



Canadian Council of Archives  
Conseil canadien des archives

May 6, 2020

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault P.C. M.P.  
Minister of Canadian Heritage  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Guilbeault:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA) to request distribution of supplemental funds to the *Young Canada Works (YCW) in Heritage Institutions* and *Building Careers in Heritage* funding streams, as well to request access for archives to the \$500M funding announced by Prime Minister Trudeau on April 17<sup>th</sup>, to assist Arts, Culture and Sports.

CCA assists over 800 Canadian archives and affiliated heritage organizations to advance the preservation, organization, and accessibility of our country's rich archival heritage, including records and data that are irreplaceable information for research and economic development and the health of Canadians. CCA also administers the YCW program for the Canadian archival community and the library community (for libraries operating in English).

As we all know, the COVID19 pandemic has significantly affected the lives of all Canadians and will have both short term and long term economic impact upon the heritage sector, including small and medium organizations, like archives and libraries, that are fundamental to the success of so many other sectors and industries across Canada.

Further, we know many young Canadians will find their post-secondary studies disrupted and opportunities for on-the-job learning and internships reduced if no additional resources are available. For example, CCA has received and adjudicated 403 applications for summer and short term job experiences, but only has regular funds to support 25% of these positions. Archives and libraries have found innovative solutions to physical distancing requirements and are ready to hire into these positions now, should the supplemental funding envelope be shared with them.

In light of the unprecedented financial supports the Government of Canada has enacted to support Canadians, we are imploring you to consider authorizing YCW supplemental funds and additional financial resources for capacity building/sustaining projects for the archives and library communities.

On behalf of these institutions, we look forward to your response.  
With thanks,

Joanna Aiton Kerr, Chair  
Canadian Council of Archives