make sufficient knowledge of French a condition for obtaining citizenship from Quebec.



- Enhance the *Action Plan for Official Languages* to improve access to services in the language of choice, including working with provinces and territories to improve minority language education and attracting more Francophone immigrants to all communities.



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## 6. Other commitments to support the cultural sector and ensure the diversity of cultural expressions



- Increase support for productions led by individuals from equity-seeking groups working in the Canadian audiovisual industry by providing \$50 million over five years through the Local Journalism Initiative.
- Modernize the institutions (Telefilm Canada, National Film Board, Canada Media Fund) and funding mechanisms that support the Canadian audiovisual sector, including video games, so that funding is platform-independent and open to more storytellers who have historically been under-represented, while favouring Canadian productions over foreign ones and ensuring that Canadians can benefit from the ownership of the content they produce
- Help Canadian cultural industries succeed abroad by tasking BDC and EDC with supporting the breakthrough of creative industries into new markets.
- Launch a new cultural diplomacy strategy, with a budget of \$20 million per year, to leverage the work of our artists and cultural industries to support Canadian diplomatic objectives.
- Forge an international coalition to develop a new UNESCO convention on the diversity of cultural content online.



- Conduct a review of federal publishing policy to improve the commercial viability of the independent publishing sector.
- Create a new Canadian Heritage Preservation Fund offering a total of \$75 million in grants to municipal governments over the next five years for the repair and restoration of historic monuments, statues and heritage buildings.



- Work to establish a special status for artists, combined with measures offering them greater financial security.



- Implement taxable income averaging for artists and cultural workers to improve their living conditions and make our tax system fairer.



- Protect Canada's cultural identity in trade negotiations and ensure arts and cultural representation in international trade missions.
- Ensure that the CRTC reserves more bandwidth for independent and not-for-profit stations. [Response to CDCE's questionnaire]
- Provide funding for the protection of endangered Indigenous languages across Canada.