

AFM Symphonic Services Division – Canadian Office

POLITICAL ACTION!!

The Federal election is a great opportunity to make our voices heard. Our industry has been underfunded for years. Recently, the Canadian Heritage department promised to increase its overall funding for various arts organizations and programs by \$342-million in incremental stages over three years. The lion's share of this funding will go toward the Canada Council, which has been promised a total three-year increase in funding from Parliament of \$306.5-million. This increase was achieved with all-party support. In the event a Liberal government is formed, this funding will move forward. If another party forms the government, the program will be set back a few steps, at least.

Please take the time to contact all of the candidates in your riding. Ask for their support of this vital funding increase. Remind them that their party supported the increase. In-person meetings make the strongest impression, but at least take the time to call and/or write. Spread the word to family, friends and students. It does not take much time or effort, but can make a big difference.

NEIGHBOURING RIGHTS – MONEY IN YOUR POCKETS

The AFM Canadian Office is gathering data about orchestral recordings. We need someone from each orchestra to try to track down and copy contracts from any recordings made. This data is compared to CBC and other playlists and payments made to musicians on recordings aired. Musicians involved will be asked to fill out a form authorizing the AFM to collect and distribute the money on their behalf. It is important that we have accurate information about the musicians performing on each recording, in order for payments to be processed.

For more information view Musicians' Neighbouring Rights on the web at www.mnrr.ca. You can download the authorization forms to sign and mail in. Once you are registered you can update the list of recordings that you have performed on, online anytime.

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