



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



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This publication is a companion piece to the *Annual Report 2013-14* of the Canada Council for the Arts.  
<http://canadacouncil.ca/council/about-the-council/corporate-reports/annual-reports/annual-report-2014>

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## 1.0 Overview of Canada Council funding to Nunavut in 2013-14

- In 2013-14, the Canada Council for the Arts provided grants totalling \$551,850 to the arts in Nunavut.
- In addition to grants, \$118 in payments was provided to two authors through the Public Lending Right program in 2013-14.<sup>1</sup> This brings the total funding to Nunavut to \$551,968.
- The Canada Council distributed \$129,500 in funds to a total of three artists while \$422,350 was awarded to nine Nunavut arts organizations.
- Grants were awarded to Nunavut artists and arts organizations in media arts, visual arts, writing and publishing, interdisciplinary arts and through the Canada Council's Aboriginal Arts Office. The largest amount of funding went to media arts (\$250,750) followed by writing and publishing (\$82,200) and interdisciplinary arts (\$65,000).
- 23 applications from Nunavut artists and arts organizations were submitted to the Canada Council in 2013-14, representing 0.15% of the total number of received applications.
- Funding to artists and arts organizations in Igloolik totalled \$298,250, comprising 54.0% of the total funding going to Nunavut. Iqaluit received \$163,600, or 29.6% of total funding, while Cambridge Bay received \$70,000 (12.7%). Arviat also received \$20,000 representing 3.6% of total funding.
- In 2013-14, Nunavut artists received 0.60% of Canada Council funding to artists, and Nunavut arts organizations received 0.35% of the funding to arts organizations. In total, Nunavut artists and arts organizations received 0.39% of Canada Council funding. In comparison, Nunavut represents 0.10% of the total Canadian population,<sup>2</sup> and 0.18% of Canadian artists.<sup>3</sup>
- Two Nunavut artists/arts professionals served as a peer assessor in 2013-14, making up 0.33% of all peer assessors.

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

<sup>2</sup> 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>>.

<sup>3</sup> 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 Nunavut<sup>4</sup>

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 \$19 million was spent on culture by all levels of government in Nunavut in 2009-10. Per capita cultural spending ranks third among provinces/territories in terms of the federal contribution (\$356) and second in terms of the provincial/territorial investment (\$233).

### **According to the *Economic Impact Study: Nunavut Arts and Crafts* commissioned by the Government of Nunavut – Department of Economic Development & Transportation:**

- There are roughly between 3,000 and 6,500 artists in Nunavut. An artist is defined as: “Any Nunavut resident over the age of 15 years with the ability to produce arts and crafts products for resale.” Given the wide range estimate, it is possible that more than 6,000 Nunavut residents produce arts and crafts to some extent, even if only for personal use, gifts or an extremely modest economic return. However, when examined in the full context of the territory, accounting for total sales amounts and other employment statistics, the number of artists in Nunavut that earn a moderate or even supplemental income from arts and crafts sales is likely closer to 2,500-3,500.
- There is a high level of occasional involvement in arts and crafts in Nunavut. This includes many Nunavummiut that produce arts and crafts products strictly for their own use or for use by their families, both because there is a limited market for distribution in their community and many Nunavut arts and crafts products – like clothing – serve a functional purpose. While these personal-use artists generally only contribute to the sector’s economic impact by purchasing materials and tools, their ability to produce arts and crafts products makes them members of the artist community. The high incidence of occasional and personal-use artists also speaks to the potential of the sector; these artists could potentially contribute more to the economy under the appropriate circumstances.

### **According to the 2006 census:**

- There are 250 artists in Nunavut who spent more time at their art than at any other occupation in May 2006. Artists represent 1.86% of the overall territorial labour force.
- In 2006, the median earnings of artists in Nunavut were \$10,000, just over one-third of the typical earnings of all territorial workers (\$26,800).

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<sup>4</sup> Sources

Government of Nunavut – Department of Economic Development & Transportation. “Economic Impact Study: Nunavut Arts and Crafts,” Submitted by: Nordicity Group and Uqsiq Communications, June 2010, <<http://assembly.nu.ca/library/GNedocs/2010/000056-e.pdf>>.

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>>.

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>>.

Hill Strategies Research Inc. “Artists in Small and Rural Municipalities in Canada Based on the 2006 Census,” *Statistic Insights on the Arts*, Vol. 8 No. 2, January 2010, <<http://www.hillstrategies.com/content/artists-small-and-rural-municipalities-canada>>.

- In Nunavut, the broader cultural sector labor force has about 700 workers (5% of the total labour force). That means that one in every 20 people in Nunavut has a cultural occupation.
- In terms of Canada's 10 most artistic small and rural municipalities, Cape Dorset, Nunavut, is the second-ranked municipality (9.47% of its labour force in arts occupations). According to Cape Dorset's website, carving and printmaking are major economic activities in the municipality that calls itself the "Inuit Art Capital of Canada". Two well-known Cape Dorset visual artists are Kenojuak Ashevak (a recipient of the Order of Canada whose best-known works are prints and drawings) and carver Ohito Ashoona (recipient of the 2002 National Aboriginal Achievement Award for arts and culture).

