

## CSARN Newsletter - October 2015

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### From the Executive Director

As I write this, Canada is watching the new government in Ottawa unfold.

The October 19th federal election campaign was the longest in more than 100 years, and one of the most vitriolic. For political watchers, it had all of the elements of high drama: the come-from-behind underdog victory; the end of a regime that has dominated federal politics for a decade; the surprising upstart from 2011 that couldn't continue the momentum and take it all the way. All that helped to reverse the disturbing trend of declining voter turnout, as 68.5% of eligible voters cast a ballot, the highest in more than 20 years.

We will get the first real sense of the kind of government Justin Trudeau will lead when he unveils his cabinet on November 4th. We at CSARN, along with other Arts Service Organizations, will be watching with particular interest who takes over at Canadian Heritage. The Liberals have made ambitious promises on arts and culture. This is from their official platform:

*Canada's cultural and creative industries are a vibrant part of our national identity and our economy, providing employment to more than one million Canadians.*

*Unfortunately, these industries have been under attack during the Harper decade, hit by funding cuts that have made it harder for Canadian artists to share Canadian stories, here in Canada and around the world.*

*We will invest in our cultural and creative industries to help support and grow these nation-building efforts.*

*Targeted investments will include:*

- *doubling investment in the Canada Council for the Arts to \$360 million each year;*
- *increasing funding for Telefilm Canada and the National Film Board, with a new investment totalling \$25 million each year; and*
- *restoring the Promart and Trade Routes international cultural promotion programs cut by Stephen Harper, and increasing funding in these programs to \$25 million each year.*

*We will also make significant new investments in cultural infrastructure as part of our investment in social infrastructure.*

Exciting promises. We hope the realities of governing will allow the Liberals to carry them out.

In the meantime, CSARN thanks the candidates across the country - winners and losers - for putting their lives, and reputations, on the line; the volunteers who gave of their time for something they believe in; and the 17,500,000 Canadians who weighed the options and participated in this fundamental cornerstone of our democracy.

Sincerely,



Scott Walker  
 Executive Director  
 CSARN

### Fall Seminar Series

CSARN launched its 2015 fall seminar series on October 5th at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre in Toronto, Social Media



expert Boyd Neil led participants through the ins and outs of Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, with an emphasis on how senior artists can make these platforms work for them.

We are now going to offer the same seminar for senior artists around the country as a webinar. It will be held online on Thursday, November 12th at 1:00 PM Eastern time.

The seminar is offered through the Adobe Connect platform, and can be accessed by any web browser: Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari, etc.

There is no charge, but you must register. Space is limited, so please act quickly.

You can find out more on our [website](#). Or, to register, send us an [email](#). You will receive a confirmation with the link to the webinar site.

Our next seminar: preserving your intellectual property and artistic legacy. Stay tuned.

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## Seniors' Care - A Case History

This is the true story of an artist we will call Dave.

Dave suffered a stroke that left him partially paralyzed. It was frustrating for him; he wanted to maintain his independence, and his dignity. But the stroke made even simple things such as bathing difficult.

Dave and his wife decided a walk-in bathtub would help him regain some of his self-sufficiency. So they called one of the companies that advertises on television. They were sad to learn that the price was well beyond their budget.

Knowing that something that would improve his life was out of reach just added to Dave's stress. Then he remembered that he had signed up for something called the Seniors' Care Advisory Program. It claimed to help with medical issues. So Dave decided to try it out. He called the 800-number provided to him and spoke to a nurse. She understood his problem, found out where he lived, and said she'd get back to him. The next day, the nurse called to say there was a local contractor who could give Dave a walk-in bathtub at a price much lower than the national company. The nurse said the local company was reputable; she'd dealt with it in the past.

The price was within Dave's budget. He has his bathtub. And, perhaps more importantly, he has his dignity.

This is a true success story from the Seniors' Care Advisory Program. It's one of many. People can receive advice on a number of different issues.

And the best part: it's absolutely free through CSARN. All you have to do to join is click [here](#).

SCAP is like insurance: you never know when you'll need it.

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## Report From a CSARN Mentee

*"Like a stone dropped into water, the ripples continue to move outwards - one wave which lands on the shore is followed by another, and another."*



That's how flutist Kelly Williamson described her work with CSARN mentor Suzanne Shulman. The two worked together on a CD project, and Kelly says Suzanne's "professionalism, her work ethic, her kindness, her demanding standards – these are truly an example to be followed."

Kelly also brought Suzanne in as principal artist on another recording project, A Young Flutist's Anthology. Kelly says it introduced Suzanne to some new music that she has since integrated into her concert repertoire.

Oscar Hammerstein once wrote, "If you become a teacher, by your students you'll be taught." Suzanne and Kelly's collaboration is living proof of Hammerstein's lyric, and only one of many CSARN mentorships in which both mentor and mentee have learned from each other.

CSARN's Mentorship program has put together some 35 mentorships to date. Another round will be launched in January. Click [here](#) find out more, or to apply to become a mentor or mentee.

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## New Award for Arts Leadership

Business for the Arts has announced that the first winner of the Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award will be ..... Peter Herrndorf.



The organization of business people who support the arts announced earlier this month that it was establishing an annual award for leaders in the arts, and that it would be named after its first recipient.

Peter Herrndorf is currently the President and CEO of the National Arts Centre. His storied career has included management positions at CBC television, where he was instrumental in

developing such programs as the fifth estate and The Journal. He was publisher of Toronto Life Magazine and CEO of TV Ontario.

The Peter Herrndorf Arts Leadership Award is the latest in a long list of tributes that includes being named an officer of the Order of Canada.

CSARN congratulates Mr. Herrndorf; and Business for the Arts for its stellar choice.

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## Veteran Artists Launch Theatre Company

Five Toronto-based artists are unveiling a company that will present works by, and work for, senior artists.



*Well Seasoned Productions* was founded by Bob Ashley [seated], and - from left to right - Lesley Ballantyne, Anne Wooten, Susan Gattoni, and Mark Cassius. Their mandate is to "create works that are focused on the joys, challenges and celebration of life 50 and better." They say they "joined forces to make senior artists more visible, and our company will help them continue creating Canadian musical theatre."

They plan to launch their company with a party at Toronto's Paint Box Bistro on November 30th. That will be followed by a series of cabarets called the Act II Revue in 2016. Their ultimate aim is to create an original musical. To that end, they have set up an

[indiegogo](#) campaign to raise seed money.

Tickets for the launch party are available [here](#).

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## Supporting CSARN

CSARN would not exist without the support of our donors; government, private, and corporate. You can help us help Canada's senior artists by becoming a donor. Please click [here](#) to find out more.

CSARN gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the Government of Ontario and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

