



March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

The Honourable Michael Coteau  
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport  
Hearst Block  
9th Floor  
900 Bay St Toronto ON  
M7A 2E1

**RE: Meeting Request with Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport**

Dear Minister Coteau,

We are writing in our roles as Co-Chairs of Ontario's **Coalition of Provincial Arts Service Organizations (PASO)** to officially request an introductory meeting for PASO representatives at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. PASO strives to strengthen the environment for the individuals and institutions that create and disseminate the arts in this province and for public access to the arts. Our collective memberships are made up of individual artists as well as the performance and exhibition organizations that create and support artistic expression.

PASO would like to open up and maintain a dialogue about Ontario's present cultural landscape, as well as to introduce our various advocacy initiatives. We believe PASO's efforts to build a strong creative industry are in alignment with the Government of Ontario's goals and priorities as outlined in the mandate letter received by your ministry. In conversation with the Ontario Government we would like to:

- 1. Confirm its commitment to the sector by increasing investment in the arts through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport and key agencies such as the Ontario Arts Council and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.**
- 2. Strengthen cultural policy framework in Ontario through a consultative process in order to better address the challenges of artistic creation.**

- 3. Support youth employment in the Province through a robust community-driven training/internship strategy.**
  
- 4. Invest in adequate and affordable facilities for artists and arts organizations.**

We believe that a focus on the priorities outlined above is instrumental to the advancement of the cultural sector and will benefit citizens throughout Ontario.

Please connect with PASO by e-mailing Co-Chair Kristian Clarke at: [kc@carfaontario.ca](mailto:kc@carfaontario.ca), or by phone at: 416-340-8850.

What follows is a list of the Coalition's members.

Submitted by:



Kristian Clarke, Co-Chair



Demetra Christakos, Co-Chair

CC: Sophie Kiwala, Parliamentary Assistant

## PASO Coalition 2015

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