

**From:** Collin Canning <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** May-05-15 10:11 PM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Subject:** Film incentive program

Good Day

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the upcoming changes to Nova Scotia's budget.

I've lived in Nova Scotia my entire life, and have loved it very much so. This is my home. Growing up I always had an interest in the arts, particularly film and television production. From a young age, I've been hoping to work in the industry and I was lucky enough to witness local productions flourish and make a worldwide name for our province and specifically Halifax. This made me confident I could attain a career in this industry and still live in the province I love. I studied film at our top notch community college in Dartmouth and immediately got on some paying productions.

I've been able to support myself the last two years working on film and television productions, and it's been the hardest, most rewarding work in my life. I've met fantastic people with work ethic that you wouldn't believe on these sets. The NS film community is a family. A family that took me in immediately and has supported and trained me to be a good worker. People that work in the NS film industry work harder and longer than I've ever witnessed, and they do it happily, because they're passionate about their work.

Our film community has enriched the lives of countless people all over the world and has shone a spotlight on Nova Scotia on a global stage. We have shows that are recognized in every country and air all over the world in dozens of languages. We have one of the most insightful satire news programs of all time, produced right out of Halifax! We have a couple thousand people in this city that work all day (and all night) to give millions of people quality art and entertainment.

If you think our industry will thrive without the budget, I ask you to look at the film industry in NB. Oh wait, there's not really one to speak of anymore. Don't believe me? Just ask all of the people from Fredericton and Moncton who come to Halifax just to work on set.

I personally don't want to wait until everyone's saying, "Remember how smart 22 minutes was?" or "Shame Trailer Park Boys shoots in Toronto now" before our industry is taken seriously. Look less at what is leaving your pocket immediately, and look more at what is entering all of our pockets and culture in the long run.

We have specific skills in our industry, skills that don't always transfer well. If you cut our film budget you are going to force a lot of these people into the service industry. An artistic director of 20 years will probably make a nice sign displaying drink prices, but I doubt I want to try their espresso. Do you honestly want your dinner made by a guy who knows nothing but driving big trucks in the middle of the night and running coffees to actors in an endless loop? I don't!

Please don't send all of my coworkers to different provinces just so they can pursue their passions, don't make me consider leaving my favourite province and home, just so I can empty garbage cans on set in Vancouver. The people in our industry help our province thrive.

Thanks for your time, I hope you throw your support in the right direction

Collin Canning