



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Becky Rogers, Manager, Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

Meeting Date: November 12, 2015

Subject: Report ACHAC15-034
Ontario Culture Strategy

Purpose

A report to provide information and seek direction regarding a submission to the Committee for the Ontario Culture Strategy.

Recommendation

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC15-034, dated November 12, 2015 of the Manager of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Division, as follows:

That the information on the Ontario Culture Strategy be received and that the Committee respond to the discussion paper.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

On September 24, 2015, the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS), formally launched public consultations regarding the development of the first-ever Ontario Culture Strategy. This culture strategy will serve as a guide for future government support for the cultural sector, through the principles and priorities identified through the public consultation. As Michael Coteau, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, said:

Ontario's cultural landscape has evolved and it is important that government priorities reflect this. This is an opportunity for the province to take a fresh look at how it invests in arts and culture, to build our vibrant sectors and to enrich our diverse communities.¹

Ontario currently supports four culture sectors: arts, cultural industries, cultural heritage (including community museums, heritage buildings, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeology) and public libraries.

The new cultural strategy will focus on the following 5 guiding principles:

- Creativity and innovation
- Quality of life and economic development
- Diversity and inclusiveness
- Respect for First Nations People, Métis and Inuit peoples.
- Public value and accountability

From October through December, people in Ontario can participate in the consultation in various ways:

- By sharing ideas through the [Culture Talks website](https://talk.ontario.ca/culture/online) at: <https://talk.ontario.ca/culture/online> through Culture Talks.
- By responding to the [discussion paper](#) *Telling Our Stories, Growing Our Economy: Developing a Culture Strategy for Ontario* included in Appendix A.

Written submissions can be any length, and can be as a response to the [Discussion Paper](#), on any topic regarding the value of culture in the province, and on the unique cultural values and institutions of the local municipality.²

¹ News Release, **Help Develop Ontario's First Culture Strategy Government Hosting Culture Talks Across the Province**, September 24, 2015, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, <https://news.ontario.ca/mtc/en/2015/09/help-develop-ontarios-first-culture-strategy.html>

² Please note that the contents of the submissions received will become part of the public record and may be made available for public viewing, either in person or electronically.

Written submissions must be made through Ontario's Environmental Registry website by **Monday December 7, 2015**, or by email to:
CultureTalks@ontario.ca.

- By attending one of the following town halls. These events will include engaging activities and inspiring conversations with local arts and culture personalities.
- By sharing ideas via the [Culture Talks website](#) or on several different social media platforms developed by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) to encourage participation in the Ontario Culture Strategy consultations.

MCTS platforms:

- [Facebook](#) – www.facebook.com/ONgov
- [Twitter](#) – @ExploreON; use the hashtag #ONculture
- Join the conversation [online](#), in real time. You can share your thoughts about Ontario arts and culture, discuss with other participants and vote on their ideas
- For your convenience, MTCS has developed a [social media toolkit](#) to help you share information about Culture Talks

The Creative Cities Network, Ontario Branch has also prepared a **'How To' guide** on making a written submission to the Province. The guide is attached as Appendix B.

The Province will report back on what they heard in Winter 2016 and the post a draft strategy for public input.

In preparation for the discussion at the meeting, Advisory Committee members are encouraged to prepare responses to the questions posed by the Ministry in the Guide.

Submitted by,

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Attachments:

Appendix A - Telling Our Stories, Growing Our Economy: Developing a Culture Strategy for Ontario