

****Media Release** Progressive Canadian Party / Parti Progressiste Canadien PC Party renews support for the CBC, Canadian Arts and Culture**

For Immediate Release:

Nanaimo-Ladysmith, October 16, 2019 - Progressive Canadian Deputy Leader and Nanaimo-Ladysmith candidate in the 43rd General Election Brian Marlatt today renewed the PC Party commitment to the CBC and to Canadian Arts and Culture, citing the Booker Award achievement of Canadian author Margaret Atwood and former PC Party Leader and Progressive Conservative cabinet minister, the Hon. Sinclair Stevens.

"The achievement of Margaret Atwood reminds us that Canadian arts and culture have been the cornerstone of our evolving identity and, in the Booker Prize, continuity with our cultural legacy that former PC Leader, the Hon. Sinclair Stevens and I held and hold dear and of the CBC. It reminds me to to the vibrant cultural and arts contributions of indigenous Canadians celebrated in Nanaimo-Ladysmith's arts community that was part of my father's recovery in Nanaimo General Hospital following his spinal cord injury by way of a gift from aboriginal artist Mark Henderson and life-time friends, the family of the artist Eddie Lepage in Ontario."

Mr. Stevens reminded us that "In 1932 the [former] Conservative Party, later the Progressive Conservative Party and our predecessor, laid the foundation of the CBC to give Canadians the means of self-expression in a sea of American broadcasting. The importance of this role continues today," Stevens said in a February 25, 2015 PC Party Media Release.

In past elections, Stevens and Marlatt, speaking for the PC Party, have called for all parties to endorse the Canadian actor's union, ACTRA, in its appeal for commitment to secure public CBC and arts funding and thus to ensure the means to express Canadian voices and culture; Stephen Harper's CPC alone declined.

Providing a dependable platform for Canadian arts and culture and perspectives on the world even in news broadcasting, Marlatt has said, "is something the private sector is often unwilling to do or target for investment; it's easier and cheaper to buy off-the-rack than to tailor your product for a Canadian audience," the PC Party candidate said in 2008 and again today, "so it is up the the public sector to build and support the infrastructure of the Arts, including film, which is of such great importance to our economy here in B.C.."

Brian Marlatt has experience in Canadian commercial and documentary film.

"CBC is a Canadian national public service and public broadcaster fulfilling uniquely Canadian needs, deserving of Canadian support at arms length from government," Marlatt said, "as a Crown Corporation."

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