

# NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

## ANNUAL REPORT ON RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 41 OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT 2010–2011

### General information

Federal institution: Web site:	National Arts Centre <a href="http://www.nac-cna.ca">www.nac-cna.ca</a>
Minister responsible:	The Honourable James Moore Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages
Senior official(s) responsible for implementation of section 41 of OLA (e.g., Assistant Deputy Minister or Official Languages Champion):	Anne Tanguay Manager, Translation Services and Official Languages Champion
<b>General</b> mandate of federal institution (4 to 5 lines – This summary of the mandate will be published in the Annual Report on Official Languages tabled in Parliament):	The National Arts Centre promotes high artistic standards, includes arts education as a core priority, works in partnership with emerging and established artists, arts organizations and educators from all across the country, and is committed to the creation and nurturing of new Canadian works.
National coordinator responsible for implementation of section 41:  Exact title:  Telephone no.:  E-mail:	Anne Tanguay  Manager, Translation Services and Official Languages Champion  613-947-7000, x546  <a href="mailto:atanguay@nac-cna.ca">atanguay@nac-cna.ca</a>
Regional coordinators (if any):	N/A

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## Summary of the main progress made by the National Arts Centre in 2010–2011

**500 artists. 80 events. 13 days.** Prairie Scene was the fifth edition of a biennial multidisciplinary festival produced by the National Arts Centre (NAC) showcasing artists from different regions of Canada. After Atlantic Scene (2003), Alberta Scene (2005), Quebec Scene (2007) and British Columbia Scene (2009), Prairie Scene (April 26–May 8, 2011) shone the spotlight on artists from Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and the National Capital Region welcomed an impressive contingent of emerging francophone artists from both provinces. The NAC presented *Hommage à Roland Mahé*, a tribute to the long-serving artistic director of the Cercle Molière in Saint Boniface and a pillar of Manitoba's francophone cultural community. Through a partnership with CBC/Radio-Canada, the NAC was able to provide maximum visibility for the artists participating in the festival, and showcase promising talents from official language minority communities (OLMCs)—in the National Capital Region, in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and across the country. It should also be mentioned that the festival attracted no fewer than 75 Canadian and international presenters who, upon returning home, will contribute to the exposure and visibility of artists they discovered during Prairie Scene by booking them into their various venues, as has been the outcome from previous Scenes. For the first time in the festival's history, the NAC developed a separate advertising piece to promote francophone artists performing at the festival and visual art exhibitions presented on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River.

In theatre, the 2010–11 NAC French Theatre season presented *Wolfe*, by talented young New Brunswick playwright Emma Haché, who was selected in 2008 to participate in French Theatre's Associated Authors creative residency. The three-year program proved particularly fruitful for Ms. Haché: it allowed her to hone her skills as a playwright under the mentorship of French Theatre artistic director Wajdi Mouawad; to see one of her plays produced by Moncton's Théâtre l'Escaouette with support from the NAC; and to present the finished product on the national stage at the NAC. Ms. Haché was also involved in another production presented in the 2010–11 season: she wrote a new, family-oriented adaptation of Shakespeare's *La Tempête* (*The Tempest*).

In 2010–11 the NAC also placed greater emphasis on consultation and coordination. The NAC's intention to participate in the June 2011 Forum on Artistic Practices hosted by the Fédération culturelle canadienne-française (FCCF), on the theme *Être artiste dans la francophonie canadienne* (*What it means to be a francophone artist in Canada*), underlines the Centre's strong commitment to playing an active role, as a signatory to the *Agreement for the Development of Francophone Arts and Culture in Canada*, in promoting the contribution of Canada's francophone and Acadian minority communities to the richness of Canada's arts and culture. During the Forum, the NAC will finance and present a show in the Fourth Stage featuring several promising francophone artists.

The Centre also conducted extensive consultations in anticipation of the 2011 edition of the biennial Zones théâtrales (ZT) event, whose mandate is “to provide a showcase and meeting point for professional theatre from francophone communities across Canada and the Quebec regions, those who create it, and those who attend it.” These consultations greatly influenced ZT artistic director René Cormier's programming choices, which will be unveiled in June 2011.

Finally, with regard to the integration of new technologies, compelling statistics indicate an extremely high level of interest from OLMCs in the NAC's podcasts in both English and French.