# **National Cultural Policy Submission**

### **Claire Wastell**

Submitted: As a worker/professional in an industry who uses arts (e.g. art therapist, tour guide)

What challenges and opportunities do you see in the pillar or pillars most relevant to you? Feel free to respond to any or all pillars:

#### **First Nations**

Working in an for profit arts organisation we love collaborating with First Nations artists on public and private projects. Here are the key issues I see in these collaborations:

We want to have a First Nations consultant/ cultural advisor on all our projects (inclusive of public art and private commissions by enterprises) however these projects often already have a small budget and we often only just break even when paying artists, installers, fabricators and the costs to keep the business in operation. Increasing our fees means these projects don't happen as the client is not willing to pay more. We see this as a big challenge and something it would be great to address (perhaps more funding for cultural advisors, should cultural advisors be mandatory for particular arts projects?)

First Nations artists are sometimes hard to find. How do we help urban First Nations artists grow and market themselves while also ensure cultural integrity and fair payment terms? Could there be a national database to support artists?

## **A Place for Every Story**

So important to have a diverse range of stories told. How can we make our cities more like cultural hubs

# The Centrality of the Artist

Private developers/ clients are increasingly becoming interested in art but often reserve small budgets that means artists work often for a minimal price or it means that the artwork isn't place specific and is more generic as there is no more to develop concepts relevant to the space. How do we make artists practice more appreciated and heard? How do we ensure their integrity and recognition, as well as extended engagement on the project – such as an artist panel/ launch?

### **Strong Institutions**

Increasingly become more places of education with discussion, panels as well as exciting live events/bars. Can we make this more affordable or develop groups for discussions to take place within there institutions that are free to partake?

# **Reaching the Audience**

Reaching audiences online means a good marketing presence. How do we support our artists/ art businesses to market themselves? Often art events require a quick turnaround (late/long hours and short timelines) meaning that it's a last minute thing to come together – is there a chance to change the culture around this?

Please tell us how each of the 5 pillars are important to you and your practice and why. Feel free to respond to any or all that are applicable to you:

First Nations Important

A Place for Every Story Important

The Centrality of the Artist Important

**Strong Institutions** Semi Important

Reaching the Audience Important

Are there any other things that you would like to see in a National Cultural Policy?

More place specific art!