Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Office of the Minister

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June 23, 2016

Elli Cohen Chair, Blyth 14/19 Box 279, 197 Dinsley Street, Blyth, ON NOM 1H0

Dear Mr. Cohen:

I am pleased to advise you that the Government of Ontario has approved one-time funding of up to \$3,300,000 in 2016-17 for the Blyth 14/19 initiative to support the reconstruction of the Blyth performing arts facility as a cultural hub.

The Ontario government, under the leadership of Premier Kathleen Wynne, is proud to support rural creativity and the growth of the performing arts sector. This investment will support community and economic revitalization, help retain youth through unique employment and educational opportunities, and build capacity among local/regional partners and stakeholders. As a cultural hub, Blyth will contribute to a stronger, more vital cultural sector in Ontario, boosting local tourism and economic development while attracting and retaining skilled workers and new business investment.

Staff from my Ministry will be in contact to provide details necessary for the development of a funding agreement between your organization and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. Once signed, funding for the project can begin as project milestones are achieved.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact David McLachlan, Culture Services Consultant, Program, Planning and Delivery Unit at 416.314.7354 or by email at david mclachlan@ontario.ca

I wish you and your team every success in meeting the goals of this important initiative.

Eleanor McMahon

Minister

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Peter Smith, Project Director, Blyth 14/19, 197 Dinsley St. Blyth, ON NOM 1H0 Karen Stewart, Administrator, Blyth 14/19, 197 Dinsley St. Blyth, ON NOM 1H0