### 3.0 Highlights of Canada Council grants to Nunavut artists and arts organizations

#### Arts organizations

The Canada Council supports the work of arts organizations. In 2013-14, some of the Nunavut organizations receiving funding were:

Organization	Community	Total funding
Artcirq	IGLOOLIK	\$65,000
Inhabit Media Inc.	IQALUIT	\$62,200
Kitikmeot Heritage Society	CAMBRIDGE BAY	\$70,000
Nunavut Arts & Crafts Association	IQALUIT	\$39,400
The Jerry Cans	IQALUIT	\$6,500
Unikaatuatiit Elders Group	IGLOOLIK	\$20,000

#### Examples of Canada Council funding in Nunavut<sup>5</sup>

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 Nunavut.

In the spring of 2014, Igloolik's **Unikaatuatiit Elders Group** will host a unique mentoring experience in traditional and contemporary Inuit art with 12 youth from the community. During the two-week art camp Elders will teach youth the art of sealskin sewing from the initial stage of hunting the seal to hide preparation through to completion. Taking a holistic approach, the camp will encourage youth to participate in various traditional activities such as feasting, games, dance and music to emphasize the broader cultural context of sealskin work. Unikaatuatiit will collaborate with Inuit circus group Artcirq who will provide outreach and coordination as well as filmmaker Zacharias Kunuk who will mentor participants in the use of digital media to create a video of the camp. Unikaatuatiit received \$20,000 through the Elder and Youth Legacy Program.

*SOL*, a new documentary by circus performer, musician and director **Derek Aqqiaruq**, tells the story of 26-year-old Solomon Tapatia Uyarasuk, a musician, circus performer and actor from the remote Inuit community of Igloolik who committed suicide in the local police station. His death shocked the community and left his family and friends with many unanswered questions. Aqqiaruq is portraying Solomon's legacy and encouraging dialogue and healing, using existing video footage from the artists' career, interviews and photographs. He hopes to help break the silence around suicide, and allow people to talk and heal, while finding ways to prevent suicide in his community. To create the film, Aqqiaruq received \$23,000 through the Aboriginal Media Arts Program.

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



In 2013, the **Kitikmeot Heritage Society** (KHS) in Cambridge Bay was designated an official digital storytelling centre by the Nunavut Department of Education. That year it also received a generous donation of digital media hardware and software from the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency. It is using the donation for a new initiative, *The Future of Oral History: Learning the Inuit Language Through Digital Storytelling*. For this 2013-14 project, Elders from the community will lead traditional Inuinnaqtun storytelling sessions for youth and community members of all ages. KHS staff will teach some of the participants to record the sessions and digitally edit them to create films. "The Elders are eager to participate in this project as it will give them the opportunity to share their stories with many people from the community on a regular basis," said KHS. The Writing and Publishing Section awarded KHS \$20,000 through their Grants to Aboriginal Peoples program.

Contemporary Inuit circus group **Artcirq** will be busy creating, training and performing – with a focus on professional development and community engagement. Activities have already begun at the Black Box training and performing space (a recently transformed part of the curling rink at the Igloolik Kipsigak arena in Nunavut) and include training sessions, open workshops on circus and Inuit games for children and youth, as well as film screenings. The development of a new work based on an Inuit legend of two brothers who find themselves lost in the mysterious world of Shadow People will involve collaborations with multimedia and sound artists, and "work-in-progress" performances, before being toured in 2014-15. Artcirq will receive \$130,000 over two years through the Inter-Arts Office: Grants to Organizations program for activities in their 2013-14 and 2014-15 seasons.

Every 12 hours the world's second highest tides rise and fall. This is the subject of *Arctic Canvass*, a short experimental video by director, writer, cinematographer and arctic expeditionist **Sarah McNair-Landry**. "Growing up in Nunavut, my house overlooks the Arctic Ocean" wrote McNair-Landry. "The movement of the ice created by the tides has always fascinated me." As the tides drop, leaving sheer ice walls, artists will paint this natural canvass which will slowly recede as the tide rises – and all will be captured on film. Working with artists Danny Osborne, Patrick Thompson and Alexa Hatanaka, and photographer Erik Boomer, McNair-Landry plans to show the video at festivals and in galleries in the fall of 2014. McNair-Landry received \$37,500 through the Grants to Film and Video Artists program.

## 4.0 Detailed tables of Canada Council funding to Nunavut

### *Canada Council for the Arts funding to Nunavut*

- Since 2004-05, Canada Council funding to Nunavut has increased, from \$472,350 in 2004-05 to \$551,850 in 2013-14, an increase of 16.83%.
- Grants to Nunavut in terms of percentage of total Canada Council funding is the same in 2013-14 as it was in 2004-05: 0.39%.

