

Professional Artist Definition

A professional artist is someone who:

1. is an independent contractor;
2. receives, or has received, compensation from his or her artistic activity including, but not limited to, sales, fees, commissions, salaries, royalties, residuals, grants and awards, any of which may reasonably be included as income of a self-employed person or a business; and
3. meets at least three of the following criteria:
 - i. the individual has received public or peer recognition:
 - A. in the form of honours, awards, professional prizes, scholarships, honourable mentions, appointments to an adjudication committee or invitations to participate in a group exhibition or performance; OR
 - B. by publicly disseminated critical appraisal;
 - ii. the individual's artistic activity has been presented to the public by means of exhibitions, publications, performances, readings, screenings or any other means;
 - iii. the individual promotes or markets his or her work:
 - A. by means including attending auditions, seeking sponsorship, agents, engagements or exhibitions and similar activities appropriate to the nature of his or her work; OR
 - B. by being represented by a dealer, publisher, agent or similar representative appropriate to the nature of his or her artistic activity
 - iv. the individual has received training or acquired traditional knowledge:
 - A. in an educational institution or from a practitioner or teacher recognized within his or her profession; OR
 - B. within the established practice of his or her cultural traditions;
 - v. the individual has membership in an organization representing his or her artistic activity whose membership, or categories of membership, is or are limited under standards established by the organization, or that is an artists' association, or that is a recognized Aboriginal Society;
 - vi. the individual holds copyright in his or her own work and has received royalty or residual payments based on that copyright;
 - vii. the individual has a business licence issued by the municipality in which he or she is carrying on business related to his or her artistic activity.