

ECONOMIC MEASURES TO HELP ARTISTS
Toronto Film Board

Whereas the arts, including its most powerful media (film and television), define nationhood and build bonds of common citizenship;

Whereas film and television in Ontario is an \$800 million industry, directly employing more than 20,000 people – a major contribution to Ontario’s economy;

Whereas the foundations of the arts in Ontario are artists themselves, including the creative people who make up our film and television industry;

Whereas artists are among this economy’s most vulnerable workers, and effectively serve as their own patrons;

Where essentially all of the income supports available to most Canadian are denied to artists – including unemployment insurance, workforce training and most pension programs;

Whereas other countries have made it a priority to ensure the foundations of their arts industries remain strong, by implementing measures designed to protect artists’ incomes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Toronto Film Board recommend to Council that the City of Toronto advocate the following:

- That the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada make the protection of artists’ incomes a priority;
- That to this end:
 - The federal government consider the early adoption of an income averaging system for artists;
 - The federal government exempt a reasonable portion of income derived from royalties and residuals from income tax, on the model of the Quebec Government’s artistic exemption program; and
 - That the Government of Ontario implement similar measures in the provincial income tax system.