## The State of Culture in St. Catharines Revised Report







December 13, 2012

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## **1. Executive Summary**





### **Review of Cultural Planning Process to Date**

#### **Phase 1: Internal Review – in Progress**

A review of the cultural assets and services provided by the City of St. Catharines.

#### Phase 2: Community Consultation and Scan

Involvement of St. Catharines' community – its citizens, artists, cultural organizations, civic leaders, and broad-based stakeholders – through a variety of methods.

#### Phase 3: Comparative Analysis – To Come

Development of long-term goals, objectives and strategies for achieving both in a Culture Plan.





#### **Purpose of a State of Culture Report**

- (1) To review existing assets, needs, opportunities, and resources of St. Catharines
- (2) To identify strengths, successes and opportunities
- (3) To align the Culture Plan with results of research, analysis and public consultation



#### **Next Steps**

**Complete Internal Review and Analysis** 

Undertake Comparative Analysis

Identify vision for next ten years and prioritize strategic directions.



## 2. Value and Impact of St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program (SCCIP)





#### 2. SCCIP Value Review & Economic Impact Analysis

### **Objective**

•To understand the value that SCCIP provides to St. Catharines' cultural sector

To begin to project the economic impact of SCCIP

#### Methodology

- Review of internal draft analysis of 2004-2006 data
- Review of 2004-2011 SCCIP granting history
- Analysis of financial data from 2008-2010 of grant recipients
- Basic estimates of economic impacts of grant recipients
- Note: Data and resulting conclusions are representative, not comprehensive



#### 2. SCCIP Value Review

### **Key Conclusions**

Between 2004 and 2011, SCCIP provided 139 grants totaling more than \$1.1M.

The majority of grants are allocated to the performing arts, while the fewest have gone to the literary arts in terms of both total number of grants and total dollars.

SCCIP Allocation by Discipline		2004-2011	
Heritage		\$19,625	2%
Special Events		\$43,000	4%
Arts Services Organizations		\$149,367	13%
Visual and Media Arts		\$197,993	18%
Performing Arts		\$679,255	61%
Literary Arts		\$7,500	1%
Ethnocultural Groups and Activities		\$18,700	2%
	Total	\$1,115,440	

Total Number of Grants by Discipline	2004-2011	
Heritage	4	3%
Special Events	8	6%
Arts Services Organizations	7	5%
Visual and Media Arts	17	12%
Performing Arts	95	68%
Literary Arts	2	1%
Ethnocultural Groups and Activities	6	4%
	139	



SCCIP recipients provide inconsistent data from year to year, but a review of data from 2004 to 2006 suggests:

- The level of permanent staff at SCCIP recipient organizations grew but still consists of a small core that is supplemented by paid contract staff and volunteers when necessary
- SCCIP is drawing most applications from arts groups, few or none from heritage and culture groups
- There is more potential to study, expand and market cultural tourism opportunities
- More can be done to collect and analyze consistent and useful data

The following slides summarize data from entities that received SCCIP funding between 2008 and 2010. This data is more comprehensive.

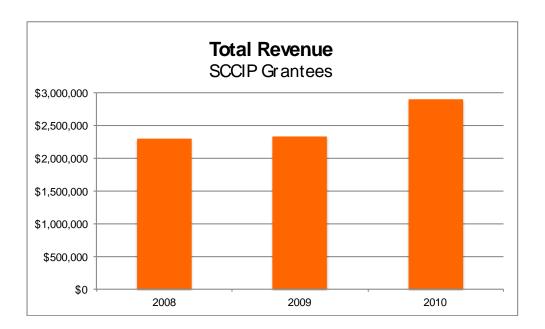
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#### 2. SCCIP Value Review

### **Key Conclusions**

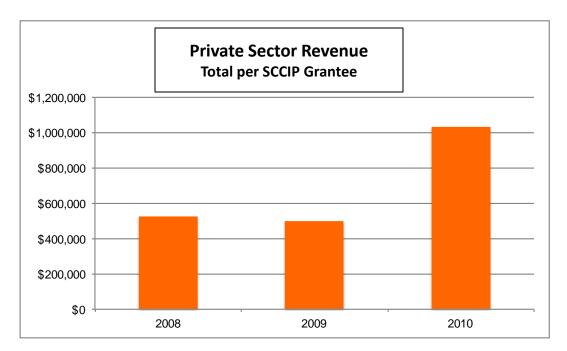
SCCIP grant recipients are garnering (and thus spending) **more revenue** than three years ago.

Overall revenue growth amounts to approximately \$600,000 over 3 years.



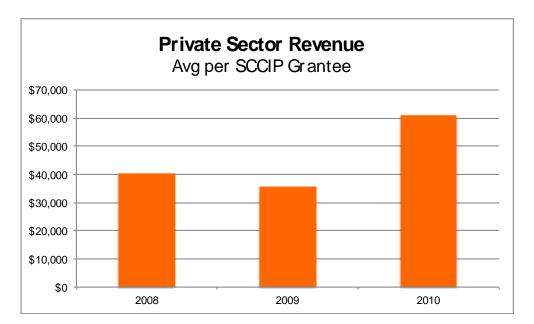


Funding from the private sector **nearly doubled** over 3 years, increasing from 23% of all revenue to 36% of total revenue.





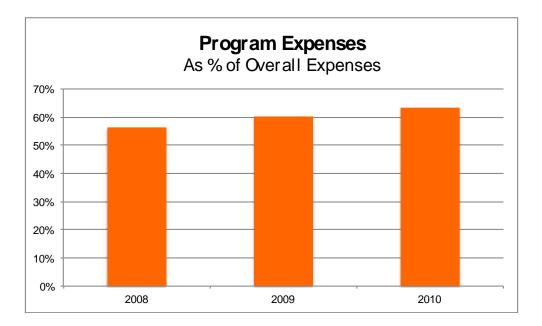
The average SCCIP grant recipient is now raising **more money from the private sector** than three years ago.





The average SCCIP grant recipient is now allocating more expenses to programming, **contributing to an increase in activity and artist employment.** 

(4% increase in program expenditures overall.)





#### **2. SCCIP Value Review**

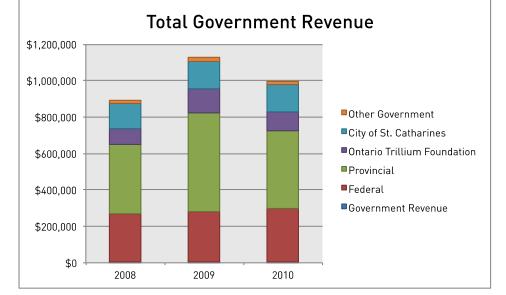
### **Key Conclusions**

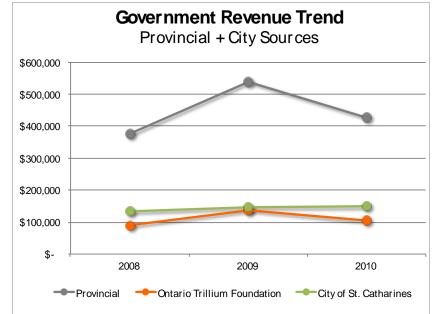
SCCIP has been a consistent annual source of government revenue, particularly as compared to Provincial sources.

This may suggest that SCCIP investment of \$150K annually helps to leverage between \$700K and \$950K in other government investment.



services





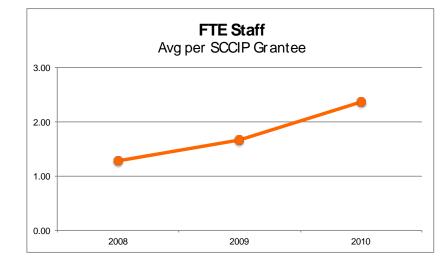
#### 2. SCCIP Value Review

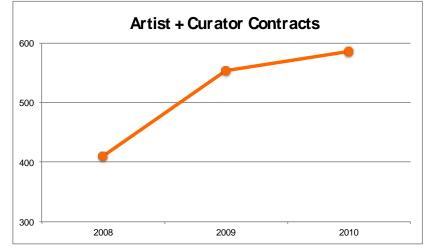
### **Key Conclusions**

#### Most importantly SCCIP is helping arts organizations create jobs.

- In 2010, the average SCCIP grant recipient supported double the FTE jobs than in 2008.
- Between 2008 and 2010, the number of artists and curators employed by SCCIP grantees increased by at least 30 percent.
- Between 2008 and 2010, the number of artist contracts increased by 50%, amounting to nearly 600 total artist contracts.

Cultural Resources





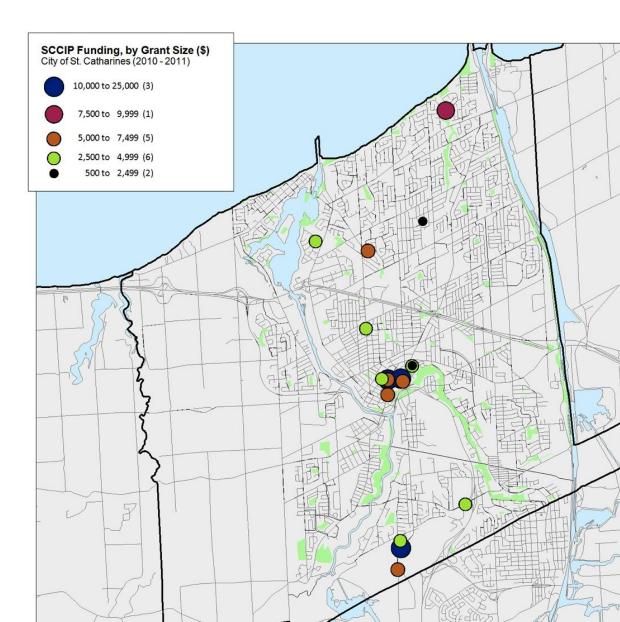
Data may include more than one contract per artist or curator. As a reminder, data only include contract figures for a selection of SCCIP grantees. Actual figures are likely higher.

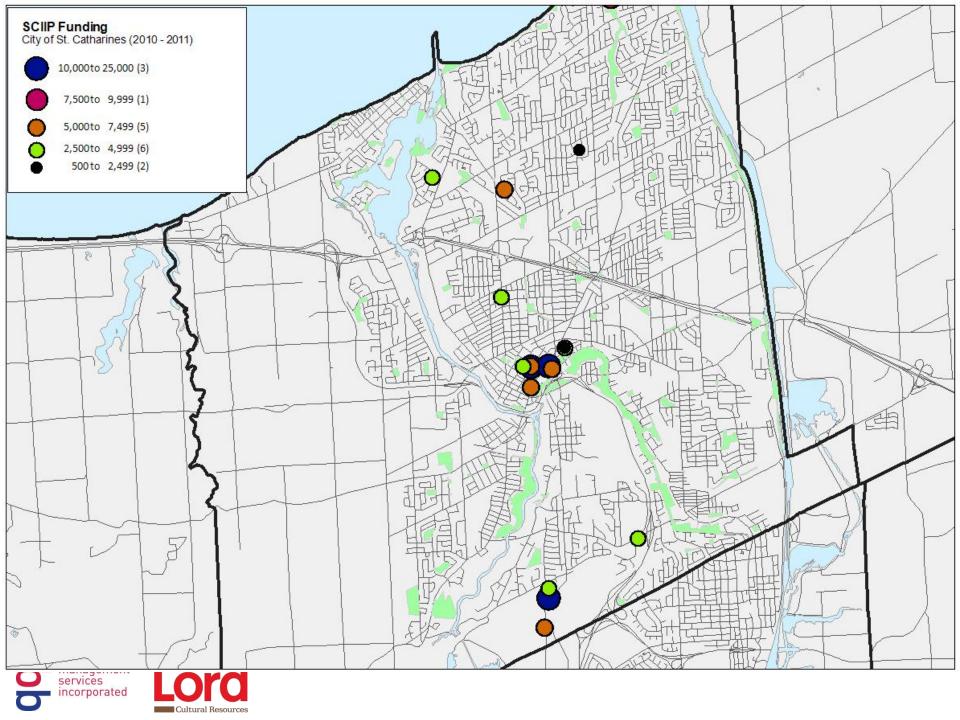
SCCIP funding **focus is downtown** but also well distributed throughout the City.

Majority of grants are under \$7,500K.

Map includes SCCIP grant funding for 2010-2011.







**Economic impact means something has happened to increase economic activity**, including new sales, new earnings for workers and new jobs in the economy.

#### For SCCIP, we measure economic impacts in terms of two factors:

- Ongoing impacts of grantees (making expenditures in the regional economy).
- Impacts of new audiences, who spend money in association with attendance.

#### Economic impacts are split between direct and indirect impacts:

- Direct impacts measure the economic effect of the initial expenditure made by arts groups or audiences.
- Indirect impacts occur as people and business receive that initial \$\$ and re-spend it.

#### Important note:

- These estimates are very conservative, and are NOT representative of all arts and cultural activity in St. Catharines.
- They are developed using data that is available to us from SCCIP recipients.



### **Economic Impact Methodology**

#### **Multipliers**

The shift from direct to indirect impacts is measured using multipliers that come from an **"input-output" model**. Multipliers translate an input to an output. For example, a dollar spent on food (input) has an impact on the local economy by virtue of new sales and new jobs created in that industry (output).

There are two multipliers for every industry:

- Output Multiplier: Estimate of total new sales associated with the expenditure.
- Employment estimate: Forecasts the jobs created in each industry as a result of new expenditures.

#### Methodology

- Provincial multipliers are used from input-output tables produced by Statistics Canada.
- There are some limitations, as the multipliers are provincial not local, and shifts may have occurred in market share for industries, changes in technology, etc.

management services incorporated

#### The Impact of SCCIP organizations spending in the region.

The following chart shows how operating outputs are calculated using the series of expenditures by SCCIP grantees:

Base Year Budget	Inputs		Multipliers Gross	Emplit	Outputs New Sales	New Emplit
Category	Purchases		Production	(FTE	(\$000's)	(jobs)
Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distr	\$	406	1.27	4.35	\$ 516	0.0
Natural Gas Distribution, Water, Sewage and Other	\$	38,470	1.30	4.97	\$ 50,011	0.2
Printing and Related Support Activities	\$	80,227	1.34	6.88	\$ 107,504	0.6
Retail Trade	\$	178,254	1.41	15.47	\$ 251,338	2.8
Transit and ground passenger transporation	\$	52,906	1.53	16.70	\$ 80,945	0.9
Postal service, couriers and messengers	\$	44,299	1.43	12.55	\$ 63,348	0.6
Motion picture and sound recording industries	\$	221,966	1.58	8.09	\$ 350,706	1.8
Radio and Television Broadcasting	\$	24,517	1.57	8.33	\$ 38,492	0.2
Publishing, info services and data processing	\$	38,064	1.48	8.72	\$ 56,334	0.3
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	\$	70,139	1.68	8.30	\$ 117,834	0.6
Adminstrative support services	\$	115,536	1.33	17.20	\$ 153,663	2.0
Waste management	\$	38,470	1.35	7.23	\$ 51,934	0.3
Arts, entertainment and recreation	\$	283,654	1.54	15.76	\$ 436,826	4.5
Accommodation and food services	\$	41,347	1.53	18.31	\$ 63,261	0.8
Repair and maintenance	\$	17,941	1.39	17.39	\$ 24,938	0.3
Nonprofit educational services	\$	122,946	1.24	11.71	\$ 152,453	1_4
Averages and Totals	\$	1,369,142	1.44	11.37	\$2,000,105	17.1

The exercise allows us to project the impact of SCCIP grantees on the Province, as described on the next slide. • Expenses for all SCCIP recipients are totaled. Wages are subtracted and the balance, which includes 12 types of program expenses and 6 types of operating expenses are classified and divided among the appropriate categories for which multipliers

#### The Impact of SCCIP organizations spending in the region.

The analysis suggests that in 2009, the City invested \$150K as grants to SCCIP recipients.

Those recipients **spent a total of \$1.4M on non-personnel expenditures**, such as marketing, facilities, exhibition, program and production expenses, touring expenses, education, fundraising and otherwise.

That \$1.4M, which was spent by SCCIP recipients on those various goods and services, was then *re-spent* by regional businesses and service providers, becoming *\$2.0M* in other sales in Ontario and supporting *17 FTE jobs beyond those employed by SCCIP organizations.* 





#### The impact of audiences attending events and spending in the region.

- We also project the spending and overall impacts of audiences on the region.
- Based on input from a selection of SCCIP recipients and the fact that the multipliers are Provincial, the balance is split between regional audiences (90%), Ontario audiences traveling from outside the region (8%) and audiences traveling from areas outside of the Province (2%).

Reported Attendance to Programs offered by SCCIP Grantees		55,687
1. Ontario (Niagara Region) Attendance	90%	50,118
2. Ontario (non-Niagara Region) Attendance	8%	4,455
3. Regional (non-Ontario) Attendance	2%	1,114



# The impact of audiences attending events and spending in the region.

- With these estimates, we can project the spending of audiences using statistics from the Arts and Economic Prosperity Report published by Americans for the Arts. (There is no Canadian version of these statistics).
- Americans for the Arts data suggest how much audiences generally spend on eating, drinking, shopping, traveling and so on in conjunction with attending an arts event .
- Provincial multipliers are then applied to these direct impacts to arrive at total impacts associated with audience expenditures.



#### The impact of audiences attending events and spending in the region.

- Regional, non-regional and total impacts are shown below on the chart.
- Audience expenditures of \$929K were re-spent by businesses and service providers, leading to annual outputs of \$1.4M and 16 FTE.

Ancillary Spending Impacts 2009	Per Capita Expenditure Estimate	Total Direct Expenditures of Audiences	Gross Production Multiplier	Gross Production	Empl't (jobs) Multiplier	Total New Jobs
Resident Attendance (1)						
Accommodation and food services	\$8.15	\$408,464	1.5300	\$624,950	18.3100	7.48
Retail Trade	\$2.80	\$140,331	1.4100	\$197,867	15.4700	2.17
Transit and ground passenger transportation	\$4.27	\$214,005	1.5300	\$327,428	16.7000	3.57
Sub-total		\$762,801		\$1,150,245		13.22
Non-resident Attendance (2+3)						
Food services and drinking places	\$15.28	\$85,090	1.5300	\$130,187	18.3100	1.56
Retail Trade	\$8.70	\$48,448	1.4100	\$68,311	15.4700	0.75
Transit & passenger transportation	\$5.82	\$32,410	1.5300	\$49,587	16.7000	0.54
Sub-total		\$165,947		\$248,086		2.85
Total Impact of Ancillary Spending	Regional Attenders	\$762,801		\$1,150,245		13.22
N	on-regional Attenders	\$165,947		\$248,086		2.85
	Total	\$928,748		\$1,398,331		16.07

### Impact of SCCIP Recipient Spending

#### Annual economic impact over time

- We completed this analysis for 2009, 2010 and 2011, using expenditure data from SCCIP grantees *(including only those grantees for which data is available).*
- The results show that **impacts of spending are increasing over time** as the amount spent by grantees increases.
- For 2011, these impacts are significant, generating \$2.5M in new sales and 21.7 new jobs.

