

**Ministry of Heritage,
Sport, Tourism and
Culture Industries**

Minister

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**Ministère des Industries du
patrimoine, du sport, du
tourisme et de la culture**

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DEC 17 2019

Josh Basseches, Director and CEO
Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M5S 2C6

2020-21 Mandate Letter

Dear Mr. Basseches:

I want to thank you and your Board of Trustees for your leadership at the Royal Ontario Museum. Keeping in line with the retooled, refocused and renamed Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, the work being done with your team contributes to a growing spectacular double bottom line in Ontario that our ministry's dual mandate reflects - that is our cultural fabric and the economic bottom line.

I often say that Ontario is the world in one province and thanks to the Royal Ontario Museum being a world class cultural institution, you make our jobs in the Ministry easier to showcase Ontario and attract visitors from around the globe. The important work you are doing provides truly unique opportunities for residents and visitors to explore and discover.

Our province is defined and enriched by the diversity of experiences, heritage and traditions of the people who live here. This cultural fabric is an important part of our identity and of what makes Ontario the best place to live and visit. With delivery partners like you, our ministry is working to welcome the world to our province every day, bring people together, showcase the authentic Ontario experience, and support our diverse communities.

I recognize the success of ROM Access and Community Mondays as examples of your positive community engagement. Please continue to work with local partners to meet the needs of communities and fulfil your mandate.

As you develop your business objectives, performance goals and other activities for the coming year, I ask that you consider a number of key government priorities.

The 2019 Ontario Budget states that restoring trust, transparency and accountability in the province's finances is the government's highest priority. Additionally, the line-by-line review, conducted by Ernst and Young, can help inform how public spending can be made more effective and efficient for the people of Ontario. I expect the principles outlined in those documents to guide your approach to exercising good governance and effective oversight at your agency.

As well, our government recently announced the completion of a review of provincial agencies, conducted by the Agency Review Task Force. This effort is part of the government's goal to ensure that agencies continue to deliver modern and effective services for the people of Ontario. My ministry has received recommendations from the task force and will be communicating our government's directions to you. I will look to your agency to support their implementation.

Please continue delivering on the Royal Ontario Museum's plan to strengthen its relevance to the people of Ontario, become a top-tier global museum, drive tourism and deliver a 21st century museum experience. I also ask that you ensure your agency continues to meet its debt repayment obligations to the Ontario Financing Authority.

I value your role in collecting and exhibiting objects to facilitate the natural history of Ontario, Canada and the world, and to promote related education, research and publication. I ask that you ensure your agency continues to deliver this important work in a manner consistent with government priorities.

Together, our work drives billions of dollars in economic activity and creates thousands of jobs. It boosts local economies, helps Ontario's communities succeed and showcases our strengths to the world – but I believe there is potential for so much more.

I know that with the Royal Ontario Museum's help, the province can reach that potential.

Kindest regards,



Lisa MacLeod
Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture industries

c: Rita Shelton Deverell, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Deanna Horton, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum

Ian Madell, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Alicia Dubois, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Francis Chou, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Namrata (Neera) Chopra, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Maureen Jensen, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Raquel de Medeiros, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Kevin Gaudet, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Jaclyn Seidman, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Richard Longtin, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Bianca Roth, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Stephen Bowman, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Karen Tam, Trustee, Royal Ontario Museum
Nancy Matthews, Deputy Minister, Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries
Ken Chan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Business Transformation and Project
Management Division, Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

Thank you so
much for a great
night at the museum!