



June 3, 2014

Mr. Ben Donoghue
Managing Director
Media Arts Network of Ontario
401 Richmond Street West, Suite 245
Toronto, ON M5V 3A8
director@mano-ramo.ca

Dear Mr. Donoghue:

Ontario's Liberal government is proud of our record of achievement and investments in the arts and culture sector. Our investments and policies have focused on optimizing the contribution of all aspects of arts and culture – from the entertainment and creative cluster to libraries and museums.

The culture sector contributes more than \$22.6 billion annually to Ontario's economy. Additionally, our entertainment and creative industries support more than 300,000 jobs. This key sector is an important economic driver which continues to grow due to its ongoing push for excellence, strength in content creation and mobile technology, and world-class training institutions.

Our government's strategic investments not only create jobs, but help drive innovation and tourism, while at the same time helping to ensure our artists' talents are showcased domestically and internationally. The Ontario Liberal government has moved Ontario from an emerging jurisdiction to a major international player in the creative economy: we are now the third largest Entertainment and Creative Cluster in North America.

Since 2003, Ontario Liberals have invested over \$6 billion in culture and the arts, including:

- Over \$225 million to the Ontario Media Development Corporation to support programs in support of Ontario's entertainment and cultural industries;
- Over \$582 million in the Ontario Arts Council to support artists and arts organizations across Ontario;

Ontario Liberal Party

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- Over \$1.2 billion in the Ontario Trillium Foundation to help strengthen artistic and cultural capacity and vibrancy and help build healthy, strong communities;
- Almost \$75 million to the Ontario Heritage Trust to support and protect heritage across the province;
- Over \$62 million in the Toronto International Film Festival;
 - Over \$7 million to other Film Festivals, such as the highly-acclaimed Hot Docs Festival and imagineNative Film + Media Arts Festival, as well as smaller film festivals right across the province such as Cinefest Sudbury International Film Festival and Kingston Canadian Film Festival; and
- Created the \$45 million Ontario Music Fund and Live Music Strategy.

These investments do not include our ongoing support to our cultural attraction agencies such as the Royal Ontario Museum and the Art Gallery of Ontario, or our substantial tax credit supports for those engaged in the creative industries. Based on our most recent complete year of data, our per capita expenditure was approximately \$85.

Ontario Liberals have made significant capital investments in recent years, including the \$12 million investment in the Regent Park Arts and Culture Centre. We will continue to provide some capital support through the Ontario Trillium Foundation, which assists with repair and renovation costs. It has also enhanced accessibility and energy retrofits to buildings venues, and contributions to specialized equipment for qualifying applicants.

On June 12th the people of Ontario will make a critical choice about our future. Choosing the Ontario Liberals means taking a stand for jobs, for growth, and for keeping our recovery on course. Ontario Liberals will continue to work to create opportunity for all by investing in people, in transit and infrastructure, and in supporting a dynamic and innovative business climate. We will create a new Ontario Retirement Pension Plan to give you a more secure retirement, and continue the investments in health care, education, and those Ontarians who just need a boost, or some special supports, to get by and get ahead.



As reflected in this letter, Ontario Liberals stand steadfastly behind our arts and culture sector to ensure it will succeed in greater Ontario economy. I am heartened by the progress we have made together. We hope to have the support of your organization on June 12th.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kathleen Wynne'.

Kathleen Wynne
Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party
Premier

Ontario Liberal Party

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