



**Canada Council for the Arts
Funding to artists
and arts organizations
in the Northwest Territories,
2013-14**



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



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for the Arts du Canada

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1.0 Overview of Canada Council funding to the Northwest Territories in 2013-14

- In 2013-14, the Canada Council for the Arts provided grants totalling \$167,575 to the arts in the Northwest Territories.
- In addition to grants, \$8,379 in payments was provided to 15 authors through the Public Lending Right program.¹ This brings the total amount of funding to the Northwest Territories to \$175,954.
- The Council distributed \$13,375 in funds to four artists and \$154,200 to seven Northwest Territories arts organizations in 2013-14.
- Grants were awarded to artists and arts organizations in the Northwest Territories in media arts, music, theatre, visual arts, writing and publishing and interdisciplinary arts, as well as through the Aboriginal Arts Office. In 2013-14, the largest amount of funding went to writing and publishing (\$39,100), followed by media arts (\$25,000). Inter-arts, theatre and visual arts all received the same amount of funding (\$20,000).
- 32 applications from Northwest Territories artists and arts organizations were submitted to Council in 2013-14, representing 0.2% of the total number of received applications.
- Funding to artists and arts organizations in Yellowknife totalled \$104,575 comprising 62.4% of the total funding going to the Northwest Territories. In 2013-14, Inuvik received \$43,000, representing 25.7% of total funding and Fort Simpson received \$20,000, representing 12.0% of total funding.
- In 2013-14, Northwest Territories artists received 0.06% of Canada Council funding to artists, and Northwest Territories arts organizations received 0.13% of the funding to arts organizations. In total, Northwest Territories artists and arts organizations received 0.12% of Canada Council funding. In comparison, the Northwest Territories makes up 0.12% of the total population of Canada,² and 0.13% of Canadian artists.³

¹ The Public Lending Right program provides payments to authors whose books are held in selected Canadian public libraries.

² Statistics Canada: Canada's National Statistical Agency. "Population by year, by province and territory," November 2013, <<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/demo02a-eng.htm>>.

³ Hill Strategies Research Inc. "Artists in Canada's Provinces and Territories Based on the 2006 Census," *Statistic Insights on the Arts*, Vol.7 No. 5, March 2009, <<http://www.hillstrategies.com/content/artists-canada%E2%80%99s-provinces-and-territories>>.

2.0 Statistical highlights about the arts in the Northwest Territories⁴

Different sources and definitions may provide vastly different information on artists. General surveys like the Census have restricted definitions and yield lower numbers of artists than more detailed surveys.

- Over \$46.9 million was spent on culture by all levels of government in the Northwest Territories in 2009-10. Per capita cultural spending ranks first among provinces/territories in terms of the federal contribution (\$821) and third in terms of the provincial/territorial investment (\$199).

According to the Northwest Territories Bureau of Statistics' 2008/09 NWT Household Survey:

- In 2008, 2,948 people in the Northwest Territories produced Northern arts & crafts including carvings, drawings or paintings, sewing or needlecraft, weaving or basket making, jewelry, performing arts, books, plays or music. The majority, 1,879 or 64%, was sewing or needlecraft followed by drawings or paintings (384) and carvings (293).

According to the 2006 Census:

- There were 180 artists in the Northwest Territories, who spent more time at their art than at any other occupation in May 2006. These artists represent 0.71% of the overall territorial labour force.
- In 2006, the median earnings of artists in the Northwest Territories were \$20,100, one-half of the typical earnings of all provincial workers (\$40,000).
- In the Northwest Territories, the broader cultural sector has about 750 workers. That means that one in every 34 people in the territory has a cultural occupation.

⁴ Sources:

NWT Bureau of Statistics. "2008/09 NWT Household Survey."

Hill Strategies Research Inc. "Artists in Canada's Provinces and Territories Based on the 2006 Census," *Statistic Insights on the Arts*, Vol.7 No. 5, March 2009, <<http://www.hillstrategies.com/content/artists-canada%E2%80%99s-provinces-and-territories>>.

Statistics Canada: Canada's National Statistical Agency. "Government Expenditures on Culture: Data Tables 2009-10," April 2012, <<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/87f0001x/2012001/part-partie4-eng.htm>>.

