

## Office of the Mayor Municipality of Brighton P.O. Box 189, Brighton, ON, K0K 1H0

September 24, 2021

Sent by email to:

<u>MEDJCT.Minister@ontario.ca; vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org</u> <u>Minister.Fin@Ontario.ca; peter.bethlenfalvyco@pc.ola.org</u>

The Honourable Vic Fedeli,
Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

And

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy Ontario Ministry of Finance

RE: Launch of Southeastern Ontario Production Accelerator Fund (SEOPAF)
via implementation of a new film stream fund within the EODF

Dear Ministers Fedeli and Bethlenfalvy:

The Municipality of Brighton supports the establishment of the Southeastern Ontario Production Accelerator Fund (SEOPAF). Southeastern Ontario has all of the resources necessary to be the next center of excellence and is primed for this initiative.

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, in Southeastern Ontario. In creating a new film stream fund within an existing regional fund like the EODF, government builds on an existing success model. The 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 return on investment.

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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 for hard hit sectors.

The SEOPAF effectively knits together many individual municipals and/or riding requests from across this region over many years. Please give the SEOPAF - a bold initiative for regional economic recovery - full consideration for implementation in upcoming Budget decisions.

Sincerely,

Brian Ostrander, Mayor Municipality of Brighton

cc: giles.gherson@ontario.ca

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