Impacts of SCCIP Grantee Spending on Ontario						
	Inputs	Outputs				
Year	Purchases	New Sales (\$000's)	New Empl't (jobs)			
2009	\$ 1,369,142	\$ 2,000,105	17.1			
2010	\$ 1,515,391	\$ 2,204,697	19.0			
2011	\$ 1,705,779	\$ 2,498,260	21.7			



#### **Impact of Audience Spending**

#### Annual economic impact over time

- The impacts of audiences decrease as <u>reported</u> attendance declines. However, these audience figures are estimates provided by a selection of SCCIP recipients and do not represent St. Catharines arts attendance.
- Even still, the impacts are notable, bringing about \$1.2M in spending to St.
  Catharines each year and supporting 14 FTE jobs in addition to those created via direct spending and employed by grantees.

Audien	ce Spending Impact	Total Direct (Induced) Expenditures	Gross Production	Total New Jobs
2009	Regional Attenders	\$762,801	\$1,150,245	13.22
	Non-regional Attenders	\$165,947	\$248,086	2.85
	Total	\$928,748	\$1,398,331	16.07
2010	Regional Attenders	\$693,612	\$1,045,914	12.02
	Non-regional Attenders	\$150,895	\$225,583	2.59
	Total	\$844,507	\$1,271,497	14.61
2011	Regional Attenders	\$692,886	\$1,044,819	12.01
	Non-regional Attenders	\$150,737	\$225,347	2.59
	Total	\$843,623	\$1,270,166	14.60



#### Total annual impact over time (SCCIP recipients and audiences)

 Overall, SCCIP grantees provide significant impact to St. Catharines and Ontario. Grantees and their audiences directly spent more than \$2.5M in 2011. Those funds were then re-spent, leading to more than \$3.7M in indirect spending by other Ontario entities and the support of 36 FTE jobs. Again, these figures are <u>minimum</u> estimates.

Impact	Impact of SCCIP Grantee Spending on Ontario							
	Expenditures (Direct							
	Impact of Grantees +		Outputs (Indirect		Employment			
Year	A	Audiences)		Impact)	(Jobs)			
2009	\$	2,297,889	\$	3,398,435	33.17			
2010	\$	2,359,899	\$	3,476,195	33.65			
2011	\$	2,549,402	\$	3,768,426	36.25			



## **3. Analysis of Cultural Participation**





#### What is Cultural Participation

Cultural participation is experience and involvement in arts and culture. That is, the host of expressions and forums where creative output is showcased, including the performing arts, visual arts, storytelling and folk traditions, culinary arts, and multimedia.

#### **The Cultural Participant: Trends**

The cultural participant:

- Has limited leisure time and an overabundance of activities to choose from;
- Is aging;
- Has increasing niche cultural tastes;
- Seeks a meaningful and multi-tiered cultural experience;
- Pursues social opportunities through culture.

Residents who actively participate in the arts are more likely to seek out arts experiences. Promoting fun and engaging cultural participation activities is about building future audiences.





### **3. Cultural Participation Analysis - Introduction**

#### What has been Studied

#### • City facilities and programming:

- Museum and Welland Canals Centre
- Russell Avenue Community Centre
- St. Catharines Public Library
- Older Adult Centres
- Lakeside Park Carousel Ridership
- Cultural participation in the community
  - Niagara Folk Arts Festival park event
  - Niagara Wine Festival
  - Doors Open Niagara in St. Catharines
  - Centre for the Arts at Brock University



### **3. Cultural Participation Analysis -Attendance/Participation at City facilities**

#### **Attendance at City Facilities - Overview**

	2004	2008	2011	Overview
St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre	166,433	137,354	101,815	Admission by Donation policy since May 2011 has contributed to 174% visitation increase. Visitation to the Centre has declined due to border-related issues such as currency exchange rates, restrictive passport laws, and SARS.
Public Library	-	462,424	450,523	Visitation is stable in all four branches.
Older Adult Centres	-	-	7,306	Participation has increased by 83% from 2010 to 2011.
Carousel Ridership	-	241,461	226,680	Visitation is fairly stable. Peaks in July and August.
Russell Avenue Centre	764	546	387	Visitation drop may to be related to a decrease in program offerings (from 30 in 2004 to 11 in 2011).
Band Concerts in Montebello Park	-	-	3,111	Attendance has tripled from 2010 to 2011.

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### 3. Cultural Participation Analysis -Attendance/Participation at City facilities St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre:

#### St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre: Findings

## Visitation to the Museum has been greatly supported by an Admission by Donation policy since May 2011:

- Monthly visitation has increased by 174% on average.
- Total visitation in 2011 saw an all-time record of 33,000 visitors.

#### Special events/activities\* have a positive impact on overall visitation:

- 14% of museum annual visitors are participants in special events (average, 2003-11).
- Special events boost participation example: Xmas Break activities in Jan 2012 resulted in 10 times more visits (1,731) than those registered in the same period in 2011, when no special event took place (other similar examples include Star Lab 2007 or DinoMobile 2005).

School Tours have decreased by 71% from 2004 to 2011. Generally, school tours are affected by school bus costs, program costs (there is an admission fee for public and school tours), outreach and curriculum priorities, and overall school budgets.



\* For the purposes of this report these include all programs other than Exhibits.

### 3. Cultural Participation Analysis -Attendance/Participation at City facilities St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre: Findings

Since 2008 special events/activities are being offered for free or at a very low cost. This has an impact on:

- Activities participation (strength): has increased by 63% from 2008 to 2011.
- Revenue generation (challenge): Average revenue per participant has decreased from \$5.75 in 2008 to \$0.29 in 2011. Total income from programs has decreased by 530% in 3 years.

## There is a new approach to programming that invites and encourages public participation and sharing of personal histories

• Has a potential to result in an increase of participation and greater engagement.

#### **Transportation planning:**

• Lack of bus service to the Museum could be limiting accessibility and participation.



### 3. Cultural Participation Analysis -Attendance/Participation at City facilities St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre: Findings

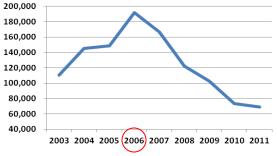
## In line with many Niagara-border institutions, visitation to the Centre has declined in recent years:

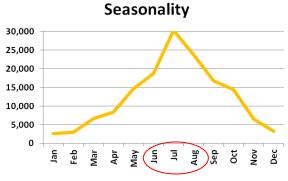
- Visitation peaked in 2006 (192,000) and has decreased since by 64%.
- The SARS outbreak, change in passport policies, and currency exchange rates have contributed to this trend.

#### Attendance to the Centre shows a high seasonality

- June-July-August is the busiest period, concentrating 45% of annual attendance (avge. 2006-11).
- This is likely the result of a large % of its visitors being tourists, who concentrate their visit to the municipality in the summer months.

Attendance Trend





management services incorporated

### **3. Cultural Participation Analysis -Attendance/Participation at City facilities**

#### **Russell Ave. Community Centre: Findings**

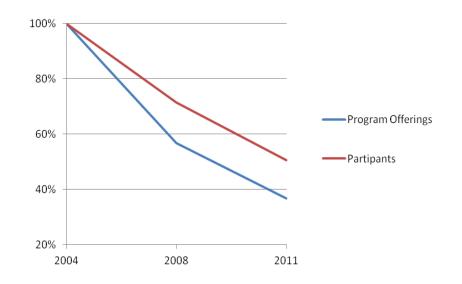
#### Since 2004, both program Offerings and Participants have decreased by over 50% (*not* taking into account general trends in recreational programming).

- This suggests a strong correlation between Program Offerings and Cultural Participation.
- However, about 30% of culturerelated programs originally offered (for years 2004, 2008, and 2011) were cancelled due to lack of enrollment.

Average participation per activity has also decreased, from 21 in 2004 and 2008, to 9 in 2011.

Cultural Resource

management services incorporated



RUSSELL AVE.	2004	2008	2011
Program Offerings	30	17	11
Partipants	764	546	387

### **Russell Ave. Community Centre: Findings**

#### Participation in recreation programs shows a high seasonality:

- The Fall concentrates almost 40% of annual enrollment.
- Possibly related to the publication cycle of Leisure Guide.

### More children participate in culture-related recreation programs than adults:

• While less than half of programs are addressed to children (45%), these generate 70% of overall participation.

### There is little variety in the themes offered (2011 data):

- 63% of programs offered are dance programs (hip hop, tap dance, tiny tot dance, line dancing), and 30% are guitar lessons.
- Crafts activities are not offered any more, while they seemed to be successful in the past (in 2004 pottery had an average of 40 participants per term).



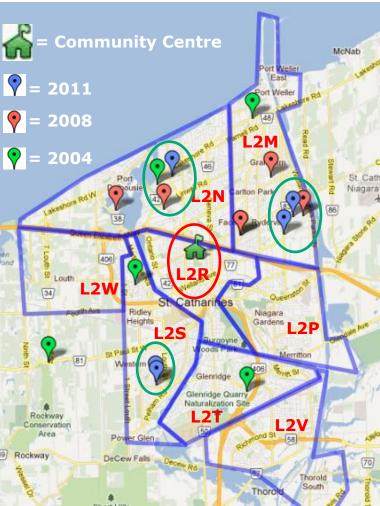


# Russell Ave. Community Centre: Mapping Cultural Participation

- The Community Centre is conveniently **located downtown**, in the geographic centre of the City.
- The most culturally active district is the North End (L2M, L2N): shows consistent participation rates across the 3 periods. Note: most populated area.
- Western Hill (L2S) shows a rise in cultural participation compared to previous years.
- Downtown (L2R), St. Catharines East (L2P), South End (L2V) and the West End (L2W) show the least cultural participation rates.

Note to Mapping: the 5 most active zip codes in terms of enrolment to Centre programs are represented by the following symbols for each of the following years:

-2011: -2008: • -2004: • \*



### **Public Library: Findings**

Library Location	orary Location Attendance 2004		Attendance 2011
Central	282,380	244,358	244,255
Grantham	146,673	138,016	125,346
Merritt	67,909	63,910	64,855
Port Dalhousie	10,085	16,140	16,067
Total	507,047	462,424	450,523

- Total annual visitation to all four branches is **stable in the 450,000** range. ٠
- The figures do not include individuals who are participating in meetings in the Meeting rooms, nor "remote visits", thus suggesting that the impact of the Library is well beyond the 450,000 figure.
- 2004 visitation data is estimated, whereas 2008 and 2011 is based on electronic counters. This suggests that the lower figures after 2004 are not a result of lower visitation but of more accurate counting.
- The Central branch is the most popular, followed by Grantham. ٠
- In 2011, the Library held 17 Culture Focused Displays, 7 programs for Children, 6 for Young Adults, and • over 12 for Adults. Program types range from Writers Clubs to Writing Contests and Book Clubs; from Concerts to Seminars, and Poetry Readings; among other.

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### **Older Adult Centres: Findings**

- **Dunlop Drive Centre** offers the largest number of programs (10) and receives the most participants: 5,416 in 2011 (75% of total Older Adult participation).
- All four centres have seen considerable increases in cultural participation from 2010 to 2011, with an average of 83% increase.
- Dancing programs (ie. Line Dancing, Tea Dance) and Special Events draw the highest participation.

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	2010	2011	%
TOTAL	4,000	7,306	83%
<b>Dunlop Drive Centre</b>	2,560	5,416	112%
Line Dancing	487	908	86%
Ballroom Dancing	70	408	483%
Bunka Punch Art	183	404	121%
Painting	160	311	94%
Crafts	38	164	332%
Quilting	177	295	67%
Tea Dance	438	1,013	131%
Wood Carving	15	265	1667%
Clogging	120	-	
Special Events	872	1,648	89%
Port Dalhousie Centre	570	713	25%
Special Events	324	335	3%
Quilting	69	47	- 32%
Wood Carving	177	331	87%
West St. Catharines	553	632	14%
Carpet Bowling	183	161	-12%
Special Events	370	366	-1%
Zumba (Drop-In)	-	105	
Merritton Centre	317	545	72%
Round Dancing	317	545	72%

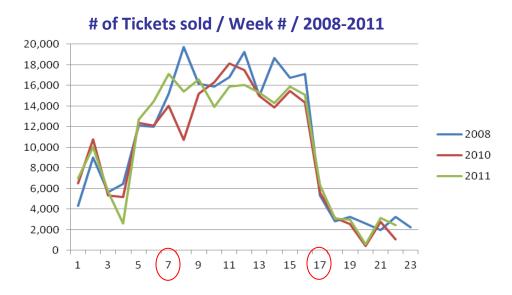
### Lakeside Park Carousel – Ridership: Findings

- The Carousel is open to the public for **22-23 weeks a year**, starting on Victoria Day Weekend (mid-May) and ending on Thanksgiving Weekend (mid-October).
- Total visitation across 2008-2011 is **stable in the 230,000 range**.
- The weekends concentrate 33% of weekly visitation (only weeks with 7-day activity have been considered for this calculation – when closed during weekdays, the percentage is even higher).
- Peak visitation coincides with the summer season: from week 7 (end of June) to week 16 (end of August).
- Visitation falls by 60-70% from week 16 to week 17.

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### **Overview of Cultural Participation in Community**

	Year	Attendance	Overview
Niagara Wine Festival	2009	98,844	Visitation is projected to continue increasing, as is its economic impact. Potential exists to attract more
	2010	100,008	tourists (to increase length of stay in St. Catharines).
Folk Arts Festival in the Park	2009	19,275	The Festival received 19,275 participants in 2009.
Doors Open Niagara	2005	4,055	Increased site animation and effective marketing moving forward may reverse a decrease in visitation
	2006	2,895	(in 2007 - last data available) and increase tourist attraction.
	2007	2,374	
Centre for the Arts at Brock University	2009	27,013	Analysis shows an excellent performance: attendance and program offerings reached a
	2010	25,899	maximum in 2011, and revenues have increased by
	2011	29,000	21% since 2007.



### **Doors Open Niagara in St. Catharines: Findings**

**Overview**: St. Catharines participated from 2003-2010, and again in 2012, with anywhere from 5-13 sites per year. 6 City sites have participated, although not consistently, and the City's previous role as community developer for the event ended in 2007.

#### **Data Analysis:**

- Participation declined by 60% after 2005.
- **Revenues declined by 43% from 2006 to 2007**, despite the same number of sites open.
- Each visitor spent less than \$1 on average, which means that the revenue generated by the

DOORS OPEN	2003		2005		2006	2007
Number of sites		te m	11	inter	10	10
City sites %	50%		27%		40%	40%
Total visitors	2,760		4,055		2,895	2,374
Total money raised	\$ 2,661	\$	1,754	\$	2,682	\$ 1,540
Total volunteers	65	NA		NA		73

### **Doors Open Niagara in St. Catharines: Findings**

### The event requires re-evaluation to increase its impact:

- Doors Open Niagara is operated by the Binational Tourism Alliance. Locally-bsed engagement has deteriorated since the City reduced its involvement.
- Consider a St. Catharines Doors Open or re-engage with the BTA to re-build the event locally. How this event moves forward should depend on a review of the following:
  - An evaluation of the primary purpose of the event is it to engage local residents with their heritage and architecture, or is it to develop tourism interest in local sites?
  - A review of the BTA's success in implementing effective and wide reaching advertising to attract tourists.
  - Staff and volunteer resources to assist with site cultivation, enhanced animation at the sites and new visitor experiences from one year to the next to create buzz and repeat visitation.
  - Budget capacity to promote an independent St. Catharines-based event.

### **Niagara Wine Festival: Findings**

### An event that can be further optimized

- Attendance increased moderately in 2010, and was projected to continue increasing in 2011 (assumption to be contrasted with 2011 real data).
- Average length of stay was also projected to increase from 1 night to 2 nights in 2011 (needs to be confirmed against real data).
- Economic impact has increased dramatically: almost doubled from 2009-10. As a result more jobs have been created and more taxes have been collected.
- 46% of participants to the Festival were 80-100% satisfied with the overall event.

Niagara Wine Festival	2009	2010	
Attendees	98 <i>,</i> 844	100,008	
Average length of stay	1	1	
Average Non-Local Spending	\$138.22	\$145.61	
Economic Impact	\$4,095,350	\$7,547,304	
Full Year Jobs Supported	39.3	50.4	
Taxes for all three levels of government	\$812,415.00	\$1,405,883.00	

## **Niagara Wine Festival: Findings**

### Most visitors to the festival are local or from Ontario:

- 72% of visitors are repeat visitors.
- Only 25% of participants travelled more than 40km to participate.
- As per the chart, 83% of visitors are from either St. Catharines or Ontario.
   Only 1% are from outside North America.
- However, the trend seems to point towards increased
  - "internationalization" (audiences

were even more local in 2009: 86% of visitors from St. Catharines, vs. 64% in 2010).

#### The event is more popular among adults than younger segments:

• 46% of participants were over the age of 45. This indicates low participation of children and youth.

## Niagara Folk Arts Festival: Findings

The Festival received 19,275 participants in 2009<sup>\*</sup>. This is much more than the Doors Open event, but less than Wine Festival.

\*Please note that no data was available for 2010 and 2011 in the case of the Folks Arts in the Park Festival to determine a trend.

### **Centre for the Arts at Brock University: Findings**

- Average Attendance per event during the period 2007-2011 remains very stable within the range 387-422.
- Total attendance saw an all-time high in 2011, at 29,000 visitors or 76% of total capacity.
- CFTA's commitment to programming is demonstrable: **The number of programs** and total capacity peaked in 2010-2011.
- Further, **net revenues have increased by 21%** in the last four years, despite downward economic trends.
- Note that the CFTA is the future presentation program for the St. Catharines Downtown Performing Arts Centre.

СҒТА	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	Variation
Total Attendance	27,759	27,013	25,899	29,000	4%
Total Capacity	36,878	33,364	32,632	38,088	3%
No. of Programs	69	64	62	75	9%
Visitors/Capacity	75%	81%	79%	76%	1%
Total Revenues	\$699,576	\$701,203	\$802,176	\$848,464	21%
Avge Revenue/Event	\$10,139	\$10,956	\$12,938	\$11,313	12%

Please note that 2011-12 data has not been used in the analysis because it is not final.

### **Key Implications of Cultural Participation Analysis**

A. St. Catharines has diverse offerings for cultural participation, for residents and tourists.

B. Events that have seen long term investment have the highest participation and economic impact.

C. Recreation-based cultural experiences are diverse and popular with the older adult community, but require development for children, youth and adults.

D. Participants are more likely to be residents or from elsewhere in Ontario.

E. Cultural participation is concentrated downtown.





# A. St. Catharines has diverse offerings for cultural participation, for residents and tourists.

•There are multiple experiences available at a wide range of price points, with the majority of activities available for free or moderate cost.



# B. Events that have seen long term investment have the highest participation and economic impact.

•The St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre, the St. Catharines Public Library, the Lakeside Park Carousel, Niagara Wine Festival, and the Centre for the Arts at Brock University all have strong attendance.

