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March 26, 2009

Dear Stakeholder,

The OMDC was pleased to see the following excerpt included in today's provincial budget announcement:

**The Entertainment and Creative Cluster**

With employment of 276,000 in 2008, Ontario has the third-largest entertainment and creative sector in North America, after California and New York, and is the leading province in film and television production, book and magazine publishing, and sound recording. Ontario is a solid international competitor in the rapidly growing interactive digital media sector.

The government's ongoing support is helping to strengthen the competitiveness of Ontario's entertainment and creative industries, an important component of the new knowledge economy.

This Budget is proposing about \$100 million annually in additional tax relief and investments of about \$30 million to support the entertainment and creative cluster. These measures include proposals to:

- enhance tax support for the creation of interactive digital media products in Ontario;
- enhance the refundable book publishing tax credit;
- make the enhanced tax credit rates under the refundable film and television tax credits permanent, to create predictability and stability for the industry;
- provide \$20 million to the Ontario Media Development Corporation (OMDC), an agency of the Ministry of Culture, which supports a number of Ontario's creative industries as they compete domestically and globally; and
- invest \$10 million in a pilot program, administered through OMDC, that would refund a portion of the costs associated with intellectual property development to Ontario-based companies in the screen-based industries.

These changes will be significant in allowing OMDC to continue to provide critical services to the cultural media industries and we join our stakeholders in thanking the Provincial government for recognizing the economic impact of these key sectors, and for committing to these important investments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Thorne-Stone".

Karen Thorne-Stone  
President and CEO