



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked By: Ms Nicole Lawder MLA

Addressed to: Minister for the Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy

Reference: Arts

Hearing Date: 31 July 2024

In relation to: CFC Position Advertised Head of Philanthropic Development

QON lodgement Date: 1 August 2024

Answer Due date: 8 August 2024

- (1) Why are Cultural Facilities Corporation advertising for a Head of Philanthropic Development? Does this suggest that government funding is inadequate, and if so, why is additional fundraising necessary?
- (2) Given CFC receives government support, how does this align with their need for extra fundraising, and what does this imply about the effectiveness and transparency of the government's financial support?
- (3) Has there been any analysis of the impact of seeking philanthropic donations on other arts organisations in the ACT that rely on philanthropy and may be at risk of losing donations?
- (4) Is the purpose of seeking a philanthropic staff member to expedite/facilitate the establishment of a mainstage theatre company of Canberra Theatre?

Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Cultural Facilities Corporation (CFC), an independent body with a governing board, advises:

1. In 2022, the CFC Board endorsed a Strategic Plan for the CFC that includes a specific organisational priority to expand and diversify revenue streams to support the vision of the CFC – to build Australia's arts and culture capital – including building philanthropic engagement and funding partnerships.

The CFC is supported through a direct appropriation from Government and own source revenue generated through its functions. The proportion of government funding to own source revenue is reported each year through the Annual Report. In 2023-24, the proportion of CFC own source revenue was 59 per cent against the target of 50.9 per cent.

It is common for medium to large cultural institutions to employ dedicated philanthropy officers as this is specialist work.

2. The CFC has always sought to involve members of the public through opportunities for philanthropic and other contributions. The proportion of government funding to the CFC is reported every year in the Annual Report as stated above. The CFC's receipt of philanthropic support is also reported every year in the Annual Report. Philanthropic support includes donation to the CFC's collections of works of art.

3. The CFC has worked with philanthropy experts to identify and target opportunities for partnerships and fundraising in ways that expand rather than dilute the philanthropic and partnership contribution to the arts in the ACT.
This has included advice regarding the specific, positive and unique position in which the CFC stands as an integrated arts organisation with combined exhibiting, producing, commissioning, collecting, preserving, interpreting, and storytelling roles across museum, gallery, and theatre venues, operating at a Territory-State level.

4. No.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:



Date:

7/8/24

By the Minister for the Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy, Tara Cheyne MLA