•Brock University has subsidized the Centre for the Arts to date, all other primary assets have had ongoing funding from the City of St. Catharines.

•Doors Open Niagara has little or no funding from the City and has been operated by an outside agency which has no role in local community engagement.





## C. Recreation-based cultural experiences are diverse and popular with the older adult community, but require development for children, youth and adults.

•Consider a review of culture-related programs at the Russell Avenue Community Centre and work with arts providers in the community to cultivate new options.

•Consider mid-year promotions targeted to culture-friendly audiences to cultivate more participation.

•Review how participation information is collected and ensure it is comparable (ie older adults to children to youth.)





# D. Participants are more likely to be residents or from elsewhere in Ontario.

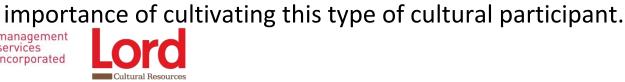
•Analysis of St. Catharines participation trends suggests that participants to most events are residents, even when the focus is on attracting tourists (with Welland Canal as a clear exception):

•At the Niagara Wine Festival in 2010, 83% of visitors were from either St. Catharines or Ontario. Only 1% were from outside North America.

•Certainly, investment in programs offered at **local centres** results in residential participation.

•Tourists have a higher economic impact than residents, hence the

webb



### **E.** Cultural participation is concentrated downtown

- Cultural industries and facilities are concentrated in the downtown area (ie.Russell Ave. Community Centre, Central Library).
- SCCIP funding focus is downtown but also well distributed throughout the City (in smaller grant amounts though).
- ... but there is potential for arts participation throughout the City
- The most active district in terms of cultural participation seems to be the North End.
- Highest concentrations of educational attainment are located on the outskirts of the City.
- There is limited activity around the university despite the success of CFTA's programs.







### **Research conducted**

In order to assess the position of the new Performing Arts Centre within the context of the Culture Plan, we have:

- Reviewed the business plan for the Performing Arts Centre, specifically focusing on rental estimates and rates, the balance of income sources and the suggested City subsidy.
- Researched a number of other Canadian performing arts centre models.
- Revisited the context and content of our previous conversations with PAC and Brock University arts leadership.



### **Findings from comparables research**

### Need for Quantitative and Qualitative Impacts

Cities subsidize cultural facilities with the understanding that those spaces and their associated activities provide significant return on investment in the form of economic and community benefit:

- There are quantitative impacts associated with spending of the Centre and of those attending Centre activity, and,
- There are qualitative impacts in terms of increased cultural vitality, community pride and quality of life, economic development, enhanced educational opportunities and more.

These impacts justify the use of City tax dollars on behalf of the public on an ongoing basis, not only to develop the Centre but to support it as it continues to serve the community.





### **Findings from comparables research**

### Annual contributions have the following characteristics:

- **Size:** City subsidies for similar Performing Arts Centers in comparably sized Ontario communities range from about \$2 to \$7 per capita. If the City were to contribute \$750K for a year (for example), it will amount to \$5.71 per capita (assuming a population of 131,400.)
- Flexible contribution: Within most of these scenarios, the annual contribution is not fixed, but is rather dependent on the annual operating budget and anticipated operating result. The City often makes up or shares any gap.
- **General funding requirement:** The subsidies at these other centres support a general funding requirement and are not allocated to any specific purpose or need.





### **Findings from comparables research**

# Rental Rates most often structured to favour not-for-profit corporations, local groups and/or arts organizations:

 Generally, they are either tiered based on the size and status of the renter (non-profits receive lower rates than commercial entities) or the Centre offers a program by which a set of organizations can qualify for reduced rental rates given a set of criteria.

### **City Participation:**

 Centres that are operated by not-for-profit corporations and receive significant City subsidy often have ties to the City. As a result, one or more City designates are required to sit on the Centre's Board of Directors and the City often must approve the Centre's budget before allocating and providing the annual subsidy.



### **Recommendations**

**1. Do not restrict the City's annual contribution to PAC to a particular program or purpose**, for the following reasons:

- It is logistically difficult to restrict the City subsidy to a particular use.
- Designating the subsidy for a particular use limits the Centre in its ability to operate sustainably.
- Community members will expect the use of public tax dollars to support the public good. If the annual funding support is allocated to local arts organizations, the public may not easily recognize the direct public benefit.



### Recommendations

### 2. The City should have an active role in the PAC management:

- The Centre's bylaws should require that City designates participate in its oversight, potentially on the Board of Directors.
- The City should be required to review and approve the Centre's budget, with Centre leadership appearing before City Council to present and qualify the budget before Council approves budget.



### Recommendations

### 3. Advocate for ongoing support of the Centre:

• The Public must understand that the Centre will provide significant contribution and positive impact to St. Catharines. It will require public support not only initially for its development, but also on an ongoing basis to support programs and activities. This need—as well as the many benefits that the Centre will provide—must be effectively communicated to the public, perhaps as part of a broader arts advocacy campaign.







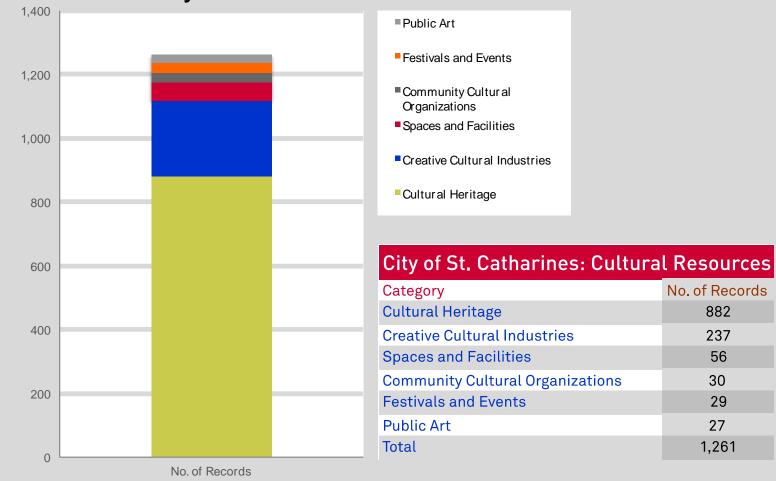
## Context

- **The cultural asset inventory was developed using** a review of facilities and/or other assets officially designated as culture by the City and its neighbouring jurisdictions, and a review of the City's existing GIS datasets.
- Using a preliminary set of categories, these assets were organized by location and mapped. Icons were assigned to each cultural asset category.
- Demographic data was secured from Environics and layered with cultural assets to understand population characteristics relative to asset locations.
- Note: Cultural assets were not mapped for the "Natural Heritage" category although the City's parks and trails are included in the maps.

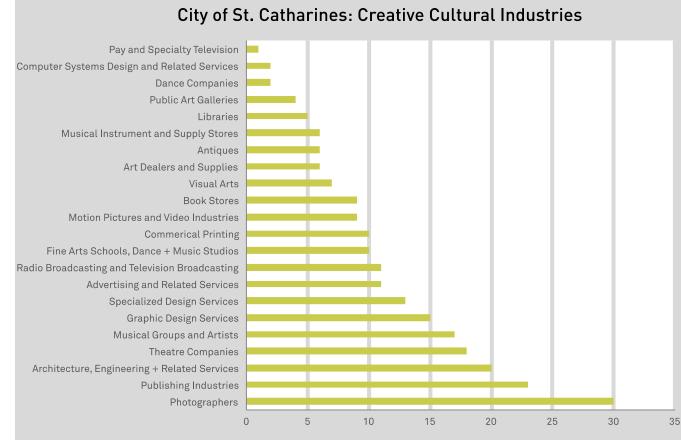


### **Cultural Resources Overview**

#### City of St. Catharines: Cultural Resources By Number of Records



## **Creative Cultural Industries**



- Review of creative cultural industries data reveals few dance companies but overall strong performing arts.
- Some concern over integrity of the data due to limited software publishers, telecommunications and computer design.



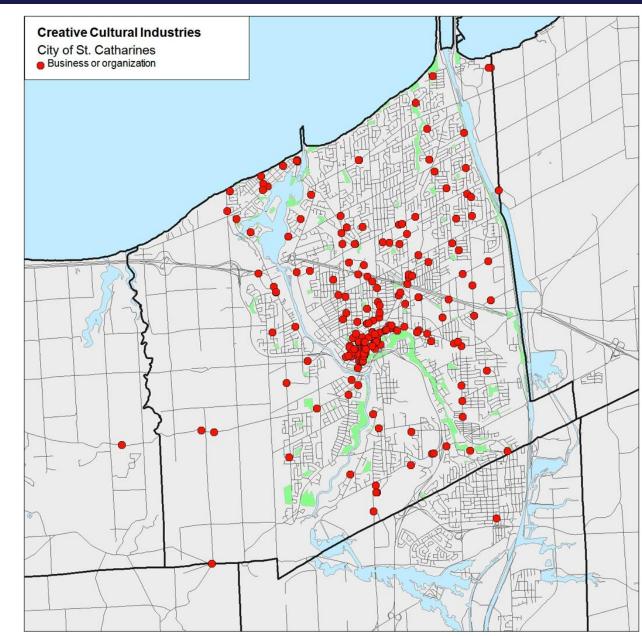
Creative **Cultural** Industries

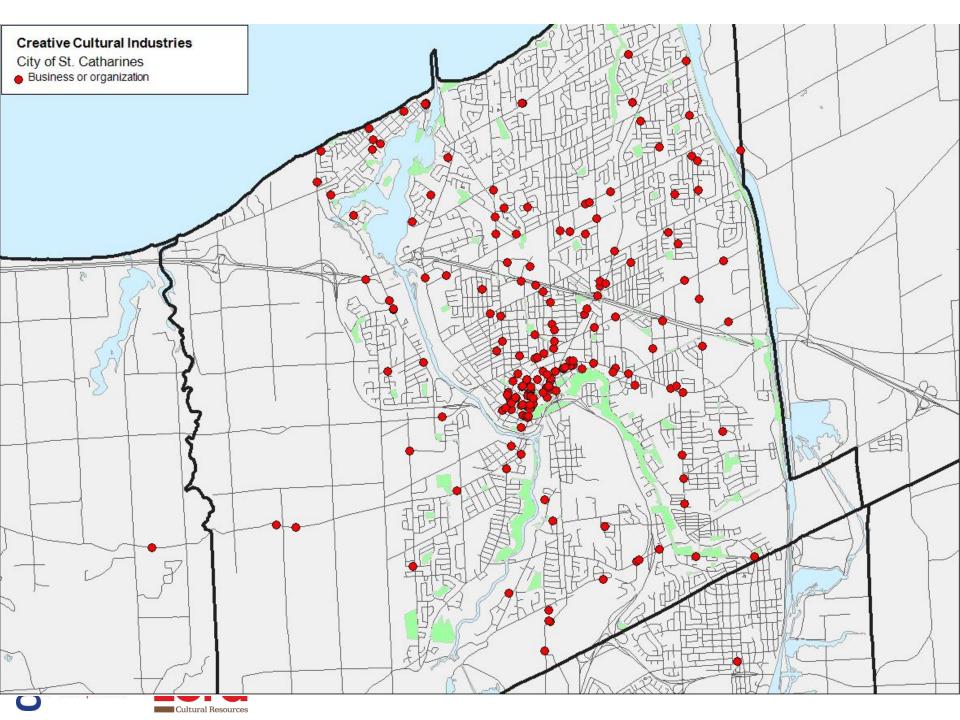
- Industries are concentrated in downtown area.
- Limited impact of University presence in the South quadrant, including lack of campus organizations.
- This may be due to geographical limitations, though other communities include a cultural corridor connecting campuses with downtown.



services







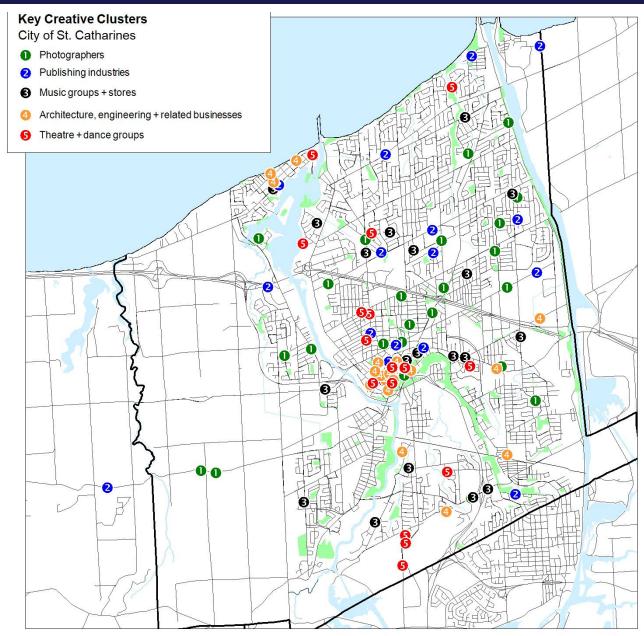
Creative Cultural Industries

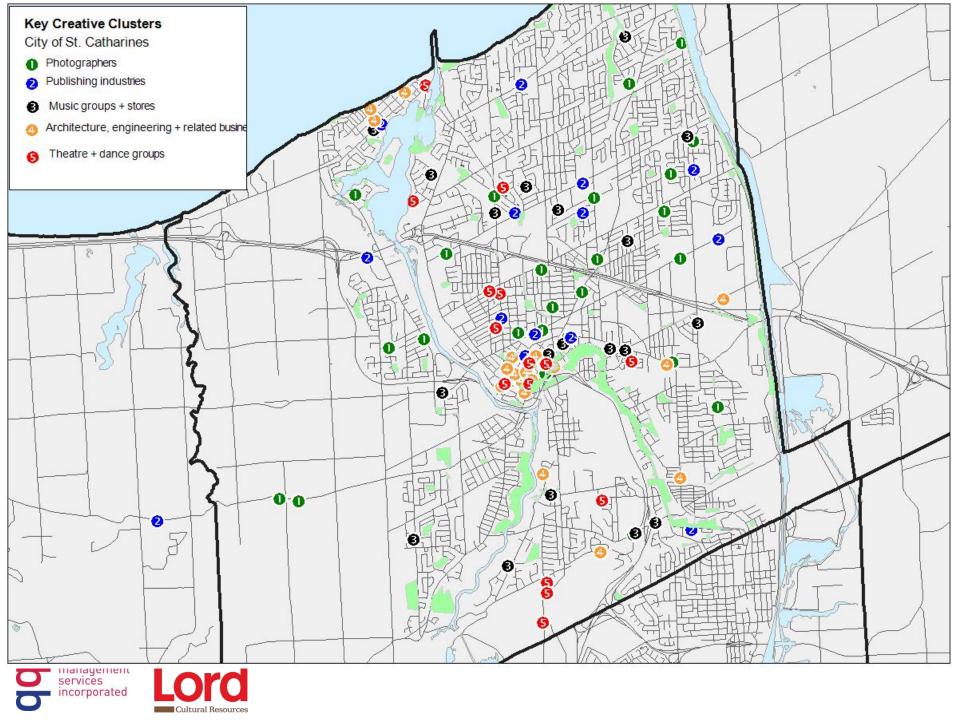
- Theatre and dance groups are concentrated downtown.
- Notable concentration of architecture businesses downtown.
- Photographers are well-distributed

services

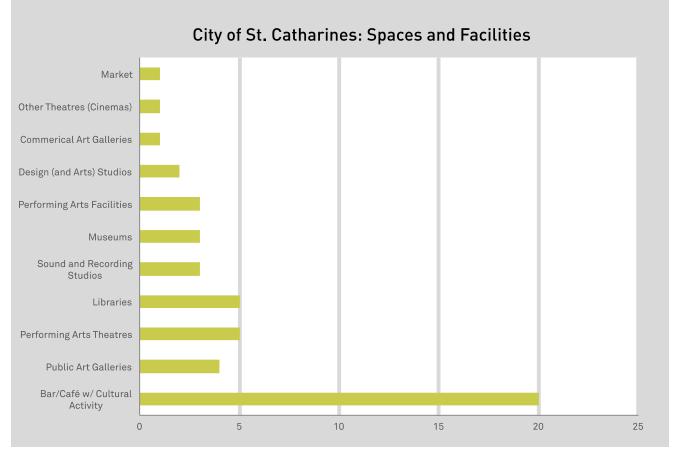
throughout the City.







## **Spaces and Facilities**



- Comparatively high ٠ level of nontraditional venues may indicate amateur and informal activity.
- Few design studios. ٠
- Few commercial ٠ art galleries.

**Ve** 

services



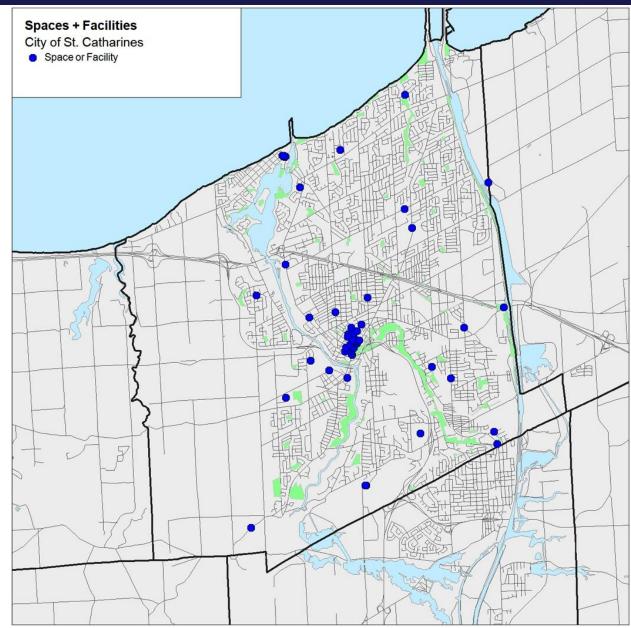
Spaces & Facilities

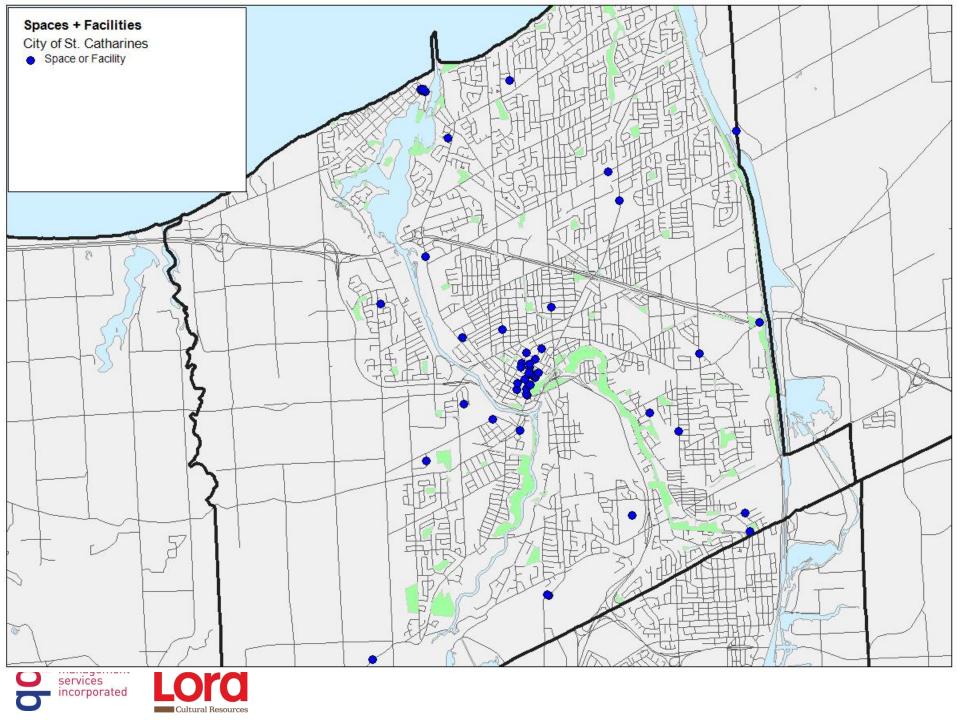
- Not surprisingly, facilities are clustered downtown.
- Limited activity around the university.

