

The Committee has not addressed all of the issues which have been raised in the testimony, in the 1986 report of the Hendry Task Force on the National Arts Centre, in the NAC document *The Third Decade and Beyond* or in the report of the Nielsen Task Force on Program Review. For example, the Committee has not considered the recommendations made by the Hendry Task Force regarding the development of a comprehensive physical touring strategy, the Canadian content of the Centre's programming, the annual summer Festival, the mandate of ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, funding to enable the Centre to bridge the gap between the government fiscal year and the Centre's programming year, and the ownership of the land, building and furnishings. The Committee reserves the option to pursue its study in greater detail at a later time.

The Committee believes that a national institution devoted to the development of the performing arts in the region of the national capital is a unique reflection of our country to visitors from Canada or elsewhere. In this way, it complements the other national cultural institutions located in the capital region.

The drafters of the 1966 legislation regarding the National Arts Centre were aware that a national cultural institution in the capital region should serve the cultural needs of Canadians everywhere and, thus gave the Centre a complementary national mandate. The Centre has striven over the years to fulfill its national mandate, in part by touring its orchestra and its now defunct opera companies, by commissioning or co-producing works, by broadcasting or recording its productions, and, by showcasing Canadian artists and companies from every region of the country.

The Committee notes that since the appointment of a new Board and a new Director General in 1988, the Centre has indicated its willingness to make it more national in scope and relevance, as conveyed in the policy document made public in 1989 and entitled *The Third Decade and Beyond: The Cultural Mandate of the National Arts Centre of Canada*. In his presentation to the Sub-Committee on 13 June 1990, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Robert Landry, spoke of the new vision contained in this policy document and added that it requires the Centre to focus its energies on a number of important priorities, one of which is "ensuring all parts of the country have more direct access to NAC performances through co-productions, touring and electronic distribution."

The Centre is the national showcase for the performing arts and should represent the pinnacle of excellence in the performing arts in Canada. A national mandate can be fulfilled in a variety of ways, one of which is its recognition by the Centre of Canadian artists who have achieved national or regional success. These artists could be invited as NAC guests at galas, special performances or receptions. It would be a way of recognizing the many contributions of Canadian artists in the development of the performing arts in Canada. It could also act as an inspiration to struggling young performers and, in some way, perhaps,