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SEOPAF Letter of Support

December 14, 2021

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

Dear Premier Ford and Ministers Bethlenfalvy and Fedeli,

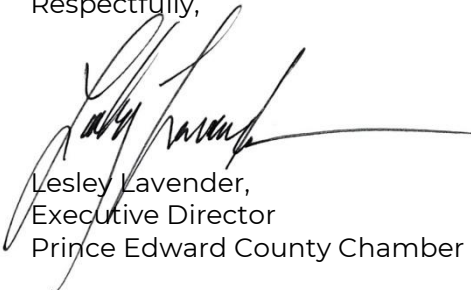
The Prince Edward County Chamber of Commerce's focus is to channel the collective strength of the business community to improve the economy. I support the establishment of the South Eastern Ontario Production Accelerator Fund (SEOPAF).

The Ontario government's implementation of SEOPAF will accelerate regional sector capacity and job growth and bring new revenue. It's a bold initiative – focussed on regional growth where it is most needed (as per government studies 2009-2019). The 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 hit hard by COVID-19.

In creating a new film stream fund within an existing regional fund like the EODF, government would be building 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.

I write in full support of the SEOPAF as an initiative that presents a clear plan for much needed economic growth in this region. The proposal effectively knits together many individual businesses and/or riding requests from across this region over many years. I encourage you to give the SEOPAF, a bold initiative for regional recovery, full consideration for implementation in upcoming budget decisions.

Respectfully,



Lesley Lavender,
Executive Director
Prince Edward County Chamber of Commerce