

2011-2012 BUDGET PRESS RELEASE No. 10

2011-2012 BUDGET

A Plan to Celebrate Québec Culture

Québec, March 17, 2011 – “Our culture has made a name for itself in the past 50 years. It is being brought to a world audience,” Minister of Finance Raymond Bachand said in tabling the 2011-2012 Budget.

The government is proud of that achievement and is going to continue to support Québec artists on the world stage. To that end, it will set up the Capital Culture Québec fund, through SODEC and in partnership with the Fonds de solidarité FTQ. It will be a venture capital fund of \$100 million for international cultural projects. The fund will invest in the projects of Québec cultural businesses seeking to develop international markets. The investments will be made with an eye to profitability. SODEC will be the government’s mandatary.

In addition, the government is granting \$3 million more over three years for the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec in order to support arts and letters diffusion outside Québec.

“Culture is an area in which digital technology is becoming a must. The cultural sector must embrace this change. To that end, we will allocate \$2.4 million over three years to support the digitization of independent movie theatres with 10 screens or less, in small localities,” the Minister said. The government is also allocating a total of \$6.6 million over three years to support the digital shift in the music and variety sectors, as well as arts and letters and book publishing, and to support the Institut national de l’image et du son.

“To support the cultural industry and its creators, the Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women has mandated SODEC and the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec to develop proposals concerning the impact of digital technologies on arts and letters. The final report is expected in 2011.”

To support museums, the government will pay an additional contribution of \$6.4 million to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in order to complete construction on a new pavilion to house Canadian art, to be called the Claire and Marc Bourgie Pavilion, in recognition of their family's very generous contribution to its funding.

- 30 -

Source: Catherine Poulin
Communications Director
Office of the Minister of Finance, Minister of Revenue
and Minister responsible for the Montréal region
418 643-5270
514 873-5363