

January 10, 2022

Premier Doug Ford
Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Honourable Steve Clark, Ministry of Municipal Housing and Affairs
Sent via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Sent via email: Minister.Fin@Ontario.ca

Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation
and Trade
Sent via email MEDJCT.Minister@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford and Ministers:

**Re: Town of Gananoque – Letter of Support – South Eastern Ontario Production
Accelerator Fund (SEOPAF)**

The Town of Gananoque supports 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 – focused on regional growth where it is **most** needed (as per government studies 2009-2019). South Eastern Ontario.

Our Council are in full support of the SEOPAF as an initiative that presents a clear plan for much needed economic growth in this region. 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.

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.

Please give the SEOPAF – a bold initiative for regional economic recovery – full consideration for implementation 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ted Lojko', written in a cursive style.

Ted Lojko
Mayor