



**Written Submission for the
Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the
Upcoming Federal Budget**

August 2020

Kawartha Art Gallery (formerly The Lindsay Gallery Inc.)

190 Kent Street West, Lindsay ON K9V 3S9 art@kawarthagallery.com 705-324-1780

Kawartha Art Gallery - Recommendations

- Recommendation 1:
That the government implement the following recommendations as presented by the Ontario Association of Art Galleries;
 - Resilience Grants
 - Subsidies for Reopening Costs
 - A Digital Assets Fund
 - Increasing Ontario Arts Council funding by \$20M
 - Create an Arts Education Tax Credit for Families
 - Provide Marketing Assistance

- Recommendation 2:
That the government in implementing \$20M in increased funding to the Ontario Arts Council consult with rural municipalities and their representatives to develop and implement a funding model with a criteria that small rural galleries can meet.

- Recommendation 3:
That the government in implementing marketing assistance invest funding directly into the Tourism and Economic Development departments of rural municipalities.

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Kawartha Art Gallery - Conclusion

As reported by OAAG, *currently less than half (48%) of OAAG's membership receives OAC funding (project, operating or other)*. This is due to a restrictive and elitist eligibility criteria of a major funding organization that is not inclusive of all Canadian art galleries.

Small rural galleries are also often ineligible for funds through their region's tourism organizations due to a restrictive funding criterion.

Unless a gallery has an event with a proven track record, funding is not available. Rural galleries then need to go into their communities to fund their events through community sponsorships and donations.

Our rural communities should not have to pay for their cultural tourism while more urban communities are supported through government funds.

While this pandemic has turned our lives upside down it has created an opportunity to become strategic and build funding systems that create opportunities for all cultural organizations and create an opportunity for rural municipalities to invest and grow their own cultural tourism economic drivers.

Contact

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