Cultural Resource

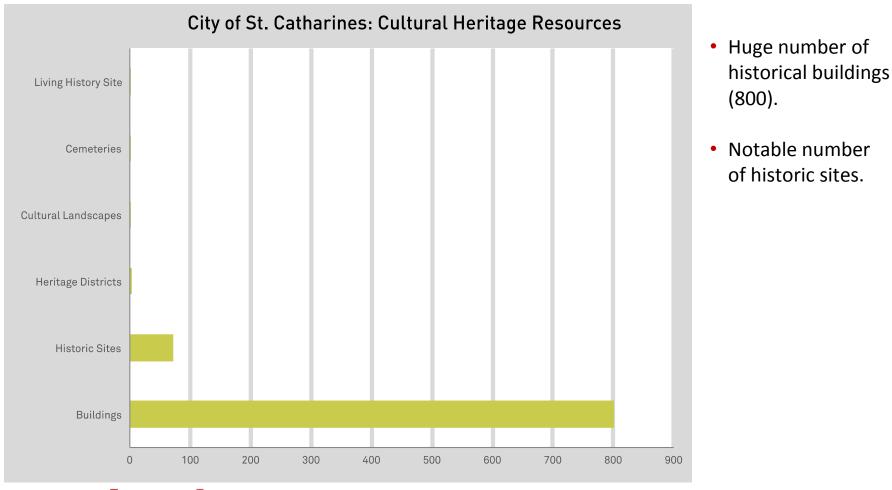
We

management services incorporated





#### **Cultural Heritage Resources**



management services incorporated

We



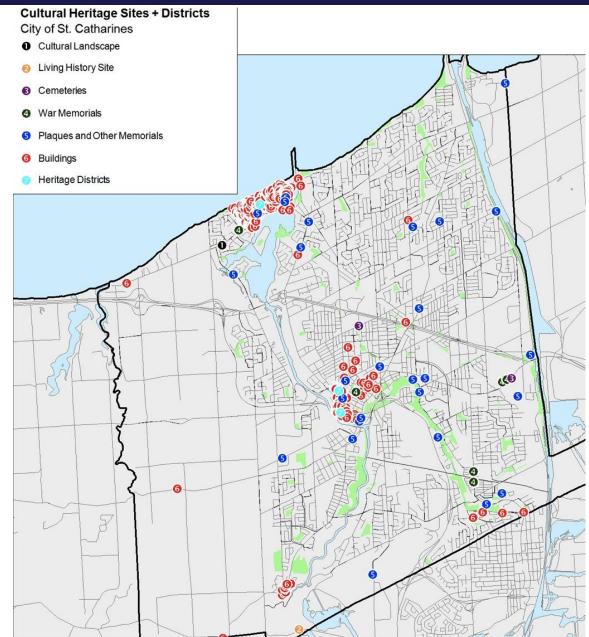
# Cultural Heritage

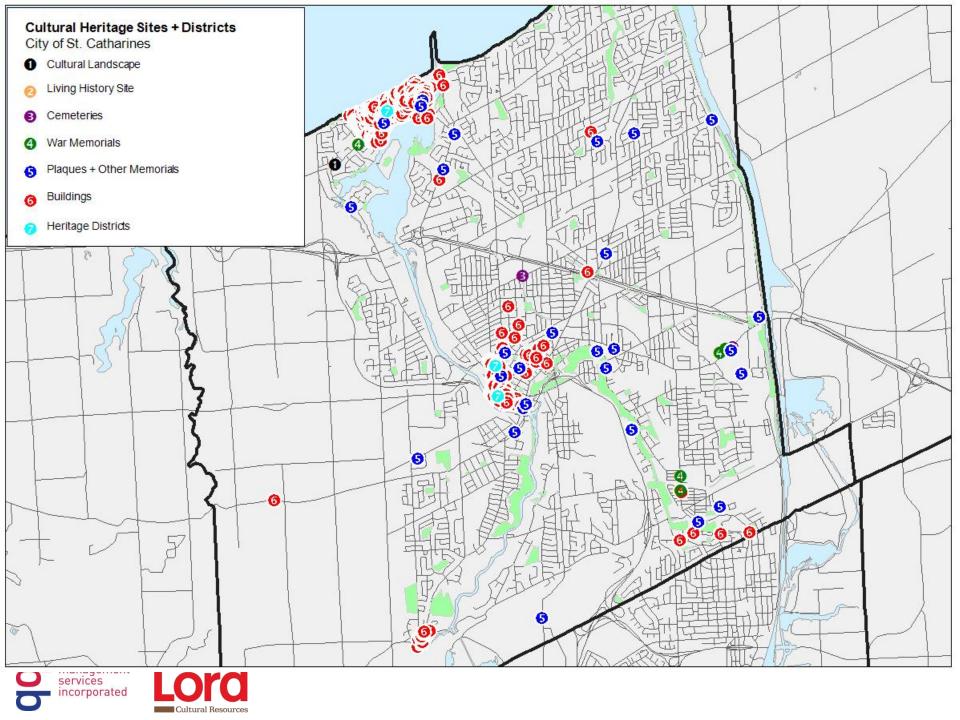
We

management services incorporated

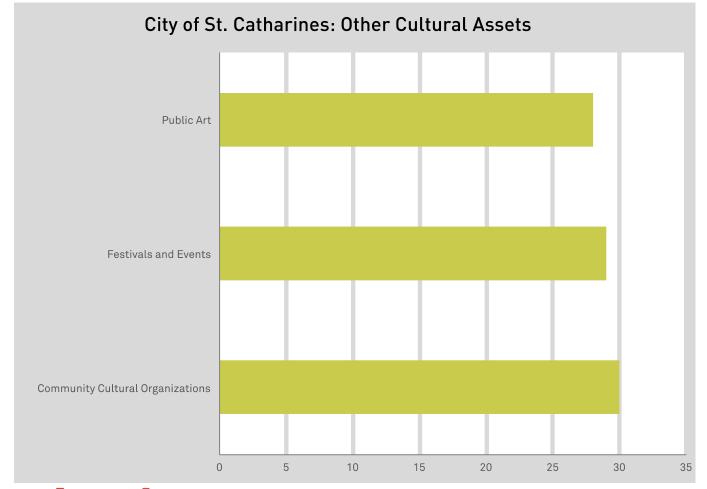
 Not surprisingly, historic buildings are concentrated in heritage districts.

Cultural Resources





#### **Other Cultural Assets**



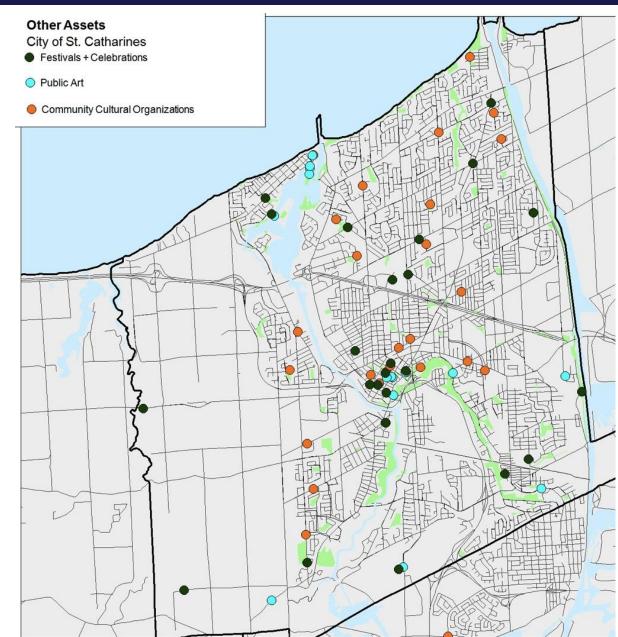
management services incorporated

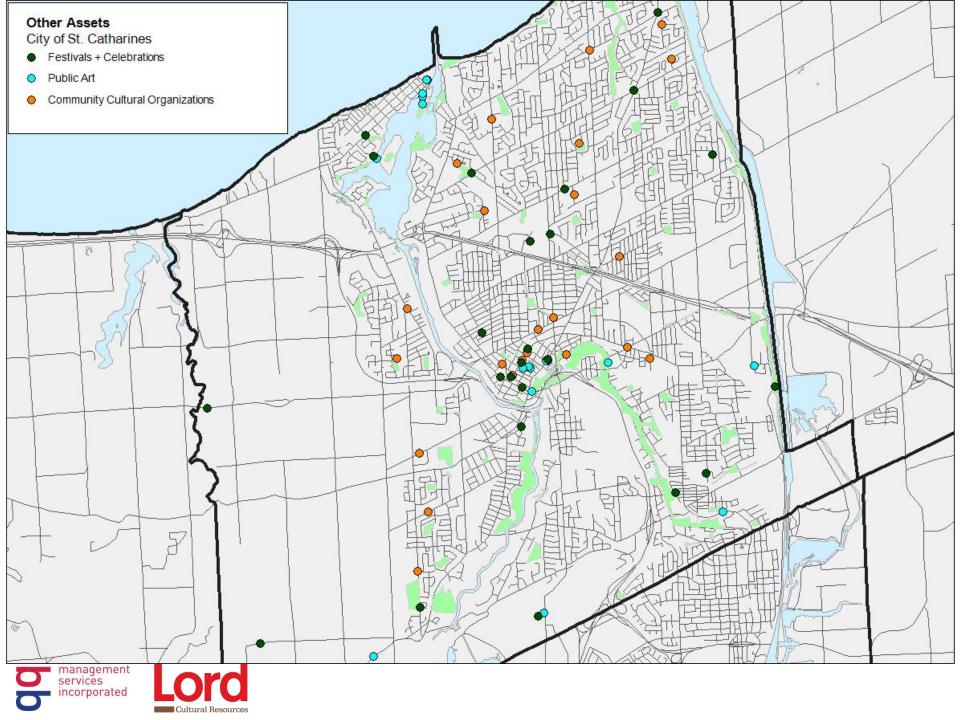


#### **Other Assets**

- Good and notable distribution pattern for community organizations and festivals.
- Some downtown concentration of all.
- Public Art geographically concentrated north, south and downtown(27 in all).







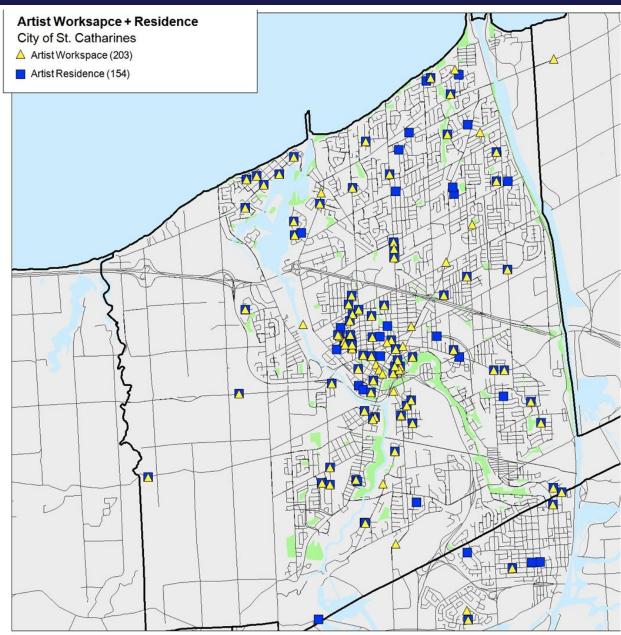
Artist Workspace + Residence

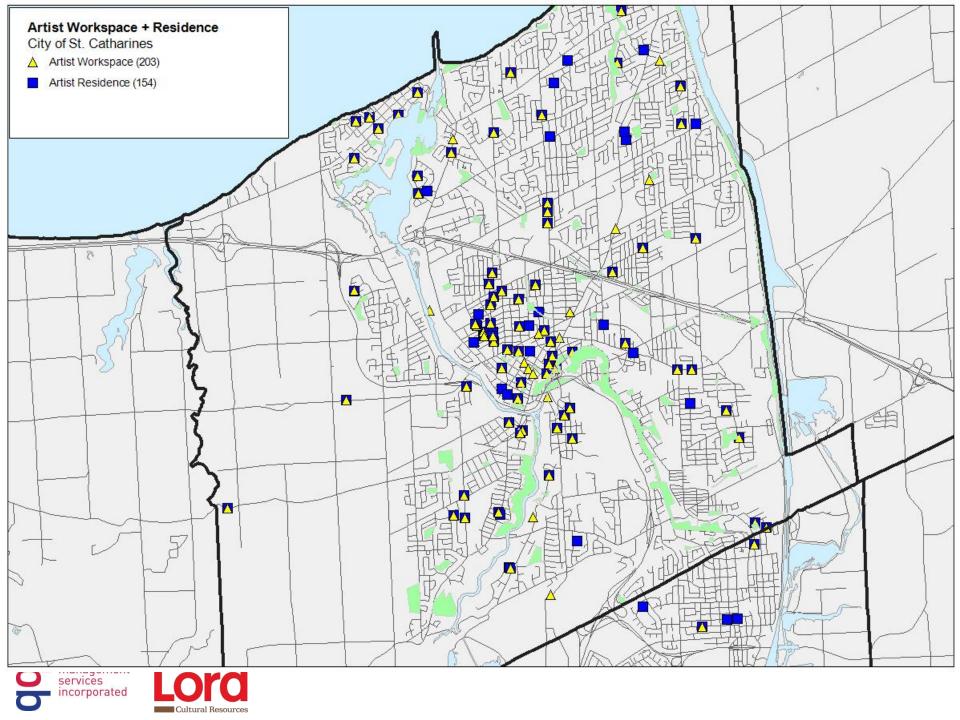
- Artists are working more than living downtown.
- Source: Survey data.

Cultural Resource

We

management services incorporated

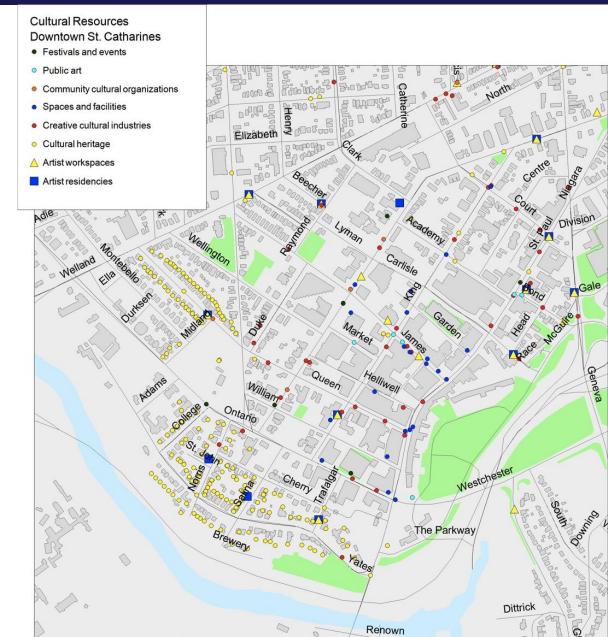


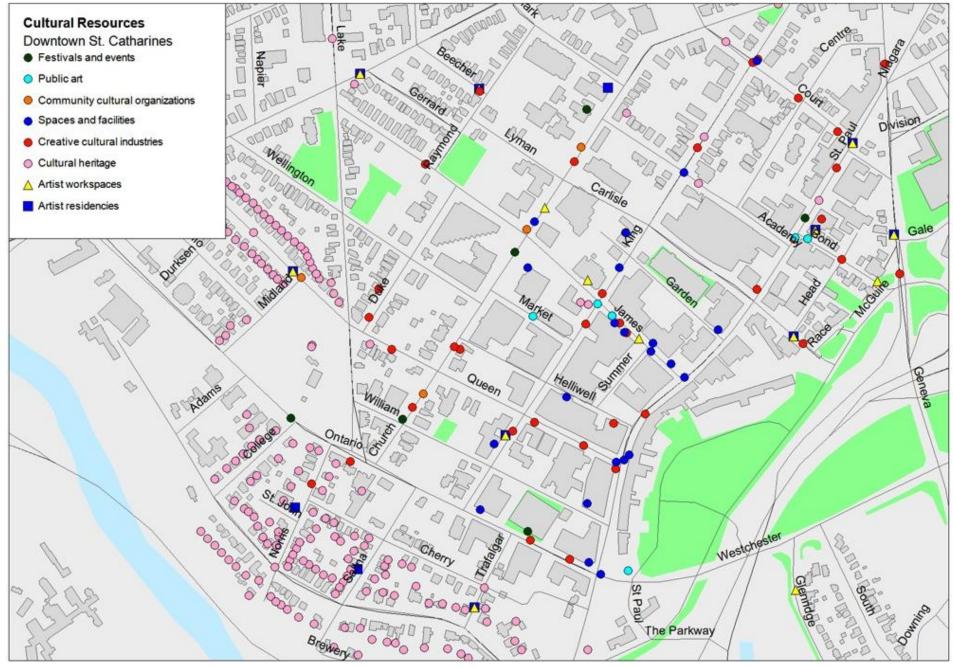


#### Downtown

- The Performing Arts Centre will be located at St. Paul and Carlisle.
- Existing assets are clustered on James St, St Paul, riverfront.
- Placement of existing assets makes them wellpositioned to leverage the economic impact of the PAC.
- Clusters of heritage assets are notable.











