

That it hears from witnesses providing that a minimum of 3 members be present with at least one member of the Opposition.

That it print such evidence as may be ordered by it.

That it present its report to the Standing Committee at the earliest date possible.

That the report consists of preambles and recommendations.⁽³⁾

Under Standing Order 108(1), Standing Committees are empowered to delegate to sub-committees all or any of their powers except the power to report directly to the House. The Standing Committee on Communications and Culture has twice in the recent past delegated its powers to sub-committees for similar purposes: in 1985 for the study of copyright, and in 1989 for the study of the status of the artist. The mandate given to the Sub-Committee on the National Arts Centre is derived from Standing Order 108(2) which lists the general powers of standing committees: committees are "empowered to study and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management and operation of the department or departments of government which are assigned to them from time to time by the House".⁽⁴⁾

The Sub-Committee first met on 6 June 1990 to organize its activities and, through a news release issued on 7 June 1990, announced that hearings would take place. These were held on 12, 13, 14 and 27 June 1990. The Sub-Committee chose to hear from associations, groups and individuals representing a cross-section of the performing arts, including dance, music and theatre professional associations and unions as well as artists managers and presenters. (See Appendix A for the list of witnesses.)

The purpose of the hearings was to seek confirmation or clarification of the information or opinions already held or to probe for further information. That some of our hearings were held *in camera* is not unusual; this procedure is useful and sometimes necessary to protect the witnesses when sensitive issues are discussed. For example, this Committee has used *in camera* hearings when it studied the financial accountability of the CBC and when it reviewed the report of the National Museums Task Force and found them very helpful.

The Committee wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the many witnesses who appeared before it on very short notice as well as the dozens of individuals, organizations and groups who wrote to the Committee or to the Sub-Committee. The views of all of them have been carefully considered and taken into account in our deliberations. The Committee is also grateful to the staff of the Sub-Committee Members and personnel of the Committee for their generous contributions.