
From: Keith McPhail [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2015 11:38 AM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Stop the abrupt Film cuts and Avoid the Really negative trickle down

The cuts to the film industry and closure of Film and Creative Industries Nova Scotia and cuts to their budget have negative impacts down the creative food chain.

For instance, should the funds for film training be lost, the Media Art Scholarship Program (at Centre for Art Tapes (CFAT)) could be lost. CFAT only receives \$10,000 from the province, but that \$10k attracts up to an additional \$55,000 from other levels of government and corporations to fund the program. The program is 26 years old and has successfully nurtured the careers of some of our most accomplished filmmakers and artists: Thom Fitzgerald, Andrea Dorfman, Shandi Mitchell, Ariel Nasr (Oscar Nominee in 2013) to name only a few of the over 220 scholars.

If CFAT loses the \$10,000 provincial film training funding, it will likely lose the other funding, and then lose the program. Losing the program means that CFAT will lose almost a quarter of it's annual funding, and as a charitable organization, that will have huge ramifications: likely staff cuts, and perhaps worse. The cuts to the film industry are equally worrying because the mentors and instructors who are contracted to provide training and experience in the Media Art Scholarship Program may no longer be available. And, if the industry goes, then this program (that serves visual artists as well as film artists) will not be available to serve a whole other spectrum of artists; impacting their ability to produce work and make a living in Nova Scotia.

The film industry and related arts organizations employ many young people - and attract many other young people to live here who don't work in the industry. Retaining those young people is important to the health and future of Nova Scotia: don't send them packing!

I have worked predominantly in arts and culture in this province since the early 80's, and if these cuts proceed, I will be forced to look and move elsewhere in Canada to make a living and a home.

I ask that the government reconsider its decision to make these disastrous cuts to film. Please enter into broad and considered consultations with the film and arts communities first, and make better, considered decisions.

Don't chop off an arm of our economy simply to balance the budget this year. Work to build the economy AS WELL AS balance the budget in the years to come.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Keith McPhail

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

"The only way to predict the future is to create it." - Northrop Frye

Please consider the environment before printing my email.

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