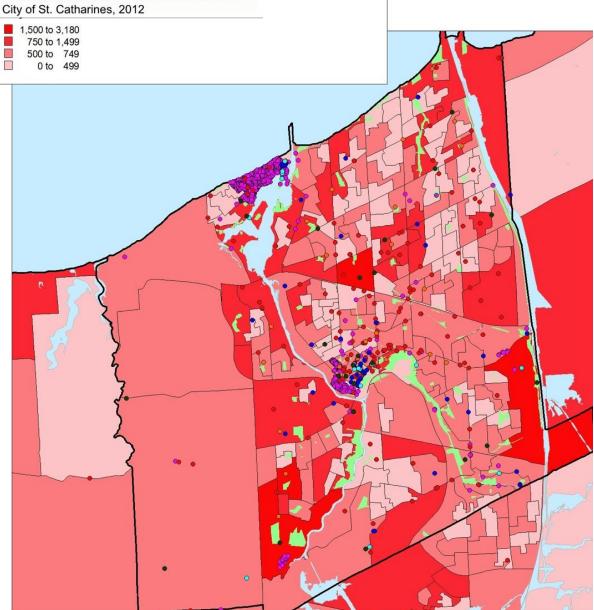
#### Demographic Analysis

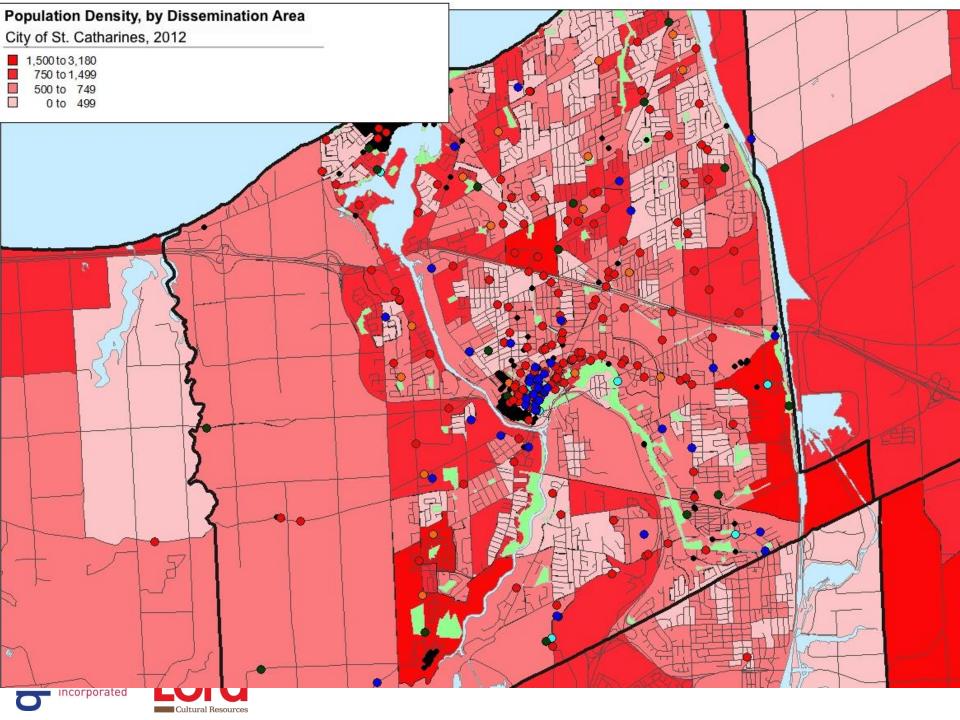
- Population density downtown is lower but concentration of cultural assets is higher.
- Significant populations must travel downtown for cultural experiences.

Cultural Resource

We

management services incorporated Population Density, by Dissemination Area

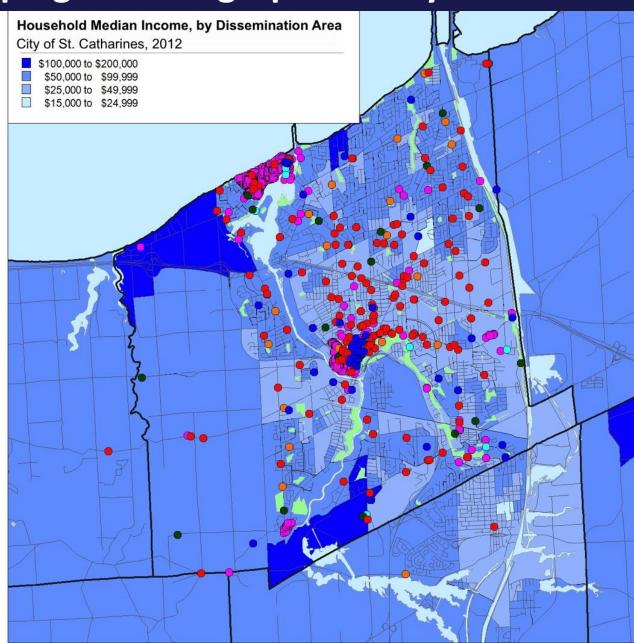


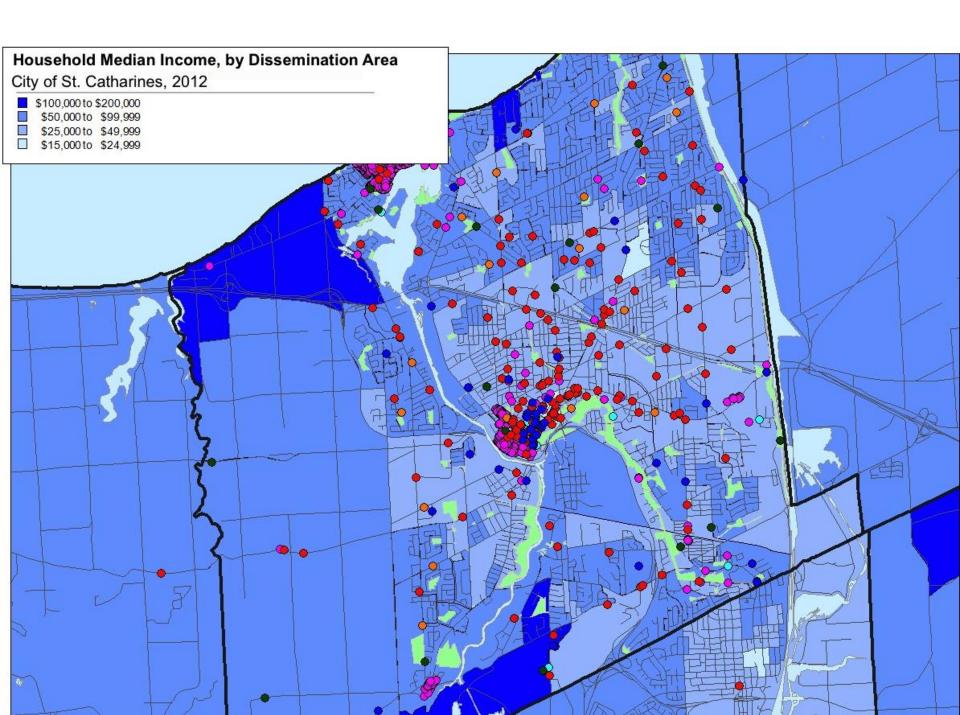


#### Demographic Analysis

 Two pockets of affluence are evident, one on the water and one near the university







#### Demographic **Analysis**

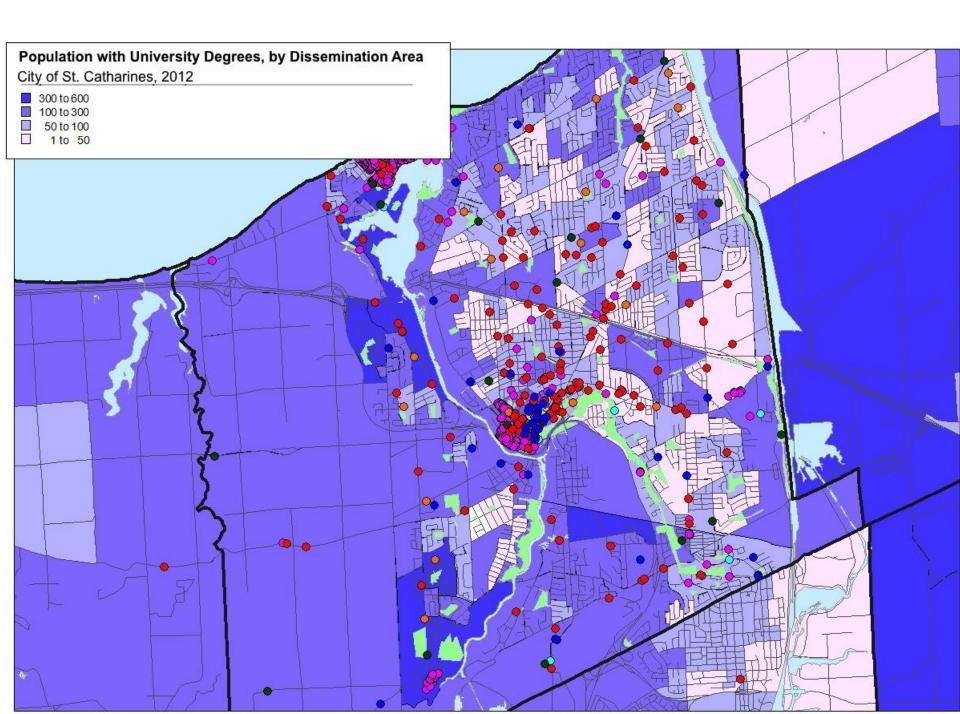
• Highest concentrations of educational attainment are located on the outskirts of the City.

We

management services incorporated

Cultural Resources

Population with University Degrees, by Dissemination Area City of St. Catharines, 2012 300 to 600 100 to 300 50 to 100 1 to 50



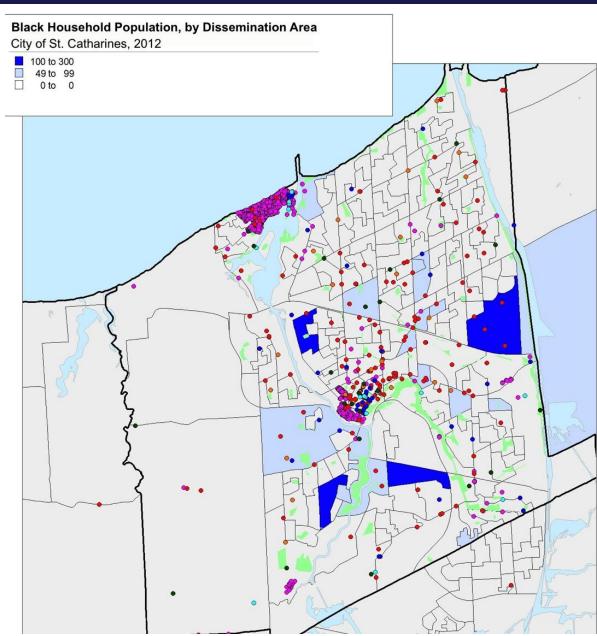
#### Demographic Analysis

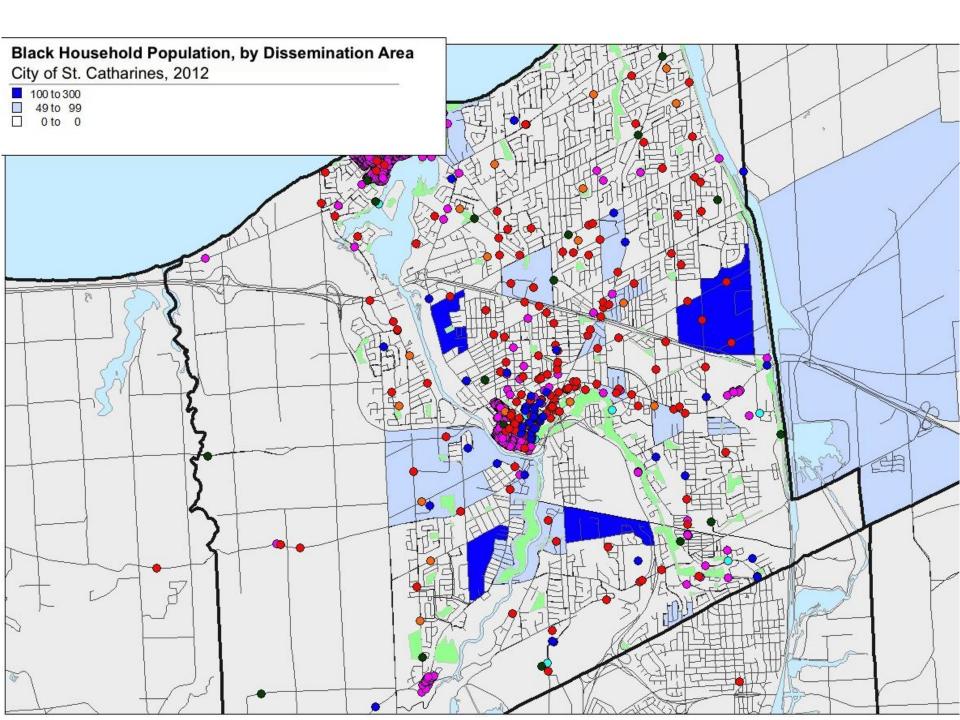
 Few identified assets in areas with highest concentrations of Black residents.

We

management services incorporated

Cultural Resource





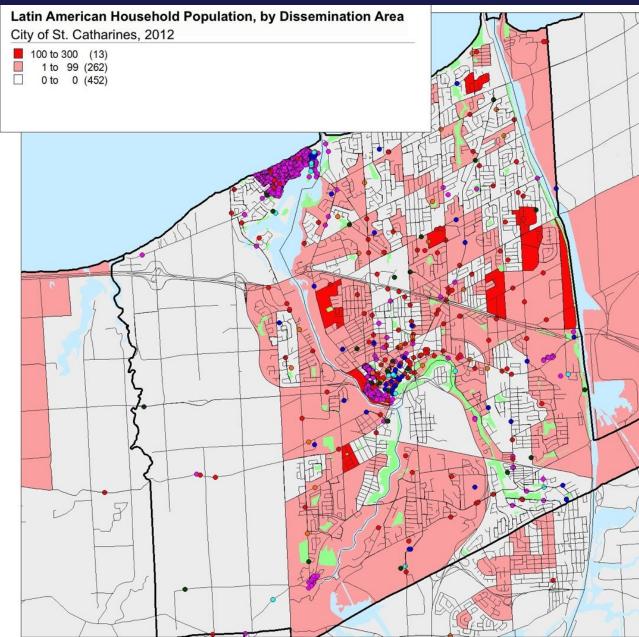
#### Demographic Analysis

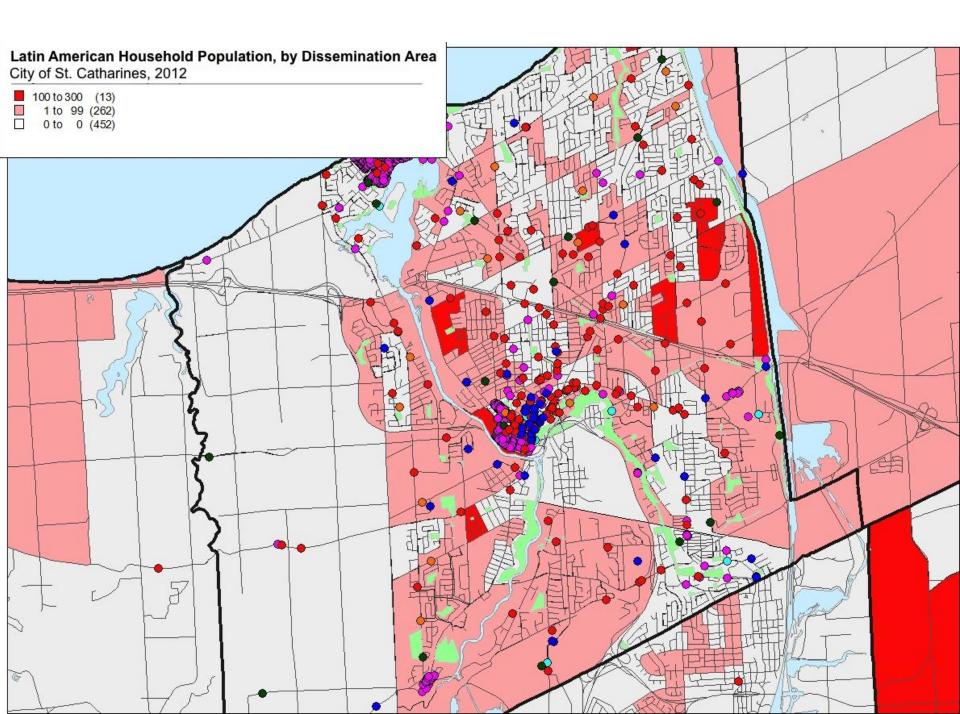
 Few identified assets in areas with highest concentrations of Latino residents.

We

management services incorporated

Cultural Resources





#### Demographic **Analysis**

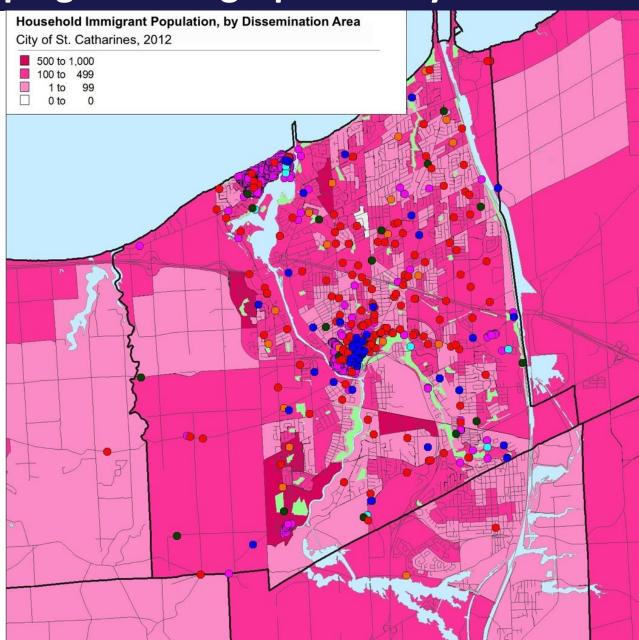
- Population surrounding the University is welleducated and benefits from concentration of immigrants.
- Immigrant populations are less likely to travel downtown for arts programs, more likely to participate at home, church or within their neighborhood community.
- Highly educated immigrant populations are more likely to be interested in

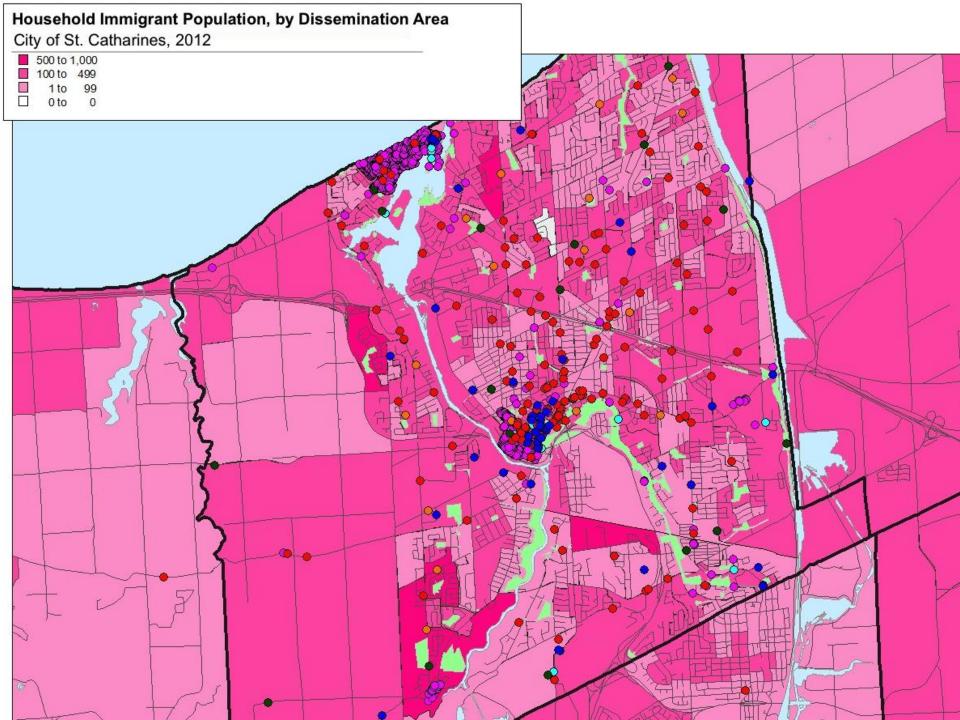
other culturally-specific programming.

