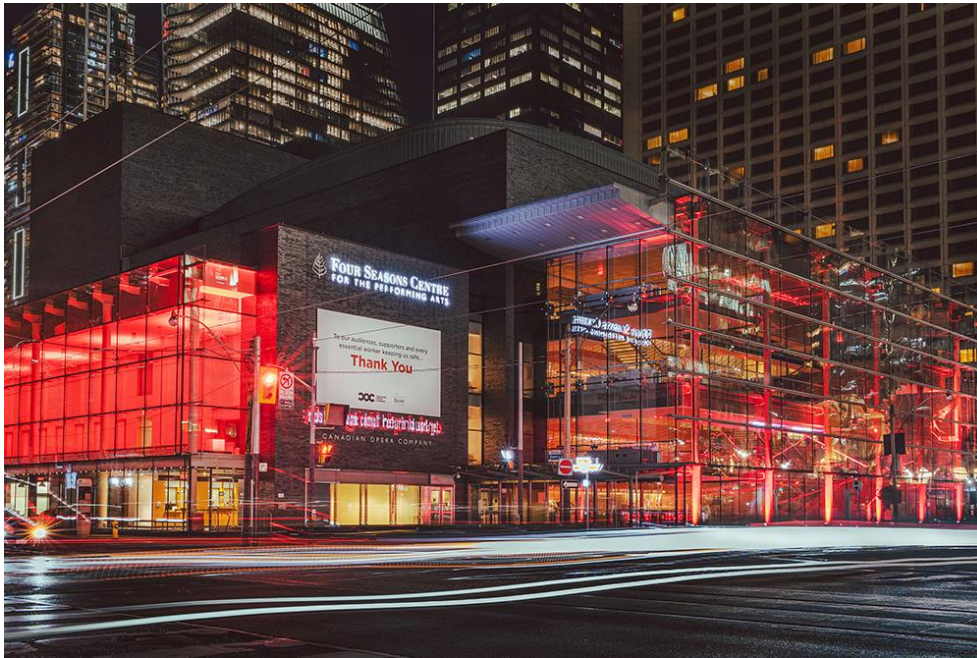


For immediate release: February 18, 2021

## **NEW FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR THE DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENTS PROJECT AT THE CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY**



*The Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto (photo: COC)*

**Toronto** - In an announcement made this morning by the **Department of Canadian Heritage**, the **Canadian Opera Company** will receive \$644,372 in crucial funding provided through the **Canada Cultural Spaces Fund** toward the **Digital Infrastructure Enhancements Project** at the **Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts**. The infrastructure plan, developed in partnership with **The National Ballet of Canada**, aims to implement a range of digital upgrades to the opera house, significantly boosting both organizations' recording and broadcast capabilities in the immediate, as well as helping to improve both community and global access to Canadian artistry and other community programming showcased in the space.

“Today’s announcement is wonderful news for not only the Canadian Opera Company, but for so many of our artistic peers and community partners,” says **COC Deputy General Director Christie Darville**. “In carving a path forward through the fluidity of our current reality, investments like this allow us to better stage and safely share more original content, while also enabling us to share digital resources with others. The COC wants our home base at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts to showcase not only in the best in Canadian opera but also to serve as an accessible platform for new and diverse voices; this digital enhancement project is helping to make that goal a reality.”

[\*\*FULL DETAILS HERE\*\*](#)

### **ABOUT THE CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY**

Based in Toronto, the Canadian Opera Company is the largest producer of opera in Canada and one of the largest in North America. The COC enjoys a loyal audience including a dedicated base of subscribers. Under its current leadership team of General Director Alexander Neef, Deputy General Director Christie Darville, and Music Director Johannes Debus, the company has developed an international reputation for artistic excellence and creative innovation; beginning March 1, 2021, the company will welcome Perryn Leech as incoming COC General Director. The COC's diverse repertoire includes new commissions and productions, local and international collaborations with leading opera companies and festivals, and attracts the world's foremost Canadian and international artists. The COC Academy is an incubator for the future of the art form, nurturing Canada's new wave of opera creators with customized training and support. The COC performs in its own opera house, the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, hailed internationally as one of the finest in the world. For more information, visit [coc.ca](http://coc.ca).

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