



# British Columbia Museums Association

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BCMA Secretariat Office, 204-26 Bastion Square, Victoria, BC V8W 1H9  
General Office: 250-356-5700 Fax: 250-387-1251  
Website: [www.museumsassn.bc.ca](http://www.museumsassn.bc.ca) Email: [bcma@museumsassn.bc.ca](mailto:bcma@museumsassn.bc.ca)

Members & Subscribers;

The outcry regarding the "freeze" of Direct Access funding is rapidly growing louder, and may soon be amplified by the pending reported Provincial cuts to operating funding. This "double jeopardy" will be devastating to the province's museums' & art galleries' operations and public programs.

The BCMA has been very active in consulting with our peer cultural & heritage organizations also affected, and to try and obtain "official" disclosure of funding policies.

We now need you to join with other arts & culture, sports and non-profit sectors in a BC-wide letter-writing campaign to protest these cuts and to clearly state the serious repercussions sure to follow should the Ministry continue with a freeze on Direct Access funding.

And although the number of letters to the Minister, the tone of the protest, and their place of origin will be duly noted, this campaign is a prime opportunity to clearly identify the institutions and far-reaching, diverse programs under threat; and the amount & degree of funding at stake, because it is doubtful the repercussions of such measures are fully understood.

This is a graphic way to illustrate the impact of such tactics.

Our sector needs you to make this campaign your next priority:

**1. Write to the Minister responsible:**

The Honourable Rich Coleman, Minister,  
Ministry of Housing and Social Development  
PO Box 9058 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2 Email: [EIA.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:EIA.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**Please CC all of the following:**

The Honourable Gordon Campbell, Premier  
Room 156  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Email: [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)

The Honourable Kevin Krueger, Minister,  
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts  
PO Box 9071 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E9 Email: [TSA.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:TSA.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**Survivor Osoyoos - *ReThink, ReTool, ReWork*  
BCMA's 2009 Provincial Workshop**

Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre, Sonora Centre & Osoyoos Museum  
Osoyoos, BC - October 15-17, 2009

Spencer Herbert, Official Opposition Arts & Culture Critic  
MLA, Vancouver-West End  
923 Denman Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6G 2L9 Email: [Spencer.Herbert.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Spencer.Herbert.MLA@leg.bc.ca)

[YOUR MLA](#) (See Legislative Assembly webpage for contact info:  
[MLA Finder - Legislative Assembly](#))

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- 2. State your opposition to the freeze on Direct Access funding;**
- 3. List (point form) your operating and/or programs (by title) funded by Direct Access & the amount of funding each program receives;**
- 4. How will an indefinite freeze (or elimination) of Direct Access funding hurt your institution, staffing, volunteers, public exhibits & programs,** (Do your Direct Access-funded programs also generate earned revenue? Are you a multi-year Direct Access client?)
- 5. IF your institution is also a client of annual operating funding assistance from the BC Arts Council, and given the reported, pending Provincial cuts to operating funding as well, how will this freeze on Direct Access funding compound your institution's challenges to operate & service the public over the coming year?**
- 6. Insist on confirmation of the Minister's intent to "unfreeze" or reinstate Direct Access funding & to make an official public commitment as to when these funds will be forthcoming;**
- 7. Post to the BCMA-L listserv a brief confirmation** when you have mailed or emailed the Minister.

By articulating how such measures will hurt the sector, this campaign will be supported by the specific, established operations & programs affected and the degree of funding involved.

Please proceed quickly. The BCMA will post its own letter to the website for members and is pursuing a meeting with the Minister, at the earliest possible date.

Thank you for your continued participation and support.

Please keep posting any updates you receive from the BC Gaming Branch regarding your Direct Access applications.

Thank you,  
Jim



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