



COMPUTER ANIMATION STUDIOS OF ONTARIO

CASO is a non-partisan, not-for-profit industry association committed to the growth and international competitiveness of Ontario's animation and visual effects industry, through advocacy, professional development, and marketing initiatives.

November 27, 2020

Julia Douglas
Clerk, Ontario Standing Committee of Finance and Economic Affairs
Procedural Services Branch
99 Wellesley St. W.
Room 1405, Whitney Block
Toronto, ON, M7A 1A2

**CASO submission to the Standing Committee of Finance and Economic Affairs
regarding [Bill 229 Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act \(Budget
Measures\), 2020](#)**

Thank you and this Government, on behalf of CASO, the industry association for business owners in computer animation and visual effects, for your continued commitment to the stability of Ontario's film and television industry tax credits, including OCASE (Ontario Computer Animation and Special Effects).

We applaud the screen-based industry support delivered in this Budget.

In 2017, this industry's activity contributed \$463.1 million in total GDP, a total of **6,580 FTEs in direct and spin-off employment, and \$72.4 million in provincial taxes.** Our volumes, pre-pandemic, continued to rise.

Since Spring 2020 when covid hit, our Ontario companies have invested over \$6.5 million in order to pivot to remote work for our employees, enabling animation volumes to quickly resume, and vfx and post volumes to recover and grow once physical production resumed.

We thank you and your fellow Ministers on the Standing Committee for Finance and Economic Affairs, and the Covid-19 Recovery Table, **for all that you have been doing – including addressing several key recommendations brought forward by CASO this year.**

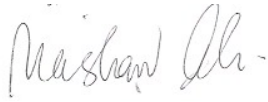
We also **thank this Government for providing temporary extensions to the film and television tax credits** during this difficult time.

As members of Minister MacLeod’s Film + Television advisory panel, we have continued to work closely with this government to deliver sound, sensible recommendations to facilitate Ontario’s economic recovery and job and company growth across the Province.

We will continue to advocate for our Red Tape Reduction proposal to reverse the 2015 tethering the OCASE tax credit from OFTTC and OPSTC. Untethering would enable Ontario vfx and animation companies to file more quickly and efficiently, reducing delays and additional costs, and ensuring that Ontario vfx and animation companies of all sizes can handle the complicated nature of the filing requirements – particularly when competing for international work.

Once again, we thank you, and look forward to continuing to work together with Minister MacLeod, and this government, **to ensure efficiency, and continued stability, and predictability for Ontario’s vfx and animation companies, and the film and television industry as a whole, so that we can continue delivering jobs, surplus tax revenues, and attracting private sector capital to Ontario.**

Sincerely,



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