

NEWS RELEASE

## GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S COMMUNITY SERVICES RECOVERY FUND SUPPORTS LONDON SYMPONIA'S STATE-OF-THE ART LIVESTREAM AND ON DEMAND CONCERTS



Peter Fragiskatos, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities and Member of Parliament for London North Centre joins April Voth, Executive Director, London Symponia in the celebration of the investment received from the Community Services Recovery Fund at the orchestra's recent concert. Photo: Rachel Lincoln

**London, ON January 31, 2024** – On Saturday, January 27, 2024 London Symponia celebrated the investment received from the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund (CSRF) with in-person and digital audiences before the orchestra's concert that evening. The funding has enabled London Symponia to purchase state-of-the-art audio streaming equipment that better serves growing livestream and on-demand audiences by providing production values which more closely reflect in-person experience.

"Our community is very fortunate to have London Symponia," said Peter Fragiskatos, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities and Member of Parliament for London North Centre. "This talented group of musicians have enriched arts and culture in London. This will continue as a result of the federal investment being announced. Every opportunity to extend the reach of this group should be taken and that is why this investment matters. Thank you to the organization, its supporters and especially its musicians for their ongoing contributions."

Since 2021, London Symponia has responded to the increasingly challenging needs of the community by producing high-quality livestreamed and video-on-demand concerts to support patrons, many of whom are older and experienced isolation particularly during lockdown, families and other vulnerable populations.



“Thanks to this significant funding from the Community Services Recovery Fund, London Symphonia is continuing to support the community through outstanding digital concert experiences that are attracting new virtual audiences and deepening educational opportunities for young musicians,” said April Voth, Executive Director of London Symphonia.

“Patrons continue to say our livestream concerts are lifelines. We believe that London Symphonia’s digital performances are vital to fulfilling our mandate to be accessible to all members of the community.”

“Community service organizations are at the heart of communities like London, creating a sense of belonging from coast to coast to coast,” said Jenna Suds, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development. “The Community Services Recovery Fund will enable organizations like London Symphonia that serve our diverse communities to adapt and modernize their programs and services and to invest in the future of their organizations, staff and volunteers. Together, we can rebuild from the isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic and build a more just and equitable future for those in London Symphonia.”

The Community Services Recovery Fund is a one-time \$400 million investment from the Government of Canada to support community service organizations, including charities, non-profits and Indigenous governing bodies, as they adapt and modernize their organizations.

The Government of Canada delivered the Community Services Recovery Fund through three National Funders – Canadian Red Cross, Community Foundations of Canada, and United Way Centraide Canada.

## **ABOUT LONDON SYMPHONIA**

London Symphonia is a professional symphony orchestra committed to performing vibrant and bold musical experiences for London and the region. With a core of 30 players, our versatile group meets the community’s needs for quality programming by presenting well-known symphonies, Canadian premieres, and collaborations with some of Canada’s finest singer-songwriters. We deliver a rich, artistic experience by seeking out the most accomplished performers and conductors representing a blend of locally, nationally and internationally recognized talent. A registered charitable organization, we perform a number of outreach and music education engagements each season for students and seniors in our community.

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