

The logo for the Creative City Network is centered at the top. It features a grey circle containing the text 'RÉSEAU DES villes créatives' in blue and 'city NETWORK' in red and black. The word 'creative' is written in a large, bold, red font across the middle of the circle.

# RÉSEAU DES villes créatives city NETWORK

# Network

## Network

The Creative City Network of Canada/Réseau des villes créative du Canada is based on the principle of strengthening cultural planning staff at the local level to enhance cultural development in municipalities across Canada.

The network will manage tools that will effectively support the work of this community of practice and facilitate its ability to operate fully as a supportive and effective community of professional colleagues. These tools are:

- 1 The creation of a *digital hub* networking tool where on-line sharing and information dissemination occur seamlessly; and
- 2 A face-to-face *conference* that brings together the active municipal cultural players that make up this community of practice.

## CCN/RVC Goals

- 1 To develop the capacity of municipal cultural development staff across Canada through providing opportunities for sharing best practices and experiences, developing new partnerships, and through nurturing a collaborative and supportive "community of practice" (CoP).
- 2 To improve the way in which cultural development work is done, through encouraging collective information sharing and regular communications with one's professional colleagues.
- 3 To encourage enhanced interaction in other communities of practice in the Canadian cultural sector, thus spreading the benefits of this manner of working to our partners in cultural development and building capacity more widely in the cultural sector.

## CCN/RVC Strategies

- 1 Developing venues where professional, cultural development-related questions can be posed and knowledge resources can be shared.
- 2 Bringing professional colleagues together to share, assist, and support one another, and to work together collectively and collaboratively.
- 3 Encouraging the development of shared information resources and improving the use of information as an important strategic and operational resource in the cultural sector.

## Network Operations

The CCN/RVC will exist virtually via its digital hub, operating nationally. The main office for the organization will be based in Vancouver. Staff will include a full-time position in Vancouver (in addition to a half-time in-kind staff contribution by the City of Vancouver) and a half-time position in Quebec.

In addition, significant operational resources are being allocated to translation requirements (e.g., for support, training, and reference materials, translation of key cultural development documents developed by municipalities, and other assistance regarding facilitating online interaction amongst francophone and anglophone colleagues).

## Extension to other communities of practice in the cultural sector

We wish to share the lessons learned and experience gained in developing the CCN/RVC and nurturing the municipal cultural development staff CoP with our partners in cultural development. We intend to develop mentorship relationships with our community partners in cultural development and work outward.

## Linking to other networks and organizations in the cultural sector

The collaborative nature of cultural development (and the desire to not duplicate efforts) means that the Creative City Network will also be reaching out to other networks and organizations, and exploring the complementarities in our activities and operations. A cooperative relationship with the Canadian Cultural Observatory has already been established.