We

services







#### Demographic Analysis

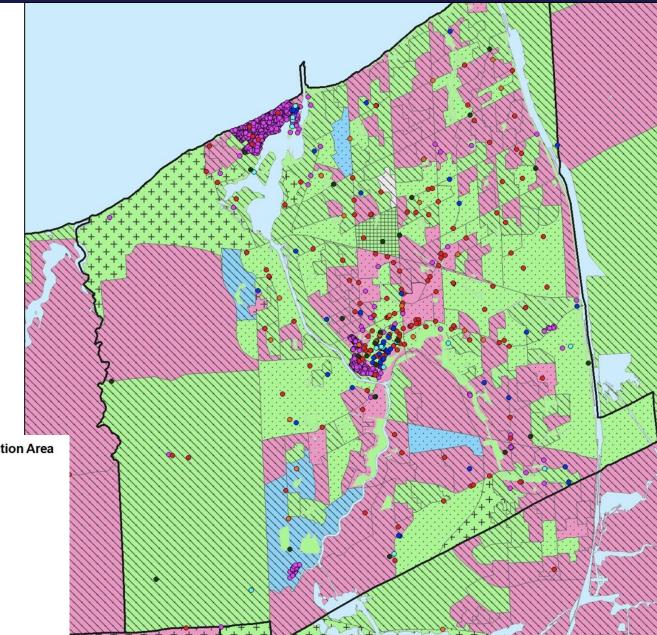
 Some of the areas with highest concentrations of immigrant populations also have more low income households

Household Immigrant Population, by Dissemination Area City of St. Catharines (2012)

500 to	1,000	
100 to	499	
1 to	99	
0 to	0	

Households with Income 30K and Lower City of St. Catharines (2012)

$\blacksquare$	500	to	1,000
	100	to	499
$\square$	1	to	99
+	0	to	0



#### Household Immigrant Population, by Dissemination Area

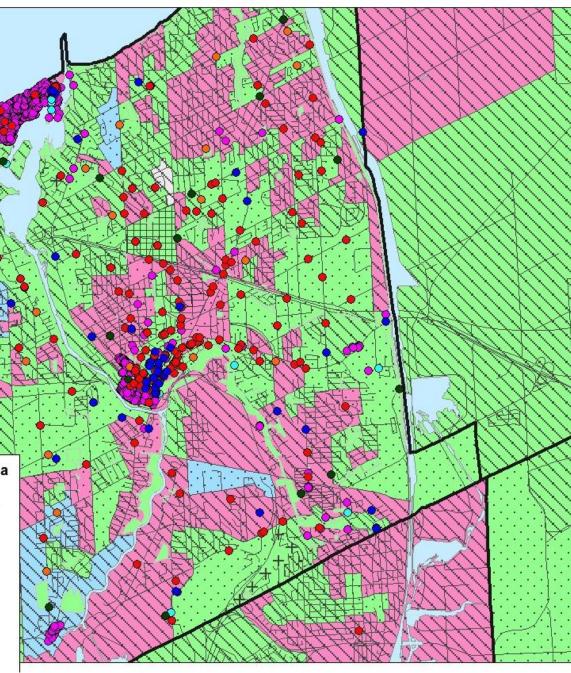
Clty of St. Catharines, 2012

500 to 1	1,000	
100 to	499	
1 to	99	
0 to	0	

#### Households with Income 30K and Lower

City of St. Catharines (2012)

$\square$	500 to	1,000
$\Box$	100 to	499
$\square$	1 to	99
	0 to	0



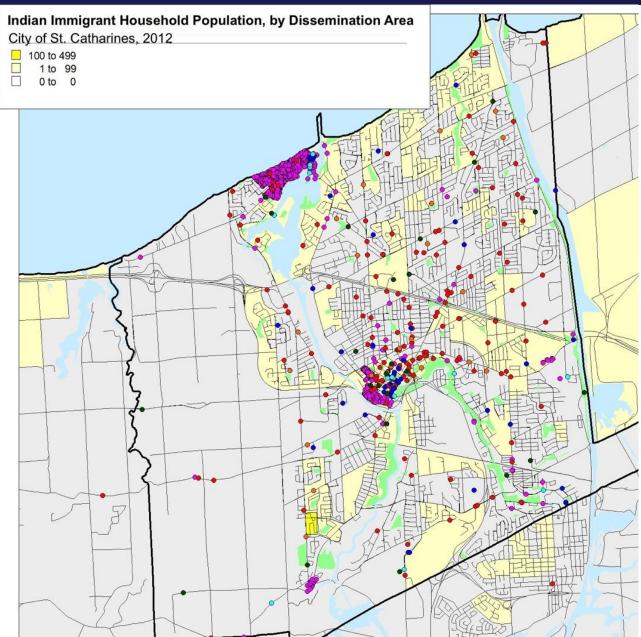
#### Demographic Analysis

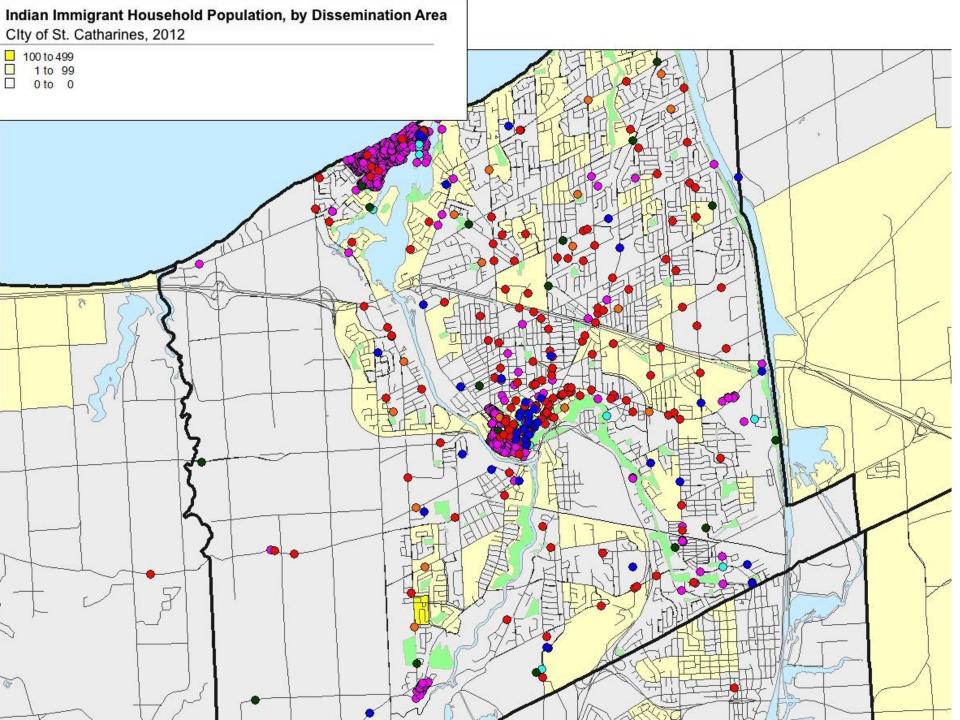
 There is a small but concentrated Indian community located in southwest St. Catharines.

Cultural Resources

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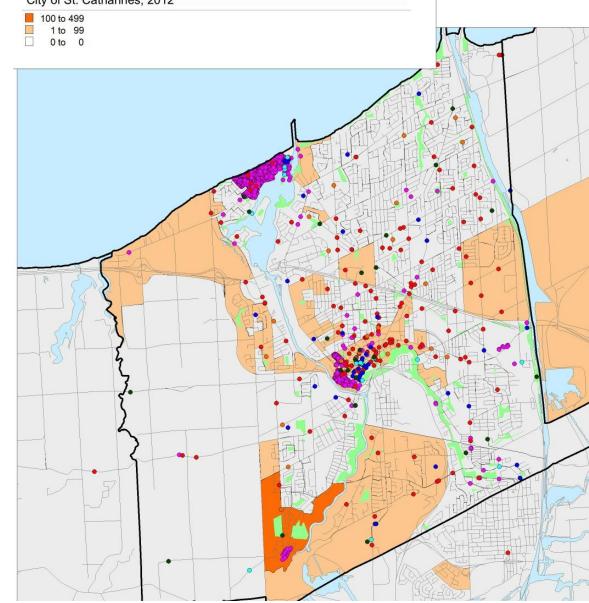
management services incorporated



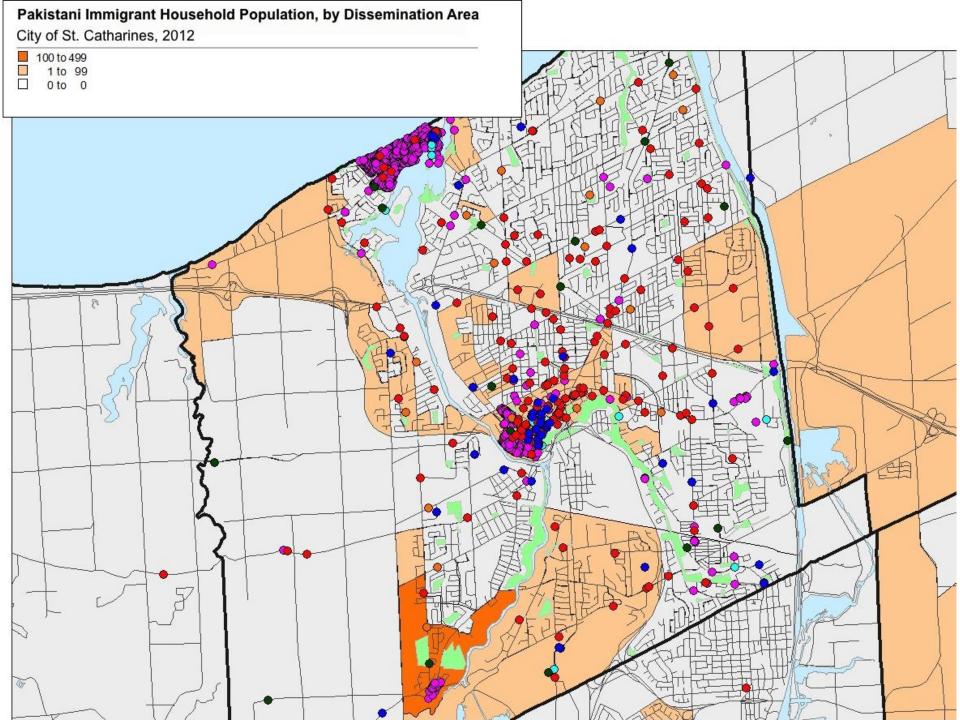


#### Demographic Analysis

 There is also a small but concentrated Pakistani community located in southwest St. Catharines. Pakistani Immigrant Household Population, by Dissemination Area City of St. Catharines, 2012



management services incorporated



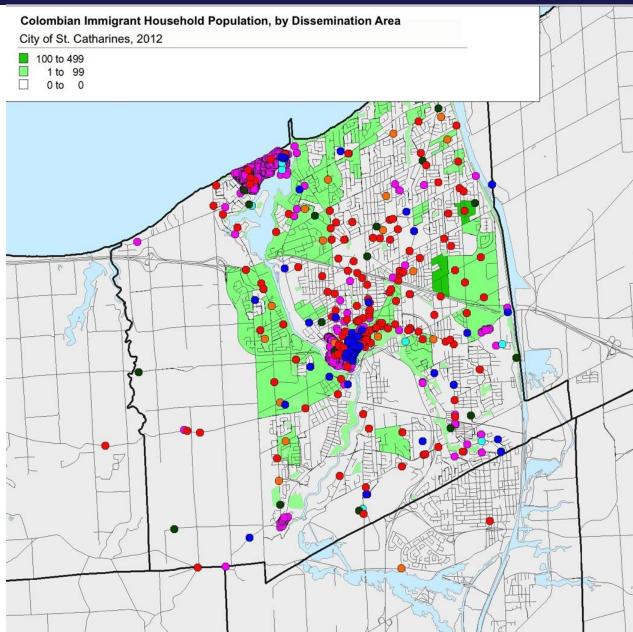
#### Demographic Analysis

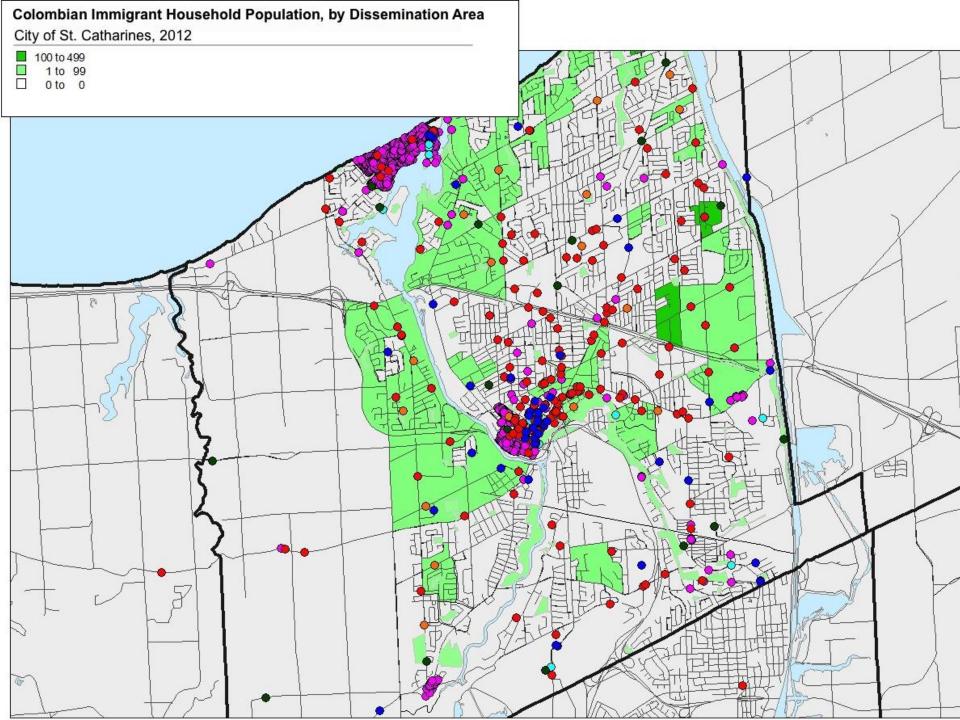
 There are pockets of immigrants from Colombia as well.

We

management services incorporated

Cultural Resources





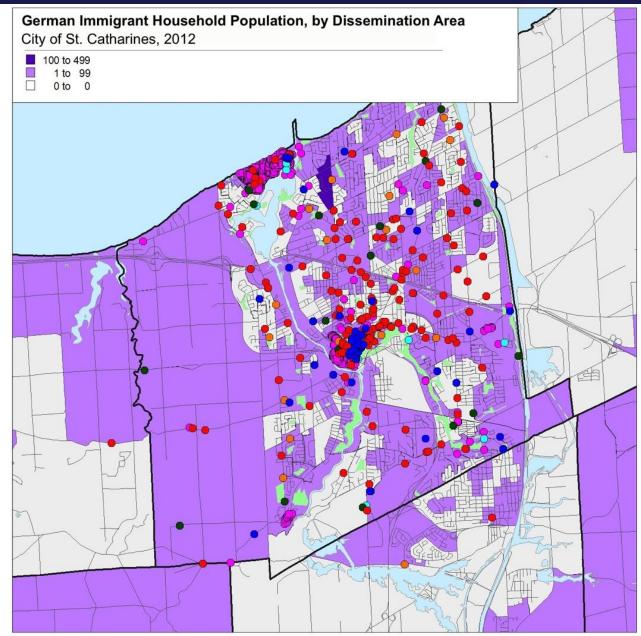
#### Demographic Analysis

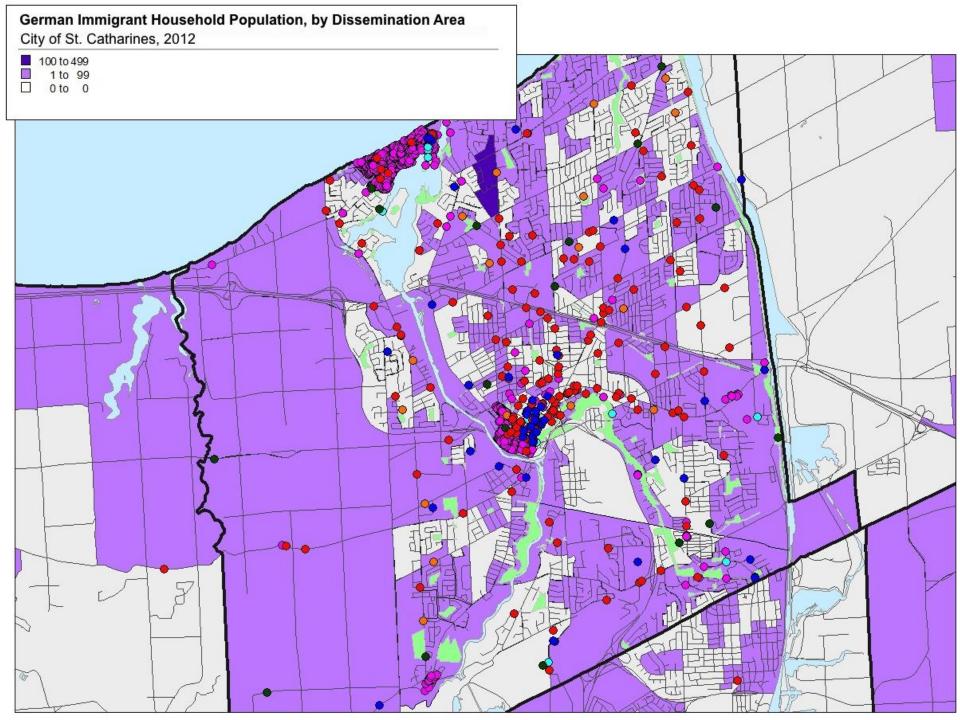
 There are pockets of immigrants from Germany as well.

