

On Monday January 15<sup>th</sup>, Kristian Clarke and Lindsay Golds of ArtsBuild Ontario met with Samantha Fox and Phillipe Murphy-Rheaume formerly of the office of the Honourable Eleanor McMahon (now the Honourable Diaene Vernile), Minister Tourism, Culture and Sport.

We had a discussion about the Provincial-Federal capital fund that will be set up to support cultural infrastructure as well as the possibility of a separate provincial capital fund.

We would like to provide some general recommendations that can be passed to relevant parties responsible for identifying criteria and guidelines for these two funds.

1. Keep the application date open. This will allow for organizations to apply for funds when they are needed, rather than when they are made available – allowing organizations to leverage the funds from all levels of government
2. Allow for a wide range of projects including; new builds, state of good repair, accessibility (both for audiences and cultural workers), upgrades/renovations, and capital equipment
3. Currently Canada Cultural Spaces Fund (CCSF) is the only source of significant capital money available to our creative spaces in Ontario. We recommend that their criteria be reviewed and that any provincial or federal/provincial fund that is set up compliments or is broader in scope than CCSF criteria, allowing the most organizations to leverage either fund
4. Administrators for the fund should be experienced in working with arts and cultural leaders and projects. Consider contracting with ArtsBuild Ontario to oversee the promotion and distribution of matching funds to Ontario cultural community
5. We recommend that the applicant be permitted to seek other provincial or federal funds “stacking”, for the most impact.

We are available to discuss any of these points in more detail and would welcome further discussion as criteria and guidelines are being established.