3.0 Highlights of Canada Council grants to Northwest Territories artists and arts organizations

Arts organizations

The Canada Council supports the work of arts organizations. In 2013-14, some of the Northwest Territories arts organizations that received funding were:

Organization	Community	Total funding
Akpik Theatre	YELLOWKNIFE	\$20,000
Great Northern Arts Festival	INUVIK	\$20,000
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation	INUVIK	\$20,000
Northern Arts & Cultural Centre	YELLOWKNIFE	\$37,100
Western Arctic Moving Pictures	YELLOWKNIFE	\$25,000

Examples of Canada Council funding in the Northwest Territories⁵

The Canada Council supports the endeavours of professional artists and arts organizations through its programs. The following selection illustrates some of the activities supported by the Canada Council in the Northwest Territories:

Toronto author and illustrator Evan Munday read and discussed illustration with school children and parents in the tiny isolated community of Gameti, NU as part of the **Yellowknife Public Library's** 2014 author reading tour. "It was great to work with the children there" said Munday, author of *The Dead Kid Detective Agency* (2011) and *Dial M for Morna* (2013), who also gave readings in Inuvik and Yellowknife. The Library received \$12,100 through the Literary Readings program for Munday's tour as well as the upcoming tours of authors Sheryl Patricia McFarlane (BC), Patricia Storms (ON) and Ashley Spires (BC). By collaborating with the Inuvik Centennial Library and the Jean Wetrade Gameti Library these authors were able to reach readers in more remote Northern communities.

Country blues roots artist and songwriter **Leanne Goose** of Inuvik, NU toured to Edmonton, New York, St Louis, MI and northern Manitoba in 2013-14, following her performance at Fire in the Sky Aboriginal Music Showcase in Winnipeg. While in Winnipeg, Goose also performed at the 2013 Aboriginal Peoples Choice Awards with "The Johnnys", playing music from her latest CD *This time*. There she built on her fan base and networked with producers from Nashville, with whom she plans to work in the future. Goose received a \$3,000 grant through the Aboriginal Peoples Music: Travel Grants program to attend the events.

⁵ Unless otherwise indicated, project descriptions and quotations are drawn from documents in the grant application.

From April 2013 to April 2014, Yellowknife-based **AKPIK Theatre** developed three new works (*Fawdor*, *Tookoolito* and *Exposing the Culture Within*), presented existing works in Ottawa and Vancouver; and engaged in extensive outreach with youth in remote communities. Further to this, AKPIK developed creative partnerships with artist and arts organizations in the North including Yellowknife playwright, actor and director Ben Nind, Gwaandak Theatre (Whitehorse), the Playwrights Theatre Centre (Vancouver) and playwright German Saravanja. The only professional Indigenous theatre company in the Northwest Territories, AKPIK is dedicated to encouraging new Indigenous work created, developed and produced in the North. AKPIK received \$20,000 through the Developmental Support to Aboriginal Theatre Organizations program to support its initiatives.

Yellowknife JUNO Award-winning singer/songwriter **Leela Gilday** and her band showcased for industry professionals at the Association of Performing Arts Presenters conference in New York City in January 2014. The showcase is part of the Native America North project, created to help First Nation, Inuit and Métis artists access new markets by connecting them with presenters around the world and providing networking and professional development opportunities. The showcase took place at the National Museum of the American Indian where Gilday performed with Inuit throat singer Tanya Tagaq and the Winnipeg-based Indigenous pop-rock group Indian City. The event led to bookings for future performances and engagements for 2014-16. Gilday received \$4,700 through the Audience and Market Development Travel Grants Program: International.

Bren Kolson, a Yellowknife poet and award-winning author of Tso'Tine and Polish descent, spent six months in 2013 editing and reviewing poems for a new publication tentatively titled *Blue Angel of My Muse*. The book will contain 50 to 75 poems that Kolson has written since the 1970s, complemented by photographs she has taken over the past 40 years. Her poetry explores her personal experiences, reflections on the Northwest Territories, and historical and contemporary Aboriginality based on stylistic choices and approaches that enhance the idea of the factual, fictional, fantasy and reality. Kolson received \$5,000 through the Writing and Publishing Grants to Aboriginal Peoples program.

4.0 Detailed tables of Canada Council funding to the Northwest Territories

Canada Council for the Arts funding to the Northwest Territories

- From 2004-05 to 2013-14, Canada Council funding to the Northwest Territories increased, rising from \$98,700 to \$167,575 an increase of 69.78%.
- In terms of percentage of total grants from the Canada Council, funding to Northwest Territories has registered small variations over the past ten years, and stands in 2013-14 at 0.12%.

