ARTS IN RURAL AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES

Cultural institutions can celebrate and make visible the diverse stories and histories of all Ontarians.

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 in 4 Canadian artists live in small and rural municipalities. This number is greater than artists living in Toronto and Montreal combined.*

- Cultural work in rural communities brings greater social cohesion, economic development, and economic diversification.**

- Facilities such as galleries are “gathering places” essential for community cohesion. They are key factor in culture-led regeneration.**

The arts foster a collective sense of belonging. This correlation is especially pronounced for newcomers and in rural, remote, Northern, Indigenous, and minority-language communities.***

WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS?

Accessibility

People who live outside of urban centers consistently rate the availability of art facilities and activities lower than individuals residing in cities.****

Funding

Access to funding and resources is limited, and often artists cannot participate fully in the cultural life of the province.*****

Connectivity issues

Broadband Internet is needed for collaboration, accessing markets, and art promotion.***

OAAG RECOMMENDATIONS

Studies have concluded that the government can assist in the cultural development of rural, remote, and Northern communities through policy implementation, requiring community buy-ins, promoting youth engagement and leadership development. This includes capacity building through partnerships between for-profit and non-profit organizations, providing resources for education and training, as well as increased funding in order to achieve community sustainability.**
ARTS IN RURAL AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES

Cultural institutions can celebrate and make visible the diverse stories and histories of all Ontarians

ADDITIONAL READINGS


REFERENCES


