



New Democrats

1122 Saskatchewan Drive
Regina, SK, S4P 0C4
1-844-525-1322
info@saskndp.ca

October 19, 2020

Jaime Boldt
Saskatchewan Arts Alliance
1150 – 8th Avenue, Suite 101
REGINA S4R 1C9

Dear Jaime Boldt:

Thank you for reaching out to lay out your organization's concerns related to Saskatchewan arts and creative industry organizations. We know COVID-19 has been a challenging time for many industries across Saskatchewan and I thank you for everything your organization is doing to support your membership in this challenging time.

I appreciate the opportunity to lay out the New Democrat priorities for better supporting Saskatchewan arts and creative industries. We know many Saskatchewan people are stretched and stressed, and that current income support programs do not adequately support all people across various sectors who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Saskatchewan New Democrats are open to working with federal government in the development of a basic income plan. In addition to that, our plan will make life more affordable through the introduction of a \$15/hr minimum wage and a one-time rebate and cost reductions for drivers through SGI.

Saskatchewan New Democrats have long-standing concerns with the Sask. Party's elimination of the Film Employment Tax Credit in Saskatchewan. We know this closed many doors for many artists in the province, and we know Creative Saskatchewan has not filled the void and funding through the organization has not met the need in communities to date. If elected, we commit to reviewing the funding models for Creative Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Arts Board to ensure our arts and creative industries thrive, providing revenue streams for venues that have faced challenges and provide additional opportunities for disenfranchised artists and artists living with disabilities.

Additionally, Saskatchewan New Democrats have committed to re-instating the film employment tax credit in Saskatchewan, so that our province can once again compete in the marketplace for content while strengthening the economy and improving the lives of Saskatchewan people working in the sector.

Thank you for reaching out with these concerns, we will work hard to ensure these priorities are addressed. Please also accept my best wishes for your health and safety during the challenging times our province is facing with COVID-19.

Sincerely,



Mitch Bonokoski
Director of Research and Policy