Table 1: Canada Council grants to the Northwest Territories and Canada Council total grants, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Fiscal year	Grant \$ to Northwest Territories	Canada Council total grant \$	Northwest Territories as % of total
2004-05	\$98,700	\$121,455,742	0.08%
2005-06	\$184,540	\$120,519,422	0.15%
2006-07	\$214,045	\$140,838,547	0.15%
2007-08	\$232,040	\$152,803,607	0.15%
2008-09	\$204,105	\$145,639,343	0.14%
2009-10	\$197,365	\$146,136,164	0.14%
2010-11	\$229,160	\$142,324,085	0.16%
2011-12	\$303,642	\$145,148,810	0.21%
2012-13	\$179,000	\$141,695,453	0.13%
2013-14	\$167,575	\$142,072,039	0.12%
% Change	69.78%	16.97%	

**Table 2: Canada Council grants to the Northwest Territories
by discipline, 2013-14**

Discipline	Artists	Arts organizations	Total
Aboriginal Arts Office	\$0	\$35,100	\$35,100
Audience & Market Development	\$4,700	\$0	\$4,700
Dance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equity Office	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inter-Arts Office	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
Media Arts	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Music	\$3,675	\$0	\$3,675
Prizes Section	\$0	\$0	\$0
Theatre	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
Visual Arts	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
Writing and Publishing	\$5,000	\$34,100	\$39,100
Total grants to Northwest Territories	\$13,375	\$154,200	\$167,575
Total Canada Council grants	\$21,431,038	\$120,641,001	\$142,072,039
Grants to Northwest Territories as a % of total Canada Council grants	0.06%	0.13%	0.12%

Grant applications from the Northwest Territories

- Since 2004-05 the total number of grant applications from Northwest Territories artists and arts organizations has varied, ranging from 26 to 37. The Northwest Territories' percentage share of grant applications has varied between 0.17% and 0.22%. In 2013-14, the share of grant applications (0.21%) from the Northwest Territories to the Canada Council is higher than both its share of population (0.12%) and share of artists (0.13%) – see Table 4.

Table 3: Grant applications to the Canada Council from the Northwest Territories and total grant applications to the Canada Council, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Fiscal year	Grant applications from Northwest Territories	Total Canada Council grant applications	Northwest Territories as % of total
2004-05	37	16,572	0.22%
2005-06	28	15,831	0.18%
2006-07	26	15,663	0.17%
2007-08	27	14,768	0.18%
2008-09	28	15,305	0.18%
2009-10	34	16,139	0.21%
2010-11	34	15,443	0.22%
2011-12	27	15,694	0.17%
2012-13	31	14,727	0.21%
2013-14	32	14,901	0.21%
% Change	-13.51%	-10.08%	

These numbers include applications not assessed, deemed ineligible or transferred to another program.

Northwest Territories – Various comparisons with other provinces⁶

- The Northwest Territories ranks seventh in terms of its level of Canada Council grant funding on a per capita basis per province at \$3.85. The Northwest Territories' share of grant funding is higher than its percentage share of population but lower than its share of grant applications and equal to its share of artists.

Table 4: Northwest Territories – various comparisons with other provinces, 2013-14					
Province or territory	per capita Canada Council Grant	% share of grant funding	% share of Canada Council grant applications	% share of population	% share of artists
Newfoundland and Labrador	\$2.76	1.02%	1.05%	1.50%	0.86%
Prince Edward Island	\$3.13	0.32%	0.31%	0.41%	0.34%
Nova Scotia	\$4.45	2.95%	2.89%	2.68%	2.67%
New Brunswick	\$2.85	1.51%	1.35%	2.15%	1.36%
Quebec	\$5.60	32.15%	31.62%	23.20%	21.54%
Ontario	\$3.47	33.07%	32.69%	38.51%	40.60%
Manitoba	\$5.12	4.56%	2.97%	3.60%	2.80%
Saskatchewan	\$3.06	2.39%	1.68%	3.15%	2.17%
Alberta	\$2.08	5.90%	4.93%	11.45%	8.68%
British Columbia	\$4.38	14.13%	15.66%	13.03%	18.49%
Yukon	\$13.42	0.35%	0.41%	0.10%	0.15%
Northwest Territories	\$3.85	0.12%	0.22%	0.12%	0.13%
Nunavut	\$15.50	0.39%	0.15%	0.10%	0.18%
Other	...	1.14%	4.08%
Total	(Mean: \$4.00)	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

⁶ Sources:

Statistics Canada: Canada's National Statistical Agency. "Population by year, by province and territory," November 2013, <<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/demo02a-eng.htm>>.

Hill Strategies Research Inc. "Artists in Canada's Provinces and Territories Based on the 2006 Census," *Statistic Insights on the Arts*, Vol.7 No. 5, March 2009, <<http://www.hillstrategies.com/content/artists-canada%E2%80%99s-provinces-and-territories>>.

**Table 5: Grant funding by community,
Northwest Territories, 2013-14**

Community	Amount
FORT SIMPSON	\$20,000
INUVIK	\$43,000
YELLOWKNIFE	\$104,575
Total - Northwest Territories	\$167,575
Total - Canada	\$142,072,039
Grants to Northwest Territories as a % of total Canada Council funding	0.12%