We

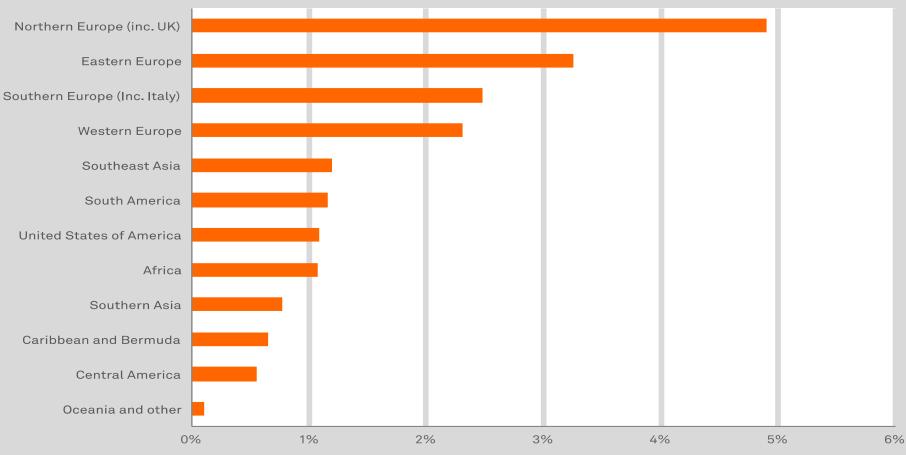
management services incorporated

Cultural Resource



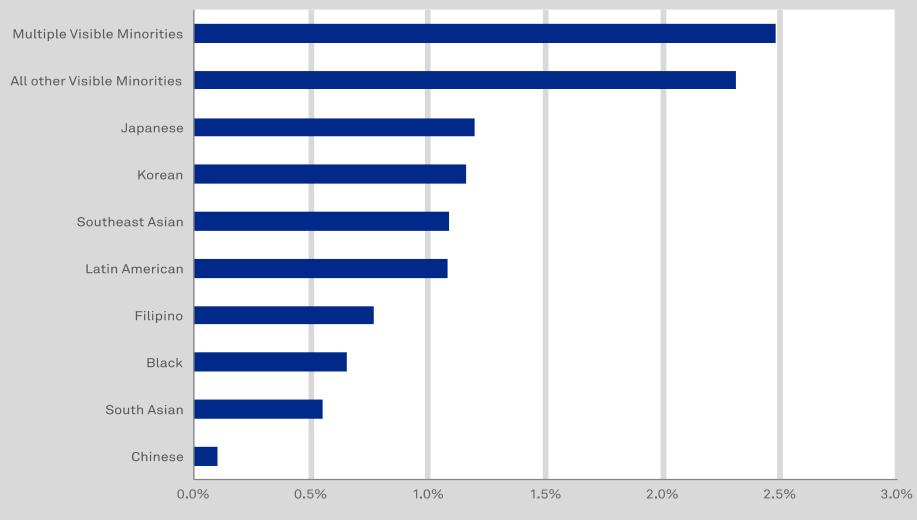


#### Immigrants by Place of Birth City of St. Catharines





#### Household Population by Visible Minority Status City of St. Catharines





#### **Conclusions**

- While formal activity is taking place in traditional performing and visual arts facilities, it is also likely that informal and amateur activity is taking place at homes and in bars and cafes, given the asset data and knowledge of participation habits of immigrant communities.
- There are limited assets and activity in and around Brock University, even while the surrounding population is highly diverse and well-educated.
- Significant concentrations of facilities and assets are clustered downtown.
- Cultural resources are concentrated in areas with lower population density.
- One of the City's strongest assets is its significant number of cultural heritage resources.
- St. Catharines has interesting diversity, with notable minority populations and pockets of immigrants from Great Britain, Colombia, India and Germany.
- There are few cultural assets available in areas of lower median incomes.



# **6. Artists Survey Findings**





#### **Key Findings**

- St. Catharines artists face challenges also observed in other cities.
- The three main challenges for working artists lower income, need for non-creative income, lack of time are strongly connected (59% of St. Catharines artists earn less than \$10,000 yearly. As a result, they need to have another occupation, and have less time to create).
- Space does not seem to be a priority for artists: most of them are not interested in looking at new living/work spaces.
- Most artists work individually and in private spaces; this suggests a potential for **improved collaboration schemes.**
- Artists work primarily on a provincial level: while 92% sell or practice their art outside of St. Catharines, only 25% do so outside of Ontario.
- Over half of artists receive financial support and/or technical assistance from public institutions in St. Catharines / Niagara / Ontario.





#### **Survey Overview**

- Conducted in 2012. 165 responses.
- Primary Disciplines of respondents (Checking all that apply)

2 or 3 dimensional visual art	87	53%
Digital (installation, web, film, video, gaming)	48	29%
Graphic arts and design	30	18%
Performing Arts: Theatre	31	19%
Performing Arts: Music	33	20%
Literary Arts	17	10%
Interdisciplinary Arts	17	10%
Fibre/textile arts	15	9%
Dance	9	5%
Other	31	19%

#### **Main Challenges for Artists**

12. What are the biggest challenges in pursuing your art?		
Financial resources and income	94	60%
Another occupation/employment	69	44%
Lack of time	64	41%
Limited opportunities to exhibit or perform	58	37%
Lack of centralized marketing opportunities	45	29%
Lack of space	31	20%
Other, please specify	24	15%
Limited access to supplies and material	16	10%

 "Other" challenges indicated include: "lack of demand/clients", "narrow minded attitudes in St. Catharines", "lack of positive support from venues", and "small art community – limited dialogue".

## **Time Available for Art Making**

2. On average, how many hours a week do you work or create as an artist? Check one.

Less than 10 hours	32	19%
10 to 20 hours	61	37%
20 to 30 hours	30	18%
30 to 40 hours	26	16%
More than 40 hours	16	10%
Total	165	100%





#### How St. Catharines' Artists Work

#### Most artists work individually and in private spaces.

- 64% create at their home studio.
- Only 4% of artists work or create in the public realms (park, coffee shop, community centre, etc.).
- Only 7% work in a shared or cooperative workspace.

#### Most artists work in the traditional artistic disciplines.

- 2-D and 3-D visual arts is the most popular (26%) followed by performing arts (music + theatre + dance = 22%).
- Relatively low percentage of digital media arts (14% overall, including web design) and crafts (only 5% work on textile arts, 1% on culinary arts).

#### Most artists sell or practice their art within Ontario.

• Although 92% of artists sell or practice their art outside of St. Catharines, most of them do so within the province: only 25% practice outside of Ontario.

#### **Where Artists Meet and Network**

13. Where do you meet and network with other artists?	
Local arts and cultural events (within St. Catharines)	69%
On-line	55%
Regional arts and cultural events (outside of St. Catherines)	48%
In the public realm (park, coffee shop, community centre etc)	41%
Place of employment	33%
Local educational institution (within St. Catharines)	30%
Other, please specify	18%
Regional educational institution (outside of St. Catharines)	17%
Shared or cooperative studio/workspace	16%

- **"Other**" meeting points include: Art Associations, Artists Societies, Art Clubs, Art Galleries and Niagara/Hamilton area churches.
- Note that few artists meet and/or network in cooperative workspaces (16%).

# 6. Artists Survey Findings

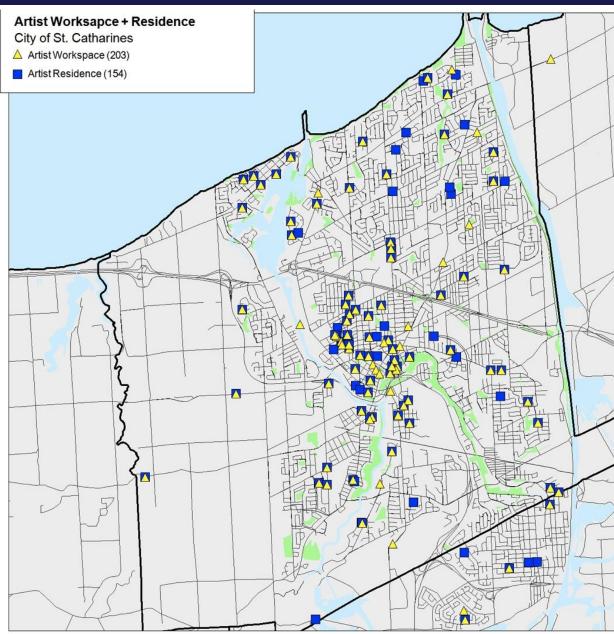
# Artist Workspace + Residence

 Artists are working more than living downtown.

We

management services incorporated

Cultural Resources



#### Space does not seem to be a priority

Survey respondents were asked: If available, would you be interested in renting any of the following spaces? Check all that apply.

Live/work space	25	16%
Office/admin space	13	8%
Rehearsal space	28	17%
Studio space	52	32%
I am not interested	74	<b>46%</b>
Other, please specify	18	11%

## **Technical Assistance, Training or Advice**

**64% of interviewees received** technical assistance from the institutions below:

15. Have you received TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, TRAINING or ADVICE from:	
Niagara Artists Centre	52%
Other, please specify	44%
Province of Ontario	32%
The City of St. Catharines	29%
Canada Council for the Arts	15%

"**Other**" assisting institutions include: Brock University, Niagara College, Art Associations, the St. Catharines and Area Arts Council (now defunct).

#### **Financial Support for Artists**

57% of interviewees received funding from the following institutions:

14. Have you received FINANCIAL SUPPORT from any of the following		
Province of Ontario	85%	
The City of St. Catharines	52%	
Canada Council for the Arts	44%	

# 7. Community Perceptions





#### 7. Community Perceptions

#### Context

#### **Public Engagement Process within Cultural Plan**

- Community consultation sought diversity and depth of voice through: meetings in diverse geographic locations; traditional and non-traditional methods of public engagement including social media, a roving camera series and artists in residence; focus groups and one-on-one interviews.
- Clarified citizens' perceptions of strengths and weaknesses of the culture offered in the city.
- Gave the Lord team and City staff the opportunity to hear from residents about their experience of culture in St. Catharines.



# **Community Consultation Methodology**

- **5 public town hall meetings** in different neighbourhoods in the city, held in seniors' centres, a public library and a high school. Broadly advertised.
- **5 focus groups** with representatives from the following sectors:
  - Performing Arts & Festivals Organizations;
  - Visual, Media and Literary Arts Groups;
  - Heritage and Ethnocultural Communities;
  - Emerging Artists & Cultural Workers;
  - Representatives from the Business and Tourism Community;
  - Representatives from the Heritage Community.
- **18 one-on-one interviews** with individuals selected by the City.
- General Audience Survey



# Findings: Experiencing Culture in St. Catharines

#### There are many things to do in the city

 Residents and focus group participants express great pride in what St. Catharines has to offer.

# The definition of what culture means and how communities engage in it requires clarity

- The term "culture" should encompass more than the traditional categories, of which there is a loyal but small core audience.
- A broader and more inclusive approach to defining culture would engage more residents in the community.



# Findings: Growing and Expanding Cultural Audiences

#### Need to expand information about events beyond the usual circles

• There is a sense that arts groups are always informing the same people. There should be a regional approach to cultural marketing.

# It is essential that the future Performing Arts Centre creates and maintains ties to existing performing arts groups.

• Desire for a model that allows everyone who wants to use the space to be able to.

The PAC's partnership with Brock University signals a new stage in the University's relationship with the city.

- Link between the city's arts community and the artistic activity at Brock.
- The hope is that students will become more civically engaged.



#### Findings: Responding to a changing and diverse demographic

# As festivals and events evolve, residents feel that certain kinds of audiences are sometimes edged out of participation

• The Niagara Wine Festival is no longer the kind of festival that connects back to the community as it now caters mostly to out-of-town visitors.

#### There is a need for festivals and cultural events that are more inclusive

- The Niagara Folk Arts Festival is one of the only festivals that residents identified as being inclusive of diverse cultures.
- More current and contemporary approaches to involve diverse audiences is required (the focus on *folk* arts is a dated construct).
- More attention on programming for youth, immigrant populations, and those from different socio-economic backgrounds.



# **Findings: Connecting Pockets of Cultural Activity**

#### More hubs to bring organizations and communities together

- The lack of public venues makes it difficult to share cultural activities and expressions with a broader audience.
- Diverse populations, particularly youth, require access to spaces around the city and not just one or two community centres.
- Having more community cultural spaces would help residents expand their understanding of what culture is due to greater exposure.
- There is a need for more cross-fertilization between cultural services and/or groups.



# Positioning within the Region of Niagara

#### Ambivalent relationship to the Regional Municipality of Niagara

- Some residents suggested that using the name "Niagara" instead of "St. Catharines" would open the city up to a greater audience.
- Others thought that doing so would consume St. Catharines' identity.



# **Communicating and Advocating for Cultural Activity**

# Information delivery systems to residents and potential tourists need improvement

- There is no centralized source of information on cultural activity that everyone can access: websites promoting the city, its festivals, and its attractions to the non-resident market are separate from the City's online listing.
- The City's online list is hidden behind various other pages and links.
- Make information accessible to immigrant communities and those other than core arts participants.

# A cultural advocacy and service organization would help amalgamate and form cross-disciplinary alliances within the city

- Too many silos exist within the city and there is currently no mechanism to bring them together.
- Such an organization could also act as an advocate for the cultural sector and cultural workers.





# **Findings: Funding Cultural Activity**

#### **Opportunities for individual artist funding are limited**

- Projects must be community-oriented in order to receive funding; lack of opportunities for artists and writers who generally work on their own.
- SCCIP has really benefited community groups in the city.

#### Perceptions are mixed regarding increased competition for funding

- Some feel that the recent trend for graduating Brock students to stay and work in the city is fantastic.
- At the same time, there are questions about how the addition of new companies in the community will impact current funding practices ie availability of SCCIP dollars.



# Findings: Recognizing the Economic Impact of Culture

# Downtown businesses could do more to attract and maintain cultural activity

- Businesses should consider staying open to coincide with gallery crawls, evening shows, Ice Dogs games, etc. to give people reasons to spend more time downtown.
- There is no sense of consistent nightlife downtown.

#### **Transportation planning**

• Need for responsible transportation planning in the downtown core to prepare for audiences descending on the PAC.



## **Findings: Prioritizing Heritage Needs**

# The City should take a leadership role in advocating for the preservation of all heritage sites (City- and non-City-owned)

- Maintain an up-to-date database of all heritage sites.
- The City should act as facilitator and expert in advocating for preservation and adequate maintenance of non-City-owned sites.

#### The City needs a succession plan for the management of heritage sites

• That ensures consistency of roles and standards, and accountability.

#### Coordination across City-owned heritage sites is required

- Valuable sites that could draw tourists and residents are not market-ready.
- Coordinate a unified marketing approach of the City's heritage sites to offer a consistent visitor experience.





# Introduction

The survey had a high response rate of 90.9% with 450 surveys fully completed.

The survey examined the leisure activities that participants take part in; sources of information used to learn about the events and activities in their community; their cultural participation in: museums and galleries, performing arts, festivals and events, attractions, and other events outside of St. Catharines. The survey also examined community awareness of the new performing arts centre and programming desired for the centre.



## **Leisure Activities**

According to survey results, residents of St. Catharines are active and enjoy running and doing yoga, and cultural activities such as music and reading. The majority of respondents work on computers, surf the web and enjoy travelling locally.

#### Leisure Activities that respondents participate in frequently

- 77% Listen to music;
- 76.3% work on the computer;
- 69.8% surf the web;
- 62% read books for pleasure;
- 61.%% travel within 100 km;
- 38.7% of survey participants said they attend a music, dance or theatre performance occasionally.

# My St. Catharines and Sources of Information

#### **Top 3 Words to describe St. Catharines**

- Friendly; Quaint (small town feel); Diverse
- Other words: Quiet; Safe; Beautiful; Niagara referring to proximity

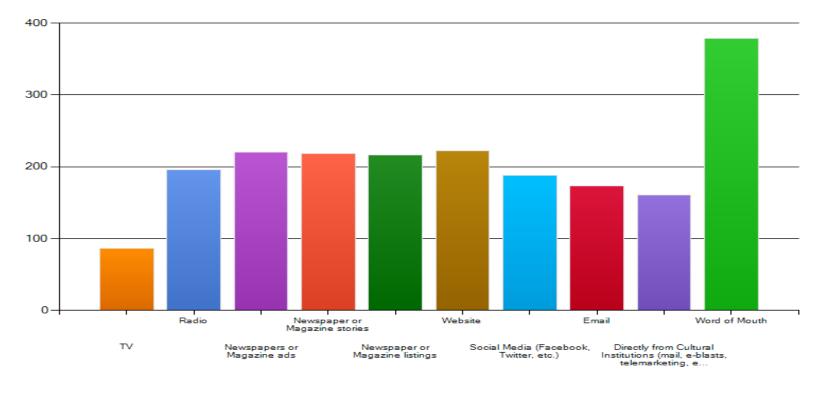
#### Websites most visited to learn about events

 StCatharines.ca; StCatharinesStandard.com; facebook; Brock Centre for the Arts; Grape & Wine



#### **Sources of Information**

#### Residents typically find out about activities in the Niagara region by:

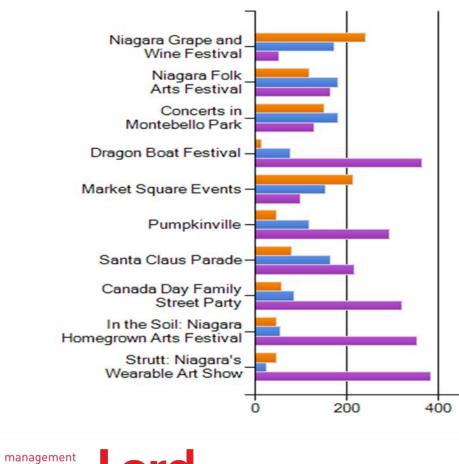


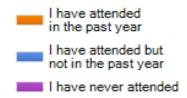
management services incorporated



Cultural Resources

#### **Cultural Participation: Festivals and Events**



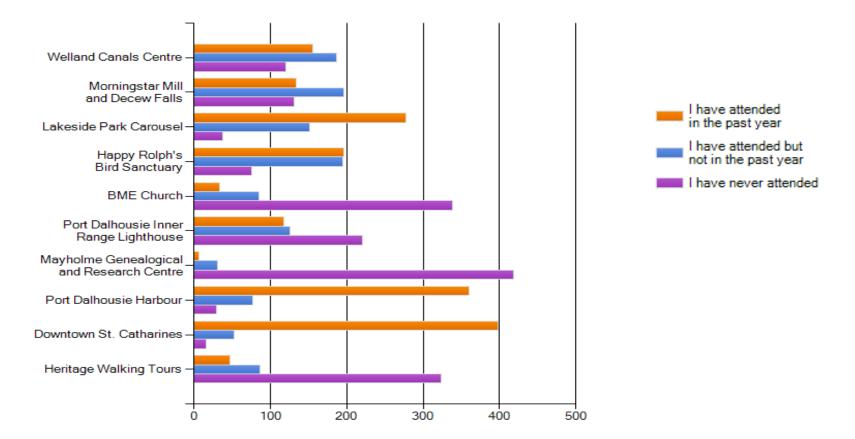


- Niagara Grape & Wine Festival and events at Market Square were most attended by respondents last year.
- Among others, Niagara Folk, Montebello Park Concerts, and the Santa Claus Parade have been the most popular among respondents in previous years.

management services incorporated

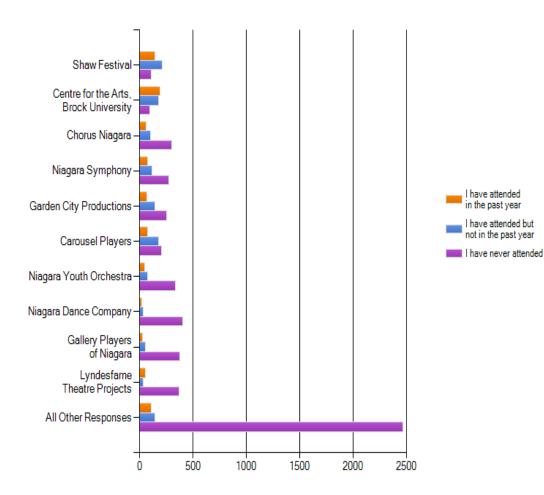


#### **Cultural Participation: Attractions**



- With the exception of Heritage Walking Tours, BME Church, and the Mayholme Centre, all other listed attractions saw respondent visitation.
- Most popular among attractions (for past year): Harbour, Downtown, Carousel.

