

Business and the Arts Committee

Mandate

Vibrant arts and culture are universally recognized as a defining trait of the world's truly "great cities". As a key to Calgary's future as a renaissance capital of the 21st century, the city needs to build those elements of community and quality of life that support the attraction and retention of the best and most talented employees. The keys to continued prosperity, and how the arts contribute, are just part of this committee's groundbreaking approach.

2008 – 2009 Committee Focus Areas

- Minister's Round Table on the Arts
- Making business aware of investment options in the arts
- Building business capacity in arts organizations

Summary of Previous Year's Work

The Business and the Arts Committee saw the greatest growth in membership of all the Chamber's Committees during 2008-2009 season. Building upon the Committee's new level of knowledge and expertise, Committee members took up a number of initiatives to better connect business and the arts. Such initiatives included several articles in *Business in Calgary* magazine, a letter of challenge to other Alberta Chambers of Commerce to nominate leaders in the arts for the Rozsa Foundations Awards, and work has begun to create a blog about the lessons businesses can learn from arts organizations.

This year the Committee had the privilege of meeting with the Honourable James Moore, Canada's Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, for a spirited discussion of new media, changing media, and the effect thereof on Canada's culture industry.

Committee Meeting Guest Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topic
November 2008	Terry Rock, Calgary Arts Development Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CADA's Annual Report
December 2008	Mary Rozsa de Coquet, Rozsa Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Rozsa Foundation
February 2009	Cathy Glover, Suncor Energy Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corporate Funding in Current Economic Times
March 2009	The Hon. James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Canadian Heritage
April 2009	Jeffery Anderson, Cultural Policy Initiative Tom McCabe, Theatre Calgary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alberta's Cultural Policy Initiative
May 2009	MaryAnne Moser, Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beakerhead