



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## artsnb reaches milestone in arts support

**February 2, 2018 (Fredericton, NB)** – The New Brunswick Arts Board (**artsnb**) recently processed its 10,000th application for grants to support the creation and dissemination of the arts in New Brunswick.

Carol Collicutt, chair of **artsnb**, stated: "The impact of this is important for every resident of our province. Through the arts, the economy is strengthened, tourism is enhanced and our cultural identity is firmly established. We confidently move into the future with our new strategic plan, our Lieutenant Governor's awards, and the purchase of First Nations' artworks for the Provincial Art Bank. Our many programs remain in place to fund excellence in the arts so that our artists can enrich our society for years to come."

Founded in 1989, the New Brunswick Arts Board remains an arm's length funding agency with the mandate to facilitate and promote the creation of art by supporting artists in the province. **artsnb** held its first competition on January 15, 1991, which rewarded twenty recipients sharing \$ 91,000. More than 10,000 applications have since been processed by **artsnb** program officers.

Competitions have evolved in twenty-five years. **artsnb** now administers eight grant programs, as well as the Lieutenant Governor's Awards to recognize the remarkable contributions of some of New Brunswick's outstanding artists. In 2016-17, more than 400 applications were received, and 174 recipients were awarded a total of \$ 873,620.

All grant applications can now be submitted through an online application system (<http://artsnb.ca/oa>). The digital transition project was completed at the end of 2017. This system has been designed so that artists, program officers and jury members can view all information related to grant applications online. This tool firmly ensconces **artsnb** in the digital age, enabling it to respond more quickly to the needs of artists and contributing more than ever to the development of the arts in the province, despite the budgetary constraints of recent years.

In October 2016, **artsnb**'s offices moved to 225 King Street, Suite 201 in Fredericton. Doors are open from Monday to Friday, from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

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*The New Brunswick Arts Board is an arm's length arts funding agency with a legislated mandate to facilitate and promote the creation of art as well as administering funding programs for professional artists in the province.*