## **Cultural Participation: Performing Arts**



- CFTA has the highest % of cultural visitation by respondents.
- With the exception of Shaw and CFTA, respondents are more likely to have never attended events than attended infrequently.

## **Cultural Participation: Outside of St. Catharines**

#### Other Festivals and Events attended in the Niagara region

 Jazz Festival at winery; Shaw Festival; Rib Fest; Canada Day; Balls Falls, Canal Days, Concerts

#### Other Attractions visited in the Niagara region

• Laura Secord House; Wineries; Jordan Village; Canal Path (Parkway); Niagara on the Lake; Falls; Festival of Lights; Gorge; Icewine Festival



# **Cultural Participation: Outside of St. Catharines**

Many participants stated that they go to Toronto for sport games, theatre, to visit museums and art galleries, festivals, attractions and shopping.

The following were identified by survey respondents as needed to increase the cultural experience of the community:

- Affordable family programming
- Outdoor public art spaces
- Festivals (Music, Film, Multi-arts)
- Multi-cultural food
- Outdoor skate park Ice rink
- Highly accessible options for those with disabilities
- Convenient public transportation to cultural venues

manageme services incorporate



#### **New Performance Arts Centre**

#### **New Performing Arts Centre**

• 85.3% of survey participants are aware of the future Performing Arts Centre

#### New programs desired at the new Performance Arts Centre

- 83.9% Theatre
- 71.1% Film
- 68.5% Contemporary/Pop Music
- 49.0% Classical Music
- 45.4% Folkworld Music
- 41.2% Lectures



# 8. Findings, Key Issues and Top Line Priorities





# **Context and Purpose for Priorities**

#### **Priorities based on:**

- Public Engagement Process
- Economic Impact Analysis
- Cultural Inventory & Mapping
- Performing Arts Centre Analysis
- Artists Survey
- Cultural Participation Analysis

#### Purpose is twofold:

(1) To review existing assets, needs, opportunities, and resources of St.Catharines

(2) To align the Cultural Plan with results

of research, analysis and public findings.



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# 8. Findings

# Through investigation and research the following Findings were identified:

- Public discussions revealed a **lack of awareness** of events and cultural offerings in St. Catharines.
- Among stakeholders, the **definition of culture requires clarity**.
- The breadth of cultural assets in St. Catharines can build a citywide brand and strengthen its identity.
- St. Catharines cultural events (and overall economic impact) benefit greatly from **regional audience**.
- St. Catharines boasts a widely diverse population, encompassing a host of traditions, cuisines, celebrations, stories, and heritage



#### 8. Findings

- The Performing Arts Centre will define downtown as **THE cultural anchor** of the City.
- A concentration of creative industries presently resides Downtown.
- Survey data reveal that Downtown is a major focal point of artist employment.
- St. Catharines boasts rich histories, traditions, and heritage sites citywide.
- Residents seek cultural activity **not only downtown** but in their backyards.
- The **Recreation Centre successfully captures cultural participants** from areas with immigrant populations.
- The University, Waterfront, and trails are prized by residents of St. Catharines.
   Management services incorporated

### 8. Findings

- Artists need affordable spaces to create, work, rehearse, congregate, and sell their art.
- Cultural groups face stagnant growth in new audiences and funding support.
- The opening of the Performing Arts Centre creates a potential to **coalesce cultural groups**.
- The number of Recreation Centre cultural programs has been **declining.**
- Emerging artists and creative professionals **seek a community** for professional development, efficiencies, and innovation.
- **Sustainability** depends on collaboration, City facilitation, advocacy, and priority-setting.



### 8. Findings

- The **Brock community** is a relatively untapped source of cultural audiences, volunteers, supporters, and creators.
- Artists seek to congregate in St. Catharines. A potential exists for **homegrown cultural production**.
- Heritage assets require coordinated planning to optimize their value to the community.
- The Museum has realized dramatic increases in attendance with Admission by Donation policy.
- Cross-marketing, locating, and scheduling among culture and popular citywide pursuits may introduce **new residents to culture**.
- St. Catharines is home to a **large number of cultural heritage assets**, both built and natural and could benefit from coordinated efforts to heighten their awareness for residents and tourists.



#### 7 Key Issues emerged from the Findings as follows:

- St. Catharines has a number of unique cultural and heritage 1. assets, programs and services that are not being effectively communicated to its constituents and potential new audiences.
- The Municipality does not formally recognize the important role 2. that diversity and inclusivity has in its decision and policy making.
- St. Catharines' cultural identity is often obscured within the 3. Niagara region tourism hub.
- There is a general lack of community **understanding** and 4. **awareness** of the **importance** of culture's **role** in building healthy and vibrant cities.

**We** 



#### 7 Key Issues emerged from the Findings as follows:

- 5. There is an unclear understanding of **responsibility** for culture between the municipal and regional governments as well as a lack of **integration** of culture and heritage organizations and with the other sectors within the municipal government.
- 6. Many of the city's cultural organizations lack organizational capacity to sustain themselves in the long term. And there is limited City infrastructure that could enable better communication and collaboration amongst the arts and heritage organizations in St. Catharines.
- 7. A top priority for the City is the development and revitalization of the downtown. However, there is limited access to cultural offerings across all the other neighbourhoods in St. Catharines.



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#### 8. Top-Line Priorities

# 5 Top-line priorities have been developed as a response to the key issues.

- 1. Effectively Communicate Culture to all Citizens of St. Catharines
- 2. Remove any and all barriers to Culture to allow unfettered access to the city's multitude of services, programs and assets
- 3. Maximize Opportunities to build organizational capacity
- 4. Recognize and embrace the city's cultural diversity as a cornerstone for civic engagement
- 5. Celebrate St. Catharines Unique Cultural Identity



## 9. Next Steps





- •Feedback and discussion around findings and top-line priorities.
- Research on best practices around potential implementation strategies to address priorities.
- •Research on comparable cities to understand how these priorities have been addressed.
- •Draft Cultural Plan that includes implementation strategies to address each top-line priority.



# **Appendices**





#### Back up charts 2009

#### Impact of SCCIP Spending on Ontario 2009

impact of SCCIP Spending on Ontai							
Base Year Budget	Inpu	ts	Multipliers			puts	
			Gross	Empl t (FTE	ſ	New Sales	New Emplit
Category		Purchases	Production	jobs)		(\$000's)	(jobs)
Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Dis	\$	406	1.27	4.35	\$	516	0.0
Natural Gas Distribution, Water, Sewage and Oth	\$	38,470	1.30	4.97	\$	50,011	0.2
Printing and Related Support Activities	\$	80,227	1.34	6.88	\$	107,504	0.6
Retail Trade	\$	178,254	1.41	15.47	\$	251,338	2.8
Transit and ground passenger transportation	\$	52,906	1.53	16.70	\$	80,945	0.9
Postal service, couriers and messengers	\$	44,299	1.43	12.55	\$	63,348	0.6
Motion picture and sound recording industries	\$	221,966	1.58	8.09	\$	350,706	1.8
Radio and Television Broadcasting	\$	24,517	1.57	8.33	\$	38,492	0.2
Publishing, info services and data processing	\$	38,064	1.48	8.72	\$	56,334	0.3
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasir	\$	70,139	1.68	8.30	\$	117,834	0.6
Adminstrative support services	\$	115,536	1.33	17.20	\$	153,663	2.0
Waste management	\$	38,470	1.35	7.23	\$	51,934	0.3
Arts, entertainment and recreation	\$	283,654	1.54	15.76	\$	436,826	4.5
Accommodation and food services	\$	41,347	1.53	18.31	\$	63,261	0.8
Repair and maintenance	\$	17,941	1.39	17.39	\$	24,938	0.3
Nonprofit educational services	\$	122,946	1.24	11.71	\$	152,453	1.4
Averages and Totals	\$	1,369,142	1.44	11.37	\$	2,000,105	17.1

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Estimated Attendance for SCCIP Grantee Programs 2009							
Total Attendance		55,687					
Projected Incremental Attendance		55,687					
1. Ontario (Niagara Region) Attendance	90%	50,118					
2. Ontario (non-Niagara Region) Attendance	8%	4,455					
3. Non-Ontario Attendance	2%	1,114					



Ancillary Spending Impact 2009	Per Capita Expenditure Estimate	Total Direct Expenditures of Audiences	Gross Production Multiplier	Gross Production	Empl't (jobs) Multiplier	Total New Jobs
Resident Attendance (1)						
Accommodation and food services	\$8.15	\$408,464	1.5300	\$624,950	18.3100	7.48
Retail Trade	\$2.80	\$140,331	1.4100	\$197,867	15.4700	2.17
Transit and ground passenger transportation	\$4.27	\$214,005	1.5300	\$327,428	16.7000	3.57
Sub-total		\$762,801		\$1,150,245		13.22
Non-resident Attendance (2+3)						
Food services and drinking places	\$15.28	\$85,090	1.5300	\$130,187	18.3100	1.56
Retail Trade	\$8.70	\$48,448	1.4100	\$68,311	15.4700	0.75
Transit & passenger transportation	\$5.82	\$32,410	1.5300	\$49,587	16.7000	0.54
Sub-total		\$165,947		\$248,086		2.85
Total Impact of Ancillary Spending	Regional Attenders	\$762,801		\$1,150,245		13.22
N	on-regional Attenders	\$165,947		\$248,086		2.85
	Total	\$928,748		\$1,398,331		16.07



#### Back up charts 2010

Impact of SCCIP Grantee Spending on Ontario 2010									
	Inputs		Multipliers			Outp	outs		
			Gross	Empl't (I	FTE	Ν	lew Sales	New Empl't	
Category	Pure	chases	Production	jobs)			(\$000's)	(jobs)	
Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution	\$	2,344	1.27	4.35		\$	2,977	0.0	
Natural Gas Distribution, Water, Sewage and Other Systems	\$	60,415	1.30	4.97		\$	78,539	0.3	
Printing and Related Support Activities	\$	92,592	1.34	6.88		\$	124,074	0.6	
Retail Trade	\$	248,708	1.41	15.47	,	\$	350,678	3.8	
Transit and ground passenger transporation	\$	41,836	1.53	16.70		\$	64,009	0.7	
Postal service, couriers and messengers	\$	53,370	1.43	12.55	,	\$	76,319	0.7	
Motion picture and sound recording industries	\$	163,298	1.58	8.09		\$	258,011	1.3	
Radio and Television Broadcasting	\$	30,418	1.57	8.33		\$	47,756	0.3	
Publishing, info services and data processing	\$	58,071	1.48	8.72		\$	85,944	0.5	
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	\$	75,510	1.68	8.30		\$	126,857	0.6	
Adminstrative support services	\$	117,349	1.33	17.20	1	\$	156,074	2.0	
Waste management	\$	60,415	1.35	7.23		\$	81,560	0.4	
Arts, entertainment and recreation	\$	365,075	1.54	15.76	,	\$	562,215	5.8	
Accommodation and food services	\$	18,865	1.53	18.31		\$	28,864	0.3	
Repair and maintenance	\$	21,222	1.39	17.39	)	\$	29,498	0.4	
Nonprofit educational services	\$	105,904	1.24	11.71		\$	131,321	1.2	
Averages and Totals	\$ 1,	515,391	1.44	11.37	7	\$	2,204,697	19_0	

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Estimated Attendance for SCCIP Grantee Programs 2010								
Total Attendance		50,636						
Projected Incremental Attendance		50,636						
1. Ontario (Niagara Region) Attendance	90%	45,572						
2. Ontario (non-Niagara Region) Attendance	8%	4,051						
3. Non-Ontario Attendance	2%	1,013						



Ancillary Spending Impact 2010	Per Capita Expenditure Estimate	Total Direct (Induced) Expenditures	Gross Production Multiplier	Gross Production	Empl't (jobs) Multiplier	Total New Jobs
Regional Attendance (1)						
Accommodation and Food Services	\$8.15	\$371,415	1.5300	\$568,265	18.3100	6.80
Retail Trade	\$2.80	\$127,603	1.4100	\$179,920	15.4700	1.97
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	\$4.27	\$194,594	1.5300	\$297,729	16.7000	3.25
Sub-total		\$693,612		\$1,045,914		12.02
Non-regional Attendance (2+3)						
Food services and drinking places	\$15.28	\$77,372	1.5300	\$118,379	18.3100	1.42
Retail Trade	\$8.70	\$44,053	1.4100	\$62,115	15.4700	0.68
Transit & passenger transportation	\$5.82	\$29,470	1.5300	\$45,089	16.7000	0.49
Sub-total		\$150,895		\$225,583		2.59
Impact of Ancillary Spending	Regional Attenders	\$693,612		\$1,045,914		12.02
	Non-regional Attenders	\$150,895		\$225,583		2.59
	Total	\$844,507		\$1,271,497		14.61



#### Back up charts 2011

Impact of SCCIP Grantee Spending on Ontai			Multipliere				
	Inpu	ts	Multipliers Gross	Empl't (FTE		puts ew Sales	New Empl <sup>•</sup> t
Category	F	Purchases	Production	jobs)		\$000's)	(jobs)
Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution	\$	3,656	1.27	4.35	\$	4,643	0.0
Natural Gas Distribution, Water, Sewage and Other Systems	\$	70,195	1.30	4.97	\$	91,254	0.3
Printing and Related Support Activities	\$	75,565	1.34	6.88	\$	101,257	0.5
Retail Trade	\$	285,636	1.41	15.47	\$	402,746	4.4
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	\$	55,466	1.53	16.70	\$	84,863	0.9
Postal Service, Couriers and Messengers	\$	48,217	1.43	12.55	\$	68,951	0.6
Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries	\$	170,725	1.58	8.09	\$	269,746	1.4
Radio and Television Broadcasting	\$	24,278	1.57	8.33	\$	38,117	0.2
Publishing, Info Services and Data Processing	\$	66,539	1.48	8.72	\$	98,478	0.6
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	\$	136,043	1.68	8.30	\$	228,552	1.1
Adminstrative Support Services	\$	136,471	1.33	17.20	\$	181,506	2.3
Waste Management	\$	70,195	1.35	7.23	\$	94,764	0.5
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	\$	393,156	1.54	15.76	\$	605,461	6.2
Accommodation and Food Services	\$	41,119	1.53	18.31	\$	62,912	0.8
Repair and Maintenance	\$	37,667	1.39	17.39	\$	52,357	0.7
Nonprofit Educational Services	\$	90,850	1.24	11.71	\$	112,654	1.1
Averages and Totals	\$	1,705,779	1.44	11.37	\$	2,498,260	21.7

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Estimated Attendance for SCCIP Grantee Programs 2011							
Total Attendance		50,583					
Projected Incremental Attendance		50,583					
1. Ontario (Niagara Region) Attendance	90%	45,525					
2. Ontario (non-Niagara Region) Attendance	8%	4,047					
4. Regional (non-Ontario) Attendance	2%	1,012					



Ancillary Spending Impact 2011	Per Capita Expenditure Estimate	Total Direct (Induced) Expenditures	Gross Production Multiplier	Gross Production	Empl't (jobs) Multiplier	Total New Jobs
Resident Attendance (1)		-				
Accommodation and Food Services	\$8.15	\$371,026	1.5300	\$567,670	18.3100	6.79
Retail Trade	\$2.80	\$127,469	1.4100	\$179,732	15.4700	1.97
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	\$4.27	\$194,390	1.5300	\$297,417	16.7000	3.25
Sub-total		\$692,886		\$1,044,819		12.01
Non-resident Attendance (2+3)						
Food Services and Drinking Places	\$15.28	\$77,291	1.5300	\$118,255	18.3100	1.42
Retail Trade	\$8.70	\$44,007	1.4100	\$62,050	15.4700	0.68
Transit & Passenger Transportation	\$5.82	\$29,439	1.5300	\$45,042	16.7000	0.49
Sub-total		\$150,737		\$225,347		2.59
Impact of Ancillary Spending	gional Attenders	\$692,886		\$1,044,819		12.01
	Non-regional Attenders	\$150,737		\$225,347		2.59
	Total	\$843,623		\$1,270,166		14.60



#### **Appendix 2. Stakeholders Interview List**

- Colin Briggs, Chief Administrative Officer, VIA PHONE
- Jeff Burch, City Councillor and Executive Director of Folk Arts
- Paul Chapman, Director of Planning Services
- Councillor Mark Elliott, City of St. Catharines
- Jane Gardner, General Manager, Carousel Players
- Deanna Jones, Artistic Director, Suitcase in Point
- Rick Lane, Director of Recreation and Community Services
- Mayor Brian McMullan, Mayor of the City, St. Catharines
- Jack Mills, Executive Director, Niagara Symphony
- David Oakes, Director, Economic Development and Tourism
- Councillor Bill Phillips, City of St. Catharines
- Kathy Powell, Curator and Supervisor, Museum Operations
- Councillor Mat Siscoe, City of St. Catharines
- Deb Slade, Executive Director, Centre for the Arts
- Steve Solski, Executive Director, St. Catharines Performing Arts Centre
- Councillor Len Stack, City of St. Catharines
- Lilita Stripnieks, Executive Director, St. Catharines Public Library
- Annie Wilson, Executive Director, Suitcase in Point

management services incorporated