

CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR CULTURAL WORKERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 25, 2007: Cultural Careers Council Ontario (CCCO) is pleased to announce *Career Development for Cultural Workers*, a new multi-faceted project to measure professional development in the cultural sector and develop specific PD resources for cultural workers. This new project is supported by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' Sector Initiatives Fund and Local Labour Market Partnerships Programs.

CCCO is the primary source for human resources information, services, career development programs and publications for the cultural sector in Ontario. Its job board and website – www.workinculture.ca – are among the most popular cultural tools on the web today. CCCO's *Career Development for Cultural Workers* will build on research and projects previously developed through CCCO activities and those of other organizations in the cultural sector.

Career Development for Cultural Workers addresses issues in community resources, improved access to professional development, and better research around professional development. The results should contribute to a more resilient cultural worker and to cultural leaders better able to engage with the workforce challenges of the future.

The project begins with a comprehensive survey and research study, commissioned from the noted market research firm Ipsos-Reid, to determine the financial investment being made in professional development and the benefits of that investment, in comparison with national and international standards in workplace training. This study, the first of its kind in Ontario, will provide a foundation to understanding professional development resources across the entire cultural sector.

In other elements of the project, CCCO is developing a business planning course for cultural workers in order to sustain their careers as well as supporting the exploration of skills needed for the future by art service organization leaders and expanding its online HR learning resources for cultural workers.

CCCO is grateful for the support of numerous arts organizations as partners. They bring insights of their membership to the development of this project. CCCO also wants to acknowledge the generous support of the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Robert Johnston, Executive Director

Susan Cohen, Program Manager

Karen Ennis, Administrator

T: 416.340.0086

email: info@workinculture.ca