**Table 1: Canada Council grants to Nunavut and Canada Council total grants, 2004-05 to 2013-14**

Fiscal year	Grant \$ to Nunavut Territory	Canada Council total grant \$	Nunavut Territory as % of total
2004-05	\$472,350	\$121,455,742	0.39%
2005-06	\$376,400	\$120,519,422	0.31%
2006-07	\$421,600	\$140,838,547	0.30%
2007-08	\$506,898	\$152,803,607	0.33%
2008-09	\$236,470	\$145,639,343	0.16%
2009-10	\$457,500	\$146,136,164	0.31%
2010-11	\$281,500	\$142,324,085	0.20%
2011-12	\$403,930	\$145,148,810	0.28%
2012-13	\$310,125	\$141,695,453	0.22%
<b>2013-14</b>	<b>\$551,850</b>	<b>\$142,072,039</b>	<b>0.39%</b>
<b>% Change</b>	<b>16.83%</b>	<b>16.97%</b>	

**Table 2: Canada Council grants to Nunavut  
by discipline, 2013-14**

Discipline	Artists	Arts organizations	Total
Aboriginal Arts Office	\$0	\$138,000	\$138,000
Audience & Market Development	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Director Arts Disciplines	\$0	\$9,400	\$9,400
Equity Office	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inter-Arts Office	\$0	\$65,000	\$65,000
Media Arts	\$129,500	\$121,250	\$250,750
Music	\$0	\$6,500	\$6,500
Prizes Section	\$0	\$0	\$0
Theatre	\$0	\$0	\$0
Visual Arts	\$0	\$0	\$0
Writing and Publishing	\$0	\$82,200	\$82,200
<b>Total grants to Nunavut</b>	<b>\$129,500</b>	<b>\$422,350</b>	<b>\$551,850</b>
<b>Total Canada Council grants</b>	<b>\$21,431,038</b>	<b>\$120,641,001</b>	<b>\$142,072,039</b>
<b>Grants to Nunavut as a % of total Canada Council grants</b>	<b>0.60%</b>	<b>0.35%</b>	<b>0.39%</b>

**Grant applications from Nunavut**

- The total number of grant applications from Nunavut artists and arts organizations has varied a lot from 2004-05 to 2013-14 (from 23 to 72). The average number of grant applications during those years is 37. In 2013-14, the total number of applications from Nunavut is below this average.
- The percentage share in 2013-14 is 0.15%, a slight decrease from the percentage share in 2012-13 (0.16%). Nunavut's share of grant applications (0.15%) is higher than its percentage share of the population (0.10%) and below its share of artists (0.18%) – see Table 4.

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

Fiscal year	Grant applications from Nunavut	Total Canada Council grant applications	Nunavut as % of total
2004-05	72	16,572	0.43%
2005-06	65	15,831	0.41%
2006-07	33	15,663	0.21%
2007-08	34	14,768	0.23%
2008-09	25	15,305	0.16%
2009-10	32	16,139	0.20%
2010-11	23	15,443	0.15%
2011-12	37	15,694	0.24%
2012-13	24	14,727	0.16%
<b>2013-14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14,901</b>	<b>0.15%</b>

<b>% Change</b>	<b>-68.06%</b>	<b>-10.08%</b>
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These numbers include applications not assessed, deemed ineligible or transferred to another program.

**Nunavut – Various comparisons with other provinces<sup>6</sup>**

- Nunavut is in first place in terms of its level of Canada Council grant funding on a per capita basis per province at \$15.50. Nunavut's share of grant funding is higher than its percentage share of population and artists.

<b>Table 4: Nunavut – various comparisons with other provinces, 2013-14</b>					
<b>Province or territory</b>	<b>per capita Canada Council grant</b>	<b>% share of grant funding</b>	<b>% share of Canada Council grant applications</b>	<b>% share of population</b>	<b>% share of artists</b>
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	0.13%	0.22%	0.12%	0.13%
<b>Nunavut</b>	<b>\$15.50</b>	<b>0.39%</b>	<b>0.15%</b>	<b>0.10%</b>	<b>0.18%</b>
Other	...	1.13%	4.07%	...	...
<b>Total</b>	<b>(Mean: \$4.00)</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

<sup>6</sup> 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,  
Nunavut, 2013-14**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Amount</b>
ARVIAT	\$20,000
CAMBRIDGE BAY	\$70,000
IGLOOLIK	\$298,250
IQALUIT	\$163,600
<b>Total - Nunavut</b>	<b>\$551,850</b>
<b>Total - Canada</b>	<b>\$142,072,039</b>
<b>Grants to Nunavut as a % of total Canada Council funding</b>	<b>0.39%</b>