

SUGGESTED MEDIA RESPONSE / RÉPONSES SUGGÉRÉES:

Funding was never withdrawn, nor was it guaranteed.

Ultimately, Canadian missions did not fund this artist's European tour.

Ms. James' characterisation of her dealings with Canadian officials does not appear to be based on facts.

It is not the Department's practice to interfere with private sponsorships of Canadian artists abroad.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXTE

Canadian artist Franke James had originally asked several Canadian embassies in Europe for funding for her art tour in Europe. Most declined the offer, except for the embassy in Zagreb, which, after consultation with GLB, had initially agreed to provide the funding.

However, it was later pointed out by another division that the artists' work dealt mostly with climate change, and was advocating a message that was contrary to the government's policies on the subject. So, after consultation, it was determined that the Canadian government would not fund the project after all.

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