Evolution of Cultural Policy
Assumptions

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Cultural Policy: Fractured Discourses

- Cultural policy must now operate at three levels:
  - micro-public sphere (civil society)
  - meso-public sphere (the nation state)
  - macro-public sphere (global environment)
Why now?

- Forces of globalization
- Forces of fragmentation
Forces of Globalization

- **Regions** - geographically-bound clusters - characterized by formal trade relations and citizen-based identities
- **Networks** - sets of interconnected nodes - characterized by predictable linear delivery of products and consumer-based identities
- **Fluids** - de-territorialized movement of people, information, money, images - undirected, non-linear, non-hierarchical in character -- characterized by global identities
Three-speed globalization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Force</th>
<th>Speed / Mode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regions</td>
<td>Slow / Democratic and Bureaucratic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networks</td>
<td>Medium / Market-based</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fluids</td>
<td>Fast / Technology-based</td>
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Forces of Fragmentation

- **Social exclusion** - symptoms include poverty, long-term unemployment, crime, lack of opportunity, lack of recognition

- **Diversity** - problematic only when it intersects with symptoms above
Forces of fragmentation

- Cultural policy also fragmented by need to align itself with:
  - innovation and creativity policies
  - trade policy
  - social policy
  - citizenship policy
  - urban planning policy
  - economic development policy
Main Messages

- **Quality of life** - well-being at the local level is linked to the social and cultural life of the community, as well as to its economic life.

- **Community level** - where connections, social cohesion and participation are forged.

- **National and provincial levels** - where most cultural resources are invested.
Common Threads

- **Connections / cohesion** becoming more linked to issues of diversity

- Increasing role of **local cultural policies** in promoting **connectedness and well-being** among diverse groups of citizens
Possible alternative cultural policy frames

- Cultural policy as:
  - “flow” or “process” rather than as object
  - knowledge-sharing and connections among diverse peoples, sectors and cultural forms
  - cultural capital as investment in community sustainability