Cultural Policy – Then and Now
Saskatchewan and Manitoba

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Origins

**Saskatchewan**
- Heavily influenced by province’s unique “GDP” – geography, demography and politics
- Cultural policy rooted in recreation, leisure and adult education movements of the 1940s-1960s
- First explicitly “cultural” ministry established in 1972

**Manitoba**
- Continued tension between the needs of Winnipeg and the hinterlands
- Cultural policy rooted in recreation, leisure and adult education movements of the 1940s-1960s
- Pioneered in the establishment of cultural partnerships with the federal government (e.g. 1981 Tripartite Agreement for the Winnipeg Core Area)
- First explicitly “cultural” ministry established in 1970
Key objectives

Saskatchewan

- 1950s-1970s – “Hands-on” community development, equal opportunities for engagement, heritage conservation (geography)
- 1980s-1990s – Professional arts and cultural industries development, economic development, multiculturalism (politics)
- 1990s to present – Aboriginal initiatives, professional/cultural industries development, community/infrastructure development, tourism and economic development (demography/politics)

Manitoba

- 1950s-1970s – Regional and community development, maximization of cultural opportunities, heritage and library development, multiculturalism (periphery)
- 1980s – Professional development, federal-provincial partnerships for cultural industries and library development, Winnipeg core area development (centre)
- 1990s – Multiculturalism, regional development, cultural infrastructure development (periphery)
- 2000s – “Business of culture”, cultural industries development, heritage tourism
Cultural administration

**Saskatchewan**
- **1948** – Saskatchewan Arts Board
- **1972-1983** – Department of Culture and Youth
- **1983-1987** – Department of Culture and Recreation
- **1987-1989** – Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture
- **1989-1990** – Department of Culture, Multiculturalism and Recreation
- **1991-1992** – Saskatchewan Family Foundation
- **1992-93** – Department of Community Services
- **1993-1998** – Department of Municipal Government
- **1998-2001** – Department of Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing
- **2001-2007** – Department of Culture, Youth and Recreation
- **2007-present** – Department of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport

**Manitoba**
- **1965** – Manitoba Arts Council
- **1970** – Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs
- **1978** – Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs
- **1979** – Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources
- **1983** – Department of Culture, Heritage and Recreation
- **1990** – Department of Culture, Heritage and Citizenship
- **1999** – Department of Culture, Heritage and Tourism
Challenges

**Neoliberalism**
- Pressures to move from “have not” to “have” provinces, retain population, use culture as an engine of growth

**Diversity**
- Pressures to attract immigrants
- Pressures to address cultural needs and priorities of growing Aboriginal populations

**Sustainability**
- Traditions of community-based cultural activity versus needs of professionals arts and heritage practitioners
- Competition for limited funding
- Pressures regarding shared stewardship of cultural resources, particularly with Aboriginal communities
Policy initiatives (1)

Saskatchewan

- **1950** – Fitness and Recreation Division granting program for classes in art, drama and adult learning
- **1965** – Provincial Youth Agency granting program for physical, cultural and social activities
- **1974** – *Multicultural Act*
- **1972** – SaskSport (designated agency to administer lottery funding for sport, recreation and culture)
- **1980** – Saskatchewan Council of Cultural Organizations (designated agency to administer lottery funding for culture)
- **1979** – Heritage review
- **1979** – Cultural policy review (Saskatchewan Cultural Policy Secretariat)
- **1989-90** – Museums and heritage policy review

Manitoba

- **1966-67** – Department of Tourism and Recreation launches creative arts program
- **1971** – Minister’s Advisory Committee on Multiculturalism
- **1973** – Transfer of Hudson’s Bay Company Archives to province
- **1974-75** – Cultural policy framework on support for flagship cultural organizations and distribution of lottery funding
- **1978** – Removal of recreational delivery system from cultural department
- **1979** – Cultural policy review committee report
- **1981** – Canada-Manitoba-Winnipeg Tripartite Agreement for the Winnipeg Core Area
- **1982** – New multicultural policy and *Intercultural Act*
- **1983** – Recreation reinstated in departmental mandate
- **1984** – ERDA on Communications and Cultural Enterprises
- **1985** – new programs for publishing, film
- **1985** – *Heritage Resources Act*
Policy initiatives (2)

- 1990-93 – Arts Strategy Task Force
- 1990-93 – Multiculturalism review
- 1993-94 – Book publishing review
- 1994 – Status of the Artist consultations
- 1995 – *Responding to the Community: Proposals for Cultural Development*
- 1996 – Provincial public library system legislation
- 1996-98 – New legislation for Arts Board, lottery regulations, film employment, multiculturalism
- 1997 – SaskCulture formed to advocate for culture and administer lottery funding
- 2002 – *Status of the Artist Act*
- 2005 – Film and video industry review
- 2006 – Music industry review
- 2008 – Cultural policy framework consultations
- 2009 – New status of the artist legislation
- 2009 – Creative Industry Growth and Sustainability Program
- 2010 – *Pride of Saskatchewan* policy statement

- 1985 – Supreme Court decision on French as official language in Manitoba legislature and courts
- 1990 – New Multicultural policy
- 1990 – Arts Policy Review Committee report
- 1993-96 – Automation of public library system
- 1996 – Multiculturalism transferred to department of Labour and Tourism transferred to Cultural ministry
- 1998 – Film and video production tax credit and establishment of Manitoba Film and Sound Recording Development Corporation
- 2000-2001 – Manitoba Arts Stabilization Program
- 2003 – *Creative Manitoba* – cultural labour force development strategy
- 2003-2004 – Arts and Cultural Activities Advisory Committees for First Nations and Métis peoples