



art gallery of sudbury
galerie d'art de sudbury

JUNE 30, 2020

Submission to: Standing Committee on Finance and
Economic Affairs, Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Soumission au : Comité permanent des finances et des affaires
économiques, Assemblée législative de l'Ontario

**Re: The Culture and Heritage sector of the Study of the
recommendations relating to the Economic and Fiscal
Update Act, 2020 and the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis
on certain sectors of the economy**

Presenter: **JANIK GUY**

Dear Members of the Ontario Legislature Standing Committee on
Finance and Economic Affairs:

The Art Gallery of Sudbury | Galerie d'art de Sudbury sincerely
appreciates that the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Heritage,
Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, and this Committee have
been providing and collecting information on a consistent basis
during this unprecedented time of COVID-19 (March to June 2020
and following).

Thank you very much for extending the opportunity of this
presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Gouveia

Co-Chair

Janik Guy

Co-Chair

Demetra Christakos

Director | Curator

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Gallery respectfully acknowledges that we are located in Robinson Huron Treaty territory and the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Atikameksheng Anishnaabeg.

ABOUT US

The Gallery is a dynamic bilingual, tri-cultural public visual art gallery and art museum.

- We are an independent charitable organization governed by a very active Board of 15 community volunteers.
- We are the only public art gallery in 38,000 square kilometres.

PRE-COVID-19: 2018-2019 COMMUNITY REPORT | RAPPORT À LA COLLECTIVITÉ

- Attendance 41,520
- Open to the public 2,576 hours per year
- Employed 32 people
- Organized and presented 25 exhibitions (739 works of art by 209 artists)
- Art education programs served 554 community and school groups: 6,653 people
- Annual expenditures \$613,000

Presenter: **Paula Gouveia**

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON THE GALLERY

- Public closure on March 17, 2020. This is the first time the Gallery has been closed in 52 years. Workplace closure until June 12, 2020.
- Planning to re-open August 2020 for public visitation when local supplies of key materials such as plexiglass become available again.
- Due to space constrictions, however, the Gallery cannot go forward with summer art camps.

From March 17, 2020 to August 31, 2020:

-\$82,318 loss (Actual and projected earned revenues)

100% loss compared to the same period in 2019

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON THE GALLERY

- Loss of 53 group school and community bookings (1060 individuals).
- Loss of 97 in-person art education workshops including March Break art camps, art workshops in long term care and retirement facilities, weekend art classes for children, and art classes for adults.
- Loss of 900 registrations for 2020 summer art camps due to space constrictions.
- Retained four FT and two PT positions through the federal Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program.
- Retained one FT paid internship through Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation support.
- Furloughed 12 PT employment positions (art education instructors, front desk attendants).

KEY STABILIZING PROVINCIAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS DURING COVID-19 CLOSURE

Three key forms of support by the Province of Ontario have been critical to the Art Gallery of Sudbury's resilience and stability during COVID-19.

1. **ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL** Ongoing Operating Funding + 50% Early Payout

- Continuation of **\$55,374** Operating grant, Public Art Galleries, Multi-Year

Province of Ontario funding through the Ontario Arts Council is the single strongest stabilizing form of arts funding support.

We thank you.

- **We received \$27,687**, an early payout of 50% of the Gallery's 2021 Operating Grant (June 4, 2020), which we normally receive at the end of October.

Early payout of 50% of the grant was a critical investment in our Gallery's ability to pivot during closure to the delivery of community-based arts engagement **from in-person delivery**, which is our speciality, **to online delivery of new offerings**.

A commitment by the Government of Ontario to continue its investment in the arts through the Ontario Arts Council is critical to the Art Gallery of Sudbury going forward.

2. **NORTHERN ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM** Continuation of Program

- **Received \$9,450** March 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020

The Northern Ontario Heritage Foundation Corporation (NOHFC) provides a critical employment creation and workplace training program that allows our Gallery to create and deliver one-year paid internships for recent graduates.

The Northern Ontario Internship Program strengthens Northern Ontario's competitive advantage and builds economic development capacity by attracting and retaining graduates in the North.

The program provides recent graduates who are interested in launching and building their careers in Northern Ontario access to internships.

Past NOHFC Gallery interns have found FT employment at Ontario Library Service, Science North, and Laurentian University in the North.

The Art Gallery of Sudbury | Galerie d'art de Sudbury is currently in receipt of two approved NOHFC internships.

Through this program, the Gallery was able to sustain the positions through COVID-19 closure.

We ask you to continue to build on Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Internships

- a. Working together for the elimination of discrimination and barriers to opportunities in arts, cultural and heritage institutions:
 - Extend the opportunity of paid internships from a term of one year to two years for candidates who are Black, Indigenous, or Persons of Colour.
 - Increase support during internships from Year One pay of \$31,500 to Year Two pay of \$35,000.
 - Develop a process to open up Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Internships to international student applicants who graduated from Northern Ontario post-secondary institutions and who would like to take up their first fulltime employment in Northern Ontario.

