



# TERMS OF REFERENCE

## 2015

### **Background**

In preparing for CDA's 2012 conference, CPAMO with the involvement of CDA, applied to the Ontario Arts Council's ASO Project Grant. The purpose of this application was to enable CPAMO and the CDA to work as partners on building interest in and enabling artists of Aboriginal and diverse backgrounds to contribute to and participate in the Conference. Because of its expertise in pluralism, CPAMO agreed to develop and provide guidelines on pluralism/diversity to the CDA which showed significant interest within its members for this project. From this initiative, a report of recommendations was brought forward to the CDA and a Pluralism Committee was formed.

It was clear that there was a strong interest on the part of diverse dance artists and the CDA to enhance their relationship into the future. To assist in this regard, there are several matters the CDA will need to address to undertake the work needed to engage these artists in meaningful ways. At the same time, it is incumbent on these dance artists to connect with the CDA and to contribute to the development of this promising relationship. The key areas of focus include: Advocacy, representation on Standing Councils, the formation of a Pluralism Committee, non-duplication efforts, recruitment of new members.

### **Mandate**

*Provide support and accessibility to issues surrounding Pluralism. Engage with the membership, organizations and artists of the Canadian Dance Assembly in adopting a Pluralism framework, offering advice to the Board, Office and other Committees of the Canadian Dance Assembly.*

## **Terms of Reference**

**The Pluralism Committee is an inclusive group of artists based on several factors:**

- a) Indigenous, Racial, cultural diversity or other marginalized artists and arts practices*
- b) Representative of regional, National and geographic locations across Canada*
- c) Able to liaise with other CDA Committees and Board of Directors*
- d) Able to meet bi-monthly*
- e) Able to contribute to developing agendas, action plans, and contribute to developing and supporting CDA activities on behalf of a diverse set of issues and dance artists*

### **Advocacy**

Undertake and address the needs of dance artists from diverse backgrounds regarding access while raising the profile of said dance artists.

- Increase the visibility and understanding of pluralism within the organization and the dance community.
- Circulate pertinent documents, research, or other information to help keep our members informed.
- Circulate any calls to action.
- Support office activity by providing links, research or documents that could be shared with members via e-bulletin, website or social media.

### **Intended Relationship with CDA's Overall Policy and Responsibility of all Standing Councils.**

- a) Help in developing a vision to articulate the role of CDA and the Committee's commitment to pluralism in all of its activities.
- b) This vision should be developed in consultation with the Standing Councils as well as the CDA staff.
- c) Enable each Standing Council to develop an understanding of its roles and responsibilities in implementing a pluralistic approach.
- d) Along with the Office of the CDA, ensure that all components of the organization are engaged in the process of healthy dialogues.

### **Outreach**

Committee members can help by engaging with their communities in a number of ways:

- Social media, sharing articles, forwarding items of interest to the CDA office
- Attend events as a representative of the Pluralism Committee

### **Tools/Actions**

- The committee will aim to meet quarterly by teleconference and engage in informal one on one communication when appropriate to remain current and advance specific projects. As urgent matter arise, the committee may decide to meet more frequently.
- The committee will aim to meet in person or via skype 2 times per year.
- The committee may undertake research in pertinent areas, and write summaries, articles, blog posts etc.

### **Recruitment of New Members**

- Members may join the committee at any time of year, though the focus for recruitment will be around CDA's AGM.
- Committee members can serve up to a maximum of 6 years.
- Interested participants may email [info@dancecanada.net](mailto:info@dancecanada.net)