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January 14, 2022

SEOPAF Letter of Support

ATTN:

Premier Doug Ford

Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance

Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

**RE: Launch of South Eastern Ontario Production Accelerator Fund (SEOPAF)
via implementation of a NEW film stream fund within the EODF**

The Belleville Chamber of Commerce support the establishment of the South Eastern Ontario Production Accelerator Fund (SEOPAF) via implementation of a NEW film stream fund within the EODF.

SEOPAF is an initiative that presents a clear plan to produce regional revenue and bolster economic growth. And SEOPAF focusses regional growth where it is most needed (as per government studies 2009-2019) in South Eastern Ontario.

SEOPAF will amplify opportunities, build capacity regionally and create job diversity and training for our college graduates while generating year-round revenue across diverse sectors.

In creating a new film stream fund within an existing regional fund like the EODF, government builds on an existing success model. The "success" proof is the positive regional impact of a screen-based fund in the North, where a stackable incentive was specially set up as a film stream fund within NOHFC nearly two decades ago. That Northern film stream created a sustainable \$100M+ year-over-year industry with an impressive 5:1 ROI. We believe our region can match or exceed that return.

The Ontario government's implementation of SEOPAF will accelerate regional sector capacity and job growth and bring new revenue.

Please give SEOPAF - a bold initiative for much needed regional economic recovery - full policy consideration in upcoming Budget decisions. The SE Ontario region has all of the resources necessary to be the NEXT centre of excellence and is primed for this initiative.

Sincerely,

Jill Raycroft
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