3. CELEBRATE AND ENCOURAGE ARTS PHILANTHROPY

Arts and culture donors account for just 4% of all Ontario donors (equal to the national average). (<https://hillstrategies.com>)

- a. Open up a new three-year investment phase of Ontario Arts Challenge Fund to help re-build arts endowment funds.
- b. Increase Ontario non-refundable tax credit benefits for art education courses and donations to arts and heritage charities.
- c. Celebrate and encourage the principle and practice of voluntarism in the charitable sector during COVID-19.

GOING FORWARD

We ask the Government of Ontario to build on these key investments with **term-limited strategic resilience funding to further offset COVID-19 impacts.**

Implement strategies to promote and market Ontario's regional cultural and heritage attractions to realize their full economic potential.

We thank you very much for your attention and would be happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Gouveia

Co-Chair

Janik Guy

Co-Chair

Demetra Christakos

Director | Curator

Art Gallery of Sudbury | Galerie d'art de Sudbury

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APPENDIX

ABOUT US

Originally the Laurentian University Museum and Arts Centre, founded 1968, the Gallery incorporated separately in 1997. The Gallery is a key art educational, cultural and tourism destination in Northeastern Ontario, creating meaningful engagement opportunities in dialogue with contemporary artists and our permanent collection for all. The Gallery is located in Ontario Tourism Region 13A.

ONTARIO NON-REFUNDABLE TAX CREDIT BENEFITS

Ontario non-refundable tax credit benefits for donations and gifts to arts and heritage charities (Line 61500)

Ontario Tax Form ON428

Increase maximum Ontario non-refundable tax credit benefits for donors who give to arts charities over the next three years – or to introduce a new COVID-19 tax credit?

Donations and gifts (Line 58969):

- Increase allowable Line 32 percentage amount from 5.05%
 - *(amount from line 16 of federal Schedule) $9 \times 5.05\% =$*
- Increase allowable Line 33 percentage amount from 11.16%
 - *(amount from line 17 of federal Schedule) $9 \times 11.16\% =$*

BACKGROUND ON ONTARIO ARTS FOUNDATION

ONTARIO ARTS FOUNDATION

An historical investment by the Province of Ontario that incentivised arts endowment funds enabled the Art Gallery of Sudbury to establish its Arts Endowment Fund (April 1999). The Gallery benefited from three phases of government investment.

- **Received \$8,740** Interest payout from Ontario Arts Foundation as anticipated (March 12, 2020)

The Gallery greatly appreciated that the Ontario Arts Foundation carried through with the normal March 2020 fund payout of interest funds.

This was critical to our 2020 financial year end.

Due to stock market fluctuations over February and March 2020, the Gallery's Endowment Fund decreased in market value by - **\$22,486**. (May 1, 2019 \$199,797 -> April 30, 2020 \$177,311)

We also sincerely appreciated the offer of early receipt of March 2021 payout but, looking ahead to our cash flow needs next spring, elected to leave the funds invested while markets rebound.

The Province of Ontario worked with the Ontario Arts Council Foundation to implement the Arts Endowment Fund, designed to ensure that arts and cultural organizations of all sizes across Ontario can invest for long-term financial stability.

The Ontario Arts Foundation was established in 1991 as a public foundation to encourage and facilitate private giving to the arts in Ontario.

Ontario Arts Foundation focuses on public/private partnerships, leveraging financial support to create a sustained source of annual income. Currently, the Foundation holds and manages 346 endowment funds totalling \$82.8 million in assets.

The Gallery is among 17 Northern Ontario arts organizations with art endowment funds resting with the Ontario Arts Foundation.

- Art Gallery of Algoma, Sault Ste Marie
- Art Gallery of Sudbury / Galerie d'art de Sudbury
- Arts Council of Sault Ste. Marie and District
- Cinefest Sudbury International Film Festival
- DE-BA-JEH-MU-JIG Theatre Group, Wiikwemkoong First Nation on Manitoulin Island
- Definitely Superior Art Gallery of Thunder Bay
- Georgian Bay Symphony
- La Galerie du Nouvel-Ontario, centre d'artistes, Sudbury
- Le Conseil des Arts de Hearst
- Le Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario, Sudbury
- Northern Lights Festival Boréal, Sudbury
- Sudbury Symphony Orchestra Association
- Thunder Bay Art Gallery
- Thunder Bay Symphony

- Timmins Symphony Orchestra
- White Water Gallery, North Bay
- WKP Kennedy Gallery, North Bay